MESSAGE FROM THE RESEARCH DIRECTOR
PROFESSOR ABBAS RAJABIFARD

Welcome to the first edition of the quarterly newsletter for the North West Metropolitan Region of Melbourne Data Access, Integration and Interrogation and Demonstrator Projects. This newsletter has been designed to provide you with the latest updates from the research teams and stakeholders.

The newsletter series will highlight key achievements and publish the latest information and events. The newsletter also aims to act as a communication platform to exchange ideas and encourage communication throughout the project.

To begin, we are delighted to announce that the contract with ANDS and AURIN was signed on the 23rd of June and that the project has officially started and the project team has been appointed.

We look forward to working closely with our sponsors and project partners throughout the project and thank you for your continued support.

NEW PROJECT PARTNERS
Welcome to our new project partners who have been invited to support to the demonstrator projects:

- Department of Business and Innovation
- Public Transport Victoria
- Department of Primary Industries
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
- VicRoads

STAFF UPDATE
In addition to Dr Serryn Eagleson, the project team, within the Centre for Infrastructure and Land Administration (CSDILA), have been appointed and are:

- Amir Nasr (Software Engineer Geospatial Databases)
- Azadeh Keshtiarast (Data Integration Specialist)
- David Roth (Data Integration Support)
- Adam Williams (Project Coordinator)
TECHNICAL STEERING COMMITTEE

The project has begun by identifying key sources of data and working to extract and adapt spatial datasets — a significant step to ensure the live, verifiable access of data for the project teams.

In order to deliver the programmatic access to data a technical steering committee has been initiated through the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) who have proposed that the VicGIS Web mapping portal will be central to the delivery of data through to the AURIN Portal.

To accommodate these data, metadata recording tools have been built. This will also ensure that the accurate and timely recording of data will be fed to the project.

DEMONSTRATOR PROJECT UPDATES

DEMONSTRATOR 1: WALKABILITY

Project Leaders Hannah Badland and Marcus White recently hosted the first working group meeting between Department of Planning and Community Development, Department of Transport, Shire of Melton and City of Melbourne.

In addition to presenting the pedestrian modelling tools which will form the basis for the project, stakeholders provided significant feedback for the team. These included questions about the role of open space as permeable and agent based decision making frameworks.

The working group also provided several more avenues for data access pertinent to the criteria of walkability. As a result of these discussions the team has begun to define and refine its tool to address the wider understanding of walkability as defined by its stakeholders.

This collaboration has helped position this work within broader local and state government agendas. These include the City of Melbourne's Walking Strategy and also the Victorian Government’s Principle Pedestrian Network Project.

DEMONSTRATOR 2: HOUSING

The housing team has been actively identifying and collecting information relating to housing in the North West Melbourne Region.

A number of meetings and workshops have been held with experts in the field, including the following:

- Forecasting Research 2011-2012 Growth Allocation Model
  Rodney Yeoman (City of Melbourne)
- Interactive Multivariate Analysis Tool
  Peter Zumpe (City of Brimbank)
- A Spatial Information Platform for Sustainable Urban Regeneration
  Dr. Steven Glackin (University of Swinburne)

The team has also attended their first meeting with the representative government champions from Austin Ley (City of Melbourne) and Mick Carroll (Department of Justice). Based on the direction from the champions the team is currently working on a structure land analysis tool that will be an interface between a range of Department of Planning and Community Development and Valuer General data sources.

The data collected through this demonstrator projects is also supporting the following student projects:

- ‘Heritage precincts and property valuations: A study of the periphery of heritage overlay precincts in residential areas and impacts on statutory valuations’ By Nicholas Robinson (Department of Architecture Planning and Building).
- ‘Developable land supply for affordable housing development’ By Seungyeon Ji (Department of Infrastructure Engineering)
**DEMONSTRATOR 3: EMPLOYMENT**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Department of Transport (DoT) have released a series of specialised small scale Journey to Work data for the team to begin the employment cluster analysis.

Feedback from the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) is laying the foundation for the effective use of Journey to Work (ABS) data sources in the analysis.

The first working group meeting for the employment demonstrator will be held on the 28th of September.

**DEMONSTRATOR 4: HEALTH**

The North West region provides a range of medical expertise. This has meant that sourcing data for the health team has been an interesting exercise, particularly in capturing new and dynamic forms of data for the AURIN portal.

The health team is organising data supply from Diabetes Australia, and the Department of Health. When coupled with data from the AURIN portal including data from the Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU) from the University of Adelaide and the ABS. The team will be able to analyse the spatial distribution of diabetes and social disadvantage.

**NORTH AND WEST REGION OF MELBOURNE**

A number of people have requested further information relating to the study area - North and West Region of Melbourne (NWMR). This region covers almost 3,000 km², from the Melbourne central business district to the outer northern and western suburbs. The area consists of fourteen local governments (Table 1) which contain four out of six designated growth corridors.
The NWMR is the fastest growing region in Victoria, and indeed Australia. For instance, the NWMR is forecast to grow by 31% to over two million residents by 2021 (DPCD 2012). Table 1 illustrates the projected population change for each municipality between 2011 and 2021.

Table 1. Projected population change, 2011 to 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>2011 (projected population)</th>
<th>2021 (projected population)</th>
<th>% Change 2011-2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wyndham</td>
<td>168,600</td>
<td>261,900</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melton</td>
<td>113,000</td>
<td>168,500</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>113,000</td>
<td>168,500</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittlesea</td>
<td>163,500</td>
<td>233,900</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hume</td>
<td>175,600</td>
<td>217,900</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maribyrnong</td>
<td>74,000</td>
<td>90,200</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarra</td>
<td>80,300</td>
<td>92,400</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darebin</td>
<td>141,800</td>
<td>157,500</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brimbank</td>
<td>191,600</td>
<td>210,100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moreland</td>
<td>152,300</td>
<td>167,200</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobsons Bay</td>
<td>88,300</td>
<td>94,300</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moonee Valley</td>
<td>113,700</td>
<td>121,800</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banyule</td>
<td>124,300</td>
<td>131,400</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nillumbik</td>
<td>64,200</td>
<td>68,100</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,662,500</td>
<td>2,183,700</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: DPCD 2012)

NEWS & EVENTS

Thank you to the Victorian ABS has committed a representative to each of the demonstrator working groups.

Dr Serryn Eagleson presented a project overview at the NWM Workshop on Transport, Chronic Disease and Health Research held on the 6th of August at the Melbourne School of Population Health.

Associate Professor Chris Pettit provided an introduction to the AURIN Portal at the RMF Integrated Data Working Group meeting held on Thursday the 23rd of August at the Department of Human Services.

Professor Abbas Rajabifard will present at the NWMR Integrated Planning Conference on the 30th of October the title of his presentation is “NWM Regional Management Forum (RMF) Integrated Data Project: International perspectives”.

Serryn Eagleson and Iain Butterworth have been invited to present the project to the Victorian Statistical Advisory Forum - Thursday 6th September (2-4pm).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This project is supported by the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) and the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN) through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy Program and the Education Investment Fund (EIF) Super Science Initiative.

NEWS ALERTS

You can also sign up for NWMR Data Integration News to receive alerts of special news and announcements. To do this contact: Serryn Eagleson serrynle@unimelb.edu.au

Alternatively we welcome feedback and communication through the Project Blog available at http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/aurinands/

REFERENCES