

**insight2050 Technical Assistance Program  
(insight2050 TA Program)**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What is the insight2050 Technical Assistance (TA) Program?**

The insight2050 TA Program is a competitive program, which awards MORPC staff assistance to local government members within the boundary of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The MPO boundary includes Delaware and Franklin counties, Bloom and Violet townships in Fairfield County, New Albany, Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County, and Jerome Township in Union County. The TA Program provides assistance for the planning of transportation and community development efforts related to the findings of insight2050 and the goals of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

In the 2017 application cycle, the following services will be offered:

- Develop a Complete Streets Policy
- Preliminary Planning for Special Districts

Participating communities must provide in-kind assistance and demonstrate how the projects will be implemented within the community. Projects must demonstrate a strong connection to transportation.

**2. How is the insight2050 Technical Assistance Program funded?**

The TA Program is funded through MORPC's Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) and is not to exceed \$100,000 dollars per year in total. By setting aside a portion of STP dollars toward the TA Program, MORPC members are indicating that they recognize the benefits of planning for a more focused approach to growth and the need for more walkable, bikeable, and transit accessible neighborhoods.

**3. Who is eligible to participate in the insight2050 TA Program?**

MORPC members located within the MPO area are eligible to participate in the TA Program.

**4. How may eligible communities participate in the insight2050 TA Program?**

Participation in the TA Program requires selection through a competitive application process. Communities may participate by completing a three-step application process. When the application window opens, interested communities must submit an Intent to Apply form (Step 1). Upon submitting the Intent to Apply, members will be contacted by MORPC to schedule an informational staff meeting to discuss the project and detail a scope of work (Step 2). For projects determined to be eligible for planning services through the TA Program, members will be invited to submit a competitive application (Step 3).

*The application window closed on July 31, 2017.*

**5. How are eligible communities selected to receive awards of technical assistance?**

A selection committee, comprised of MORPC staff and external subject matter experts who serve on MORPC advisory committees, evaluates complete applications against a set of competitive criteria with a minimum threshold score; applications must exceed the threshold score to be eligible for services through the TA Program. Among applications that meet eligibility criteria, the highest-scoring application will be the first selected to receive technical assistance; the next highest-scoring eligible application will be the second selected to receive technical assistance; and so on until budget is exhausted or until all eligible applications have been awarded.

*Awardees were identified and notified in August 2017.*

## **6. What do selected communities receive?**

Communities which have been selected to receive technical assistance will receive MORPC staff assistance toward their proposed projects. A pre-determined number of staff hours will be available to each community, and a scope of work will be established prior to commencement of services.

## **7. How many communities will be awarded?**

This may vary as funds and staff availability permit. In 2017, the insight2050 TA Program had the capacity to award technical assistance to up to four communities.

## **8. Which communities were selected in 2017?**

The selection committee moved unanimously to grant awards to the following communities/projects:

- City of Delaware - to develop a comprehensive Complete Streets Policy
- Violet Township - to create a master plan for the Refugee/Pickerington Road Corridor
- City of Westerville - to create a redevelopment plan for the Brooksedge Office Park
- City of Worthington - to develop a formal Complete Streets Policy

## **9. I would like to apply for technical assistance. When can I submit my application?**

The 2017 awards cycle is closed. Future awards cycles will be announced at [www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org), via MORPC's Regional E-Source newsletter, and at [www.getinsight2050.org](http://www.getinsight2050.org).