

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
INFORMATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE GROUP
Minutes of June 3, 2009**

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

Attendance:

Name	Title	Org	Email
Tom Denton	Asst. Director, Research & Planning	Archdiocese of Philadelphia	tdenton@adphila.org
Kiersten Gauntt	GIS Specialist	Burlington County	kgauntt@co.burlington.nj.us
Merrilee Torres	GIS Specialist	Burlington County	mtorres@co.burlington.nj.us
Dan Constanza	GIS Specialist	Burlington County IT	dconstanza@co.burlington.nj.us
Andrew Reback	Director, Policy & Research	Center City District	areback@centercityphila.org
Carolyn Oakley	Graphics Specialist	Chester County Planning	coakley@chesco.org
Bob Walker	Senior Planner	Chester County Planning Comm.	walker@chesco.org
Brian Ivey	Senior GIS Analyst	City of Philadelphia MOIS	brian.ivey@phila.gov
Ken Sipos	Real Estate Specialist	City of Philadelphia Pub. Property	kenneth.sipos@phila.gov
Anne Wolfe	GIS / Information Specialist	Delaware County	wolfea@co.delaware.pa.us
Mary Bell	Principal Planning Analyst	DVRPC	mbell@dvrpc.org
Charles Dougherty	Div. Director, Technical Services	DVRPC	cdougherty@dvrpc.org
Joe Fazekas	Manager, Office of Web & Creative Svcs	DVRPC	jfazekas@dvrpc.org
Beth Houser	GIS Intern	DVRPC	ehouser@dvrpc.org
Kim Korejko	Geospatial Data Specialist	DVRPC	kkorejko@dvrpc.org
Sean Lawrence	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	slawrence@dvrpc.org
Glenn McNichol	GIS Specialist	DVRPC	gmcnichol@dvrpc.org
Taghi Ozbeki	Director, Office of Information Technology	DVRPC	tozbeki@dvrpc.org
Guin Pascale	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	gpascale@dvrpc.org
Chris Pollard	GIS Specialist	DVRPC	cpollard@dvrpc.org
Will Stevens	Manager, GIS	DVRPC	wstevens@dvrpc.org
Kenneth Thompson	GIS Analyst	DVRPC	kthompson@dvrpc.org
Meghan Kang	Real Estate Specialist	General Services Administration	meghan.kang@gsa.gov
William Mead	Principal Planner / Website Mngr.	Gloucester County Planning Dept.	bmead@co.gloucester.nj.us
Bob Wendt	Dir. Research	Lehigh Valley EDC	bobwendt@rcn.com
Katrina Placer	Senior Planner	Mercer County	kplacer@mercercounty.org
Scott France	Principal Planner	Montgomery County Planning Comm.	sfrance@montcopa.org
Michael McGeehin	GIS Analyst	Natural Lands Trust	mmcgeehin@natlands.org
Chris Kahn	Sr. Engineering Tech - GIS	NJ American Water	christopher.kahn@amwater.com
Tineen Howard	Principal Planner	NJDOT	tineen.howard@dot.state.nj.us
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	mmcann@pidc-pa.org
Tanya Rothe	GIS Operations Planner	SEPTA	trothe@septa.org
David Ford	Assistant Director	Temple U. Social Science Data Library	daford@temple.edu
Marlen Kokaz	GIS Director	Univ. of Penn. Cart.Modeling Lab	mkokaz@ssw.upenn.edu

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The 71st meeting of 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 March 4, 2009

The minutes were approved without correction.

3. Presentations

A. "Into the Wild: Prospects for Google Earth at Natural Lands Trust"

Michael McGeehin, a GIS Analyst with Natural Lands Trust (a non-profit land preservation / protection organization), gave a presentation on Google Earth and how this application is used in his organization. Google Earth is available as a free download via the internet. This application uses a live connection to the internet to provide users with a multitude of geographic information and tools, among other things. Using GIS layers he developed in ArcGIS, Mr. McGeehin created several applications for Natural Lands Trust staff to help them visualize and analyze their spatial data, thereby enhancing their decision-making capabilities. Google Earth offers several great features, including (but not limited to) an address location functionality, historic aerial imagery, 3-D building visualization, and a "street-view" function that is currently available through Google Maps. Because Google Earth is free and easy-to-use, Mr. McGeehin promotes usage of the application at Natural Lands Trust. In the future, he would like to develop new applications and enhance current applications by incorporation GPS functionality in an effort to assist with easement monitoring.

B. "The Landscapes2 Plan & Public Review Process"

Bob Walker, Senior Planner at the Chester County Planning Commission presented the County's recent efforts updating the Landscapes Long-Range Plan, which was adopted in 1996. The updated plan reinforces the planning goals already established, but as a totally different product. Landscapes2 will be developed on the web (no paper copies) using their dedicated plan website www.landscapes2.org. To familiarize people with the site, business cards were distributed to get the message out and get people involved. Public participation is also a large component of this site, listing community information meetings, which is updated on a regular basis. Visitors are given many tools to get involved with the plan, including emailing comments, joining a ListServ, and completing a survey. The 11 parts of the plan (required by PA municipal planning code) each has a presentation, issue paper, policy paper, action plan, related resources and links, and an online mapping component which allows users to select an area and make comments on specific areas.

