

GDW Meeting Summary for December 7, 2022

2022 Houston Area GIS Day Recap: The 2022 Houston Area GIS Day this year was two parts; the student's event in the morning from 9-12p and the professional's in the afternoon from 1-4p located at the University of Houston Clear Lake. Nicole Ceranek from Montgomery County briefly summarized the high school student events by first recognizing the team leads, volunteers, speakers, and vehicle operators for making it such a successful event. It was a great turnout as far as participation from the schools and students, with this being one of the largest event to bring high school students to the facility. The University of Houston- Clear Lake was pleased to see the participation and motivated to possibly assist in next year's event.

Participation:

High Schools	Headcount
Clear Creek High School	20
Dekaney High School	25
High School for Law & Justice	70
Spring High School	25
Westfield High School	50

For the essay contest, there were over ten submissions, the first place winner went to Benjamin Katz from HS for Law & Justice, the second place was Clarissa Mendoza from HS for Law & Justice, and the third place went to Caroline Cloonan from Clear Creek HS. Nicole informed the GDW that a post-event survey will be sent to all volunteers to provide any feedback. In addition, zoom recordings will soon be posted to YouTube.

Brooks Andrews from CSRS gave an overview of the professional's event which consisted of three components: the event map gallery, presentations in the auditorium with the keynote, and the vendors in the vendor hall. There were 6-7 entries for the professional's event map gallery contest, and you can find the list of winners on the Houston Area GIS Day website below:

<http://houstonareagisday.org/>

Space City Weather could not attend, but Lacey Loftin from the United States Census Bureau stepped in to provide the keynote to the students and professionals. The remainder of the day consisted of presentations from the City of Houston, ESRI, the City of Sugarland, H-GAC, and NearMap. In the vendor hall, there were many sponsors in-person with good traffic and conversations. The event planning committee will have a follow-up meeting to review feedback, after-action survey, and prepare for the 2023 Houston Area GIS Day.

Lightning Presentation — SIMmetry for RapidSOS for Emergency Response: Angie Pelkie with Fugro presented an overview of the 3D modeling for 911 and emergency response to show how using new or existing 3D data adds value to an already emergency response management

system. RapidSOS is an emergency response data platform used by over 5,200 Emergency Communication Centers globally. Fugro SIMMetry is a streaming software service solution, best described as a 3D GIS Viewer focused on a specific audience, in this case, the emergency management community. Together, Fugro SIMMetry works with the RapidSOS portal application to provide the exact location of an incident with latitude, longitude, and height parameters. Once the program is launched from the RapidSOS portal, the telecommunicator (or user) is immersed in a 3D model. From there, the user can rotate or pan the view to see the scene from any angle. The address database option can be further customized to work with your existing address locator services. The 3D maps can be supplemented with additional information from outside sources. The platform is compatible with ESRI rest based and other OGC compliant web mapping or feature services, such as WMS and WFS. To take a look at Angie's presentation on SIMmetry for RapidSOS for emergency response, you can find it on our GDW meeting material page below:

<https://www.h-gac.com/geographic-data-workgroup/meeting-materials>

Guest Presentation — Feature Reporting in ArcGIS Online and Enterprise: Christopher Moravec, the founder and CTO, from Dymaptic gave a brief company overview and presentation on Infomaptic. With his business partner Mara Stoica, they are a small women-owned GIS consulting and software development company that started in 2016. Their services include web development, desktop development, mobile development, ArcGIS pro add-in, web app builder extensions, database design, and more. With so many GIS users inquiring about building reports or obtaining PDFs from ESRI data, Infomaptic was created by Christopher for those needs. Infomaptic is a standalone modern reporting web application tool for users of ArcGIS Online and Enterprise. It will allow you to create real-time feature reports with an easy-to-use, GIS-friendly tool. Infomaptic is a report generator that can dive into individual records to convey a story by creating a PDF/link or pull-in maps for simple spatial processing. For more information on the reporting tool, Infomaptic, you can visit their website at <https://www.dymaptic.com/>

Future of the Geographic Data Workgroup Discussion: Jochen Floesser from H-GAC updated the GDW with a few fundamental changes regarding the future of the workgroup. Firstly, the GDW will reduce the number of meetings to six times a year for bi-monthly meetings. The first of the bi-monthly meetings will start on the first Wednesday of February 2023. Secondly, to begin a more collaborative effort, the GDW will rotate the responsibility of organizing and hosting future meetings. It will be decided who will take on the responsibility of each individual meeting moving forward and not have the sole leadership on H-GAC. Lastly, all meetings will transition back to a hybrid environment where H-GAC will make a meeting space available and allow dial-in from Zoom or Teams. Tanya Nguyen from H-GAC assured the GDW that H-GAC will continue to facilitate the meetings but will need additional members to volunteer to be a part of the "GDW leadership team." To have continued meaningful meetings, this team will rotate to guest host, shape future agendas, discuss meeting items, and coordinate

2022 H-GAC Aerial Imagery Cost-Share Update: Tanya Nguyen from H-GAC notified the GDW that the 2022 Aerial project is wrapping up. All organizations should have already received their data, and H-GAC is now working on collecting the end-user agreement forms. However, we still need the signed agreement forms from 13 organizations. Xuan and Kieu-Vi will be reaching out with a PDF fillable version of the forms to be signed and returned. Once the signed agreements are all received and counter-signed by H-GAC's executive director, Chuck Wemple, this will close out the 2022 Aerial project. All organizations will receive the executed agreements.

Announcements and Discussion Items:

- H-GAC updated that the 2020 image services that Surdex has been hosting will end at the end of this month. The two year agreement was supposed to end in September but Surdex is giving extra time for the 2020 services and extended through the end of the year. The cut-off will be New Year's Eve. The historical imagery service will be put on a web service that H-GAC will host and become available in house. The images will still be available but just through a different source.
- TeachMe GIS is wrapping up the end of the year in training and added VertiGIS Studio to their curriculum list. They offer excellent training with 15% discount to H-GAC and DIR. Please reach out to Celise at celise.seefluth@teachmegis.com
- CSRS has an open position for a Senior GIS Analyst to collect, store, and maintain data from a variety of sources to provide business information to CSRS and external clients. For an application or more information, please contact brooks.andrews@csrsinc.com
- H-GAC is looking for a Data Analyst to join the Data Analytics and Research team. Some of these responsibilities include developing and maintaining air, land, and water quality models, incorporating GIS remote sensing data analysis into large-scale environmental projects, and working on air quality emission inventories. To read more and apply for this position, please follow the link direct link [here](#) or reach out to Thushara at Thushara.Ranatunga@h-gac.com
- Changes to the GDW:
 1. The GDW will reduce the number of meetings and meet bi-monthly starting in Feb 2023
 2. GDW leadership team will guest host future meetings
 3. Meetings will be hosted in a hybrid setting with virtual and in-person attendance options
- There will not be a meeting in January 2023. The next GDW meeting will be on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 9:30am CST in a hybrid setting at the H-GAC office at 3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, TX 77027