



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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Columbus, Ohio 43215
morpc.org

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NOTICE OF A MEETING
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 Liberty St., #100
Columbus, OH 43215

February 15, 2023, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

AGENDA

- 2:30 – 2:40 pm** **Welcome and Introductions** – *Ben Kessler, Chair and Laurie Jadwin, Vice Chair*
- 2:40 – 2:50 pm** **MORPC Updates**
- Executive Director's Report - *William Murdock, MORPC*
 - Proposed Revision to Federal PM2.5 (particulate matter) Standard – *Brandi Whetstone, Sustainability Officer, MORPC*
- 2:50– 3:05 pm** **Policy, Regional Investment, and Funding** – *Joe Garrity, Sr. Director of Government Affairs and Community Relations, Todd Bradley, Regional Investment Officer, MORPC*
- 3:05 – 3:30 pm** **Sustainability and Community Development Programs** – *Brandi Whetstone, Sustainability Officer, and Jennifer Noll, Associate Director, Community Development, MORPC*
- 3:30 – 3:45 pm** **Working Group/Board Updates** – *Ben Kessler, Chair*
- Sustainable2050: *Laurie Jadwin*
 - Energy & Air Quality Working Group: *Matt Stephens-Rich*
 - Central Ohio Greenways Board: *Mike Andrako*
 - Sustaining Scioto Board: *Glenn Marzluf*
- 3:45 – 4:00 pm** **New Business and Member Updates** – *Ben Kessler, Chair*
- 4:00 pm** **Adjourn** – *Ben Kessler, Chair*

Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or LKaufman@morpc.org to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

**The next Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
will be on April 19, 2023, at 2:30 pm**

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Erik J. Janas
Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Vice Chair

Michelle Crandall
Secretary

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

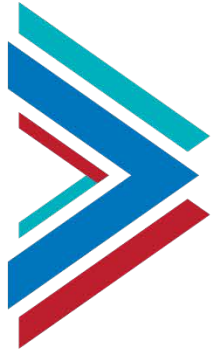
February 15, 2023



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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MORPC 2023 State of the Region

**POWERING
OUR REGION
FORWARD**



Friday, March 31, 2023
Hilton Columbus Downtown

REGISTER NOW



Presented by



PROPOSED REVISIONS TO NAAQS FOR PARTICULATE MATTER

Prince Kwarteng-Crooklynn, AICP | *Air Quality and Sustainability Coordinator*
February 2023



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KEY MESSAGE OF THE PROPOSAL



- On January 5, 2023, **EPA proposed to strengthen the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter (“PM NAAQS”)** to **protect** millions of **Americans from harmful and costly health impacts**, such as heart attacks and premature death.
- This proposal was considered on the basis that the **available scientific and technical information indicates that the existing standards may not provide adequate protection.**
- It reflects extensive review of the scientific record and input from the public and EPA’s Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee.
- The proposal will advance environmental justice by leading to reductions in particle pollution, which disproportionately burdens communities of color and other vulnerable communities.

SUMMARY OF THE CURRENT STANDARD AND PROPOSED REVISION



MORPC

Current Standards – Last Revised in the 2012 Review*					Decisions in 2012 Review	Decisions in 2020 Review	Proposed Decisions in 2022 Reconsideration
Indicator	Averaging Time	Primary/Secondary	Level	Form			
PM _{2.5}	Annual	Primary	12.0 µg/m ³	Annual arithmetic mean, averaged over 3 years	Revised level from 15 to 12 µg/m ³ **	Retained	Revise level to 9-10 µg/m³ (Comment on 8-11 µg/m ³)
		Secondary	15.0 µg/m ³		Retained**	Retained	Retain
	24-hour	Primary and Secondary	35 µg/m ³	98th percentile, averaged over 3 years	Retained	Retained	Retain (Comment on revising as low as 25 µg/m ³)
PM ₁₀	24-hour	Primary and Secondary	150 µg/m ³	Not to be exceeded more than once per year on average over a 3-year period	Retained	Retained	Retain

EPA is proposing to retain all other PM standards.

NEXT STEPS



MORPC

Internal review,
and meet with Ohio
EPA and MORPC
team

Convene
leadership from
MORPC
Committees (SAC,
Policy Roundtable,
EAQ Working
Group)

Develop comments
Deadline: March
28

POLICY, REGIONAL INVESTMENT, & FUNDING



Kyle Probert, Public Policy
Coordinator, MORPC

Todd Bradley, Regional
Investment Officer, MORPC



CLEAN ENERGY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Program | US Dept. of Energy

- C2C Program offers:
 - In-depth Partnerships – application expected to open mid-February 2023
 - Peer-learning Cohorts – application for next round of cohorts to open March 2023
 - Expert Match – applications accepted on a rolling basis
- Link to [C2C website](#) for more detailed information

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) | US Dept. of Energy

- Apply for \$430M to help fund: strategy development, energy audits, clean energy & energy efficiency, EV infrastructure. Governments can fund their own energy projects or launch community programs.
 - Formula-eligible local government funds: fill out a pre-award information sheet by April 28, 2023, full application January 31, 2024. See if your government is eligible → [link to those eligible](#)
- Link to [EECBG website](#) and [EECBG Intro Webinar on 01.26.23](#) for more detailed information

Contact Brian Filiatraut, bfiliatraut@morpc.org, for more information.



2023 Sustainability and Community Development Priorities

Brandi Whetstone, Sustainability Officer
Jennifer Noll, Associate Director



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REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA



GOAL ONE

A white line-art icon representing air quality, featuring a stylized sun or moon with three horizontal lines below it, suggesting wind or air flow.

Improve air quality and reduce climate change impacts to protect public health and the environment.

GOAL TWO

A white line-art icon showing a hand holding a small plant with two leaves, symbolizing growth and care.

Protect and preserve natural resources to support a healthy and resilient region.

GOAL THREE

A white line-art icon of a house with a chimney, overlaid on a background image of a smiling family (a man, a woman, and a child).

Improve quality of life for all residents by creating sustainable and equitable communities.

GOAL FOUR

A white line-art icon of two modern buildings with multiple windows, set against a background image of a city street with trees.

Promote robust, inclusive, and sustainable growth and development.

morpc.org/sustainabilityagenda

GOAL ONE



Improve air quality and reduce climate change impacts to protect public health and the environment.



MORPC

AIR QUALITY & ENERGY

- Air quality forecasting, alerts, and outreach
- Neighborhood air quality monitoring
- ReSES
- Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op
- Technical Assistance: SolSmart, Power Siting Resources, GHG Inventories



AIR QUALITY INDEX

UNHEALTHY
for sensitive groups
(101-150)

Forecasts and Alerts



Neighborhood Monitoring

Prince Kwarteng-Crooklyn, Air Quality & Sustainability Program Coordinator, pkwartengcrooklyn@morpc.org



ReSES (Regional
Schools Energy
Strategy)



Columbus Area
Residential Solar Co-
op



TA: SolSmart, Power
Siting Resources,
GHG Inventories

Brian Filiatraut, Energy & Sustainability Program Coordinator, bfiliatraut@morpc.org

GOAL TWO



Protect and preserve natural resources to support a healthy and resilient region.



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WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES

- Sustaining Scioto
- Water & Wastewater Planning
- Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
- Blueways

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: WATER RESOURCES



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Sustaining Scioto



Water & Wastewater
Planning



Green Infrastructure
Toolkit

Dr. Edwina Teye, Sr. Planner, eteye@morpc.org

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION PROGRAM



Purpose:

- Purchase open spaces to make them publicly accessible.
- Protection of stream corridors and areas along waterways that provide habitat and reduce erosion.
- Emphasis on habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species, high-quality wetlands, streamside forests, and natural stream channels.

Who can apply? (Within Franklin County)

- Local governments
- Park and joint recreation districts
- Conservancy districts
- Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Non-Profits

Deadline:

- Final applications due March 10, 2023



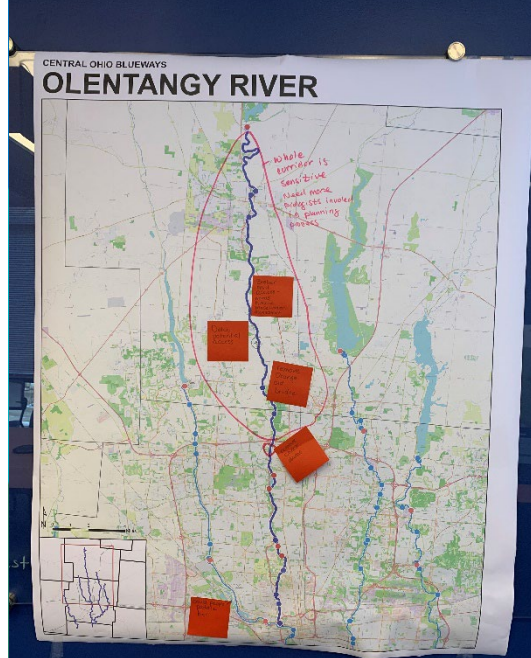
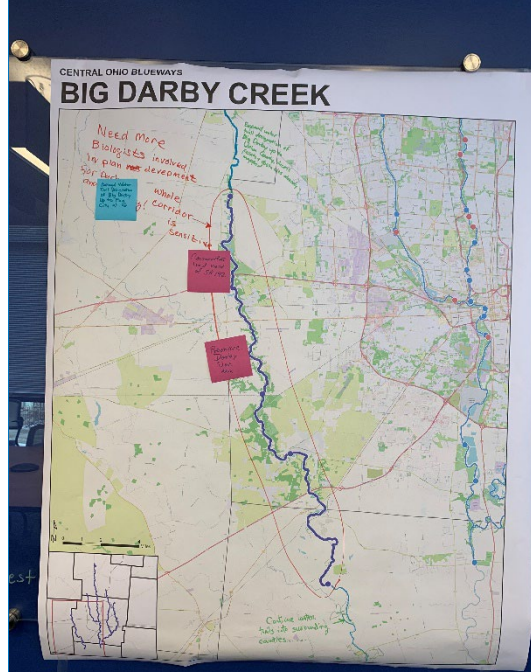
Dr. Edwina Teye, Sr. Planner,
eteye@morpc.org

CENTRAL OHIO BLUEWAYS

Protecting our most valuable asset through education and experiences

- Pursue **State Water Trail Designation** for each of the five regional waterways
 - Guidance from Advisory Panel & Partnership Groups
 - Designation → partner access to funding for improvements along the waterway (access points for fishing, paddling, etc. and conservation)
- Improve upon existing resources (interactive map) and create new ones (curated routes) to offer **educational and informational materials** to help people safely and responsibly enjoy the region's waterways

Contact Jonathan Miller (jmiller@morpc.org) for additional information



GOAL THREE



Improve quality of life for all residents by creating sustainable and equitable communities.



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MOBILITY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Central Ohio Greenways
- Complete Streets
- LinkUS
- Residential Services

CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

Safe, comfortable, equitable transportation for all



MORPC



Urban Trail
Towns



Wayfinding
Strategy



Experience
Passports

Melinda Vonstein, Greenways Program Manager, mvonstein@morpc.org

COMPLETE STREETS

Safe, comfortable, equitable transportation for all



MORPC



Complete Streets
Policy



LinkUS



Active Transportation
Planning & Technical
Assistance Program

Maria Schaper, Associate Director, Transportation Planning, mschaper@morpc.org

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



Home
Weatherization



Home Repair



Lead Program &
Healthy Homes

Robert Williams, Sr. Director, Residential Services, rwilliams@morpc.org

GOAL FOUR



Promote robust, inclusive,
and sustainable growth and
development.



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SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

- Regional Housing & Development
- Insight2050
- RAPID 5

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH = HEALTHY HOUSING MARKET & CONNECTED NEIGHBORHOODS

- Investing in staff and resources to assist members with implementing the actions of the Implementer's Toolkit
- Leading the Regional Housing Coalition Advocacy & Partnerships Task Force
 - ❖ Which actions would be more effective at the regional level?
 - ❖ Where is regional collaboration/coordination needed?

<https://www.morpc.org/rhs>

The screenshot shows the 'IMPLEMENTER'S TOOLKIT' interface. At the top, it displays 'NUMBER OF POTENTIAL HOUSING ACTIONS BASED ON CURRENT SELECTIONS' as 111. Below this is a 'REFINE LIST OF POTENTIAL HOUSING ACTIONS' section with filters for 'City, Village, or Township' (All), 'Housing Submarket' (All), 'Core Housing Issue' (All), and 'Action Type' (All). A map of the region is shown with various housing submarkets color-coded. A legend on the right lists 12 submarkets: 1. Late-Century Suburbs, 2. Late-Century Exurbs, 3. Mid-Century Small Lots, 4. Aging Multifamily, 5. Burgeoning Streetcar Neighborhoods, 6. High-Demand Inner Ring Suburbs, 7. Emerging-Demand Neighborhoods, 8. Rural, 9. Town Centers, 10. High-Demand Exurbs, 11. OSU Off-Campus, 12. Downtown, and Regionwide. Below the map is an 'EXPORT TABLE OF ACTIONS' button. At the bottom, there is a 'GET MORE DETAIL ABOUT A SINGLE ACTION' section with a dropdown menu and a 'GO TO ACTION PROFILE' button.

Jennifer Noll, Associate Director, Community Development, jnoll@morpc.org

“THIS IS OUR TURNING POINT”



SUSTAINABLE2050



Central Ohio Communities
Working Toward a Better Future

37 members making a collective impact on quality of life in central Ohio!

Priorities-

- Increase membership and certification
- Sustainability Toolkit for members
- Elevated recognition

Sustainable2050 – Member List



Platinum Members

Bexley
Columbus
Delaware
Dublin
Franklin County
Commissioners
Franklin County Engineer's
Office

Franklin Soil & Water
Conservation District
Hilliard
MORPC
Upper Arlington
Westerville
Worthington

Gold Members

Grove City
Metro Parks

Sustainable 2050 Members

Central Ohio Transit Authority
Clinton Township
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Grandview Heights
Lancaster
Marysville
Mifflin Township
Pataskala
Plain City

Powell
Prairie Township
Reynoldsburg
Shawnee Hills
Somerset
SWACO
Violet Township
Washington Township

Silver Members

Blendon Township
Gahanna
Genoa Township
Lockbourne
New Albany
Whitehall

2023 SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABILITY

October 26, 2023

The Summit is MORPC's signature environmental conference, bringing together hundreds of community leaders to explore and share sustainable ideas and solutions.

www.morpc.org/summit



Jennifer Noll

Associate Director, Community Development
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
jnoll@morpc.org

Brandi Whetstone

Sustainability Officer
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
bwhetstone@morpc.org



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Central Ohio Greenways Board (Chair: Mike Andrako, P.E.)

Next meeting: March 3, 2023 – Board Retreat+

The COG Board met January 18, 2023 to review working group reports and approve an agenda for the Spring 2023 COG Board Retreat scheduled for March 3, 2023.

The COG Trail Development and Partnership Working Group met on December 15, 2022. Members requested advice around nomenclature for trail types and names as well as strategies for cohesive trail/route name hierarchy on signage. MORPC is beginning a wayfinding study with a consultant in February. The consultant will be tasked with offering advice on hierarchy and nomenclature.

The COG Marketing and Operations Working Groups met December 13, 2022. The group developed a strategy for incorporated curated trips into the Outdoor Trails Passport and hopes to launch an updated pass in April 2023 with 1 to 2 curated trips. The group will also offer advice on the COG website update, a brand refresh, and the Rails to Trails Celebrate Trails Day. The Outdoor Trails Passport, a program in collaboration with Experience Columbus, is live. Residents and visitors can 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.

MORPC and City of Columbus Recreation and Parks partnered on a trail count equipment pilot project that launched in the summer of 2021. The results are available in a final project report that provides equipment recommendations to regional partners as well as a detailed model for collaboration between MORPC and partners to collect, process, and analyze data moving forward. MORPC is seeking grant funding to update the non-motorized count program based on recommendations from the report. Additionally, MORPC will purchase five trail counters to be installed by partners along the Ohio to Erie Trail.

Please contact Melinda Vonstein, mvonstein@morpc.org, for more information on Central Ohio Greenways.



Energy & Air Quality Working Group (Chair: Matt Stephens-Rich)

Next meeting: March 28, 2023

The Working Group met on January 24. Chair Matt Stephens-Rich led the conversation on Working Group leadership, structure, and logistics moving forward. Both Chair Stephens-Rich and Vice-Chair Dale Arnold were re-elected in their roles for one more year. The leadership and future structure will continue to be an agenda item throughout this year in preparation for new leadership in 2024, and the group is considering creating by-laws to formalize the structure. Additionally, MORPC introduced Dr. Todd Bradley, MORPC's new Regional Investment Officer, to the Working Group while hearing updates and MORPC's approach to legislation and policy, and energy and air quality programming. Lastly, the EAQWG received an update and asked for feedback on the educational resources and engagement

strategy that the Subcommittee on Power Siting Issues began discussing at its meeting on January 20. The next Working Group meeting will be held virtually on March 28, 2023.