4. Census Update

There was no representative from the Census Bureau present. Will Stevens from DVRPC reported that DVRPC and representatives from the nine-county region have met and completed their edits for the Participant Statistical Areas Program. The edits were sent to the Census Bureau and DVRPC is waiting for feedback.

5. DVRPC Work Program Updates

A. Joe Fazekas reported that several publications have been released since March's meeting, including (but not limited to), "Data Snapshot - Number 2: Bucks County Senior Transportation and Mobility Survey," "Planning and Zoning for Green Buildings," Connections Newsletter #3: "The Link", and "DVRPC News - Spring 2009." A couple of data bulletins should be released by September (Employment, Building Permits). Mary Bell added that public hearings for the Commission's Long-Range Plan "Connections" will be held on June 4th at DVRPC and June 11th at the Cherry Hill Public Library. Mr. Fazekas added that there are two documents for the Connections Long-Range Plan available for download on DVRPC's website.

- B. Mr. Fazekas also reported on the Regional Online Information Network. The website project is still ongoing and the development site can be accessed by visiting test.dvrpc.org. Mr. Fazekas asked participants to visit the site and to provide feedback/comments. The new site is scheduled to launch before July 1st. DVRPC is also looking into upgrading our uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs), following several recent power outages at the ACP building that caused vital equipment to fail.
- C. Glenn McNichol reported that plans were moving forward with regard to partnering with the USGS on the 2010 ortho imagery project. Specifically, DVRPC submitted an "Ortho Imagery Project Planning Requirements" form so the USGS could formulate an estimated cost for the project. The resulting cost estimate fell within the project budget. Staff will begin the development of a scope of work for the project that will then be submitted to the USGS. The scope of work will detail the project specifications and deliverables. Also, staff is coordinating with representatives from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to have their area included in the 2010 flight. A similar USGS project requirement form will be submitted for LVPC. Staff will continue to coordinate with the USGS throughout the project planning process.
- D. Will Stevens reported that the Region-wide Transportation GIS Project continues to make progress. DVRPC and participants are waiting on delivery of the final Dynamic Conflation Tool (DCT). The DCT will be used by the counties to perform updates to the regional road file. DVRPC is also waiting on delivery of the final regional road centerline database. This database will contain standard core attributes including unique id, LRS, address range, and others. DVRPC has received a revised Web Application Test Plan and Web Deployment Plan from Geo-Decisions; both will be reviewed next week. Mr. Stevens also reported that the development of two web applications continues. A project meeting with all participants to teach them how to use the DCT and to finalize the maintenance process will be scheduled shortly.

6. Member Roundtable

- A. Bill Mead from Gloucester County Planning Department stated that the County was busy working on road improvements around the US 322 / NJ 55 interchange, and the RiverLine extension to Woodbury. They are also conducting background studies for a county master plan.
- B. Tom Denton from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Office of Research & Planning stated that their annual reports by parish, parish clusters will be released in July and that they are continually updating their point and polygon data in their GIS system.
- C. Yimei Wang from the City of Philadelphia, Division of Technology updated the group on their current work with their enterprise GIS server, and quality control using a pilot study area to check the accuracy of their data.
- D. Merrilee Torres from Burlington County mentioned that they were taking the 2007 NJ orthos and putting them into a mosaic in SDE for internal use. She also stated that they were getting started with ArcGIS Server and building their first basemap, which is needed for their new pictometry product (Pictometry Online self-hosted), which eliminates the need to take data out to municipalities and load it onto their machines. Instead of carving out manageable

sections of the over 1 terebyte of data (which is too large for most municipalities to handle), the data is served out over the internet. Burlington County is one of the last counties to complete the Parcel Normalization project in NJ, waiting for the Pinelinads Commisison's updates and final municipal comments, so that edge matching parcels between townships can be completed. Expected delivery before July 1st, for county to conduct regular parcel maintenance.

7. Information Items

- A. Committee Reports
 - A. The Online GIS Subcommittee will meet after the IREG meeting.
 - B. The Webmasters Subcommittee meeting will take place following the Online GIS meeting.

- B. Recent Event Reports
 - A. Will Stevens gave a report on the ESRI Transportation SIG meeting;
 - B. Merrilee Torres gave a report on the MAC URISA meeting;
 - C. Glenn McNichol gave a report on the PA GIS Conference;

- C. Upcoming Events
 - A. GoWProNJ Meeting (June 8, August 7);
 - B. PaSDC Workshops (June 18, July 16);
 - C. NJ Geospatial Forum (June 5, August 28);
 - D. NJ Chapter of the American Planning Association - Annual Planning Conference (Sept. 5-6);
 - E. Pennsylvania State Data Center Data User Conference (Sept. 10);

8. Old Business

No old business was presented at this time.

9. New Business

DVRPC is seeking to update how we manage our contacts, and looking to migrate to a contacts management system to handle eNewsletters, print labels, subscribe/unsubscribe (opt-in notifications), etc. Please contact Joe Fazekas with any recommendations you may have.

10. Adjournment

The IREG meeting was adjourned at 12:00

The next IREG meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2009.