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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC Seeks Comments on Draft Changes to Federal-Aid Highway System Functional Classifications

(Columbus – April 25, 2014) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is proposing changes to the Federal-aid Highway System functional classifications. A review of the functional classifications occurs every ten years following the Decennial Census. One use of the functional classification system is to determine the eligibility of a roadway for Federal transportation funding.

The functional classifications categorize streets based on their role within the roadway network. Roads functionally classified as local streets are not part of the Federal-aid Highway System and are not normally eligible for federal transportation funds. Roads functionally classified as Minor Collectors that are located outside of the Urbanized Area also are not normally eligible for Federal transportation funds. Minor Collectors within the Urbanized Area and all Major Collectors, Arterials, Freeways/Expressways, and Interstates are eligible for Federal transportation funds.

“Many of the changes will allow more facilities to be eligible for ODOT and local jurisdictions to use federal transportation funds for maintenance and other improvements. Other improvements could include new travel lanes, intersection improvements, pedestrian and bicycle facilities along these streets,” states Nick Gill, MORPC Interim Director of Transportation Systems and Funding.

The Functional Classification review was focused on MORPC’s transportation planning area (Franklin and Delaware counties, Violet and Bloom townships in Fairfield County, and Etna Township and Pataskala in Licking County), but roadways outside of this area were also reviewed for connectivity purposes. A map of the proposed changes is available for public review and comment on the MORPC website at www.morpc.org. MORPC will accept public comments on the reclassifications through May 9. For more information contact Nick Gill at (614) 233-4151 or via email to ngill@morpc.org.

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MORPC is a voluntary association of local governments in Central Ohio serving the region through planning, direct service, public policy information and innovative programming and intergovernmental coordinating services in the areas of transportation, land use, energy conservation, the environment and housing.

Working to Build a Better Region

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