

**DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
INFORMATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE GROUP
Minutes of December 12, 2001**

Location: DVRPC, Bourse Building, 111 S. Independence Mall East, 8th Floor

Attendance:

Name:	Organization	E-mail Address
Bob Parfet	Archdiocese of Philadelphia	rparfet@adphila.org
Mike Bradley	Camconnect	mike@camconnect.org
Bob Walker	Chester Co. Planning	rwalker@chesco.org
Bob Bielski	Chester Co. Planning	rbielski@chesco.org
Curt Noe	Camden County	curtnoe@co.camden.nj.us
Brian Sweeney	Chester Co. Planning Commission	bsweeney@chesco.org
Susan Hauser	Delaware Co. Planning	shauser@co.delaware.pa.us
Devin Gargan	Delaware Co. Planning	gargand@co.delaware.pa.us
Eileen Gallagher	DVRPC	egallagher@dvrpc.org
Taghi Ozbeki	DVRPC	tozbeki@dvrpc.org
Will Stevens	DVRPC	wstevens@dvrpc.org
Mary Bell	DVRPC	mbell@dvrpc.org
Joe Fazekas	DVRPC	jfazekas@dvrpc.org
Glenn McNichol	DVRPC	gmcnichol@dvrpc.org
Michael Ontko	DVRPC	montko@dvrpc.org
Bob Wendt	LVRDC	wendt@fast.net
Ken Sipos	Phila. Dept. of Public Properties	kenneth.sipos@phila.gov
Maryann McCann	Phila. Ind. Development Corp.	mmccann@pidc-pa.org
Dennis Mahoney	Phila. Suburban Water Co.	mahoneyd@suburbanwater.com
Katrina Flagel	Mercer County Planning	kflagel@mercercounty.org
David Kimmerly	Montgomery Co. Planning	dkimmerl@mail.montcopa.org
Joe Perry	NJ DOT	joe.perry@dot.state.nj.us
John Tyravski	NJ DEP	jtyrawsk@dep.state.nj.us
Louis Millan	NJ Transit	lmillan@njtransit.com
Lauris Olson	U of PA Library	olson@pobox.upenn.edu
Greg Brivic	US Census Bureau	pregpry.brivic@census.gov
Montez Dickerson	SJTPO	mdickerson@sjtpo.org

The meeting was called to order at 10:15.

1. Minutes of the meeting of October 3, 2001

The minutes were approved.

2. Presentations

Glenn McNichol, "Using DVRPC 2000 Imagery Tutorial"

A map was shown of the project area, which includes the DVRPC Region, Pottstown Area, SJTPO region, and Ocean and Somerset Counties. Also displayed on the wall of the meeting room were

examples of the 1"=200' product, the 1"=400' product and the new 2000 Tile Grid Index for PA and NJ.

The following handouts were made available upon arrival at the meeting, but were not included in the mailing:

- Aerial Photography Product Pricing (July 2001)
- Release and Disclaimer for Digital Orthophotography Obtained from DVRPC
- TIFF/MrSID Digital Orthophoto Tile Pricing by Municipality
- TIFF/MrSID Comparison (at 1"=200' and 1"=100' scale)
- Index to PA Orthophoto Tiles 2000
- Index to NJ Orthophoto Tiles 2000

DVRPC's traditional aerial imagery product, available for 1959 and 1965-1995 in 5 year increments, was flown at 1"=2000' negative scale and enlarged to a 1"=400' and 1"=800' product. It took 3 flight lines per USGS quadrangle map. The traditional product contained image displacement and there was no uniform scale (so it cannot be used to accurately measure distance).

DVRPC's new aerial imagery product, available for 2000, was flown at 1"=1600' negative scale. It will be sold at 1"=400' and 1"=200' scale. It took 4 flights per USGS quadrangle map and the final product was ortho-rectified. The new 2000 imagery product is corrected for displacement and has a uniform scale with +/- 5 feet accuracy (USGS maps have a +/- 50 foot accuracy). It can be used to measure distance and is, in essence, a "Photographic Map".

The 2000 imagery will have 1.5 foot pixel resolution, a 1"=200' design scale (1.5 square miles per print), a new x/y grid for PA and NJ and approximately 36 tiles per USGS quad. The images are geo-referenced to the PA and NJ State Plane NAD 83 coordinate system. Digital Image Files will be in two formats: TIFF (20 MB per file) and MrSID (1 MB per file). Each will have an associated world file. These images can be viewed in ArcView 3.2, Arc/INFO 8.1 and the MrSID GeoViewer (downloadable free from www.lizardtech.com). All digital products will include a Conditions of Use disclaimer, as well as a Held Harmless clause.

Mr. Ontko stated that there were 51 tiles that displayed incorrectly when viewed using ArcView/Info8x. The vendor is in the process of remedying this issue.

