DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
INFORMATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE GROUP
Minutes of September 3, 2008

Location: DVRPC Offices, 8th Floor, 190 N. Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Attendance:

Name:	Title:	Organization:	E-mail Address:
Tom Denton	Asst. Director, Research & Planning	Archdiocese of Philadelphia	tdenton@adphila.org
Bob Keough	GIS Manager	Bucks County Planning Comm.	rhkeough@co.bucks.pa.us
Kiersten Gauntt	GIS Specialist	Burlington County	kgauntt@co.burlington.nj.us
Merrilee Torres	GIS Specialist	Burlington County	mtorres@co.burlington.nj.us
Karen Hatcher	Executive Director	Celebrate NJ!	kmelito@gmail.com
Brian T. Sweeney	User Liason	Chester County Planning Comm.	bsweeney@chesco.org
Bob Walker	Senior Planner	Chester County Planning Comm.	rwalker@chesco.org
Mary Bell	Principal Planning Analyst	DVRPC	mbell@dvrpc.org
Jesse Buerk	Transportation Planner	DVRPC	jbuerk@dvrpc.org
Nick Canzonerri	Web Development Co-Op	DVRPC	ncanzonerri@dvrpc.org
Charles Dougherty	Div. Director, Technical Services	DVRPC	cdougherty@dvrpc.org
Patty Elkis	Assoc. Director, Comp. Planning	DVRPC	pelkis@dvrpc.org
Joe Fazekas	Manager, Office of Web & Creative Svcs	DVRPC	jfazekas@dvrpc.org
Kim Korejko	Geospatial Data Specialist	DVRPC	kkorejko@dvrpc.org
Sean Lawrence	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	slawrence@dvrpc.org
Kimberly Meyer	Sr. Graphic Designer	DVRPC	kmeyer@dvrpc.org
Chris Pollard	GIS Specialist	DVRPC	cpollard@dvrpc.org
Will Stevens	Manager, GIS	DVRPC	wstevens@dvrpc.org
Vanessa Glynn-Linaris	GIS/Risk Analyst	FEMA (III)	vanessa.glynn-Linaris@dhs.gov
John Interlante	GIS Specialist	GIS Center at Stony Brook	jinterlan5@gmail.com
William Mead	Principal Planner / Website Mngr.	Gloucester County Planning Dept.	bmead@co.glouchester.nj.us
Bob Wendt	Dir. Research	Lehigh Valley EDC	bobwendt@rcn.com
Katrina Placer	Senior Planner	Mercer County	kplacer@mercercounty.org
Michelle Schmitt	Project Coordinator	Metro Phila Indicators Project	mschmitt@temple.edu
Anne Leavitt-Gruberger	County Planner	Montgomery County Planning Comm.	aleavitt@montcopa.org
Frank Ferdetta	Chief, Bureau of Labor Market Info	NJ Department of Labor	frank.ferdetta@dol.state.nj.us
Len Preston	Chief, Labor Market Info	NJ Dept. of Labor & Work. Devel.	lpreston@dol.state.nj.us
Deepa Rajashekhara	GIS Specialist	NJ Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency	drajashekhara@njhmfa.state.nj.us
Kevin McCullough	Sr. Research Coordinator	PA State Data Center	kwm10@psu.edu
Yimei Wang	GIS Specialist	Philadelphia - Div of Technology	yimei.wang@phila.gov
Matt Honea	Project Manager / Planner	PIDC	mhonea@pidc-pa.org
Maryann McCann	GIS Administrator	PIDC	mmccann@pidc-pa.org
Meghan Kang	Sr. Research Manager	Select Greater Philadelphia	mkang@selectgreaterphila.com
Tanya Rothe	GIS Operations Planner	SEPTA	trothe@septa.org
Janel A. Bisacquino	GIS Director	Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Assn.	jbisacquino@thewatershed.org
Lauris Olson	Soc. Science Bibliographer	Univ. of Penn. Library	olson@pobox.upenn.edu
Tom McGettigan	Economist	US Department of Labor /BLS	mcgettigan.thomas@bls.gov

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The 68th meeting of the IREG was called to order at 10:10 a.m. at DVRPC. About thirty-seven members were in attendance.

2. Minutes of the meeting of June 11, 2008

The minutes were approved without correction.

