



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663  
TTY. 1.800.750.0750  
info@morpc.org

## NOTICE OF A MEETING

### COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**Monday August 1, 2022**  
**5:30 p.m.**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only): [+1 614-362-3056](tel:+16143623056), [892698504#](tel:+16143623056)  
Phone Conference ID: 892 698 504#

## AGENDA

- 5:30 p.m. Welcome & Introductions** – LaGrieta Holloway, Chair
- 5:32 p.m. Approval of June 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes**
- 5:33 p.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** – Nick Gill, MORPC, Jennifer Noll, MORPC
- Transit Agency Reports
    - Delaware County Transit – Nick Gill, MORPC
    - COTA Update – Josh Roth, COTA
- 6:00 p.m. Informational Items**
- 2020-2050 MTP Amendment – Maria Schaper, MORPC
  - TRAC Project Prioritization and Public Comment Update – Elliot Lewis, MORPC
- 6:20 p.m. Other Business**
- 6:30 p.m. Adjourn**

PLEASE NOTIFY CHUCK RATLIFF AT 614.233.4115 OR EMAIL [cratliff@morpc.org](mailto:cratliff@morpc.org) TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The next CAC Meeting is  
**Monday, August 29, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.**

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Erik J. Janas**  
Chair

**Chris Amorose Grooms**  
Vice Chair

**Michelle Crandall**  
Secretary

# Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **June 1, 2022**  
Time: **5:30 p.m.**  
Location: **MORPC**

## **Members Present**

LaGrieta Holloway                      Bob Roehm  
David Paul                                      Ira Weiss

## **Members Present Online**

Dana Dorsey                                      Helen Rollins                                      Tamika Vinson-Reid  
Catherine Girves                                      Vonjia Shannon

## **Guests**

Bill Allman                                      Catherine Logsdon                                      John Rist

## **MORPC Staff**

Thea Ewing                                      Thomas Graham                                      Jonathan Miller  
Xander Fay                                      Ralonda Hampton                                      Jennifer Noll  
Brian Filiatraut                                      Níel Jurist                                      Chuck Ratliff  
Amanda Frey                                      Elliott Lewis                                      Maria Schaper

## **I. Welcome & Introductions**

- Chair Holloway called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There was a quorum present (in person and online).

## **II. Approval of May 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

- Chair Holloway asked for a motion to approve the May 2, 2022 minutes. Mr. Weiss moved; Mr. Paul seconded; and the motion passed.

## **III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Nick Gill, MORPC**

- Ms. Schaper filled in for Nick Gill and introduced new members of the MORPC staff.
- MORPC is soliciting applications for attributable funding, with screening applications for new funding due July 15, 2022 and screening applications for commitment updates due July 8, 2022.
- Ms. Schaper provided an update on the Route 23 Connect Study. None of the concepts from the study can be reasonably implemented, so ODOT will be developing a plan for stand-alone improvement projects. The Executive Summary of the Preliminary Feasibility Study is available on the project website at [www.publicinput.com/23connect](http://www.publicinput.com/23connect) under the Documents Section.
- The *Safe Streets and Roads for All* federal discretionary grant was highlighted. The deadline to apply is September 15, 2022.
- Ms. Schaper provided transit updates, including Delaware County Transit's plan to add a fixed route from Delaware to OhioHealth in Westerville, which will connect to COTA.

- COTA will announce its September service changes at two public meetings held in August 2022 in COTA's Boardroom. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 6 p.m. and the second on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
  - Mr. Paul asked for the location, but the COTA website had not been updated for the August meetings. Information for these meetings, with multiple ways to join is found at: <https://www.cota.com/servicechanges/>
- Ms. Schaper also added that a shortage in operators is creating service reductions for COTA, resulting in a proposal for cancellation of all Rush Hour line services.

#### **IV. Resolutions**

- Resolution T-8-22: Amending the State Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program – Thomas Graham, MORPC
  - Mr. Graham explained the contents of the quarterly TIP amendment. The changes add or modify three projects totaling over \$50 million and remove another to enable projects to advance and maintain fiscal constraint.
  - The changes include modifications to the Columbus SR 161 at Parksville/Spring Run project; ODOT I-270 from S of I-70 to N of Alum Creek Drive minor pavement rehabilitation; ODOT I-71 at Sunbury Parkway new interchange. The Whitehall E Broad at Hamilton is having its \$50,000 other phase removed from the TIP.
  - Chair Holloway asked for a motion to approve Resolution T-8-2022. Mr. Weiss moved; Mr. Paul seconded; Ms. Dorsey abstained; and the motion passed.

#### **V. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

- Goals & Objectives – Maria Schaper, MORPC
  - Ms. Schaper provided a recap of the what the MTP is and how goals and objectives fit into the plan. She explained that these are regional goals that are broad vision statements that guide the plan development, while objectives include how to achieve and measure them.
  - Ms. Schaper reviewed the goals and objectives from the 2020-2050 plan.
  - MORPC will be reviewing the goals and objectives internally and incorporate comments from the committee. The draft goals will undergo a public comment period in August 2022, with the goals presented for adoption in September.

