

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
INFORMATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE GROUP  
Minutes of June 5, 2002**

**Location:** DVRPC, Bourse Building, 111 S. Independence Mall East, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Attendance:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>E-mail Address</b>
Bob Gittler	Ben Franklin Technology Partners	<a href="mailto:robert@sep.benfranklin.org">robert@sep.benfranklin.org</a>
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The meeting was called to order at 10:20.

**1. Minutes of the meeting of March 6, 2002**

The minutes were approved.

## 2. Census Update

Andrea King from the Census Bureau, gave an update on various Census-related products.

- a. **Demographic Profiles** are now available on the Census website ([www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2002/demoprofiles.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2002/demoprofiles.html)). The data behind the profiles will be released between June and September 2002, with PA and NJ data arriving in late August or early September.
- b. **Population Estimates** ([eire.census.gov/popest/data/cities.php](http://eire.census.gov/popest/data/cities.php)) are released on a yearly basis. The next subcounty data release (place and municipalities) will be out in July 2002 for the reference date July 1, 2001.
- c. **Urban Areas/Urban Clusters.** Maps indicating the Census Urbanized Area(UA)s for 1990 and 2000 were displayed. DVRPC uses a slightly different Urbanized Area boundary than the Census, where the boundaries are adjusted for use with our Transportation Modeling Programs. Errors were discovered in the 1990 UA files while working on the 2000 UAs. In the 28-County Extended Data Service Area, all but Philadelphia had some errors/mistakes. DVRPC will produce an updated 1990 UA file, for reference purposes, so that comparisons can be made with the new 2000 data. The new UA file will be released from the Census in Mid-June. A 28-County UA map was also displayed. The definition for UA delineation has changed for 2000. Now there are UAs and Clusters. A handout was made available detailing this breakout. Industrial and commercial areas were excluded from the new UAs. For example, Falls Township in Bucks County was an UA in 90 but not in 00 due to this change in definition and the Allentown UA now captured the Quakertown UA. Also, smaller clusters of urbanization are now defined where there was no urbanization before. Will Stevens indicated that in order to use the downloaded files in an ESRI product, you must download an updated conversion tool from the ESRI website. Curt Noe asked to be forwarded a copy of the Federal Register where the new UAs are defined.
- d. **Adjusted 2000 Census Counts.** DVRPC Data Bulletins include the original Census numbers in all published tables, with a note at the bottom indicating the updated numbers.
- e. **Early release of Census data to the media.** Mr. Ontko again stressed the peculiar situation we are put in when the Census Bureau releases data to the media one week before the State Data Center affiliates. It is hard to comment on data questions from the media when we have not had the opportunity to see the data ourselves. The Census Bureau offered to field these sort of questions in the future.

## 3. FY 2002 Work Program Updates

- a. **Year 2000 Aerial Imagery Acquisition.** Mr. Ontko indicated that the warranty period on the products expires in March 2003 and that any errors need to be identified before then. DVRPC is relying on its member governments to identify any problems with the product that may be fixable by the vendor. Mr. Ontko also noted that we need to start thinking about the 2005 Imagery product, including sharing and funding options.
- b. **Region-Wide Transportation GIS Development.** The first phase of this project is complete. Mr. Stevens has a CD-ROM available, which includes four reports and an executive summary in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format. Lauris Olson requested a paper copy of these reports.

- c. **Year 2000 Land Use.** Three counties are completed and another three are currently being worked on. The interpretive phase of this project will be beginning next calendar year. DVRPC will offer member governments an opportunity to edit the 2000 Land Use file before we make it final. Interpretation is becoming more difficult with the increasing amounts of mixed uses in the region.

#### 4. Presentation

Dianah Neff, CIO of the City of Philadelphia, gave a presentation on current activities in the Mayor's Office of Information Services (MOIS). Ms. Neff came to the City last year from California, where she worked in both City and County organizations. Prior to her career in the public sector, Ms. Neff had 14 years experience in the private sector working for high-tech software and hardware firms in Silicon Valley. Ms. Neff is working on Mayor Street's vision to integrate data across the organization in five key areas: 1) Neighborhood Transformation Initiative; 2) Economic Development; 3) Innovation Philadelphia; 4) eGovernment (with an emphasis on a single face of government); and 5) public safety, children & education with GIS integrated in social services.

Ms. Neff formed an IT governing board with the City's Chief of Staff, IT Director, Finance Director, CIO, that looks at this from the enterprise perspective. Some departments have the latest technology and are further ahead on the technology curve than others. For example, some departments have automated telephone system, the PWD accepts bank drafts via the ZIP check program, but you have to go to the service desk at Licencing and Inspection (L&I) to get a permit. The City is working with the business community to create an eGovernment strategy.

##### Neighborhood Transformation Initiative

The biggest problem is the digital divide. In the last study of connectivity (1998), only 31% of households had access to the internet. An update to that study is planned by surveying 1,200 households, with expectations of 40-45% connectivity today. 52 of the 53 public libraries in Philadelphia have 10 computers for internet access. The City is working with schools to offer the use of computer facilities after school. In addition to school facilities, the City has a program called RECS (Recreation Education Computer Science), where they are working with foundations and corporations to open 128 computer learning labs at Rec Centers across the City. Seven of these are currently open and three more will be opened in the next few months. It costs the City \$250,000 to hook up one of these sites, including purchasing computers, wiring facilities and creating special learning software.

