

## **Regional Aviation Committee - 6/19/08 Meeting**

The Regional Aviation Committee held its quarterly meeting with attendance by airport owners and operators, government officials, FAA, consultants, and interested public. Discussion of Philadelphia area airspace modifications were the primary topics. FAA has requested that DVRPC assist in gathering data from airports regarding impacts of suggested airspace control modifications. The continuing debate between FAA and local elected officials represented Delaware County, regarding departure routes west from PHL was also reviewed in light of the current airspace proposal. Airspace definitions are complicated and many local residents oppose any changes, whether or not neighbors are effected.

DVRPC's Regional Aviation Committee developed a policy letter sent to the region's legislative representatives in Washington, defining local airports expectations for the upcoming FAA reauthorization legislation.

Willow Grove J II Naval Air Station is being decommissioned and most military activity will end in 2011. Governor Rendell and federal legislators, through the PA Department of Veterans Affairs, local officials and consultants are developing a reuse plan for the facility and its runway focusing on emergency preparedness, homeland security, and the defense support mission. No commercial or freight air traffic will be allowed, according to governing legislation, however some corporate traffic in support of the new mission will be permitted.

DVRPC held a municipal zoning seminar on 5/12/08 to assist local governments in adopting PA required airport overlay zoning protections. Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties are taking an active role in assisting and advising their municipalities in developing the required zoning protection.