#### **VI. Informational Items**

- Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) Applications & MPO Prioritization Process – Elliott Lewis, MORPC
  - Mr. Lewis provided an overview of the TRAC process and reviewed the criteria for projects to be eligible for the funding.
  - There are six applications for the 2022 cycle that fall within MORPC's metropolitan planning organization area, as well as two within the Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) area.
  - Mr. Lewis highlighted aspects of the projects – including their phases – and the requested funds. The projects include I-270 & I-71 Interchange (north); I-70/I-71 Downtown Ramp Up Phase 2D; I-70/I-

- 71 Downtown Ramp Up Phase 3; US 33 Southeast Corridor; US 33 & Pickerington Road Interchange; US 23 Corridor Improvements; US 23 & SR 762 Interchange (CORPO); and SR 13 Relocation in Mount Vernon (CORPO).
- MPOs and RTPOs provide ODOT with a local project prioritization recommendation, and Mr. Lewis said the MORPC public comment period would take place June 27-Aug. 12. There will be updates at the August committee meeting and a proposed resolution of recommendation at the September meeting.
  - Mr. Weiss asked how MORPC reviews projects that have received previous phased funding through TRAC. Mr. Lewis replied that the overall score of the project is considered. Ms. Schaper added that they are evaluated based on the same criteria as the others.
  - Mr. Allman asked if there are a percentage of projects that must be rural. Mr. Lewis replied that it is at the TRAC's discretion.
  - Chair Holloway asked if funding has already been committed and spent on a project, can the project be denied. Mr. Lewis replied that from the MPO perspective, we are not choosing what gets funded. Prioritization is based on the project's merits. However, project development and funding history is considered during the prioritization process.
  - Trail Town Framework Planning – Jonathan Miller, MORPC
    - Mr. Miller provided an overview of the Trail Town Framework, including aspects of how it relates to the Central Ohio Greenways system.
    - The update included walking the committee through each of the three elements: asset inventory and trail town visioning; developing a general framework for a long-term trail town guide in Central Ohio; and short-term local community implementation strategies.
    - The consultant team has begun a draft for review and that will continue over the next month, with the goal of having a final document completed in August.
    - Mr. Allman asked if any national trails organization has tried to develop a framework that can be available to MPOs. Mr. Miller answered that various trails organization have done programs of this type, but there are copyright considerations. MORPC's Trail Town program is Central Ohio specific. The ultimate idea is to use this framework here and then collaborate with other organizations.
  - RAPID 5 Update – Jennifer Noll, MORPC
    - Ms. Noll provided an update on the next steps for RAPID 5, which seeks to create one of the largest interconnected park systems and is now being led by Dr. Amy Acton.
    - Last summer, ULI Columbus and MORPC revealed visions for each of the five river corridors in Franklin County – visions to expand and activate greenspace while honoring the history and culture along these corridors and protecting our region's natural resources. Aspects of the visions can also be implemented elsewhere in the region.

- Over the summer, MORPC, ULI Columbus, and Metro Parks will be supporting Dr. Acton to formally designate RAPID 5 as a non-profit and put in place the proper governance around it. Dr. Acton will be meeting with communities to learn more about projects already underway.
- Ms. Girves asked what is being done to ensure equity is going to be a focus of this initiative. Ms. Noll replied that it starts at the top. Rapid 5 has a leader that has built a career on equitable access. It will be a focus at the beginning and continue as the program progresses.
- Energy Program Update – Brian Filiatraut, MORPC
  - Mr. Filiatraut highlighted aspects of MORPC's clean energy programming, which is continually being developed.
  - SolSmart is a national free technical assistance and designation program run by the US DOE that encourages local governments to promote solar energy growth by addressing soft cost barriers. MORPC received its SolSmart designation and has been encouraging its members to receive their own SolSmart designations.
  - Mr. Filiatraut also discussed the Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op, which is expanding throughout the region. A solar co-op allows homeowners to come together to increase purchasing power to get better installation pricing.
  - He also discussed the framework of the Regional Schools Energy Strategy to gauge interest and start a pilot program. ReSES would provide schools, school districts, and municipalities clean energy solutions and integrate them into the fabric of schools and communities through energy conservation measures, clean renewable energy, and electric buses/fleets.
  - ReSES includes a solar co-op structure that is available to buildings and property of school districts and municipalities in MORPC communities.

**VII. Other Business**

- None

**VIII. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

*Charles L. Ratliff*

Charles L. Ratliff, Interim Secretary  
**Community Advisory Committee**



# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION REPORT

June & July 2022

---

## PROGRAMMING

Thea Ewing, Chief Regional Development Officer & Sr. Director of Programming – [tewing@morpc.org](mailto:tewing@morpc.org)

### Transportation

Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director – [ngill@morpc.org](mailto:ngill@morpc.org)

#### Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

- Continued to consult recent planning documents that might impact the review and update of goals and objectives for the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) plan.
- Facilitated an interagency consultation for a new air quality conformity determination related to a proposed amendment to the 2020-2050 MTP to add projects in New Albany related to the Intel development.
- Continued to compile data for the 2022 MTP Report Card.

#### Transit, Mobility & Human Services:

##### *Mobility Management*

- Continued to work with Ohio mobility managers and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to encourage the completed development of Gohio Mobility. June and July activities in this area include reviewing mobility manager task progress, support as requested, and Q&A opportunities during a monthly “office hours” virtual meeting.
- Participated in monthly mobility management meetings, coordinated by ODOT.
- Engaged in local and regional meetings to coordinate follow through with strategies identified in the Human Service Transportation Coordinated Plan (HSTC) for ODOT Region 6.
- A benchmarking activity was designed and delivered by MORPC to county stakeholders. This activity will occur quarterly and will support the annual update of the plan and reporting to ODOT.



### *Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Designated Recipient*

- MORPC accepted deliveries of two (2) vans for the Columbus Chamber of Human Services (OpenDoor Columbus).
- Executed three (3) fiscal year 2021 5310 grant awards with the Federal Transit Administration for approximately \$1.5 million in enhanced mobility funding.
- Continued to monitor the production timelines for transit vehicles and pricing for future vehicle purchases. Fiscal year 2021 awards were issued POs by the end of July 2022.

