



# Geographic Data Committee

## Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 1, 2008, 9:30 am

Member Agency	Contact	Present
Alterra Technologies	Jim Stevens Matt Kelly	
Brazoria County Engineer's Office	Kevin Sherrodd Eric W. Dyess	
Burditt Consultants, LLC	Paul Howard John Ross	
CDS Market Research	Josh Wadley Charlie Savino	
CenterPoint Energy	Cindi Salas John Chambers	
City of Alvin	Ron Rosenwald Doug Ross	
City of Conroe	Les McKay Angela Slayton	
City of Houston, Houston Emergency Center	Ed Loomis	•
City of Houston, Planning and Development	Max Samfield Larry Nierth Chris McPhilamy	•
		•
City of Houston, Public Utilities Division	Greg Johnson Anthony Powell Kirt Arthur	•
		•
City of League City	Rick Brezik Andra Caudel	
City of Pasadena	Charles Vaughan Matt Ross	
City of Pearland	Michael Masters	
City of Sugar Land	Sharlett Chowning Lary Dorrington Eric Schenck	
City of Tomball	Delia McDonald Lori Lakatos	•
		•
City of West University Place	Bart Harms Gary McFarland	
CivilTech Engineering, Inc.	Annie Ding	•
CLR, Inc.	Austan Lupher Kyle Bertrand	
Contract Land Staff	Leon Law Kevin Taliaferro	
Cypress Creek Emergency Management Services	Toivo Sari	
Dodson & Associates, Inc.	Mark Starks Michael Henze	



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Fort Bend County Engineer's Office	Richard Dela Mater Ronald Drachenberg	•
Galveston Central Appraisal District	David Arnold	
Greater Fort Bend County EDC	Barkley Peschel	
Greater Harris County 911	Marc Berryman Greg Platek	
Harris County Appraisal District	Chengyan Wu Thang Nguyen	
Harris County Emergency Services District 7	Alan D. Lankford Tim Highley	
Harris County Flood Control District	Scott Lamon Michael Walters	•
Harris County Information Technology Center	Mickey McGee Travis Conner	
Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services	Christina Hailey Dischinger Stefan Nawrocki	• •
Harris County Public Infrastructure Department Architecture & Engineering Division	Samuel Garcia Andre C. Bally	•
Harris County Tax Office	Bryan Dunaway Ed Johnson	
Harris County Toll Road Authority	Jason C. Cowart Burt Lee	• •
HDR   Claunch & Miller, Inc.	Doug Wilson Joshua Vickrey	•
HNTB Corporation	Heather Standley	
Houston Advanced Research Center	Mustapha Beydoun	
Houston Airport System	Katherine Luu Brandon Williams	
Houston Community College	Richard DeBose	
Houston Fire Department	James Hugo Adrian Trevino	
Houston TranStar	Maria Cristela Vera	
Houston-Galveston Area Council	Tanya Nguyen Robert LaBarbera	• •
Katy Area Economic Development Council	Matthew McCauley Lance LaCour	
Klein Volunteer Fire Department	Rich Jones	
Knudson	Ben Murphey Raul Hinojosa Matt Bruning	
LAN (Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam), Inc.	Derek St. John David Manuel	



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LJA Engineering & Surveying	George Culver Brandon Copeland	
Magellan Consulting, Inc.	Virginia Appl Sam Wilson	
Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County	John Labio Bryan Carroll	
Michael Baker Jr., Inc.	Vince Hamilton Daniel Bally	
Montgomery & Associates, LLC	Crystal Carreon Dehui Su	
Montgomery County 911	Chiu-Wen Ray Robert M. Gunter	•
North Harris College (now, Lone Star)	Peter E. Price Michael Konvicka	
Pate Engineers, Inc.	Cheli Cellmer Amanda Menard	•
PBS & J	Timothy P. Ledet Gray Rackley	
Port of Houston Authority	Grant Garrison Brian Doolittle	•
R7 Solutions	Bryan Hassin Kraettli Epperson	
Rice University	Esther Crawford German Diaz	
Sam Houston State University Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas	David William Webb David R. Hoffpaur	
TCB (Turner, Collie & Braden)	Bruce Davidson John Laser	•
Texas Department of Transportation	Kathy DeBettencourt Cindy Gloyna Jeremy Scott	•
Texas Medical Center	Marilyn A. Robinson Bassem Nassif	
Texas Southern University	Dr. Qisheng Pan Dr. Lalita Sen	
Texas Water Development Board	Felicia D. Retiz Erik O'Brian	
University of Houston, Department of Economics	Janet Kohlhase	
Waller County Economic Development Partnership	Vince Yokom	