Energy Updates: Contact Brian Filiatraut for more information at bfiliatraut@morpc.org.

The MORPC team met with the City of Columbus, Solar United Neighbors, and IMPACT Community Action to begin planning for the second round of the Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op. More information to follow, but, tentatively, the second round will kickoff this April.

Federal Funding opportunities are a priority as the Team continues to coordinate across departments and with regional partners on identifying opportunities for clean energy and sustainability. Further, the Team is working in partnership with Smart Columbus and HNTB to produce an EV Charging Siting Study for MORPC's 15-county region to position our communities to secure competitive, non-NEVI funding.

Air Quality Updates: Contact Prince Kwarteng-Crooklyn for more information at pkwarteng@morpc.org.

On February 6, MORPC released the [Central Ohio Air Quality End of Season Report](#), providing a summary of air quality conditions for ground level ozone and PM2.5 for the November 2021-October 31, 2022 season. The good news is that the region continues to demonstrate long-term air quality improvement. However in June 2022, there were three days with high ozone pollution levels, the most observed over the last four years. Particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution levels continue to improve and we have not experienced an exceedance of the federal standard since 2010.

Additionally, U.S. EPA has proposed a stronger particulate matter (PM2.5) standard which has initiated a 60-day public comment period through March 28. The MORPC team will be engaging with our SAC and working group leadership, members, and others, in a process to review and provide comments.

Finally, the MORPC team is working with Franklin County Public Health to lay the groundwork for an expanded air monitoring program with support from a U.S. EPA grant. Early priorities include the creation of a project advisory board and releasing a RFP for a technical consultant. There will be more updates to come.



Sustainable2050

Next meeting: Thursday, March 23, 2023

MORPC is partnering again with OSU City & Regional Planning and Sustainability Institute to provide free technical assistance to Sustainable2050 members through planning studios and environmental capstone courses. The call for proposals has been announced with a deadline of February 10. The team also continues to share relevant funding and technical assistance opportunities to support regional sustainability goals.

The next quarterly meeting is on Thursday, March 23 at 9:30am. The MORPC team will be presenting on a draft Sustainability Toolkit for members, which is currently under development. Membership and tier status certification is open to MORPC members. Please contact MORPC's Sustainability Officer, Brandi Whetstone, for more information at bwhetstone@morpc.org.



Sustaining Scioto Board (Chair: Glenn Marzluf)

Next Meeting: February 22, 2023

The Sustaining Scioto Board met on December 15 and heard a presentation from Dr. Linda Weavers, co-Director, Ohio Water Resources Center- OSU on PFAS (Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) routes of exposure and presence in drinking water. Dr. Weavers talked about routes of exposure and emerging methods on how to treat PFAS and other similar chemicals. The Board also heard a presentation titled Biological and Water Quality Assessment of the Middle Scioto and Lower

Olentangy Rivers 2020: Showing Past Successes and Planning for the Future from Chris Yoder with the Midwest Biodiversity Institute. The board will meet again on February 23.

The Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team:

The working team met on January 19. Members listened to a presentation from the Director of Licking Soil and Water Conservation District, Kristy Hawthorne, on the District's programming areas with a focus on agriculture and water quality. Director Hawthorne highlighted cost share programs administered through the district and collaboration with landowners to help address water quality issues. The team discussed a potential field day event in April targeted at farmers, landowners, and the public. Speakers and topics during the event are still being identified. This working group will meet again on March 16.

Please contact Dr. Edwina Teye, eteye@morpc.org, for more information on water resources programming.

2023 MEETING SCHEDULE



MORPC

All meetings are 2:30pm

- Wednesday, April 19
- Wednesday, June 21
- Wednesday, September 20
- Wednesday, December 13

Ben Kessler

Chair

Sustainability Advisory Committee

bkessler@bexley.org

Laurie Jadwin

Vice Chair

Sustainability Advisory Committee

laurie.Jadwin@gahanna.gov

Brandi Whetstone

Sustainability Officer

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

bwhetstone@morpc.org



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