##### Economic Development and Innovation Philadelphia

*Innovation Philadelphia* is working to transform Philly into a 'Smart City'. Philadelphia is ranked 6th in the country for Biotech and Nanotechnology. Five years ago, we were 18th of top 50 dot com, but now we do not even make the top 50. The Philadelphia/Greater Delaware Valley is the 6th largest region in the nation. Successes include the North Delaware greenhouse showcase and a university project where all new apartment units will be constructed with access to DSL/cable modems. To dispel the huge 'brain drain' in this region, new programs are being developed that attract and retain students as well as businesses using high technology.

Focus groups are addressing the issues of paying taxes and getting permits online. Simple permits will be available online by early Fall, while more complex transactions will require process reengineering to make them work online. Police reports are now available over the internet, funded by the insurance companies who benefit from this convenience. Credit card transactions are not currently accepted by the City, so they

are working to establishing a policy for credit/debit payment. Interactive mapping is also being explored for zoning and to orient new residents on locations of city services, such as hospitals and schools.

The City is building a customer-centered model using a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, consistent across the City's 311 non-emergency call center with information on the four pillars of businesses, residents, visitors and other government agencies. The City is working on building an eGovernment portal system with the State of Pennsylvania, who currently has a successful portal. Customer tracking is also important to City Council.

### EGovernment

The goal is integrating all of the City's services. Up to 19 City agencies can affect one family. The City has 53 department/agencies with information that they are legally allowed to share. Housing indicators, crime statistics and income level can affect where to locate various City services. Putting data into a geographical reference will help determine how the City can best utilize its resources.

### Public Safety

Police and fire dispatch systems, which have been separate for over 20 years, are now being combined, which will improve response time and allow the sharing of resources. The *Safe Streets* campaign, which stretches across multiple police divisions, started in NYC and was brought to Philadelphia by former Police Commissioner John Timmony. Now adding search for 23 police captains. The State's Justice Network (JNET) shares information on criminals in their jurisdiction, but criminals don't always stay within those boundaries, so the state is working with regional and local governments on information sharing.

Goals of the City's Administration include:

- ! Establish a technology infrastructure to be able to provide these services. Issues on security, backup, and where information is housed are most important since 9/11. Building redundant fiber optics between agencies, working with the Streets Department. Most major agencies are connected, but not all remote offices and locations. Privacy issues working on with the sharing of this data. Continue development of the City's website.
- ! Improve internal operations and the ability to make informed decisions. Bring multiple debarments together to streamline process and improve total cost of ownership (TCO).
- ! Improve cost effectiveness of IT enterprise-wide. Twenty eight commissioners are working through the process and taking a look at what gets funded at the City level, instead of each agency. A needs assessment to identify key technology platforms, establishing a CRM system, consistent work management across Streets, Public Property and L&I Departments with one verses many work orders in system.
- ! Use the internet and a Virtual Private Network (VPN) to collect and pass information between departments.
- ! Use GIS as an underlying platform for all information.
- ! Use wireless technology (currently used by police patrol cars) to give caseworkers, bike cops and building inspectors immediate access to information in the field and the ability to input data such as digital photos, inspection and incident reports using a laptop computer or handheld device.
- ! Establish a baseline to measure enhancements to the City's IT infrastructure and collect metrics on phone calls, work orders and other things to track return on investment (ROI) on the City's \$90 million budget for IT/Telecommunications (about 35% of the City's total budget of \$3.2 billion).
- ! Establish an Information Release Policy and an Electronic Records Retention Policy for the city.

- ! Enable credit card processing for small transactions and Electronic Bank Transfer (EBT) for larger transactions, such as taxes.
- ! Determine how to integrate the City's six different addressing systems (a possible presentation for the March 2003 IREG Meeting).

## 5. Information Items

- a. **New Jersey Imagery Acquisition.** Acquisition of state imagery was completed in the spring of 2002, even though the weather was less than optimal. The new color infrared film on the market is very good, and should at least be considered for DVRPC's next imagery acquisition. The processing of the state's imagery is in development.
- b. **GASB 34/35.** DVRPC is trying to obtain a speaker on this topic for the next IREG meeting.

## 6. Old Business

There was no old business presented at this time.

## 7. New Business

- a. Bob Gittler from the Ben Franklin Technology Partners mentioned that they were working on a Nanotechnology Asset Mapping Study, exploring the assets supportive of nanotechnology in the Philadelphia CMSA (which includes most of Delaware and southern New Jersey). The study is supportive of the development of the Nanotechnology Institute, which is a consortium of regional universities, colleges, and businesses. The lead partners in the Institute are BFTP/SEP, Drexel University, and Penn, but many other local institutions are involved, too (e.g., CCP). The study is expected to be finished in the fall sometime. Also, In cooperation with the Eastern Technology Council, an IT/eCommerce study for southeastern PA will be released later this summer to establish metrics for examining status and trends of IT in the region, above and beyond studies such as "Yahoo Most-Wired Cities". Results will eventually be maintained on their website.
- b. The NJ State Data Center meeting's primary focus was on the recently released 2000 Census Profiles and the 2002 Census of Agriculture. The Census Bureau has released a data analysis tool on DVD-ROM. The DVD includes software, data for the entire US and the ability to create profiles based on custom geographies, such as the 9-County DVRPC region.
- c. The PA State Data Center Affiliates Meeting in Hershey, PA last month focused on the streamlining of publications to affiliates. A set of presentations from Amy Jonas generated discussion about defining a rural center for rural Pennsylvania. There was lots of interest in the American Community Survey (ACS). The Census Bureau has offered to come out for presentations on ACS.

## 8. Next meeting dates

September 4<sup>th</sup> 2002 was confirmed as the next meeting date and December 4<sup>th</sup> was proposed as a tentative date. (NOTE: December 4<sup>th</sup> is the DVRPC Board Retreat. The December Meeting will be held on the 11th.)

## **9. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.