### *Gohio Commute*

- A new vanpool traveling to the Zanesville VA Clinic was formed. This is our first vanpool to the Zanesville VA Clinic.
- Participated in the Columbus Chamber's Experience Series panel about employee benefits to educate companies about the importance of providing transportation benefits as part of their employee benefit package.
- The Gohio Commute program was presented at the Ohio to Work Human Resource Leaders meeting and the Grove City Human Resource Committee meeting.
- Was interviewed about the Gohio Commute program by WBNS-TV news channel 10.
- Worked with the Army National Guard to help their employees sustainable travel to work and to set up their vanpool program in Central Ohio.
- Updated the Central Ohio Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategic Plan for 2022-2024. Initial goals and strategies that have a strong connection to the MTP have been identified. These goals and strategies are being reviewed internally and externally with the Central Ohio Mode Shift Coalition and partners.

## Transportation Planning Activities:

### *US 23 Connect Study*

- MORPC continued to work with ODOT, the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, and the consultant team on Phase B of the study. Phase B continues the engagement and analysis of the Route 23 Connect Study and narrows its focus to identify opportunities for smaller improvements along U.S. 23 that are impactful sooner.
- The study team is developing a new Public Engagement Plan and Study Fact Sheet.

### *LinkUS Mobility Initiative*

- Partners released the LinkUS Community Action Plan in June. This plan lays out five (5) steps for the region to advance mobility and development for the future.
- On June 10, 2022, MORPC hosted the first Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) workshop for COTA service area municipalities to begin forming this new group. MORPC hosted the second TSI workshop on July 22, 2022.
- Participated in the East Main and West Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit Station Workshop #3 on July 6, 2022.
- Continued participation in the Downtown Convergence Planning Study and will assist with traffic modeling exercises.

## *Interregional Connections*

- Continued to monitor the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Intercity Passenger Rail Program development and coordination with the State of Ohio.

## Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO):

- Fairfield County was assisted by staff in the development of a scope of work for a proposed update to the County's Active Transportation Plan (ATP). A meeting between Fairfield County staff and the Ohio State University, to explore the option of graduate students assisting on the ATP as part of their planning studio, was also facilitated.
- Union County stakeholders met with CORPO staff regarding the development of the Cardinal Trail Route. Staff will continue to assist in any way possible in the development of this trail.
- Continued to meet with and assist members of the regional Trail Town Steering Committee and Central Ohio Greenways.
- Met with and assisted Knox County stakeholders with the development of an economic strategy scope of work, which will better prepare Knox County for the arrival of Intel to the region. The approach and processes that Knox County is using was shared by Knox County officials with regional partners at an Intel-related meeting held at MORPC in late July.
- Continued to meet with and assist recipients of the CORPO Dedicated Funds program and to coordinate meetings between these recipients and ODOT.
- ODOT, CORPO staff and other Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) met on June 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) related responsibilities that will occur this year. ODOT has recently put out guidance on rural consultation which will be utilized in the coming months.
- Received two (2) applications for the ODOT Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) funding program and will evaluate the projects. A memo was recently sent to CORPO stakeholders detailing the proposed TRAC projects and CORPO's role in submitting priorities.

## Transportation Safety:

- MORPC, in partnership with Franklin County Public Health, recently completed three (3) Complete Streets Safety Audits with the cities of Reynoldsburg, Whitehall, and Grove City. Each jurisdiction was provided with a Summary Report detailing the audit findings and an implementation plan laying out recommended treatments and available resources & opportunities for enacting safety improvements in the study areas.
- Began providing safety analysis assistance to Franklin Township. This work will analyze the crash history and existing conditions along the Township's stretch of W. Broad St., positioning them to apply for a formal safety study of the corridor. The next steps include drafting a formal report for existing conditions and initiating coordination with ODOT.
- Transportation Safety staff continues assisting members with the federal discretionary grant program Safe Streets 4 All.
- Participated in recent safety coordination and review meetings such as the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) Safety Working Group and Delaware County Traffic Fatality Review.



## Technical Assistance Program:

- Columbus – Staff recently joined the City of Columbus on an Engineer’s Bike Ride which surveyed the on-the-ground conditions of various downtown streets from a bicyclist’s perspective. Findings from this activity will be utilized to further inform analyses of the identified route alternatives and the specific infrastructural and funding opportunities they may afford.
- Dublin – On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, MORPC and City of Dublin hosted a trail access & connectivity workshop with key local and northwest area stakeholders. This workshop identified specific multi-jurisdictional opportunities that are well-suited for further study and coordination with other planning efforts, such as LinkUS Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI). These opportunities were further explored during a site visit of the identified routes on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Metro Parks – Metro Parks is currently coordinating with key stakeholders to assess the feasibility of potential trail extension alignments that abut or intersect their properties from Scioto Audubon Park south to I-270. MORPC staff are engaged in an alternatives analysis that will scrutinize and critically compare the various alignments identified so far.
- Sunbury – Attended the City of Sunbury’s June 27<sup>th</sup> Planning & Zoning Commission meeting to host a trail access & connectivity workshop with key local and regional stakeholders. Staff and stakeholders explored opportunities and barriers to filling in the gaps in the Ohio to Erie trail and better connecting the trail to key locations in and around the city. Staff also engaged in a site visit on July 7<sup>th</sup> and hosted a public workshop in Sunbury on July 13<sup>th</sup> to further advance this activity.