3. Presentations

A. MetroPhilaMapper: Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Project's Interactive Mapping *(Michelle Schmitt, Project Coordinator - Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Project, Temple University)*

The Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Project (MPIP) at Temple University, a project that promotes data driven regional civic dialogue, launched MetroPhilaMapper (http://claweb.temple.edu/mpip), a free, online mapping tool. With over 250 local and regional indicators, MetroPhilaMapper leverages Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies to enable the public to easily find and geographically view data that used to be scattered across multiple agencies. It is a valuable new resource for regional health organizations, arts and culture organizations, social services nonprofits, real estate and planning professionals, grant makers, and families or companies evaluating greater Philadelphia's communities and economy when choosing where to locate. MPIP is supported by the William Penn Foundation.

B. NJ Wayfinding Initiative *(Karen Hatcher, Executive Director of Celebrate NJ!; Wansoo Im, founder, VERTICES, LLC)*

Celebrate NJ!, a non-profit organization, is leading a coalition of NJ groups to create a statewide wayfinding master plan, which is currently 90% complete. The plan includes standards for signage, and a host of wayfinding tools, including an interactive map site, NJPOI.com, developed by Dr. Wansoo Im of Vertices, LLC. Karen Hatcher, Executive Director of Celebrate NJ! provided an overview of the Wayfinding Initative and Wansoo Im demonstrated the interactive NJPOI map.

4. Census Update

This item has been tabled for the next meeting, as a representative from the Philadelphia Regional Office of the U.S. Census Bureau was not able to attend the meeting.

5. DVRPC Work Program Update

A. New DVRPC Data Bulletins:

Mary Bell announced that the following data bulletins have been released and are now available online for download:

- *ADR 15: American Community Survey*
- *ADR 16: Land Use in the Delaware Valley, 2005*
- *RDB 87: Municipal, County, and Regional Population Estimates, 2000- 2007*
- *RDB 88: Housing Units Authorized by Residential Building Permits: 2000 through 2007*

B. New DVRPC Publications

Mary Bell reported that "Tracking Progress Toward 2030: Regional Indicators for the DVRPC Long Range Plan" was recently released and is available for download from DVRPC's website. Mr. Fazekas invited everyone to search DVRPC's online publication database.

C. Regional Online Information Network

Joe Fazekas announced that DVRPC will be launching their "new" website in the beginning of the new year and that more data (particularly from DVRPC's Data Bulletins) will be added to the site's online municipal data navigator.

D. Year 2005/2010 Aerial Imagery

William Stevens reported the following:

- On June 23rd there was a meeting with member governments where they discussed the 2010 ortho-imagery project. Specs will be similar to recent NJ and PA projects, 1' pixel resolution, true color, 200' nominal scale, delivered as TIFFs and MrSIDs.
- DVRPC is waiting for ballpark estimates from PhotoScience and will evaluate multi-resolution (6" and 1') and multi-band (natural color and color IR) options. DVRPC is expecting product definition/cost estimates in September and will develop work program/amendments for the TIP in October.
- DVRPC hosted a Pictometry Tech Update seminar in July. The seminar did not touch on GIS/Planning issues very much so they will be discussing possibility of hosting another seminar focusing on those groups and interaction with ESRI products.

E. Region-Wide Transportation GIS Development

Mr. Stevens reported the following:

- DVRPC's consultant, GeoDecisions, is pretty much on schedule. There was a slight scope change that has moved final delivery back one month. A new project manager, Albert Sarvis, has been assigned to the project due to previous project manager leaving company.
- Edge-matching of regional centerline file is proceeding. GeoDecisions has received updated files from PA counties and are now in the QC process.
- Shared boundary road issues will be addressed after completion of Dynamic Conflation Tool (DCT), which will handle multiple segmentation. The DCT is 75% complete.
- a web application requirements document was prepared and comments from DVRPC were incorporated into final draft that is currently being review be ESRI.
- DVRPC will be hosting software training for project participants in the coming months. Interest is currently being explored for ArcGIS Server offerings and also and advanced ArcGIS Desktop class.

7. Member Roundtable

A. Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association

Janel Bisacquino reported that they are utilizing multiple Google online applications in an effort to enhance their web functionality. Using various free Google applications, the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association has migrated their stream monitoring data to improve usability and functionality. They are also working with Vertices on an online application for conservation stream corridors in the central NJ region. In the near future the GIS Center, Vertices, and others will be hosting a workshop on various free online applications. www.thewatershed.org

B. Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation

Bob Wendt mentioned that there have been delays with wastewater management permits in the Lehigh Valley. LVEDC's inquiry rate is still good for new projects, while Mack Trucks, Inc. moved its headquarters from Allentown to Greensboro, NC.

