

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

INFORMATION RESOURCES EXCHANGE GROUP

Minutes of December 8, 1999

Location: DVRPC, Bourse Building, 111 S. Independence Mall East, 8th Floor

Attendance:

Name:	Organization	E-mail Address
Aaron Kilbaner	Montgomery Co. Planning	akilban@mail.montcopa.org
Bob Walker	Chester Co. Planning	rwalker@chesco.org
Bob Bielski	Chester Co. Planning	rbielski@chesco.org
Jake Lewandowski	West Chester University	jlewando@wcupa.edu
Dorrie Moore	SE Economic Dev. Office	
Cora Bonniwell	SE Economic Dev. Office	
Katrina Flagel	Mercer Co. Planning	
Lauris Olson	U of PA	olson@pobox.upnn.edu
Julie Del Muto	Delaware Co. Planning	delmutoj@co.delaware.pa.us
John Tyrawski	NJDEP/GIS	johnt@gis.dep.state.nj.us
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Bob Parfet	Archdiocese of Philadelphia	rparfet@adphila.org
Joe Fazekas	DVRPC	jfazekas@dvrpc.org
James Sloan	Gloucester County College	jsloan@gccnj.edu
Barry Seymour	DVRPC	bseymour@dvrpc.org
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Robert S. Cartier	MCPC	rcartier@mail.montcopa.org
Tom Pederson	Cartographic Modeling Lab	twped@dolphin.upenn.edu

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The meeting was called to order at 10 am.

1) Minutes of the meeting of September 8, 1999

- a) **The minutes of the meeting of September 8, 1999 were approved.**

2) Presentations

Presentation: James A. Sloan, Assistant Professor, CIS/CIT, Gloucester County College, Gloucester County, New Jersey, "Web Site Development for E-commerce."

James Sloan presented an overview of Gloucester County Colleges' new certificate programs in Web Site Development and Web Site Development for E-commerce. The presentation detailed the formulation of the programs, which included a brief overview of the Internet and growth of e-commerce, support for the curricula, as well as development and implementation. This Fall was the start-up semester for the programs. Web Page Design & Development I was offered with day and evening sections. Enrollment was more than twice the number of students anticipated. Future needs for the certificate programs include adjunct instructors for day and evening classes. Contact James Sloan, Gloucester County College at 856-415-2153 or by email at jsloan@gccnj.edu.

Presentation: Tom Pederson, Cartographic Modeling Laboratory, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA., "ESRI's MapObjects in action: Stand-Alone Internet, and Intranet Applications"

After James Sloan's presentation, Tom Pederson presented a demonstration of several of the University of Pennsylvania's Cartographic Modeling Laboratory's (CML) projects using MapObjects. Mr. Pederson provided a thorough demonstration of the capabilities of MapObjects which include dynamic live mapping in addition to integrating various other functions and information such as querying capabilities, surveys, and digital imagery. The CML has developed the Neighborhood Information System, an interactive property and neighborhood information system for the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. This intuitive, user-friendly system facilitates analysis of properties, evaluation of City-sponsored housing development programs, planning and siting of housing development programs, and exchanging of planning information with community based organizations. The CML is a collaborative enterprise of the Graduate School of Fine Arts and the Graduate School of Social Work and is partially funded by a grant from William Penn Foundation.

Presentation: Joel Fontane Jr., Regional Economist, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Philadelphia, PA, “Changes to the Standards for Defining Metropolitan Areas.”

Joel presented a summary and analysis of the changes to the definition of metropolitan areas as recommended to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by the Metropolitan Area Standards Review Committee (MASRC). A new “Core Based Statistical Area” (CBSA) will replace the current MA classification. CBSA’s will be classified as Megapolitan, Macropolitan, or Micropolitan for population cores of 1 million and above, fifty thousand to 999,999, and 10,000 to 49,999, respectively. Territory not included in CBSA’s will be designated as “Outside CBSA’s.” Joel explained that, for the DVRPC region, redefinition will result in the following changes: [insert handout]. While current technology will allow the reorganization of Census Data for the DVRPC region with relative ease, Joel is inquiring about special product availability for MPO’s. Written comments regarding the changes should be submitted to the Census Bureau no later than December 20, 1999.

3) Census 2000 Update

Census Bureau staff gave updates on several Census 2000 programs

a) Statistical Areas Program—status

The Census Bureau distributed completed maps for the Statistical Areas Update Program to member governments and has received and inserted corrections submitted by local governments. The Census Bureau is now expected to release the corrected maps for verification in late January. There will be a 30-day review period following the release in which local governments may comment on the changes.

b) Funding for Census 2000—status

A House-Senate conference committee completed negotiations on the fiscal year 2000 spending bill covering the Census Bureau. The Commerce, Justice, and State, The Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (H.R. 2670) allocates about \$4.5 billion, full funding, for Census 2000.

c) LUCA Program—status

The LUCA program continues. Maps showing new addresses and numbers of units have been distributed to some participants. Appeals for the LUCA program must be made directly to the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

d) Complete Count Committees—status

Several committees have been established, and early local outreach offices have started to operate. Key committees are in Camden County and City, Gloucester County, and Philadelphia, where the Mayor's Office has designated a full-time staff person for Complete Count activities. PSDC is doing all of the training for the 67 counties in Pennsylvania. Representative from the census bureau stated that the best time to start a complete count committee is now. All complete count committees should continue until the end of April 2000. Currently, existing complete count committees are in their planning phase. Implementation phases will begin in February 2000.

- e) **Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) 2000—status**
Census geographers have been working with DVRPC Transportation Planning staff to complete the TAZ updates.

4) DVRPC Work Program Updates

DVRPC staff gave updates on elements of the DVRPC Work Program.

a) Year 2000 Aerial Imagery Acquisition

Seven proposals for the Year 2000 Aerial Imagery Acquisition project were received, and the top four vendors interviewed. DVRPC has selected and completed negotiations with Aerial Data Reduction (ADR) to provide the imagery, which will be flown in the spring of 2000.

b) Region-Wide Transportation GIS Development

Final funding approvals are expected from Federal and State Agencies. Development of an RFP for consultant services to help design the system architecture for the GIS will begin soon.

c) Regional Information Network (RIN)

The DVRPC web site will have a new look, new content, and two new functional enhancements in the new year:

- Enhanced on-line mapping (the ArcView IMS will transition to Map Objects)
- Query-able databases for building permit information, forecasts and traffic counts

d) DVRPC Year 2025 Forecasts

The 2025 Regional and County level Population and Employment Forecasts have been approved by the RTC, RCC and the DVRPC Board. Municipal forecasts, with the exception of Bucks County, have been approved by the RTC and the DVRPC Board. Efforts are underway to finalize the forecasts for Bucks County.

5) New Business

a) Reports from Pennsylvania and New Jersey State Data Center Annual Affiliate Meetings

David Joye reported on the NJSDC conference, recently attended by DVRPC staff and member government representatives. This conference provided valuable information on Census 2000 activities and Census redistricting.

b) Appointment of New IREG Vice-Chair

Lauris Olson was selected as IREG's Vice-Chair. His term begins immediately and, according to IREG's bylaws, he will serve as Vice-Chair for one year and as Chair for the following year.

6) Next Meeting Date and Location

The next IREG meeting will be held at DVRPC on March 8th. Professor Arthur B. Shostak of Drexel University will be the guest speaker.