## Infrastructure Funding:

### *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*

- Coordinated with ODOT to have the June TIP Amendment incorporated into ODOT’s July STIP Amendment.

### *MORPC-Attributable Funding*

- MORPC received commitment updates on July 8<sup>th</sup> and screened applications for new funding requests on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Staff are working to provide feedback on screening applications in advance of the final application due date on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

### *Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)*

- OPWC has been allocated more than \$30 million for state fiscal year 2024 in loans and grants for local infrastructure projects in ODOT District 3/Franklin County through the State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) and the Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP). Application materials were posted on MORPC’s website on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Eligible projects include improvements to roads, bridges, culverts, water supply systems, wastewater systems, storm water collection systems, and solid waste disposal facilities. The Public Works Integrating Committee for District 3 will recommend funding awards for projects that are scheduled to begin construction between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024. Completed applications for all applicants in District 3 are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 2, 2022.

### *Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)*

- Currently evaluating TRAC applications submitted within the MPO region to develop a regional priority list of projects. Concurrently, MORPC is seeking public comment on projects through Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. More information on each application may be found at [morpc.org/funding](http://morpc.org/funding). All comments must be submitted by e-mail to [info@morpc.org](mailto:info@morpc.org) or in

writing to Elliott Lewis, Re: TRAC Public Input, 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43215.

### *Federal Competitive Programs*

- The Reconnecting Communities Pilots (RCP) discretionary grant program opened in July. This program provides up to \$195 million for public engagement, planning activities, capital construction projects, and technical assistance to reconnect communities where transportation infrastructure has created barriers. Visit the RCP Program website at <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/reconnecting-communities> to access the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and learn about eligibility, funding, application and submission processes, and evaluation criteria. The application submission deadline is Thursday, October 13, 2022. The RCP Program welcomes applications from diverse eligible applicants regardless of size, location, and experience administering Federal funding awards.

### *Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)*

- MORPC has begun meeting with counties to discuss updates to CAP projects, which will be formalized in the fall of 2022.
- In partnership with One Columbus, MORPC will work to support counties to update CAP project lists and to work collaboratively to identify funding to support projects.

## **Economic Development**

### **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):**

- The Economic Development team has begun visiting each of the 11 Counties in the CEDS. The purpose of the visits is to 1) introduce new economic development staff to county leaders; 2) provide an update on CEDS progress; 3) share a funding opportunity update; and 4) request a letter of support for MORPC's Economic Development District (EDD) designation.
- MORPC has received several requests for support from neighboring local governments who are also beginning the process of securing EDD designation. Both Toledo and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission have reached out for guidance and the Economic Development staff will host one-on-one calls to lend support.

### **Brownfield Assessments:**

- MORPC's grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to move forward with projects moving into new phases. The Sampling Analysis Plan (SAP) for Gladden house was issued on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Phase II field work began at Gladden House on June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- MORPC has begun to strategize on an approach for the U.S. EPA Brownfield funding release for the Fall of 2022.

# PLANNING

Kerstin Carr, Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Sr. Director of Planning – [kcarr@morpc.org](mailto:kcarr@morpc.org)

## Community Development

### Central Ohio Greenways (COG):

- Supported the Trail Town Rural Forum in Mt. Vernon on July 13<sup>th</sup>. Members learned about the impact that a trail town effort focused on tourism and active transportation could have on small towns in Central Ohio.
- The COG board met on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Agenda items included Working Group reports, MORPC updates, and a presentation from new COG Board member Angela Mitchell, co-founder of Black Women in Nature. In addition, the Board will move forward with formalizing a Nomination Committee aimed to strategically recruit new board members to ensure diverse voices in the region are heard.
- The Outdoor Trails Passport, a program in collaboration with Experience Columbus, is live. Residents and visitors are invited to access the passport online any time they explore a Greenways trail. By checking in at locations across the COG network, passport users become eligible to win prizes.
- COG Board members and partners continue to advance the Trail Town Framework planning effort. The project remains on track for completion in the Summer of 2022.
- Currently working to secure funding for an Urban Trail Town Framework that will expand on the work of the Trail Town efforts in progress.
- Secured funding from ODOT for a wayfinding study that will launch in late 2022.

### insight2050:

#### *LinkUS Mobility Initiative*

- Together with the Programming department, team members are engaged in ongoing committee and working group meetings for the LinkUS initiative.

#### *RAPID 5*

- In late June, RAPID 5 announced the addition of Jennifer Peterson as Chief Operating Officer. Peterson was previously the Chief Executive at Easton. Over the next few months, RAPID 5 will continue to evolve as its own non-profit and will host listening sessions in the community. Stay up to date with RAPID 5 news and events at <https://www.rapid5.org/>. Chief Regional Strategy Officer Kerstin Carr, MORPC's main contact for the RAPID 5 initiative, can be contacted at [KCarr@morpc.org](mailto:KCarr@morpc.org).

## Regional Housing Strategy (RHS):

### *Outreach*

- Team members shared the RHS with various audiences throughout the region, including Fairfield County, Knox County, and Genoa Township.

### *Implementation Assistance*

- MORPC is accepting requests for presentations and workshops for those interested in a housing workshop for their community's elected officials, staff, or community leaders. The team will assist with designing the agenda and recommend speakers and learning objectives. Contact Jennifer Noll for more information at [JNoll@morpc.org](mailto:JNoll@morpc.org).

