INTRODUCTION TO 2016-2040 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

As the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the metropolitan Columbus area, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) conducts a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. Every 4 years, the results of the process produce a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) that looks at least 20 years into the future.

"The plan provides the basis for how federal transportation funding is spent to improve highways, transit, freight, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities."

As our region continues to grow and funding availability becomes more limited, Central Ohio must be prepared with innovative transportation solutions to address increasing infrastructure needs. The MTP is a long-range planning document that brings together local governments from around Central Ohio and other local, state, and federal agencies to identify and coordinate transportation goals and policies over the next two decades.

The MTP will identify transportation needs, strategies and projects, and provide the basis for how federal transportation funding will be spent to improve highways, transit, freight, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities.

The current MTP planning area includes: Franklin and Delaware Counties, the City of Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County, and the townships of Violet and Bloom in Fairfield County.

Planning for the 2016-2040 MTP is guided by federal legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). The federal legislation sets a framework for the MTP to:

- Reflect a balance between regulations and state and local plans

- Involve a comprehensive, coordinated, continuous planning process

- Be performance-driven, outcome-based

- Consider all modes of transportation

- Address environmental mitigation

- Result in a fiscally balanced plan

- Meet air quality conformity

- Avoid negatively impacting transportation-disadvantaged populations

- Be accomplished through an open and transparent public process

METRPOLITAN TRANSPORTTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The milestones below will be presented to the public for review and comment during the development of the MTP.

Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	March 2015	Apr-Aug 2015	Sep-Dec 2015	Jan-Feb 2016	Mar-April 2016	May 2016
Goals Developed	Objectives Created	Forecasted 2040 Regional Land Use Variables	Project Evaluation Criteria Developed	**Public/ Stakeholder Outreach** Input on Strategies & Candidate Projects	**Public/ Stakeholder Outreach** Draft Strategies & Project List, Impact Analysis, Documentation	**Public/ Stakeholder Outreach** Public Comment Period on Draft Plan	**Public/ Stakeholder Outreach** Address Comments, Finalize Plan	Adopt Plan

PROPOSED GOALS OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The MTP will be developed around a set of goals that give direction to making regionally based investments in the transportation system. The six goals being proposed are listed here. Objectives and measurements will also be developed to monitor the performance of the transportation system in achieving these goals.

Through transportation:

- Reduce per capita energy consumption and promote alternative fuel resources to increase affordability and resilience of regional energy supplies
- Protect natural resources and mitigate infrastructure vulnerabilities to maintain a healthy ecosystem and community
- Position Central Ohio to attract and retain economic opportunity to prosper as a region and compete globally
- Create sustainable neighborhoods to improve residents' quality of life
- Increase regional collaboration and employ innovative transportation solutions to maximize the return on public expenditures
- Use public investments to benefit the health, safety, and welfare of people

WHAT'S NEXT

November 21, 2014: Comments are due on proposed goals by email to mtp@morpc.org or in writing to MORPC, 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH, 43215, Attn: MTP.

December 2014: Adopt 2016-2040 MTP Goals

For more information or to sign up for updates on the MTP, visit morpc.org/mtp.

2016-2040 Columbus Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan