

MapBox

Introduction

The ViFrame and slideshow charts now can be used to display images of MapBox Maps based on data from your data set. A request to the Static Maps API returns an image. The API requires an API access token.

The Required API Access Token

The API requires an API access token in the request. It is supplied in the request with the parameter `access_token=`. According to the documentation, the API access token allows usage monitoring by the application, but also allows MapBox to contact the developer about their application usage.

Description

MapBox Static Maps API

The MapBox Static Maps API generates an image of a map based on a URL parameter in an HTTP request. The documentation for the API can be found here:

<https://www.mapbox.com/developers/api/static/>

It should also be noted that the URL is restricted to 2048 characters.

Map parameters

Each markers parameter is of the form:

https://api.mapbox.com/v4/{mapid}/{lon},{lat},{z}/{width}x{height}.{format}?access_token=<your access token>

https://api.mapbox.com/v4/{mapid}/{overlay}/{lon},{lat},{z}/{width}x{height}.{format}?access_token=<your access token>

https://api.mapbox.com/v4/{mapid}/{overlay}/auto/{width}x{height}.{format}?access_token=<your access token>

The available marker style descriptors are listed on the developer page:

<https://www.mapbox.com/developers/api/static/>

Usage within iDashboards

A common usage of the Static Maps API would be within a presentation chart. The location within a markers parameter could be specified using the `$(value:<axisName>)` macro. For example, consider a ViFrame. The Static Maps API URL is specified as the `src` attribute in an `img` tag:

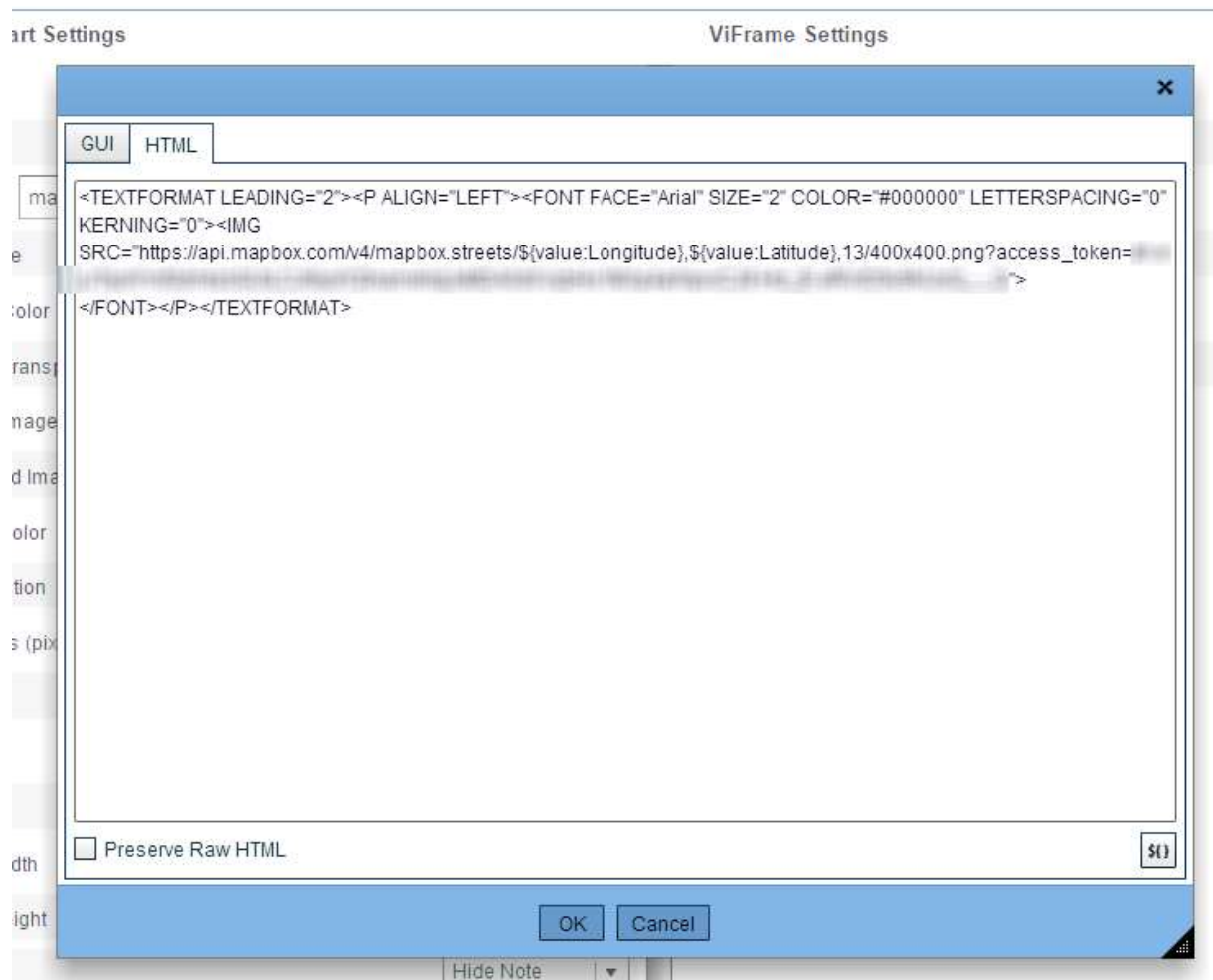
`https://api.mapbox.com/v4/mapbox.streets/-73.99,40.70,13/500x300.png?access_token=<your%20access%20token>`

This URL will generate a map for the associated *Street City, State* string address identified with a red marker labeled with a 'D'.

Note: The iDashboards application handles the URL-encoding so it doesn't need to be explicitly handled in the URL.

Installation

The actual steps to create this chart are simple. Create a new ViFrame chart and click on the HTML button inside the Chart Properties for that chart.



From here, just create your URL and paste it into the HTML tab of the HTML panel. Then save the chart as usual.

Example URLs

The following examples are good references for the available options inside the URL as a ViFrame:

```
<TEXTFORMAT LEADING="2"><P ALIGN="LEFT"><FONT FACE="Arial" SIZE="2" COLOR="#000000"  
LETTERSPACING="0" KERNING="0"><IMG SRC="https://api.mapbox.com/v4/mapbox.streets/url-  
https%3A%2F%2Fmapbox.com%2Fimg%2Frocket.png({value:Longitude},{value:Latitude})/({value:Lon  
gitude},{value:Latitude},15/100x100.png?access_token=Your_Token_Here)">  
</FONT></P></TEXTFORMAT>
```

Note: The maximum character length for http protocol is 2048 characters depending on your browser. If your URL goes over this limit then no image will be created and no map will appear in the chart.