



**FEMA**

September 24, 2009

Dear PaMAGIC Board Members:

FEMA's Mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. GIS supports these Mission Requirements and FEMA's Strategic Plan. We strive to coordinate with our state and local partners, and the organization of our partners can greatly impact our successes.

For these reasons, we endorse the Geospatial Coordination Strategic Plan for Pennsylvania. This Plan calls for the formation of a GIS Council which we believe is necessary and long overdue. A GIS Council can leverage Pennsylvania's resources by bringing people together from various geospatial backgrounds to provide an excellent facility for collective leadership and decision-making.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Gruber".

Gene Gruber  
Mitigation Division Director  
FEMA, Region III