

Welcome to the fourth issue of MORPC's Complete Streets newsletter! The newsletter is published twice a year and reports progress with Complete Streets in central Ohio. Each issue highlights different aspects of the Complete Streets effort. This issue reports on several new and ongoing initiatives related to Complete Streets.

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Curbside Haiku

The New York City Dept. of Transportation recently unveiled an innovative traffic safety/public art campaign that uses colorful signs and haiku to convey traffic safety messages.

For more information, see <http://on.nyc.gov/wgHRRN>



**8 million swimming,
The traffic rolling like waves.
Watch for undertow.**

Lifelong Communities

Over the next 20 years, central Ohio will undergo dramatic changes in demographics: a half million central Ohioans will be 65 years or older. This will have dramatic effects on our communities and businesses. It will also cause new trends to emerge that will require us to rethink the way we are planning our communities right now and into the future.

Through a new initiative called "Lifelong Communities," MORPC is working with partner agencies like the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) to create a region that provides a high quality of life for everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or ethnicity.

Lifelong communities strive to create multi-use neighborhoods that include people of different ages, income levels, and easy access to shops, recreation, employment, healthcare, places of worship, and organizations that offer community services. Transportation plays a big part in creating these types of communities. This initiative fits well with MORPC's "Complete Streets" efforts, as MORPC works with local governments on how to build a transportation system that offers options for everyone and makes travel safer and more efficient for all.

In 2011, MORPC held several events on Lifelong Communities to start to educate the public and bring together partners to discuss related issues. In June, MORPC hosted a workshop in Westerville for community leaders on transportation and lifelong communities, which was discussed in the last newsletter. In October, MORPC hosted a second workshop in Upper Arlington called, "WAKE UP: Changing Trends in the Real Estate Market," that focused on the coming demographic shifts and how that will affect housing and development. Ken Danter was the keynote speaker and Jamie Greene led a panel discussion with Ken, Keith Myers (MSI), Chad Gibson (Upper Arlington), and Greg Bachman (Pickerington).

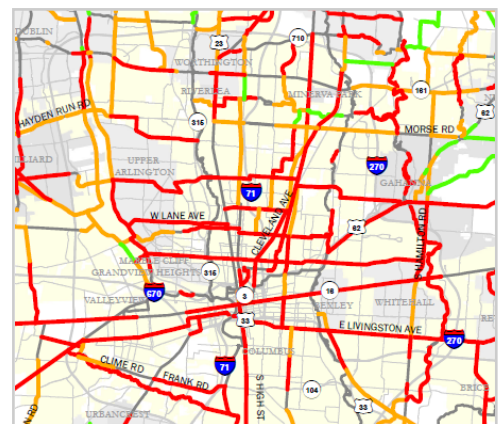
MORPC also recently created a forum on LinkedIn on Lifelong Communities. To join the discussion visit www.linkedin.com, sign in or register, and search for the group, "Lifelong Communities in Central Ohio".

In 2012, MORPC and its partners are planning on holding events and workshops quarterly. The planning is still in early stages. If you or your organization would like to get involved or receive more information, please contact Laura Koprowski at lkoprows@morpc.org.

Bikeway Prioritization

As part of the [Metropolitan Transportation Plan \(MTP\) update](#), MORPC has developed a draft bikeway prioritization methodology for the region. This methodology will help MORPC to prioritize future bikeways at a regional level.

For more information, including an interactive map, PDF map, and an explanation of the draft methodology, please visit: <http://bit.ly/ws06ov>. The public is invited to comment on the methodology and map by sending an email to tplan@morpc.org.



▲ Bikeway Prioritization Map (DRAFT)



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Reynoldsburg Sidewalk Inventory

MORPC is teaming up with the Reynoldsburg High School eSTEM Academy to complete a sidewalk inventory for the City of Reynoldsburg.

MORPC staff will teach students how to use Geographic Information Systems (G.I.S.), and the students will then digitize the sidewalk network as part of their class.

A sidewalk inventory is a valuable tool in planning for pedestrians. It allows planners to identify potential safety concerns and gaps in the network.

For more information, please contact Jason Kaper at jkaper@morpc.org



Bike & Pedestrian Counts

During every May and October, MORPC recruits volunteers to count bicyclists and pedestrians at over 20 locations throughout central Ohio. The counts help MORPC to identify and document long-term trends in the region.

MORPC also recently acquired automated counters that can be used to conduct longer counts on trails, sidewalks, or low-volume streets. These counters are available for use by MORPC member agencies.

For more information about bicycle and pedestrian counts, please contact Joe Fish at jfish@morpc.org or (614) 233-4123.



▲ Infrared Trail Counters

Safe Routes to School

MORPC continues to promote Safe Routes to School in central Ohio. As part of those efforts, MORPC promotes and coordinates Walk to School events around the region. In 2011, 52 schools participated in a walk to school event.

The events provide schools the opportunity to offer various activities for children to walk and bike to school for a specific day, week, or month.

The ultimate hope is to create long-term strategies that increase physical activities for children. MORPC will continue to hold 6 educational forums throughout the year that focus on the 5 E's of the Safe Routes to School program: Engineering, Education, Evaluation, Enforcement, and Encouragement.

Additional resources can be found at MORPC's www.morpc.org/walktoschool.



▲ Kids at Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary School in Grandview Heights, Ohio, participate in Walk to School Day

High-Crash Locations

MORPC recently released its annual high-crash location list, which includes the top 40 locations in the region. The list takes into account the total number of crashes as well as the severity and crash rate. MORPC also produces a list of the top 10 bicycle and pedestrian crash locations. For more information, please see: www.morpc.org/safety.

The Complete Streets Toolkit, which is available at www.morpc.org/CompleteStreets, was funded by a grant from the Ohio Department of Health, Office of Healthy Ohio. Ohio Dept. of Health grant funding supports Statewide Wellness and Obesity Prevention Program initiatives.