

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**INFORMATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE GROUP**  
*Minutes of March 3, 2010*

**Location:** DVRPC Offices, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, 190 N. Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106

## **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

The 74<sup>th</sup> meeting of IREG was called to order at 10:00 a.m. at DVRPC. Thirty-three members were in attendance.

## **2. Presentations**

### **A. Overview of Spatial Data Management at NJDEP** (*John Bocchino, GIS Specialist and Data Manager, NJ Department of Environmental Protection*)

Mr. Bocchino, spoke about how data is managed at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). NJDEP creates and distributes an enormous amount of spatial data. In an effort to keep their data organized and quality-checked before it is distributed to the public, each dataset needs to be submitted to one designated person (or council) who checks for errors, determines what category the data falls under, and examines the metadata to be sure it is FGDC compliant. NJDEP regularly trains their new employees on how to use and distribute the data they create. The agency has also streamlined metadata creation by setting up easy-to-use templates and functionality within ArcCatalog. NJDEP distributes its spatial data to the public by making their metadata available in a centralized web-based search tool (the New Jersey Geographic Information Network {NJGIN}), offering links to download the data from a direct page within NJDEP's website, and by serving the data on the web-based mapping application NJ GeoWeb.

### **B. SEPTA's New Website | Moving to the Future** (*Brian Anderson, Manager of Communications, SEPTA*)

Brian Anderson, Manager of Communications at SEPTA, presented their new website ([www.septa.org](http://www.septa.org)). Launched in late-2009, the website has been redesigned to make it more user-friendly and (among other reasons) to provide SEPTA riders with a more interactive experience by offering mobile support and delivering more real-time information (via RSS feeds, etc.). On each page of the website, you can now find three categories for you to choose from. "Choose Your Service" takes you to the main page for SEPTA's regional rails, buses, etc. The "Trip Planner" allows the user to plan their trip from start to finish and incorporates Google Maps. Finally, the "Quick Links" provide links to commonly used functions on the website (schedules, maps, fares, and alerts).

### **C. Mercer County BLOS Interactive Bikeability Map** (*Gregory Krykewycz, Senior Transportation Planner, DVRPC*)

Gregory Krykewycz, a Senior Transportation Planner at DVRPC, demonstrated the Mercer County Interactive Bicycle Map. This online mapping site is intended to be a resource for Mercer County residents and bicyclists to help them plan bicycle-friendly routes to ride, and also to help planners identify priority bicycle corridors and facilities to be considered in the future. Potential users log in to the site and are able to post comments that will help planners improve the bikeability scores shown on the site, develop an effective route planning tool for cyclists, and provide information for agencies with jurisdiction over particular roads that will help them improve conditions for cyclists. The site has been quite successful and has received over 150 comments to date. [www.dvrpc.org/asp/bikemercer](http://www.dvrpc.org/asp/bikemercer)

### **3. Census Update**

Representatives from the Census Bureau attended the meeting and provided the following information:

- 2010 short-form questionnaires are being mailed mid-March.
- One year following the data collection, the President will get the official numbers.
- The PSAP shapefiles are currently in the verification phase.
- At the time of the IREG meeting, group quarter data collection was underway.

### **4. DVRPC Work Program Update**

#### **A. New DVRPC Publications:**

Joe Fazekas from DVRPC announced that the Greater Philadelphia Food System Study was recently released and is available for download.

#### **B. Regional Online Information Network**

Mr. Fazekas reported that DVRPC recently underwent an electronic timesheet update. Soon staff will be able to submit their expense reports electronically.

#### **C. Year 2005/2010 Aerial Imagery**

Glenn McNichol from DVRPC reported on the 2010 Aerial Imagery Project. USGS had selected Aero Metric, Inc. as the contractor for the project. Imagery acquisitions will take place later than in 2005 due to unfavorable ground conditions caused by the excessive snowfall the region experienced in February.

#### **D. Region-Wide Transportation GIS Development**

Will Stevens from DVRPC reported that the Region-wide Transportation GIS project is proceeding. The centerline data model has been improved to incorporate multiple road names for one segment. Also, the project's consultant will be reviewing the traffic count request application with staff. When the application is complete, DVRPC will train selected county and DVRPC staff in its use.

### **5. Member Roundtable**

#### **A. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection**

Seth Hackman announced that NJDEP will be hosting their 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Map Contest on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Registration will be open to employees in federal, state, local, and non-profit sectors one month prior to the contest. The MAC URISA 2010 Conference will be held October 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> at the Trump Marina in Atlantic City, NJ. A call for papers is underway.

#### **B. Archdiocese of Philadelphia**

Tom Denton reported that they are discussing creating an online mapping application. Currently, it is undecided whether they will use ESRI products or hire a consulting firm to create the application.

## 6. Information Items

### A. Upcoming Events

- a. **2010 IREG Meeting Dates** – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, September 8<sup>th</sup>, December 8<sup>th</sup> (Philadelphia, PA)
- b. **ESRI Transportation SIG** – March 18<sup>th</sup> (Harrisburg, PA)
- c. **NJGF** – March 26<sup>th</sup> (Trenton, NJ)
- d. **Social Media for Public Officials** – March 30<sup>th</sup> (Newark, NJ) [sepagov.wordpress.com](http://sepagov.wordpress.com)
- e. **Government Web Professionals of NJ** – April 9<sup>th</sup> (Mercer County Lawrenceville Library, NJ)
- f. **APA 2010 Conference** – April 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> (New Orleans, LA)
- g. **GIS-T Conference** – April 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> (Charleston, WV)
- h. **Southeastern PA Government Webmasters Group** – April 16<sup>th</sup> (West Chester, PA)
- i. **NJ TransAction** – April 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> (Atlantic City, NJ)
- j. **PA GIS** – May 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> (Johnstown, PA)
- k. **TUGIS** – May 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> (Towson, MD)

## 7. Old Business

No old business was presented at this time.

## 8. New Business

No new business was presented at this time.

## 9. Adjournment

The IREG meeting was adjourned at 12:10

## ATTENDANCE

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Tom Denton	Asst. Director, Research & Planning	Archdiocese of Philadelphia	<a href="mailto:tdenton@adphila.org">tdenton@adphila.org</a>	215-587-3545
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