



Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

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Columbus, Ohio 43215

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NOTICE OF A MEETING

Water Resources Working Group
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215

November 30, 2017
9:00 – 11:00 AM

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Welcome – <i>Glenn Marzluf</i> | 9:00 |
| 2. Policy Update – <i>Joe Garrity</i>
<i>Action Plan Goal 3</i> | 9:02 |
| 3. Subcommittee Updates – <i>Chairs</i> | 9:15 |
| 4. Central Ohio Watershed Council Update – <i>Laura Fay</i>
<i>Action Plan Goal 1</i> | 9:25 |
| 5. Be the Change for Clean Water – <i>Jennifer Fish</i>
<i>Action Plan Goal 5</i> | 9:40 |
| 6. Central Ohio Cooperative Weed Management Area Program –
<i>Karen Seidel, The Nature Conservancy</i>
<i>Action Plan Goal 1</i> | 10:10 |
| 7. Central Ohio Blueways Update – <i>Amelia Costanzo</i>
<i>Action Plan Goal 1</i> | 10:30 |
| 8. Partner Updates – <i>partners in attendance</i>
<i>Action Plan Goal 1</i> | 10:40 |
| 9. Meeting Adjournment | 11:00 |

PLEASE NOTIFY RACHAEL BEEMAN AT 614-233-4123 OR RBEEMAN@MORPC.ORG
TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR
IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The next Water Quality Working Group Meeting is
January 25, 2017

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Matt Greeson
Chair

Rory McGuiness
Vice Chair

Karen J. Angelou
Secretary



Central Ohio
Water Resources Working Group
November 30, 2017
Meeting Summary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio, 43215
9:00 – 11:00 AM

Attendees:

Mike Andrako, City of Marysville
Kristen Atha, AECOM
Laura Fay, Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed
Jennifer Fish, Franklin SWCD
Kurt Keljo, Franklin SWCD
Glenn Marzluf, Del-Co Water
Nic Sanna, City of Columbus Recreation and Parks
Karen Seidel, The Nature Conservancy
Rick Westerfield, City of Columbus DPU
Heather Doherty, ODNR Scenic Rivers
Phil Ashear, Franklin County EDP
Brad Fisher, Franklin County EDP
Zuzana Bohrerova, The Ohio State University Wetland Research Center
Tatiana Parfenova, Metro Parks
Tina Mohn, City of Columbus Rec and Parks
Kate Radtke, Franklin County Engineer's Office
Brad Foster, Franklin County Engineer's Office
Diana _____

MORPC Staff: [Rachael Beeman](#), [Amelia Costanzo](#).

Policy Update

Amelia Costanzo delivered a policy update provided by Joe Garrity. It has been attached to the notes for reference. Please contact Joe with questions: jgarrity@morpc.org

SB 2 Environmental Protection Laws

Legislation that modernizes protections and oversight of water quality in the state. The bill strengthens the state's commitment to reducing algae-causing phosphorus in Lake Erie.

- Requiring all public water systems to show technical, managerial and financial capability by implementing an asset management program by October 1, 2018.
- Giving more authority to the Ohio EPA Director to issue, deny or revoke Section 401 water quality certificates.
- Prohibiting dumping of dredged material in any location unless authorized under certain circumstances.
- Requiring the Ohio EPA Director to establish a program and adopt rules to certify water quality professionals to assess streams and wetlands.

The legislation passed 82 to 10 from the House and now goes to the governor for his anticipated signature into law.

WOTUS Rule

The Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Army, and Army Corps of Engineers (the agencies) proposed a rule in June to rescind the Clean Water Rule and re-codify the regulatory text that existed prior to 2015 defining "waters of the United States" or WOTUS. The Obama era regulation was designed to limit pollution in 60 percent of the nation's bodies of water. The rule extended federal protections of large bodies of water to smaller bodies that flow into them such as rivers, small waterways, and wetlands. A federal court had already delayed implementation of the regulation, so the proposed rule will have no immediate effect. In addition, the Trump administration will have to detail the legal reasoning for scaling back the rule, which will be challenged by environmental groups.

Riverfest Update:

Amelia Costanzo provided an update on the successful Riverfest event, held June 10 and 11 at Bicentennial Park, in conjunction with the Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC) Art Festival. Over 500 participants were able to canoe or kayak on the Scioto River, in downtown Columbus. Franklin Soil and Water, Ohio Department of Natural Resources Scenic Rivers, and City of Columbus Department of Public Utilities were able to interact with participants and provide educational materials on various water quality topics. Many thanks are due to HERO USA, who provided canoes, kayaks, safety equipment, and water patrol; and the many volunteers who helped to make this our most successful Riverfest yet.

COW Council Update: Laura Fay provided an update to the group on the happenings of the Central Ohio Watershed Council. Highlights include research on a Cooperative Weed Management Area Partnership and continued efforts related to the EPA Watershed Recovery Potential Screening Tool. Please see the [COW Council](#) presentation for additional details.

Central Ohio Water Resources Planning:

William Murdock and Amelia Costanzo presented to the group on a new project undertaken by MORPC, in partnership with the Ohio EPA. MORPC will be contracting with OEPA to provide planning services related to Water Quality Management Plans, otherwise known as 208 planning. MORPC will not serve as a designated Areawide Agency, which are traditionally responsible for preparing and approving WQM Plans in their counties, and are additionally responsible for the dispute resolution process. MORPC will seek to update existing WQM plans in the 7-county Central Ohio Area, which OEPA will then choose whether or not to adopt. The Scope of Services for this project includes inventorying, mapping, and analyzing existing conditions; evaluating projected needs to 2040; identifying and mapping Designated Management Agencies and Facility Planning Areas; Developing prescriptions and providing best management practices; and maintaining the plan. Please see the [Central Ohio Water Resources Planning](#) presentation for additional details. Please contact Amelia Costanzo, Planning Manager, at acostanzo@morpc.org, or Rachael Beeman, Associate Planner, at rbeeman@morpc.org with questions.

Partner Updates

Franklin Co Soil & Water Conservation District: Kurt informed the group that the [2017 Tree and Plant Sale](#) is now open. Details regarding ordering and pick-up dates/times can be found online. Franklin SWCD is working with Delaware SWCD to expand the Backyards program into Delaware County. More information will be shared in the future.

Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (FLOW): Laura shared that FLOW will be hosting the City of Columbus for a Blueprint presentation at the Worthington Library on April 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Laura with any questions: lfay9785@columbus.rr.com

Columbus Recreation and Park: Nick Sanna shared that the construction for the Olentangy River Access Point is to begin the first week of April. That site will be open sometime early Summer 2017. Additionally, the City is looking to install an additional access point on the Scioto, below Griggs. Additional details will be shared in the future.

Ohio DNR Scenic Rivers: Heather Doherty shared that ODNR will be hosting workshops to train volunteers for Stream Quality monitoring. Events will be held at Highbanks and Darby Metro Parks. See Ohio DNR webpage for details on the workshop dates/times. Additionally, Ohio DNR will be hosting a series of paddling events throughout the spring and summer. See [here](#) for details.

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 25, 2018 from 9:00 – 11:00 AM at MORPC.