



Contact: **Bernice Cage**  
Tel.: 614-233-4157  
Cell Phone: 614-626-1117  
Email: [bcage@@morpc.org](mailto:bcage@@morpc.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MORPC Welcomes Innovator of Regional Planning Peter Calthorpe as State of the Region Luncheon Keynote**

**(Columbus – March 6, 2014)** The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission’s (MORPC) annual State of the Region luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at the Hilton in downtown Columbus. This year’s luncheon keynote features internationally renowned pioneer of regional planning, suburban growth and urban revitalization, Peter Calthorpe.

Calthorpe is the founder of the award-winning firm of Calthorpe Associates and is recognized around the world for his efforts in sustainable urban design and planning globally. Following his keynote address, Calthorpe, will be interviewed by MORPC’s Executive Director William Murdock on the critical factors driving and affecting Central Ohio’s growth including major demographic shifts, changing community preferences and needs, and increasing demand for diverse housing choices.

For his contribution in redefining the models of urban and suburban growth, Calthorpe was named one of 25 “innovators on the cutting edge” by Newsweek Magazine and was awarded ULI’s prestigious “J.C. Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development”. He is also one of the founders and the first board president of Congress of New Urbanism.

An awards ceremony honoring those that have contributed to the future vitality of the region is scheduled to take place at the luncheon. Online registration is available at [www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org). Tickets are \$85 each or \$850 for a table of ten. For more information, please contact Garth Weithman at 614-233-4127 or at [gweithman@morpc.org](mailto:gweithman@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.*

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*Working to Build a Better Region*

**111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-5222  
Phone (614) 228-2663 Fax (614) 621-2401  
[www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)**