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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MORPC Employee lands Vice-Chair Position of The Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program Forum**

**(Columbus – December 5, 2014)** The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)'s Cheri Mansperger was nominated and elected vice-chair of the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP) Forum. Mansperger, MORPC's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager, has been with the agency for approximately 16 years.

OGRIP is a statewide organization whose goals are to encourage the creation of digital geographic data of value to multiple users, foster the ability to easily determine what geographic data exists and foster the ability to easily access and use this data. Consisting of a 15-member Governor appointed Council, OGRIP is the GIS coordinating body for state and local government. The Department of Administrative Services, Office of Information Technology, houses the OGRIP Program Office and provides administrative support to the Council.

The OGRIP Forum is made up of volunteers who share a common interest in the development of GIS and use of geographic information in Ohio. The Forum assists the Council in the coordination of GIS activities, which include projects such as the Location Based Response System (LBRS), standardized address and road centerline data that safety services and government service offices can use.

"Cheri is well known to local governments and professionals throughout Central Ohio for her expertise in mapping and GIS," states William Murdock, MORPC's Executive Director. "We're excited and very fortunate to have her involved in this effort to help our region's governments solve existing challenges and plan for the future."

"Ohio has a strong GIS community and we have much to learn from each other," states Cheri Mansperger. "The Forum provides an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between State, regional and local GIS needs. I appreciate the opportunity and look forward to exploring the possibilities."

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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.*

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*Working to Build a Better Region*

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