## Sustainability

### Outreach:

- MORPC hosted the June 22<sup>nd</sup> resident-based Environmental Sustainability Forum, a group comprised of residents who serve on local government advisory boards, committees, and commissions that are focused on sustainability issues. The group heard from Solar United Neighbors about the Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op, which launched on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Sustainability Advisory Committee:

- The Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) met on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Agenda items included the Summit on Sustainability, RAPID 5, and updates from the Boards and Working Groups. The Committee also discussed and adopted recommendations proposed by the Energy & Air Quality Working Group regarding MORPC's role in education, engagement, and empowerment related to the power siting process defined by Senate Bill 52. The Chairs of the SAC and Policy Roundtable will convene next to provide input and direction on the next steps. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.

### Sustainable2050:

- The Sustainable2050 quarterly meeting took place on June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Darby Nature Center. Thank you to Metro Parks, especially Executive Director Tim Moloney and Tatiana Parfenova, for hosting the meeting. Presentations featured efforts to protect native species and the vision for RAPID 5. In addition, MORPC welcomed two new Sustainable2050 members: the City of Lancaster and the Village of Shawnee Hills. Membership and tier status certification is open to MORPC members. Please contact MORPC's Sustainability Officer, Brandi Whetstone at [BWhetstone@morpc.org](mailto:BWhetstone@morpc.org), for more information.

### Water Resources Program:

#### *Sustaining Scioto*

- The Board met on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, with a featured presentation from Apoorva Bajaj of Climavision, a Kentucky-based start-up. Climavision is working to provide new tools for public safety and water management officials responding to increasing severe weather in a changing climate. The company is working to bring severe weather observation and response infrastructure to Ohio as part of a nationwide project. The Board continues to identify priority programming areas ahead of next year. The Board will meet again on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

- The Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team met on July 21<sup>st</sup> where members worked to finalize two upcoming events:
  - The Scioto Watershed Whole Farm Conservation Event is scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup> in Waldo, Ohio. Discussion topics will include “*Return on Investment of Conservation Practices*” and “*Incentive & Cost Share Opportunities.*” The event is open to agronomists, conservation professionals, and farmers. For registration and more details, please contact Brent Nicol at [brent.nicol@TNC.ORG](mailto:brent.nicol@TNC.ORG).
  - A webinar on the Future of the Scioto Watershed is tentatively scheduled for August 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. More details to follow shortly.

## Energy & Air Quality:

### *Air Quality*

- After nearly two years of no alerts, MORPC issued four (4) Air Quality Alerts during the month of June. Air Quality Index (AQI) levels observed in June 2022 were Good on 14 days, Moderate on 13 days, and Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG) on 3 days. The AQI reached 143 on June 21<sup>st</sup> due to ozone, which is the highest AQI for ozone in Central Ohio since July 2, 2012. The conditions leading to high ozone AQI levels included a strong ridge of high pressure aloft that limited atmospheric mixing, elevated ozone precursors due to smoke, high temperatures in the mid-90s that enhanced ozone development, and light winds that limited dispersion. AQI levels also reached USG on June 25<sup>th</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup> as wildfire smoke from the West and hot temperatures lingered over the Ohio Valley for the last week of the month.

### *Energy and Air Quality Working Group (EAQWG)*

- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, the EAQWG leadership presented to the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) on the group’s Senate Bill 52 Education, Engagement, & Empowerment Strategy. After a robust conversation on the matter, the SAC approved the Senate Bill 52 strategy. The next step is to work with the Public Policy Roundtable as they develop their public policy agenda for years 2023-2024. Additionally, the EAQWG met on July 26<sup>th</sup>, receiving updates from MORPC on policy, the aforementioned Senate Bill 52 strategy, and the recent air quality alerts. The Ohio EPA furthered the conversation providing a statewide picture on air quality alerts. Lastly, David Celebrezze of Columbus GreenSpot presented to the group, detailing data collection and research for the Columbus-Franklin County Urban Heat Island Project.

### *Energy Planning*

- MORPC is working on two solar co-ops that will be made available to its members:
  - The Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op launched on July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Linden Community Center. City of Columbus Council member Emmanuel Remy, City of Bexley Mayor Ben Kessler, Solar United Neighbor Program Associate Mryia Williams, and the IMPACT Empowered! Program participant Ras Jahlani Benlevi spoke about the importance of empowering residents and communities with this solar co-op. The co-op will help residents to be a part of the solution toward mitigating the effects of a changing climate. The solar co-op is open to all residents who live in Franklin County. If interested in learning more and possibly joining the co-op, please visit [solarunitedneighbors.org/columbus](http://solarunitedneighbors.org/columbus).
  - The Regional Schools Energy Strategy (ReSES) will be an opportunity for schools, school districts, and local governments to purchase solar power through a solar power purchase agreement co-op. MORPC is in discussions with interested entities. If any local government or school leader is interested, please contact Brian Filiatraut at [BFiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:BFiliatraut@morpc.org).

- The Rickenbacker Energy Consortium met on July 13<sup>th</sup> and heard from the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) and the Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority (CFCFA). Each provided an overview of their organization and how they could help start fruitful public and private partnerships in the Rickenbacker area.
- On July 19<sup>th</sup>, MORPC hosted the Central Ohio stakeholder meeting to present the draft statewide electric vehicle strategy to unlock National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program funds. Ohio will receive over \$100 million across the next five years for direct current fast chargers (DCFC) to be installed along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors. DriveOhio and the ODOT are working with a broad set of stakeholders across the state and will be submitting Ohio's plan on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The draft Ohio NEVI Program plan is available for review and public comment on the DriveOhio website at [Ohio Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plan](#).

