



Information Resources Exchange Group Highlights

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

The 108th meeting of the Information Resources Exchange Group (IREG) was called to order at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's office by IREG Chair, Michael Gall, from the City of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Department. 52 people were in attendance.

Key Points

- Drone technology is allowing emergency management agencies to safely and rapidly respond to incidents in real time. It is also helping them prepare and plan for future incidents, with the collection of relevant and updated data and imagery they are better able to preparing accurate situational maps for responding. This technology is allowing for quick, real-time imagery distribution, fast data analysis, and updated map distribution to those that are leading and responding to incidents.
- One of DVRPC's goals for the region is making sure that denser development occurs in appropriate locations. DVRPC is currently studying the local impacts and benefits of higher residential development within our communities. This study will hopefully allow DVRPC to be able to provide counties and municipalities with information to help be better equipped to advocate for smart growth development within their communities.
- Esri, the industry leading GIS software company, will be making useful upgrades to their Living Atlas product, and powerful enhancements to some of their ready to use solutions, that include ArcGIS Hub, ArcGIS Urban, ArcGIS Online, and ArcGIS Indoors.

Presentations

Drone Use in Emergency Management and Applications in GIS | Joe Ward, Gloucester County Emergency Response, Office of Emergency Management (jward@co.gloucester.nj.us)

On June 23, 2015, Gloucester County experienced a possible tornado touch down and used an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) to help quickly assess damages to homes and buildings, inspect down electrical wires and other critical infrastructures that were too dangerous to assess from the ground. Shortly afterwards Gloucester County decided to begin bolster the division of Emergency Management and started their sUAS program.

Utilizing Drone2Map technology allows for seamless integration into existing ArcGIS and other Esri technologies. Drone2Map is easy to use and allows for quickly deployment of data and imagery to ArcGIS Online, the ability to perform distance and area measurements, calculate volume and elevation profiles, and exports data to both ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS Pro.

Maintaining a successful drone program does require agencies to follow strict FAA regulations, maintain log books, perform weekly review of drones and batteries, as well as review weather and flight restrictions reports.

Understanding Potential Demographic Impacts of Higher Density Residential Development | Derek Lombardi, Planner, DVRPC (dlombardi@dvrpc.org)

The construction of rental apartments has become increasingly common in Greater Philadelphia, rebounding since the recession to reach volumes not seen since the 1970s. Although denser development in the appropriate locations is an important part of DVRPC's vision for sustainable growth, the potential local impacts are frequently not well defined and sometimes spark community resistance. DVRPC is currently studying these impacts so that counties and municipalities are better equipped to advocate for smart growth development. In order to answer one of our research questions, "*Who lives in higher density housing?*", DVRPC partnered with Econsult Solutions, Inc. (ESI) to produce demographic multipliers and summary statistics for multifamily units in Greater Philadelphia. The multipliers and statistics were produced using selected observations from recent American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files. The results help to characterize apartment residents across many different geographic scales, and give planners a more up-to-date and flexible tool with which to make accurate estimates and assumptions about multifamily development in their communities.

Esri User Conference 2018 takeaways and the road ahead | Lauri Dafner, Solutions Engineer, Esri (ldafner@esri.com)

Lauri provided our IREG committee with an informative and insightful presentation on some of the highlights of Esri's User Conference that was held earlier in the summer in San Diego, CA. Esri is continuing to advance and build on their Living Atlas Content, offering refined solutions for users, expanding support for focused workflows by adding ready to use solution products like Hub, Indoors, and Urban. There will be several forthcoming upgrades to ArcGIS Pro, a better management dashboard for ArcGIS Online, and added Smart Mapping capabilities for AGO Web Maps.

Information Items

- MAC URISA 2018 Conference is taking place in Atlantic City from October 24-26
- Burlington County GIS Day will be held on November 14, 2018 at Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC)
- Esri Mid-Atlantic User Conference 2018 will be held on November 6-7 in East Rutherford, NJ
- GeoPhilly has two upcoming events: Mapping Wildlife Habitat and Migration (Wednesday, Sept 26) and GIS in Engineering: Emergency Response and Archeology (Tuesday, October 16)
- Temple University's Department of Geography and Urban Studies will host their GIS Day event on Wednesday, November 14 in 104 Architecture Building

The next scheduled IREG meeting is Wednesday, December 12th, 2018.

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