

GDW Meeting Summary for April 7, 2021

2021 Data Axle (formerly Infogroup) Cost-Share Update: The final contract negotiation and subsequent contract execution between H-GAC and Data Axle was finalized last week while the 2021 Data Axle residential and business raw data was delivered to H-GAC over the Easter weekend. H-GAC downloaded the raw data and started processing it to produce residential and business databases in a few different GIS formats as well as SAS and DBF tables for the entire 13 county H-GAC region. This final data should be ready for use in 3-4 weeks for all 2021 Data Axle Cost-Share participants with a paid invoice. Invoices themselves are being emailed out this week from H-GAC to all eleven participants in 2021, and once again they will need to be paid in order to receive the final data. All final data will be delivered via digital download as well as copies of the 2021 H-GAC and Data Axle contract documents and the 2021 Data Axle data dictionaries. For more information, please visit the [2021 Data Axle \(formerly Infogroup\) Cost-Share Program homepage](#) or contact [Brooks Andrews](#) with H-GAC.

2022 H-GAC Aerial Imagery Kickoff Discussion: H-GAC is getting ready for the start of the 2022 H-GAC Aerial Imagery acquisition project which will open this fall with the cost-share portion of the project starting up. In 2022, H-GAC will explore streaming imagery services from vendors like Nearmap and Plant Labs that provide more updated, satellite or aerial imagery streaming services as well as the traditional biennial tiled aerial imagery products. This additional streaming service will be contingent upon adequate demand for the service along with the traditional tiled data. In May, H-GAC will resume discussion with the GDW Aerial Technical Advisory Group (Aerial TAG) for suggestions and recommendations for a possible streaming imagery solution. The conversations with this group will be summarized and reported at the regular GDW meetings. Also in May, Planet Labs will serve as the guest presenter for the GDW meeting and will discuss their streaming imagery solutions. H-GAC will schedule additional streaming imagery providers for future GDW meetings as the year progresses.

Guest Presentation – Utilizing Synthetic Aperture Radar Imagery for Flood Damage

Assessment: Beni Patel with Tessellations Inc. presented how she and her team at Tessellations are using SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) imagery to detect various forms of flood damage to structures from previous storms. Beni explained that unlike traditional aerial imagery, SAR imagery is able to penetrate cloud cover and other types of high noise during capture to make

flood damage easier to observe and assess when present. Beni also explained how SAR imagery is starting to become more common and as it does, she and her team are hoping to develop a repeatable workflow to deploy with real-time SAR imagery during the next flooding event in the Houston area. Beni's entire presentation as well as her and her team's contact information is available under the April 7, 2021 tab on the [GDW Meeting Materials](#) webpage or by clicking [here](#).

Announcements/Other Items:

- There is one H-GAC GIS Training class from TeachMeGIS scheduled for the month of April, which is the one day *Getting the Most from Your Lidar Data* class on Wednesday, April 21st. Please visit the [2021 GIS Training at H-GAC website](#) to register or learn more.
- Esri is looking to get GDW members to start using the Houston Area Micro-Region Hub website. Very soon, H-GAC will start to incorporate this site into an additional information, data, and document sharing tool in addition to the current GDW website. Please be sure to check out the [Houston Area Micro-Region Hub website](#) and register to become an active community member on the page.
- Esri is hosting the [Esri Petroleum GIS Conference](#) virtually from Tuesday, May 4th through Thursday, May 6th. The conference is open to the general public through virtual registration.