### *Clean Ohio Conservation Fund*

- Round 17 of the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund will kick off with an applicant workshop on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. The goal of the workshop is to introduce new applicants to the application process for the next funding cycle. Preliminary Screeners are due on December 9<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Edwina Teye at [eteye@morpc.org](mailto:eteye@morpc.org).

## **Data, Mapping & Modeling**

### Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC):

- RDAC members met on June 7<sup>th</sup> to hear presentations regarding the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Intel, and Working Group status. The Committee will meet again on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Working Groups & User Groups:

- The Capacity Building & Partnerships Working Group is continuing their efforts for the September 15<sup>th</sup> Data Day event. A Working Group meeting was held in late July to review details, the planning progress, and to finalize the event agenda.
- The Local Government Resources Working Group is creating an online resource hub for data policy resources. Members are encouraged to share resources or recommendations for resources with the Working Group. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group is collecting Letters of Intent. Members and interested parties will meet again in the Summer of 2022.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) will meet virtually on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the meeting will be discussed and agreed upon at the next RIDG Steering Committee meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Data Management:

- Explored ways to standardize data tools and workflows and to improve data and workflow version control and documentation.
- Preparations for the 2022 member community population estimates are underway and will be made available to MORPC members and the public via the MORPC Population Hub. Additionally, the estimates will inform the determination of 2023 MORPC membership dues.



- Contributed data to support the 2022 update of the Global Report published by the Columbus Council on World Affairs, which was published in June.

## Outreach:

- Continued to provide timely data and analysis support for requests received from member communities, regional partners, and the media.
- Data-focused presentations for several events are being planned, including MORPC Data Day, the MORPC Summit on Sustainability, and the Ohio GIS Conference.
- Select staff will represent Central Ohio at the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership annual meeting in October.

## Data & Research Activities:

- Data and research activities are focused on inputs to the land use allocation model for the coming cycle of the MTP/CTP and staff is internally reviewing draft county population projections and conducting research for other county control totals (e.g., households, labor force, employment).
- Currently working on FTA appropriation data collection and processes for future updates and supported updating points-of-interest for school building locations and building populations.
- Assisted with the survey analysis for the Central Ohio Trail Town Framework project.
- Received Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) jobs data via ODOT and working to locate and clean up the data for use in updating the 2021 jobs data as part of the MTP.
- Various data sets were gathered as part of the Attributable Funding application process.
- Provided data and analysis support for updates to the Regional Sustainability Agenda metrics as well as the Gentrification and Displacement Risk Analysis.
- Provided data and analysis support for a series of community presentations on regional growth and housing needs.
- Along with community partners, staff are working to model the potential impacts of the Intel development on the region's economy, demographics, and built environment.

## Mapping Activities:

- A draft of existing and future land use as a part of the 2024 MTP was made available for community review via a web map. Changes are now being incorporated.
- Based on internet searches, continued to update proposed development dots for the region.
- Team members are working with ESRI and City of Columbus to create a sample land use scenario using ESRI Urban.
- Attended the ESRI User Group meeting July 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> to stay current on GIS software and tools.
- Worked to clean up the QCEW employment data to be used as part of the MTP land use model existing conditions.

## Modeling Activities:

- Continued supporting the LinkUS project with transportation modeling estimates.
- A consultant has been selected for the traffic count data collection.
- MORPC is working on the Quarry Traffic Impact Study & Renner-Trabue-McKinley Corridor (RTMC) Mobility Study as well as on the I71/36/37 interchange modeling and land use review.
- Conducted network analysis of the proposed Dublin/Avery Muirfield interchange improvements.
- Air Quality conformity analysis was completed as part of a MTP amendment.
- Currently working on TRAC performance measurements.
- Attended the Modeler User Group meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Responded to many Traffic Growth Rate requests for various locations and continued to maintain the Traffic Count Program.

# COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

Niel M. Jurist, Sr. Director of Communications & Engagement – [njurist@morpc.org](mailto:njurist@morpc.org)

## News Releases:

- [More Than \\$30 Million Available for Public Works Projects in Franklin County](#)
- [Licking County Joins MORPC](#)
- [MORPC Seeks Public Input on TRAC Projects](#)
- [MORPC Amending 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan to Reflect Intel Area Infrastructure](#)

## MORPC in the News:

- [Ahead of Intel growth, Licking County joins regional planning commission](#)
- [As Intel expands into central Ohio, communities must increase housing, planners say](#)
- [Bexley, Columbus moving forward with Joint Livingston Avenue Plan](#)
- [Bracing for impact: neighbors in southeast Columbus concerned about constant crashes](#)
- [Central Ohio waterways: Why Ohio State's Keith Myers sees big potential in Rapid 5](#)
- [Columbus City Council to host summit on services for immigrants, refugees](#)
- [Column: It's time to flip the script on faith's role in caring for the Earth](#)
- [COTA Decides Not to Pursue Sales Tax Increase This Year](#)
- [COTA drops plans for sales tax issue in November, seeks \\$300 million for bus rapid transit](#)
- [COTA drops plans for sales tax share increase](#)
- [COTA's workforce shortage could lead to service changes this fall](#)
- [Council, Planning Commission Plan Joint Work Session](#)
- [Crooksville considers creating historic district](#)
- [Easton executive to join Rapid 5 nonprofit](#)
- [The Future of Passenger Rail in Central Ohio](#)
- [Keith Myers on shaping downtown Columbus, its suburbs, and Ohio State's campus](#)
- [Letter to the Editor: New Amtrak service in Ohio may be enticing, but has trappings of a boondoggle](#)
- [Licking County housing market: Here's how Intel might change things—or not](#)
- [MORPC Matters: Partnerships advancing transportation for rural central Ohio communities](#)
- [MORPC seeks feedback on Intel transportation planning around New Albany](#)
- [Preparing for Intel: Plans call widening highway, improving local roads](#)
- [Rideshare services could help ease the pain at the pump as gas prices soar](#)
- [Sales tax hike for Ohio rapid public transit dropped from November ballot](#)
- [Traffic light project advancing](#)