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Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility
Call to Order		Jeremy Scott (TXDOT)
Review of the October Minutes	Jeremy had a comment / correction to the minutes: pg. 5-6, remove various events. The previous minutes were then accepted with correction.	Jeremy Scott (TXDOT)
<p><b>Item 2:</b></p> <p>H-GAC &amp; GDC Financial Report:</p>	(postponed due to Hurricane Ike)	Nancy Haussler / Robert LaBarbera (H-GAC)
<p><b>Item 3:</b></p> <p>2008 Aerial Costs for non-cost share GDC members:</p>	<p>Costs have been determined for imagery and hard drive. H-GAC is mostly recuperating the cost of the hard drive, with a little extra added for data transfer time. The process takes about a day and a half to complete. The only item that has changed as compared to last month's quotes is the option to receive all SID images.</p> <p>*With the all SID imagery option, you get all the imagery (regional) and a 160 GB hard drive for \$200. The reason for the price change was due to the actual hard drive cost. *You can get the TIF images for one county (with 500 GB hard drive) for \$400. *All the Tiff images for all regional counties (includes 1 TB drive) for \$600. *All SID and Tiff images for all regional counties (includes 160 GB &amp; 1 TB drive) for \$800.</p> <p>Jeremy asked Robert how we were doing with the distribution of the aerials. Robert answered that they are about 90% complete. We are looking at next month as</p>	Scott Lamon (HCFCD)



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	<p>beginning to distribute the imagery to the non-cost share GDC participants.</p> <p>Scott mentioned that the reason you are being asked to purchase the hard drives is to eliminate and minimize the threats from viruses and incompatibility issues. Robert also mentioned that the prices that are set for the 2008 imagery are not set in stone for the 2010 imagery purchase.</p>	
<p><b>Item 4:</b></p> <p>2008 Aerial Order Website for GDC Members:</p>	<p>Robert LaBarbera showed the GDC the look and feel of the order website that H-GAC is offering for non cost sharing GDC members. GDC members that are current in their membership (who have not received the imagery already) will be receiving a password (group ID #) for the site via email. The website should be available by the next GDC meeting. There is a strong possibility that this will be open to the public and GDC members at the same time, but priority will be given to GDC members. You will have the option to have the drives mailed to you or you can pick them up.</p>	<p>Robert LaBarbera (H-GAC)</p>
<p><b>Item 5:</b></p> <p>GIS Day Update:</p>	<p>GIS Day is scheduled for November 20-21 at the University of Houston (central campus). You need to get your booth feed paid if you haven't already. There is still space for exhibitors. We still need mentors. Contact Maria if interested. We have openings for presenters as well on Thursday (20<sup>th</sup>). Presentations will need to be 15-20 minutes long. If interested, speak to Grant Garrison today. There is also space in the Map Gallery, so submit a map if you are interested. We have two student scholarships and a teacher scholarship. The next meeting is October 2<sup>nd</sup>.</p> <p>GIS Day this year will be pushed back an hour or so due to financial constraints. We were going to be charged \$600 for a pre-event set up. We will be setting up the morning of GIS Day. Set up time is on November 20<sup>th</sup> in the morning for the first two hours.</p> <p>Jeremy asked if we had a booth count, and Christina said we currently have 16 (28 last year). The website feedback is going well.</p>	<p>Christina Dischinger (HCPHES)</p>
<p><b>Item 6:</b></p> <p>Texas Ortho Imagery Project (TOP):</p>	<p>Felicia Retiz showed the online status map of the ortho project. One meter and half meter aerials will be delivered to TNRIS tomorrow and she will contact Robert and let him know the ftp information. This is preliminary data that is natural color and color IR (4 bands). The data is about 2</p>	<p>Felicia Retiz (TNRIS)</p>



