

Broadband Users Group and Metro Data Resource Center

The BUG/METRO GIS Connection Project

Creating a Countywide and Regional GIS Architecture

(Locally Independent - Regionally Coordinated)*

A Broadband Users Group (BUG), Geographic Information Group (GIG), and METRO Data Resource Center (DRC) project in coordination with the City of Portland.

What is the GIG?

The GIG (the Geographic Information Group) is an operational unit of the Broadband Users Group, a Washington County area technology coordination body that oversees the shared use of a county wide internet and network connection between participating agencies.

The GIG's focus is to utilize the BUG network infrastructure for shared intra-government/agency GIS data sharing and development projects, countywide GIS coordination, and shared GIS application development.

The BUG/METRO GIS Connection Project is the GIS's first of three identified projects to implement since its creation in 2009.

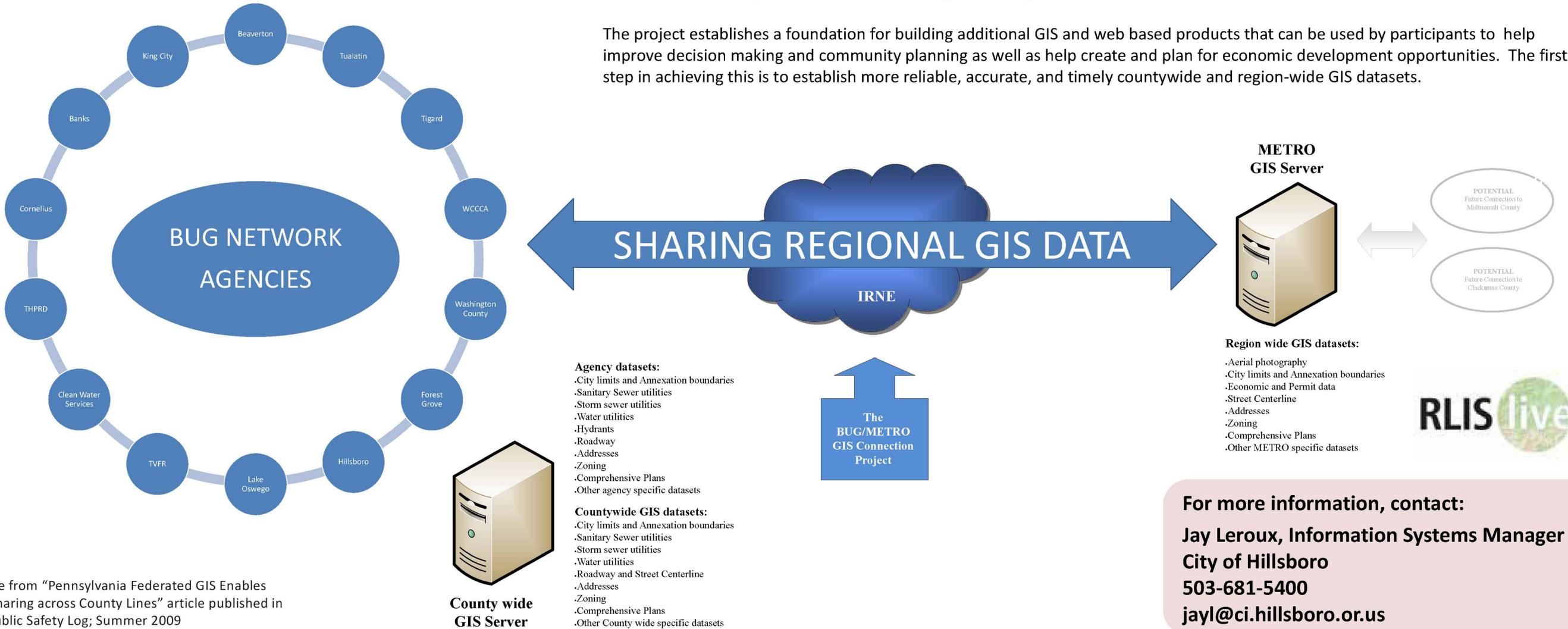
What is the BUG/METRO GIS Connection Project?

The BUG/METRO GIS Connection Project is a two phased intra-government data sharing project.

Phase 1 establishes network connectivity between the BUG and METRO via the City of Portland's IRNE wide area network in order to facilitate GIS data sharing between the Washington County region and METRO.

Phase 2 involves the coordination between BUG Geographic Information Group (GIG) agencies, Washington County and the METRO Data Resource Center (DRC) to establish automated routines to transfer data between participants in a common, uniform format. This will reduce redundant agency efforts to process shared data multiple times while also providing a common dataset for application sharing and access. In addition, this effort increase the frequency of updates from quarterly to monthly. In the future, updates could be moved to weekly or even daily updates. The entire project is a two way data sharing effort where local datasets are combined into countywide datasets and then again into region-wide datasets which are then distributed back down to the local level.

The project establishes a foundation for building additional GIS and web based products that can be used by participants to help improve decision making and community planning as well as help create and plan for economic development opportunities. The first step in achieving this is to establish more reliable, accurate, and timely countywide and region-wide GIS datasets.



*Phrase from "Pennsylvania Federated GIS Enables Data Sharing across County Lines" article published in ESRI Public Safety Log; Summer 2009

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