



Information Resource Exchange Group Highlights

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

The 94th meeting of the Information Resource Exchange Group (IREG) was called to order at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's office by Chris Pollard, Senior GIS Specialist, DVRPC, and IREG Coordinator. Twenty-three people were in attendance. Highlights from the December 10th meeting were available as a handout and on the internet.

Presentations

Wikimapping – Steve Spindler, Wikimapping, outlined the development process for an online public engagement mapping tool and to build a product that works for majority of users. His experience included asking good questions, determining needs before solutions, modularizing change requests so that they can be reused elsewhere, and iterating improvements and new ideas to achieve a superior product. His planning process included creating archetypes of common users including planners, government officials, advocacy groups, and enthusiasts. Wikimapping provides a complete online interface; however, there is also the ability to export results such as comments, feedback forms, survey data, geospatial points and lines, geolocation information, and uploaded pictures into common geodata formats.

Debris Management – Matt Werner, City of Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, presented the City of Philadelphia's efforts to standardize their debris management process and create a disaster recovery plan for major events. Before developing a plan for recovery, it was important to identify likely scenarios and their impacts. Three extreme weather events were modeled for debris creation using FEMA, City, and other federal datasets. These scenarios predicted up to one million cubic yards of debris could impact the city after a disaster. The Debris Management Plan illustrates the cleanup efforts required to remove debris and sets in place effective preparedness plans with contractors, federal agencies, and city departments. Quick mobilization is key in recovery efforts and that requires having a plan in place ahead of time. Debris Management Sites were identified around the City as viable locations to store debris before it can be removed from the city and limit the expense of cleanup. Criteria for sites included suitability for debris management, efficiency of operations, proximity to debris, size, and impervious area. By providing a detailed plan, the City will be at a greater advantage in obtaining federal reimbursement for debris management.

Information Items

- Aerial Orthoimagery is being flown this spring for the entire region.
- Burlington County is developing a Bike Map for release later in the year

- The Census Bureau will be eliminating the 3-year ACS. The 1-year and 5-year ACS data will still be released on schedule.
- PennDOT is completing their Local Roads inventory for the entire state.
- NJ TransAction will be held April 21-23, 2015 in Atlantic City.
- MACURISA is planning their yearly event in June at Princeton University.
- UPenn Center for Public Humanities is holding a conference in June.

The next scheduled IREG meeting is Wednesday, June 10th, 2015.

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