- [U.S. Department of Energy Expands SolSmart Program to Deploy More Solar Energy to Underserved Communities](#)
- [U.S. Sen. Brown, Ohio leaders tour COTA's proposed rapid transit route](#)
- [10 hot metro markets for c-stores in 2022](#)

## Digital Content:

### *Social Media: Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn*

- Air Quality Alerts, Central Ohio Greenways, Trails Pass, Columbus Vision Zero, Gohio Commute, LinkUS, Trial Town Visioning, CEDS week, MORPC Matters: partnerships advancing transportation for rural Ohio communities, The Road Ahead: Navigating the challenges of school transportation, NEVI Formula Program input session, Ohio Conference on Freight.

### *TikTok: Riverfest, Welcome to Columbus, Juneteenth, Pride, Weatherization*

- Top Posts:
  - [Instagram and Facebook Reach](#)
  - [June Best Performing Post-Instagram & Facebook](#)
  - [July Best Performing Post-Instagram & Facebook](#)
  - [June Best Performing Post-Twitter](#)
  - [July Best Performing Post-Twitter](#)

## Diversity & Inclusion:

- Juneteenth is the longest running African American holiday, which has brought hundreds of communities together for more than 150 years. In honor of Juneteenth, MORPC recognized the federal holiday with a paid observance for staff on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. The agency also supported a new, small, minority-owned business, *OH Fish O*, which provided lunch for staff and Board Members at the June Commission meeting.
- MORPC will be participating in the Clean Fuels Ohio's Equity-Focused Community Collaboration committee. Through this new initiative, Clean Fuels Ohio will partner with underinvested, low income, and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities to apply expertise toward finding sustainable transportation solutions.

## Public Involvement & Engagement:

- On June 25<sup>th</sup>, MORPC partnered with Columbus City Council, COTA, the Community Refugee & Immigration Services (CRIS), and the Columbus Council on World Affairs to host the Inaugural Columbus International Summit. The goal of the summit was to provide resources to our immigrant, migrant, and refugee communities while putting an emphasis on the diverse cultures that make our region a vibrant place to live, work, and raise a family. The event was promoted on social media and our website. Highlights of the day included:
  - A naturalization ceremony, facilitated by Chief Judge Algernon L. Marbley, where more than 50 individuals were granted United States citizenship.
  - Columbus City Council members and Communications & Engagement staff hosted panel discussions addressing transportation, housing, and education.
  - Over 42 organizations, vendors, and social service agencies, including MORPC, were present to share community resources with constituents.

- MORPC was recognized by the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) Columbus with a 2022 scholarship award in our name. Communications & Engagement staff attended the Mobilizing Equity in the Transportation Industry scholarship luncheon to support diverse students interested in the transportation field and who were receiving scholarships.
- MORPC partnered with Columbus Metro Parks, Franklin County Engineer's Office, and Rapid 5 at the Columbus Arts Festival to host Riverfest on June 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>.
- In June and July, MORPC promoted the following requests for public input through social media:
  - [LinkUS Public Meetings](#)
  - [Capa Heat Watch Mapping Study Participant Request](#)
  - [Call for applications for Public Works Projects in Franklin County](#) (also featured on MORPC's [website](#) and in the [eSource Newsletter](#))
  - [ODOT & DriveOhio National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure \(NEVI\) Draft Plan](#)
  - [2022 TRAC Projects](#) (also featured on MORPC's [website](#) and in the [eSource Newsletter](#))

## Marketing Campaigns:

- The Gohio Commute program is continuing to run a marketing campaign that is focused specifically on vanpooling and carpooling. This program is being promoted on two highway billboards, as well as on the music streaming service Spotify.

## Events:

- Held the National Association of Regional Councils 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Exhibition on June 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Columbus Downtown.
- Held the Ohio Conference on Freight on June 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> at the Columbus Convention Center.
- Upcoming events:
  - Annual Social Media Summit, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, at MORPC
  - OARC Gubernatorial Luncheon, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown
  - Summit on Sustainability, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663  
TTY. 1.800.750.0750  
info@morpc.org

Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee  
Transportation Advisory Committee  
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Nick Gill, Transportation Director

DATE: July 26, 2022

SUBJECT: **"AMENDING THE 2020-2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN"**

To support the development of the proposed Intel site and the resulting regional growth, state and local agencies have committed to advancing area roadway network improvements. This amendment is proposed to incorporate the corridor information resulting from the planned state and local Intel-related investments.

For one freeway project already identified in the 2020-2050 MTP, the limit will be extended to the west and the cost estimate will be updated to reflect recent design work. Nine projects that were not previously included in the MTP are proposed to be added as part of this amendment. These projects are all listed and mapped in the attachment along with more information on fiscal balance and air quality conformity.

A formal public comment period on the proposed amendment began on July 15, 2022 and will be open through August 15, 2022.

Committees will be asked to act on a resolution amending the 2020-2050 MTP in September. The amendment and the revised MTP, including the revised project listing, maps, fiscal balance information, air quality conformity documentation and other amendment-related changes, will be placed on the website once the resolution to amend the MTP has been approved.

