

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
INFORMATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE GROUP
Minutes of March 7, 2007**

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

Attendance:

Name	Title	Organization	Email Address
Juliet Frey	Web Content Administrator	Bucks County	jefrey@co.bucks.pa.us
Kiersten Gauntt	GIS Specialist	Burlington County	kgauntt@co.burlington.nj.us
John Watson	GIS Specialist	Burlington County	jwatson@co.burlington.nj.us
Jim Lex	GIS Program Manager	Camden County Improvement Authority	jlex@camdencounty.com
Andrew Levecchia	Senior Planner	Camden County Improvement Authority	andrewl@camdencounty.com
Brian T. Sweeney	User Liaison	Chester County Planning Comm.	bsweeney@chesco.org
Bob Walker	Senior Planner	Chester County Planning Comm.	rwalker@chesco.org
Mary Ellen McCarthy	GIS Analyst	City of Philadelphia - MOIS	maryellen.mccarthy@phila.gov
Ken Sipos	Real Estate Specialist	City of Philadelphia Pub. Property	kenneth.sipos@phila.gov
Andrew Adams	Senior Information Specialist	Delaware County Planning Dept.	adamsa@co.delaware.pa.us
Mary Bell	Principal Planning Analyst	DVRPC	mbell@dvrpc.org
Charles Dougherty	Div. Director, Technical Services	DVRPC	cdougherty@dvrpc.org
Rachel Edwards	Librarian	DVRPC	redwards@dvrpc.org
Joe Fazekas	Webmaster	DVRPC	jfazekas@dvrpc.org
Rob Graff	Economic Analysis Coord.	DVRPC	rgraff@dvrpc.org
Elizabeth He	Regional Data Analyst	DVRPC	ehe@dvrpc.org
Kim Korejko	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	kkorejko@dvrpc.org
Zhu Hui Lai	Library Intern	DVRPC	zlai@dvrpc.org
Glenn McNichol	GIS Specialist	DVRPC	gmcnichol@dvrpc.org
Richard Murphy, Jr.	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	rmurphy@dvrpc.org
Chris Pollard	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	cpollard@dvrpc.org
Will Stevens	Manager, GIS	DVRPC	wstevens@dvrpc.org
Kenneth Thompson	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	kthompson@dvrpc.org
William Mead	Principal Planner / Website Mgr.	Gloucester County Planning Dept.	bmead@co.gloucester.nj.us
Jeff Taylor	Data Technician	Gloucester County Planning Dept.	jtaylor@co.gloucester.nj.us
Bob Wendt	Dir. Research	Lehigh Valley EDC	wendt@fast.net
Chris Kahn	GIS Analyst	M & M Solutions	ckahn@mmsolutionsllc.com
Katrina Placer	Senior Planner	Mercer County	kplacer@mercercounty.org
Brian O'Leary	Section Chief	Montgomery County Planning Comm.	boleary@montcopa.org
Owen Robatino	Planner II	New Castle County Dept. of Land Use	ocrobatino@nccde.org
Seth Hackman	GIS Specialist	NJ DEP	seth.hackman@dep.state.nj.us
Maryann McCann	GIS Administrator	PIDC	mmccann@pidc-pa.org
David Ford	Assistant Director	Temple U. Social Science Data Library	daford@temple.edu
Vicky Tom	GIS Research Coordinator	University of Penn. Cart. Modeling Lab	vtom@sp2.upenn.edu
Philip Lutz	Coordinator	US Census Bureau	philip.m.lutz@census.gov
Tom McGettigan	Economist	US Department of Labor BLS	mcgettigan_t@bls.gov
Wansoo Im	Principal	Vertices	wim@vertices.com

1. Introductions and Minutes Approval

The 62ND meeting of the IREG was called to order at 10:10 a.m. at DVRPC. Thirty-Six members were in attendance. The minutes were approved without correction.

2. Presentation

Philip Lutz, a Program Coordinator at the US Census Bureau's Philadelphia Regional Office gave an overview of the 2010 Census and the LUCA Program. In the past, most households were given either a short form or a long form questionnaire to fill out for each decennial census. In order to improve the relevance/ timeliness of the long form, reduce operation risks, improve accuracy of census coverage, and contain costs, programs have been introduced to help improve census data collection and accuracy. The American Community Survey (ACS) will replace the long form as the method to collect detailed socio-economic data. By 2010 the Census Bureau anticipates receiving this data at the tract and block group level on an annual basis. The MAF/TIGER Accuracy Improvement Program (MTAIP) will improve the spatial accuracy of Census Bureau TIGER data and merge their existing Master Address File with this dataset. Other programs like the Boundary Annexation Survey and the Statistical Areas Program will help in obtaining accurate population counts. The 2010 Census Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Program, which is expected to begin in August, 2007, will give state, local, and tribal governments the chance to quality check the Census Bureau's address list and also review/revise relevant boundary and geographic features on a map. Informational workshops on the LUCA program are being offered in numerous locations from March to June and training will be held in the Fall.

