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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Approximately \$26 Million Available for Franklin County in State Capital Improvements and Local Transportation Improvements Funds**

**(Columbus – July 15, 2016)** During Program Year 31, the Ohio Public Works Commission will allocate approximately \$26 million in loans and grants for District 3/Franklin County projects through the Ohio Public Works Commission’s State Capital Improvements Program (SCIP) and the Local Transportation Improvements Program (LTIP). These programs provide financial assistance to local communities for the improvement of their basic infrastructure systems. Eligible projects include improvements to roads, bridges, culverts, water supply systems, wastewater systems, storm water collection systems, and solid waste disposal facilities. District 3/Franklin County will recommend projects for both SCIP and LTIP for the project year beginning July 1, 2017.

“Last year the city of Westerville received \$3.35 million in LTIP funding to construct the Cleveland Avenue and Schrock Road Improvements project,” states Jeff Kessler, Westerville Project Manager. “The city leveraged \$8.7 million in ODOT funding and contributed \$1.7 million in local revenue towards the \$14 million improvement. This was an important safety improvement at the Cleveland Avenue and Schrock Road intersection which adds a northbound lane that extends to St. Ann’s Hospital and includes a ramp to westbound I-270. Safety features were further emphasized with the addition of sidewalks, a multi-use path and 5-foot bike lanes.”

County, city, village, township and other infrastructure districts located in Franklin County who are interested in applying for funding can contact Wilma Yoder at 614-233-4175 or [wyoder@morpc.org](mailto:wnyder@morpc.org) for assistance. Completed applications and Capital Improvement Reports are due Monday, September 12, 2016 by 5:00 p.m. for all applicants in District 3.

MORPC provides administrative support for District 3 of the Ohio Public Works Commission including processing and reviewing project grant and loan requests from local governments. After evaluating and scoring the projects, MORPC will create a list of high priority projects that are submitted to the Ohio Public Works Commission. Final project approval is given by the Ohio Public Works Commission.

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*Working to Build a Better Region*

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*The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments and regional organizations which envisions and embraces innovative directions in economic prosperity, energy, the environment, housing, land use, and transportation. Our transformative programming, services and innovative public policy are designed to promote and support the vitality and growth in the region.*