



## Regional Policy Roundtable Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 31, 2018  
Time: 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  
Location: MORPC Scioto Conference Room

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### Participants

Doug Arsenault	Anthony Jones	Lauren Rummel
Bob Bitzenhofer	Kim Maggard	Nikki Scarpitti
Stacey Boumis	Eileen Leuby	Mike Schadeck
Terri Flora (staff)	William Murdock (staff)	Jim Schimmer
Joe Garrity (staff)	Queena Prince (staff)	Bevan Schneck (staff)
Holly Gross	Tory Richardson	Steve Tugend
Erik Janas	Nancy Richison	Jason Warner

1. **Welcome & Overview** – Mayor Kim Maggard, Regional Policy Roundtable; Erik Janas, Franklin County; and Lauren Rummel, Franklin County

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Chair Mayor Kim Maggard.

Mayor Kim Maggard welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave Erik Janas the floor to introduce a new member of the Regional Policy Roundtable, Lauren Rummel. Lauren then introduced herself to the group. Mr. Janas will continue to serve on the Roundtable for the time being, but will eventually step off and have Ms. Rummel serve as his replacement.

2. **Member Update** – Holly Gross, V.P of Government Relations at the Columbus Chamber of Commerce

Holly Gross informed the group of a recent study called Ohio BOLD which is intended to be a blueprint for accelerating the innovation economy throughout the entire state. The Ohio Chamber has briefed both gubernatorial candidates as well as JobsOhio and the Gov's Office on the report prior to releasing the report. At the core of Ohio BOLD is a recommendation for a statewide organizational approach to accelerate the innovation economy in Ohio. This approach would be built around four innovation opportunity platforms—NextGen Manufacturing and Materials, Future Health, Smart Infrastructure and Data Analytics—each of which would be represented by a statewide Innovation Hub to advance product development, process improvements and the commercialization of new technologies.

3. **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Steve Tugend provided a legislative update on the following items.

- **HB 114 Ohio Energy Standards**  
MORPC Energy and Air Quality Director Christina O'Keeffe Submitted opponent testimony in June to the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee on the sub-bill. Mr. Tugend is not certain that a deal can be struck before the end of the year.
- **HB 95 Enhanced Penalty for Distracted Driving**  
Governor Kasich signed this bill into law on July 30, 2018. MORPC advocated for passage of this bill and prior versions of the bill.

- **SCR 15 2018 Year of the Trail**  
2018 is officially the year of the trail in Ohio. In June, the House adopted the concurrent resolution, which MNORPC supported.
- **SB 135 County Funds for Voting Machines**  
Governor Kasich signed SB 135 on July 30, 2018. The bill will appropriate \$114.5 million in funds to counties to update voting infrastructure. Funds will not be implemented until after the midterm elections.

Tugend also provided updates on the FY 19 federal appropriations process, which will need to be completed before the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> and provided an update on the 2019 defense authorization bill.

**4. Infrastructure Investment** – Terri Flora, MORPC Public & Government Affairs Director and Joe Garrity, MORPC Senior Government Affairs Coordinator

Terri Flora informed members of the OARC Candidates Forum where both gubernatorial candidates spoke. Both candidates expressed their support of local governments and provided different solutions to address the infrastructure issue. Mr. DeWine plans to put together a blue ribbon commission that will attempt to address the concern, while Mr. Cordray would put a statewide bond issue before the ballot to pay for infrastructure projects. Terri mentioned how MORPC and OARC want to continue the conversation.

Joe Garrity mentioned how MORPC recently formed and convened its first meeting of the leadership strategy group which is a diverse group of regional leaders who have served in some capacity at MORPC and who are focused on the lack of infrastructure investment in Ohio from both the state and federal levels of government. MORPC is intersectional and can be the organizer of Central Ohio's creative thoughts related to infrastructure funds. Central Ohio is a growing and vibrant region and can elevate the overall narrative of the need for infrastructure investment throughout the state. The group will meet again on **Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am-11:00am.**

Garrity also informed members of Congressman Bill Shuster's recent infrastructure proposal that is intended to solve the short and long term funding issues with highway trust fund. The proposal is not expected to move (Shuster is retiring) but is intended to start a conversation regarding the issue.

**5. 2019-2020 Public Policy Agenda Working Group** – Joe Garrity, MORPC Senior Government Affairs Coordinator

Joe Garrity presented on the timeline for completion of MORPC's 2019-2020 Public Policy Agenda. He informed members on how the MORPC Public Policy Agenda Working group met on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Members of the working group had a robust productive discussion regarding the effectiveness of the current policy agenda and how we can further improve upon it. The Working Group spent time discussing Goals 1 (regionalism) and 2 (transportation). Staff provided a document of MORPC's 2017-2018 legislative efforts through the lens of the current public policy agenda and a comparison document of the current agenda with blank space to be filled with recommendations. Members of the working group will bring their

recommendations with them to our next meeting, which will take place at the offices of Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter on Thursday, August 23, 2018 10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Erik Janas mentioned how it may be a good idea to modify the agenda once members of the working group are aware of who the next Governor is. Mr. Garrity mentioned how the Roundtable will have to vote on approving the agenda in October given that is the last roundtable meeting in 2018. However, the Executive Committee and Commission would have the opportunity to adjust the Public Policy Agenda if needed in November and December. Steve Tugend mentioned how if there were a change in leadership in Congress how that would have a larger impact on federal priorities.

**6. Other Business – All**

Due to our the Columbus Chamber of Commerce holding its annual government day on October 16<sup>th</sup>, we have moved our fall Regional Policy Roundtable meeting to **Thursday , October 18 , 2018 from 2:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.**

Mayor Maggard had members introduce themselves to the Roundtable and h provide an update to the group.

**7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.