3. Committee Actions

There were no actions at this time.

4. Project/Task Suggestions for FY 2009 DVRPC Work Program Projects

In an effort to impress upon the DVRPC Board the importance of our recommendations and strategies for gaining more support next fiscal year, the IREG discussed voting on potential Work Program Projects at the next June meeting.

5. Census Update

No additional updates.

6. DVRPC Work Program Updates

- Mary Bell announced that Analytical Data Report No. 13 "The Aging of the Baby Boomers: Elderly and Near-Elderly Population Characteristics" had been released and was available online. Copies were made available. Also, "The Aging of the Baby Boomers" policy piece is currently printing.

- Joe Fazekas provided a hand out listing the numerous DVRPC web improvements. Mr. Fazekas also reported that DVRPC's web performance has been improved with the installation of a new server and a software upgrade to the online mapping applications. In the near future, the commission will be developing a records retention policy and disaster recovery plan. DVRPC's IT department has been updating staff PC's 5-10 at a time, and all NT stations are off the floor. Recently, internal meetings have been held regarding updating the census and data bulletins webpages. Finally, DVRPC is scheduled to start a nine-month long process of redesigning their website.
- Glenn McNichol reported that reflights of the 2005 orthoimagery were completed; however the vendor was not satisfied with the results. More reflights have been scheduled. The final sets of geotiffs are on DVD and ready to ship, pending the delivery of metadata from the vendor.
- Will Stevens reported RFP's for the Region-wide Transportation GIS Development Project have been sent out to the top three choices, and the resulting proposals are due on March 23rd. A selection meeting will be held afterward in mid-April and a choice will be made in May (tentatively).

7. Member Roundtable

- Gloucester County reported that their online GIS data viewer is expected to go live soon. This GIS viewer contains road, parcel (using Mod IV lookups), wetland, and rail data. They are looking for requests/comments from the public on what info and/or data to add to viewer. A link to the viewer will be posted on their homepage: www.co.gloucester.nj.us
- Chester County reported that they are updating their Landscapes Plan. They are in the process of conducting an online public opinion survey, which can be found at: www.landscapes2.org/.
- The City of Philadelphia recently launched an office of emergency preparedness, similar to the federal office of homeland security.
- NJDEP has recently completed their 2002 land use/land cover dataset which is available for download at: www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/. Their next project will involve updating the attributes of their statewide hydrography dataset.

8. Information Items

- Chris Pollard reported that the Online GIS Subcommittee would be meeting after IREG was adjourned
- Joe Fazekas reported that December's Webmasters Subcommittee meeting was cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. The next meeting would be held after the Online GIS Subcommittee adjourned. The 2007 National Association of Government Webmaster's Conference is taking place in Valley Forge, PA from September 19th – 21st.

- Joe Fazekas reported that about 11,000 people attended the Transportation Research Board's 86th Annual Meeting.

- A number of Upcoming Events were announced, including:
 - Towson University 20th Annual GIS Conference (3/19-3/20)
 - 20th Annual GIS-T Symposium (3/25-3/28)
 - ESRI Transportation Special Interest Group Meeting (4/5)
 - 2007 APA National Planning Conference (4/14-4/18)
 - NJDEP 20th Annual Mapping Contest (4/25)
 - MAC URISA Spring Meeting (4/25)
 - 10th Annual American Association of Airport Executives GIS Conference & Expo (5/1-5/4)
 - Delaware GIS 2007 Conference (5/2)
 - 15th Annual Pennsylvania GIS Conference (5/16-5/17)
 - National Association of Government Webmasters Annual Conference (9/19-9/21)

- Joe Fazekas made several announcements regarding IREG meeting procedures. In an effort to reduce costs and be more environmentally friendly, IREG minutes will no longer be printed and mailed. Instead, minutes will be made available electronically. Also, maps that are displayed at each meeting will be converted to PDF's. Both will be available for download from the IREG webpage. An IREG web-based newsfeed containing related technology links will be available in the future. Finally, Mr. Fazekas proposed that tent cards be used to help identify and encourage involvement from member governments and participants.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 and the Online GIS Subcommittee reconvened at 11:50 with 9 people in attendance.