GDW Meeting Summary for December 2, 2020

2020 TxGIS Day Recap: Last month from Monday, November 16th to Wednesday, November 18th, the TxGIS Day 2020 virtual GIS Day celebration/conference was held for GIS professionals from across the state of Texas. In addition, the smaller 2020 Houston Area GIS Day, tailored to high-school students, was held as part of the larger statewide event. Janny Phung with URISA Texas and the City of Austin and Nicole Ceranek with Montgomery County, TX gave a brief recap of both events and had the following statistics to share:

- Registrants: 1,068
- Presenters: 149
- Presentations: 30
- Events and Workshops: 11
- VGI Mapathon Submissions: 2,769 buildings digitized for the Humanitarian Open Street Map Team Campaigns
- Mentors for the Career Cupid Speed Mentoring Event: 18
- Partnerships: 7 including Organizations and Universities
- Value to the GIS Community: Priceless

Given the statistics above, the event was a huge success thanks in large part to the months of meetings and behind the scenes work by the planning committee. A very special thank you is owed to Janny, Nicole, and the many other volunteers and speakers at the TxGIS Day 2020. The planning committee is meeting one final time next week to wrap up any remaining to-do items and plan for next years event. If you'd like to join the planning committee to help with next year's events please send an email to txgisday@gmail.com or houstonareagisdayorg@gmail.com.

Esri HTTP to HTTPS Conversion Reminder: Zena Pelletier with Esri gave the GDW a brief update and reminder about the upcoming HTTP to HTTPS conversion for all of Esri's online content, including ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS Enterprise systems. On Tuesday, December 8, 2020 all Esri online content will automatically revert to use HTTPS web addresses exclusively, so any web GIS content hosted on a web enabled Esri platform that hasn't been converted to use only HTTPS will not display properly. Zena made it clear however that the content will not be

deleted or hidden, but that rather it just will not display properly until the content owner has converted their content to use HTTPS only. Zena and Esri have provided these additional resources below to help users prepare for this change coming next week:

- [Esri Support for HTTPS Only](#)
- [FAQ: HTTPS Only for Esri Web GIS Content](#)
- [YouTube: How to Prepare for Esri's HTTPS Only Enforcement](#)
- [ArcGIS Trust Center Documentation](#)
- [ArcGIS Security Advisor](#)

2021 Data Axle (formerly Infogroup) Cost-Share Reminder: Brooks Andrews with H-GAC reminded the GDW that the sign-up portal for the 2021 cost-share program to obtain the 2021 Data Axle (formerly Infogroup) business and residential databases is now open and taking registrations until the February 2021. The process to receive the licensed databases starts with registering to participate via the [cost-share portal](#) on the H-GAC GDW website. Once registered, the cost of the final data is split among all registered participants where the participants receive both databases in a few different GIS formats as well as SAS and DBF tables for the 13 H-GAC county region in May 2021. For more information, visit the portal linked above or contact [Brooks Andrews](#) with H-GAC.

Guest Presentation – Data Dive: Data Axle's Business and Consumer Databases: Kam Draper with Data Axle gave the GDW a behind the scenes look at the processes and practices that Data Axle takes every year to produce the extremely large and robust business and residential databases. Kam gave the GDW members in attendance a brief look at the file layouts and data dictionaries for both databases, which can be found [here for the business data](#) and [here for the residential data](#). Kam's entire presentation is available on the GDW Meeting Materials website as [Data Axle Presentation](#) under the December 2, 2020 tab.

Announcements/Other Items:

- o The TxGIS Day and Houston Area GIS Day planning committees are meeting later this month to plan for next year's events and the possibility of another joint but hopefully not virtual GIS Day celebration. The Houston Regional GIS Expo scheduled for March 2021 will likely be delayed or cancelled and merged with the

TxGIS Day and Houston Area GIS Day events as was done last month. If you'd like to join the planning committee to help with next year's events please send an email to txgisday@gmail.com or houstonareagisdayorg@gmail.com.

- o Esri is hosting a few upcoming events in the new year including the 2021 Esri Geodesign Summit from February 9-10 and the 2021 Esri Developer's Summit from March 9-11. Both conferences will be held virtually.
- o There is no scheduled GDW meeting for January 2021 due to the proximity of the New Year's Day holiday. The GDW will meet again on February 3, 2021.