

**HOUSTON COUNTY
AGENDA REQUEST FORM**

Workgroup Meeting Date September 9, 2025

Date Submitted: 8/29/25

By: County Surveyor Eric Schmitt

<u>Reviewed by:</u>	HR Director _____	County Sheriff _____	
	Finance Director _____	County Engineer _____	
	IS Director _____	PHHS _____	
	County Attorney _____	X Surveyor _____	
	Environmental Svcs _____		
<u>Recommendation:</u>			
I recommend that the Board authorize me to sign a contract with Eagleview to purchase aerial imagery to be flown in 2026 for use in Land Use offices and outward facing map viewers including Beacon. Please see attached for additional information.			
<u>Decision:</u>			

County Aerial Imagery Program – 2026 Flight Proposal

The County has utilized services from Eagleview (fka Pictometry) to provide aerial imagery since at least 2008. Flights are scheduled on a 3-year cycle, which allows for consistent comparisons over time. Eagleview provides us with the same pricing for 2 consecutive flights every 6 years. We're on the second flight of our current price lock.

These flights cover Houston County in both vertical and oblique imagery. We use the vertical imagery locally for use in ArcGIS and AutoCAD projects. We also send the vertical imagery to Schneider in Indiana for them to host on the County's Beacon website. Schneider works with Eagleview to host oblique images on Beacon. Eagleview also provides us with access to Connect Explorer, their web viewer for this data. Connect Explorer will be replaced with Eagleview Cloud with our next contract.

- **Vertical images** (straight down)



- **Oblique images** (angled views)



Beginning with our 2020 flight, we have elected to purchase Eagleview's Change Finder product. They provide us with a GIS layer that shows building footprints. With the second purchase of this with our 2023 flight, we were able to map changes from the previous data, which indicates changes, removals and additions to building footprints.



Recommendation for 2026 Contract

I recommend the Board authorize signing the proposed contract with Eagleview for the 2026 flight

- **Resolution:** 6" countywide, *upgrade to 3" in Caledonia and La Crescent*
- **Products:** Eagleview Cloud included; *Change Finder dropped to reduce cost*
- **Cost:** \$75,540 (three annual payments of \$25,180) – reduced from previously negotiated \$25,873 due to changes in products
- **Schedule:** Flight planned March/April 2026, after snow melts but before leaf cover
- **Flexibility:** Option to reintroduce Change Finder in the future if needed (baseline data was established in 2020 & 2023 flights)

Flight History, Resolutions, Costs, and Notes

Flight Year	Resolution	Total Cost (Av. Annual)	Products Purchased / Notes	Issues / Special Considerations
2017	6"	\$79,766 (\$26,788)	Standard imagery	
2020	Planned 6" flown at 3"	\$57,361 (\$19,120)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect Explorer • Change Finder 	COVID delayed flights until June, upgraded resolution at no add'l cost
2023	6"	\$77,619 (\$25,873)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect Explorer • Change Finder 	Processing time reduced from previous flights
2026 (Proposed)	6" <i>3" in 2 cities</i>	\$75,540 (\$25,180)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloud will replace Connect Explorer 	<i>Opt out of Change Finder in exchange for upgraded resolution</i>