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<p><b>Item 6</b> (continued)</p>	<p>GB per county. The imagery was flown in the August Time frame. The next step is to get half meter data sampled out of the imagery. October 15- November 15 is the time frame for the remainder of the state orthos. The format will be geo-tiff for uncompressed data, and jpeg2000 for the compressed files. The reason for not using SID is because SID imagery doesn't support more than three bands.</p> <p>The cost is \$56 per county for the compressed mosaics (on DVD). This is about 2 GB of data. LiDAR is being flown as well as the funds become available, and this will be done at the minimum of FEMA specs (1.4 meter spacing). LCRA (Lower Colorado River Authority) coverage areas will be more accurate (.7 meter spacing). By comparison, the TSARP LiDAR data is a 15 foot spacing (2 foot contour interval).</p>	
<p><b>Item 7:</b>  GIS Training – Fall 2008:</p>	<p>All GIS classes at H-GAC have been cancelled at this point for Fall 2008. Contact Jenny Harrison @ Teach me GIS (or) Contact Stacia Canaday @ ESRI (Houston Branch) for upcoming listings of classes. H-GAC needs to fill 8 seats to cover costs of holding an ESRI class. Classes range from \$8,000 to \$12,000.</p> <p>Grant mentioned that in the past TX. DIR contracted with ESRI and included training as part of their contract amount. This would give us a 20% discount. The last couple of years have not included this provision.</p> <p>Chiu-Wen Ray mentioned that they are going to have several geodatabase classes in mid November to December. Robert requested that she send him the information on the classes so he can pass it along to all members.</p>	<p>Robert LaBarbera (H-GAC)</p>
<p><b>Item 8:</b> Other issues:</p>	<p>Daniel with StratMap (previously with the USGS) will be the new hydrology lead at TNRIS. He spoke briefly about the upcoming Texas GIS forum, which is an annual event. This year's event will be at the Pickle Research campus in Austin Texas during October 27 – 30<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Robert mentioned that Sanborn has decided that they will (as has previously been done by past vendors) give us a</p>	<p>Jeremy Scott (TXDOT)</p>



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	<p>plot of the aerial imagery. These posters will be available at next months GDC meeting. The map extent will be the entire region. The pdf will be available as well, and this will be a wall sized map.</p> <p>Chiu-Wen Ray mentioned that she would like to have a feedback meeting to discuss the 2008 imagery. She is getting negative feedback from her constituents about the color. She requested to receive something in writing that she can give to those who inquire about the color differences. Scott mentioned that there are major differences between what we received and what was originally shown as a deliverable, and considerable progress was made in the adjustments of the data, and they could put something together showing how the imagery arrived at its current state. Larry mentioned that there were a variety of reasons as to why the imagery looked different from 2006. Jeremy also mentioned that after several rounds of changes were made, the consensus was reached at the Ariel TAC level in order to move forward and not jeopardize the delivery schedule of the project.</p> <p>Chiu-Wen Ray would like a special Aerial TAC session called to have feedback on the orthos and discuss why the imagery is so yellow.</p> <p>Jeremy stated that with the comments that are being brought up, it would be a good idea to have an Aerial TAC meeting prior to the end of the year to discuss the more technical details of the imagery.</p> <p>Grant mentioned that for a future TAC meeting, he'd like to see options for ArcGIS to further enhance the appearance of the imagery, possibly with adjustments to the histogram settings.</p> <p>Andy mentioned that the colors we received are a more true color, but if we want a different color scheme, we could provide this information to the vendor in the future, for them to match.</p> <p>Scott mentioned the contract we had with Pictometry included 200 square miles of an effected area that was impacted by a natural disaster. HCFCD identified 730 square miles inside Harris County that needed to be flown. This was submitted to Pictometry and they began flying the imagery last Thursday (they completed yesterday). The imagery ill be delivered to H-GAC and will be available to the GDC cost-share participants. This will be 6 inch imagery.</p> <p>For the LiDAR deliverable, the vendor will deliver the LAS</p>	



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	files, all ASCII files, and the DEMs for the complete study area. All but the DEM will be delivered this week because the break lines are not complete. October 24 <sup>th</sup> is the first stage delivery. Final delivery is in late April.	

Adjournment  
Upcoming Meeting

**Meeting adjourned at approximately \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.  
Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.**



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<b>GDC Guests</b>	<b>Contact</b>
City of Houston	Jackie Smith
City of Webster	Richard Parkin
Cobb Fendley	Larry Jahn
Deloitte	Noel Bowman
ESRI	Nicholas Popovich Sarah Powers Stacia Canaday
Grounds Anderson, LLC	Brandon Grimm
HCPHES	N. McConnell
Houston Advanced Research Center	Zach Vernon
S&B Infrastructure, Ltd.	Pablo Castro Andy Georgescu
Texas Department of Transportation	Peter Sissons