Extreme examples of certain characteristics of the digital images were chosen to show: contrast/tone variations, reflectance properties, grid patterning and vertical correction. Histogram mapping was used by the vendor to minimize contrast/tone variations between mosaiced images. Area with high reflectance properties were shown on pictures of water bodies and sand pit quarries. Grid patterning is caused by compression / decompression methods used for working with images. It is most apparent in dark areas. A final example showed vertical correction, where an image is 'stretched'. It was most apparent where a bridge overpasses a roadway and the roadway seems warped.

The IREG membership asked Mr. McNichol how well the new aerials lined up with existing linework. Mr. McNichol replied that in cases where a county has relatively accurate linework to begin with, such as in Burlington, Chester and Philadelphia counties, it lined up rather well. However, for other counties that use USGS quad-base linework, they don't line up particularly well, due to the orthophoto's much greater accuracy.

Mr. Noe asked for a copy of the presentation to be made available.

Mr. Ontko mentioned that a detailed course will be offered in early January 2002.

3. Census Update

- a. Greg Brivic from the Census Bureau, gave an update on various Census-related products.
- b. **Product Delivery schedule.** SF2 data release is a month delayed and will be released starting in December until the end of March 2002. SF3 data will be released Summer 2002. Workshops are tentatively planned for data users in Spring 2002.
- c. **Notes and Errata.** Census 2000 notes and errata for SF1, SF2 and CQR are now available through American Fact Finder.
- d. **Urbanized Areas.** Urbanized Areas will be reflected in Census products, starting with a special release of the TIGER line file in March 2002 with PUMAs. SF3 will be the first data product that incorporates Urbanized Areas. (www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html)
- e. **Count Question Resolution (CQR).** All CQR maps have been sent out. A clarification was made from the minutes of the October 3 meeting in that there is no preferred method for sending updates to the Census Bureau. A special Census can be conducted on a fee basis after the CQR deadline is past. (www.census.gov/dmd/www/CQR.htm)
- f. **SF1 Profiles.** The NJ State Data Center is providing a 13-page, Census 2000 SF1 Profiles for free, (http://www.wnjin.state.nj.us/OneStopCareerCenter/LaborMarketInformation/lmi25/sf1/sf1_ndx.htm) while the PA State Data Center is providing a 10-page profile to the public at a cost (http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/census_2000/index.html).
- g. **Census 2000 Supplementary Survey (C2SS).** C2SS data has been downloaded by DVRPC and is available to member governments. However, due to the small statistical sample, DVRPC does not plan to use this data.

4. FY 2002 Work Program Updates

- a. **Digital Elevation Model (DEM).** Although it is available with the aerial imagery (ortho-grade), the data is not certified for vertical accuracy. An wall size example of a DEM print out was shown. Due to the lack of points, there is a lot of triangulation.
- b. **Region-Wide Transportation GIS (GIS-T).** Four reports in total will be completed. Two are already complete, the remainder will be completed by end of calendar year. They will be available on CD-Rom as the reports are quite volumous. Many agencies working on this together.
- c. **Year 2000 Land Use File.** Offers are being accepted for help in determining the best solution to make Year 2000 Land Use comparable to 1990 and 1995 land use, which had a lower level of accuracy.

5. Information Items

Ms. Bell (DVRPC) mentioned that the NJ SDC Conference, which she attended last week, focused on the economy, especially after the September 11th tragedy. The afternoon sessions predominantly dealt with Census 2000.

It was asked if the Census Bureau would make SAS/SPSS file conversion files available to the public. Mr. Brivic said that he would have to get back to the committee on that issue.

Mr. Tyrawski (NJDEP) mentioned that a contract was signed with BAE for a new overflight of the entire State of NJ for March 2002. The product will be color infrared photography with 1 foot ground resolution (+/- 4 foot accuracy) and will be delivered in .TIFF and MrSID file formats. Standard tiles are 5000 x 5000 foot, 40,000 x 40,000 foot (about the size of a quarter quad) resampled to 2 foot resolution and all projected in the NJ State Plane coordinate system. An initial 18 month turn around is planned, but it may take longer. There will be 9,000 final tiles in the State of NJ Aerial product verses 5,000 for the DVRPC product. Contact Suzy Hess of NJOIT (shess@oit.state.nj.us) for more information.

PA is getting into a similar project (sequential over a four-year period) with cooperative partnerships with counties. Jay Parrish, PA State Geologist (formerly of Lancaster County Planning) said that it would be a 1"=200' historically black & white product (<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/topogeo/maps&photos.htm>).

DVRPC is still seeking a person willing to talk about the requirements of GASB 34/35 for an upcoming IREG meeting.

6. Old business

There was no old presented at this time.

7. New Business

Mr. Ontko asked for volunteers for a Nominating Committee to select potential candidates for Vice-Chair.

The IREG committee wishes to welcome Maryanne McCann from the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC) as a new member of the IREG committee.

8. Next meeting date

March 6th 2002 is the tentative date for the next meeting. June 5th 2002 and September 4th 2002 were proposed for tentative dates of future meetings. These dates will be confirmed at the next IREG meeting.

9. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.