C. Pennsylvania State Data Center

Kevin McCullough announced their upcoming annual user conference *The Past, Present, and Future of Data…What Does it Mean for You?.* Also, the Pennsylvania Statistical Abstract for 2008 has been released and is ready for distribution. http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/

D. New Jersey State Data Center

Mike Preston reported that their annual conference will be larger this year, as it has merged with the NJ Dept of Labor and Workforce Development. They are still in the process of obtaining topics/speakers for the event. Also, the NJ State Data Center is currently updating their website by adding more web applications and making the site more dynamic in nature. http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lpa/content/njsdc_index.html

E. Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Tom Denton announced that their 2008 reports for all parishes and updated maps are now online. The Archdiocese will be attending various events and conferences over the next few months. Their website has received a very high amount of traffic, particularly on pages that include census data. The Archdiocese uses Urchin to view their web statistics. http://archphila.org/home.php

F. Gloucester County

Bill Meade reported that now through December, the county's municipalities will be reporting on their affordable housing obligations.

G. Burlington County

Merrilee Torres announced that Burlington County is working with Pictometry and will have training for their county offices in the beginning of October. The county's engineering office is working on mapping traffic signs and they are looking into also purchasing CartoGraph. The county is exploring the possibility of outsourcing their GIS parcel updates. Burlington County's health department has recently acquired 3 new GPS units.

8. Information Items

H. Committee Reports

a. Online GIS Subcommittee Meeting
Chris Pollard reported that the Online GIS Subcommittee meeting was cancelled and the group will meet again at December's IREG meeting. Mr. Pollard urged interested parties to continue to share their ideas to avoid duplicating efforts and to explore the possibilities of consolidating applications.

b. Webmasters Subcommittee Meeting
Joe Fazekas announced that it is the 10 year anniversary of the subcommittee. Mr. Fazekas invited interested parties to attend the next meeting, following the IREG meeting.

I. **Upcoming Events**
  a. **NAGW National Conference** – September 10-12 (St. Charles, IL)
  b. **Pennsylvania State Data Center Data User Conference** – September 11th (Grantville, PA)
  c. **Economic Development Workshop** – September 12th (Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ)
  d. **URISA 2008 Annual Conference & Exposition** – October 7-10 (New Orleans, LA)
     www.urisa.org/conferences/annual/program
  e. **MAC URISA LiDAR Symposium** – October 23rd, 8:30-4:30 (Rutgers EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ)
     There is a $10 registration fee for this event. www.macurisa.org/events_fall.htm
  f. **ESRI-MUG 2008 Conference** – October 28-30 (Newark, DE) www.esrimug.org
  g. **2008 Governor's Conference on Workforce & Economic Development** – December 1-3 (Atlantic City, NJ) http://lwd.state.nj.us/labor/lwdhome/2008LWD_conference.html

9. Old Business

No old business was presented at this time.

10. New Business

Joe Fazekas announced the following:

- Volunteers are needed for the IREG nomination committee. They will be looking for a representative from New Jersey to become Vice Chair. Bill Meade from Gloucester County, NJ volunteered to be part of the committee. The election will be held at the December IREG meeting.
- An "Add to Outlook" button has been added to IREG meeting announcements. When this button is pressed, the event is automatically applied to participants' Microsoft Outlook calendar.
- Mr. Fazekas also announced that he's looking into hosting an AICP-approved IREG meeting, where, for a nominal fee, AICP certified planners could attend and receive continuing education credits.
- Google has released a new (beta-version) web browser, "Google Chrome". Microsoft has also released an upgrade to their web browser, Internet Explorer 8 Beta 2.
- DVRPC recently had new podium signage installed in their Main Conference Room.

Meghan Kang from Select Greater Philadelphia mentioned that they are working with DVRPC on a Community and Economic Development Strategy Plan for the region. For this project, Ms. Kang is looking for county Community and Economic Development Plans from each of the member counties - anyone who knows if their county has such a plan can email Ms. Kang (mkang@selectgreaterphila.com). Mary Bell said that Gloucester, Camden, and Burlington Counties in NJ do have plans.

11. Adjournment

The IREG meeting was adjourned at 12:05