Attachment: Summary of Proposed Amendment

###



## 2020-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

### *Proposed Amendment to Modify One Project and Add Nine Projects*

This amendment is to modify the limits and adjust the cost estimate and construction timeframe of one Freeway project and add nine projects to the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

#### **Background**

In early 2022, Intel, a multinational technology company, announced that it has selected a site in the Licking County portion of the New Albany International Business Park as the location for a \$20 billion+ chip manufacturing project. The company plans to build two state-of-the-art factories by 2025.

The megaproject, which will be the largest single private sector company investment in Ohio's history, is expected to generate thousands of jobs in the state, including direct Intel jobs, jobs supporting chip manufacturing, and construction jobs in New Albany.

To support the development of the site and the resulting regional growth, state and local agencies have committed to advancing area roadway network improvements.

#### **MTP Project Changes**

For one freeway project already identified in the 2020-2050 MTP, the limit will be extended to the west and the cost estimate will be updated to reflect recent design work. The construction timeframe will also advance to reflect ODOT's project delivery timeline.

This project is:

- MTP ID 464: SR-161 from I-270 (*previously Harlem Rd.*) to US-62, Add one lane each direction

The following projects that were not previously included in the MTP are proposed to be added as part of this amendment:

- MTP ID 1840: I-270 from SR-161 to SR-3; Add one lane in northbound direction
- MTP ID 1841: Green Chapel Rd. from US 62 to Clover Valley Rd; Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway
- MTP ID 1842: Green Chapel Rd. from Clover Valley Rd. to Mink St; Widen road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes total both directions with complete street facilities
- MTP ID 1843: Mink St. from SR-161 eastbound ramps to Green Chapel Rd; Widen road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes total both directions with complete street facilities
- MTP ID 1844: Harrison Rd. Extension from Clover Valley Rd. to Mink St.; New Roadway 1 lane(s) each direction with complete street facilities
- MTP ID 1845: Clover Valley Rd. from Jug St. to Green Chapel Rd. Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway
- MTP ID 1846: Beech Rd. from Innovation Corridor Way to Jug St.; Widen road from 2 to 4 lanes total both directions with complete street facilities

- MTP ID 1847: Beech Rd. from Jug St. to US-62; Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway
- MTP ID 1848: Miller Rd. from Beech Rd. to Clover Valley Rd; Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway

Figures 1 and 2, below and on the following pages, represent the projects as they will be included in the amended MTP.

**Figure 1: Project Descriptions, Estimated Construction Time Frame, and Cost Estimate**

MTP ID	Project Description	Year	Cost Estimate (YOE \$)
464	SR-161 from <i>I-270</i> to US-62, <i>Add one lane each direction</i>	2024	\$65.8 million
1840	<i>I-270 from SR-161 to SR-3; Add one lane in northbound direction</i>	2024	\$19.8 million
1841	<i>Green Chapel Rd. from US 62 to Clover Valley Rd; Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway</i>	2024	\$19.5 million
1842	<i>Green Chapel Rd. from Clover Valley Rd. to Mink St; Widen road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes total both directions with complete street facilities</i>	2024	\$19.5 million
1843	<i>Mink St. from SR-161 eastbound ramps to Green Chapel Rd; Widen road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes total both directions with complete street facilities</i>	2024	\$38.4 million
1844	<i>Harrison Rd. Extension from Clover Valley Rd. to Mink St.; New Roadway 1 lane(s) each direction with complete street facilities</i>	2024	\$9.5 million
1845	<i>Clover Valley Rd. from Jug St. to Green Chapel Rd. Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway</i>	2024	\$15.9 million
1846	<i>Beech Rd. from Innovation Corridor way to Jug St.; Widen road from 2 to 4 lanes total both directions with complete street facilities</i>	2030	\$9.3 million
1847	<i>Beech Rd. from Jug St. to US-62; Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway</i>	2030	\$16.1 million
1848	<i>Miller Rd. from Beech Rd. to Clover Valley Rd; Add turn lanes and complete street facilities to 2 lane roadway</i>	2030	\$13.7 million

***Bold italics = new or changed project components***

## Fiscal Balance

The 2020-2050 MTP identifies \$31.8 billion in expected resources for transportation projects through 2050 and has identified \$30.3 billion in project costs. The refined and added project cost estimates associated with the projects proposed in this amendment fall within that \$1.5 billion surplus.

## Air Quality Conformity

Due to the significance of the proposed changes to the MTP, it is federally required to do an analysis to confirm the projects included in the amended MTP do not lead to violations in the air quality standard or delay obtaining the standard. This is called a conformity determination. The incorporation of the projects in the proposed amendments into the conformity analysis has been completed. In addition to the project changes, the latest planning assumptions regarding 2050 population and employment for the region were adjusted to reflect the committed known direct impacts of the Intel development. Approximately 8,600 people and 8,500 employees were added to the 2050 forecast and allocated to locations expected to experience immediate direct impacts from the development. Appendix B of the 2020-2050 MTP has been updated accordingly and shows the amended MTP is in conformity.

## Public Involvement

This amendment packet and the revised conformity determination appendix is being made available for a 30-day comment period through August 15, 2022. The proposed amendment can be viewed at [morpc.org/mtp2050](http://morpc.org/mtp2050). Comments can be submitted by email to [mtp@morpc.org](mailto:mtp@morpc.org) or in writing to MORPC, 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215, Attn: Maria Schaper, by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2022.

The amendment and the revised MTP, including the revised project listing, maps, fiscal balance information, air quality conformity documentation and other amendment-related changes, will be placed on the website once the resolution to amend the MTP has been approved.

**Figure 2: Proposed New or Modified MTP Projects**

