

CORPO QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Mark Forrest, Chair Jeff Stauch, Vice Chair

JULY 2023

CORPO addresses the unique transportation planning needs of each member county and facilitates regional coordination. This newsletter outlines products, services, news, and events that CORPO provides its member counties.

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CORPO DEDICATED FUNDS SY 2024-20245

The SY 2024-2025 CORPO Dedicated Funds program makes available approximately \$2,000,000 of funding during the two-year cycle for member-selected, eligible projects within the CORPO member counties. The CORPO committee adopted new Policies for Managing CORPO Dedicated Funds on May 1, 2023. The updated policy document establishes an application process. See the recently updated timeline below.



Two-year funding cycle application period opens

7/12/23

CORPO hosts public, virtual Applicant Workshop

8/11/23 Applications

must be completed online by 5 PM

10/5/23

Public comment period on recommended projects closes

11/6/23

CORPO meets to approve funding commitments

APPLICATION AND WORKSHOP RECORDING

Applications for funding are open and are due on **August 11th, 2023**. An online application form is available on the CORPO website at: https://www.morpc.org/committees/central-ohio-rural-planning-organization-corpo/. A virtual workshop on the application and selection process was held on Wednesday, July 12th. A recording of the workshop and the presentation slides are available on the CORPO website.

CORPO TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Initially adopted in 2018, the CORPO Transportation Plan (CTP) is currently undergoing an update that will be adopted by the CORPO committee in November 2023. Upon adoption, the updated CTP will cover the 2024-2050 planning horizon. Working with the subcommittees, identification of strategies and projects is currently underway. Visit the CORPO webpage to see more information on progress of the update to the CTP.



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IMPORTANT EVENTS

- CORPO County Subcommittee Meetings will be held throughout September 2023 in-person at each of the CORPO counties.
- ❖ The next CORPO Committee meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. and will be held in-person at MORPC.
- MORPC 2023 Social Media Summit is August 1, 2023 and will focus on best practices and trends in social media, including AI and Chat GPT. Email Eileen Leuby, <u>eleuby@morpc.org</u>, for more info
- Regional Transportation Safety Forum is September 21, 2023. MORPC members and regional partners will discuss safety priorities and hear from experts on their experiences working to improve roadway safety. Email Lauren Cardoni, lcardoni@morpc.org, for more info.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

CORPO Staff are available to assist with funding applications and technical assistance.

- ❖ Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program, USDOT- This program will provide early-stage development assistance and will award grants to rural and tribal infrastructure projects for hiring staff or procuring expert firms to provide financial, technical, and legal assistance, assistance with development phase activities, and information regarding innovative financing best practices and case studies. This program is first come first serve, and the applicant window opens on August 14th.
- Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program (RURAL), USDOT- This program supports projects that will improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas to increase connectivity, improve the safety and reliability of the movement of people and freight, generate regional economic growth, and improve quality of life. The application window for this program closes August 21st.
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Abbreviated Safety Funding Application, ODOT- The program is intended to fund potentially less complex safety improvements quickly. Eligible projects need to be simple (under \$500,000 and must be constructed within 2 years), utilize proven safety countermeasures, and be in a location with 3 crashes per year. The application window closes September 30th.
- ❖ HSIP Formal Safety Application, ODOT- The formal HISP application process is for more complex safety improvements and is meant to address locations with a history of fatal or injury crashes. Funding priority is given to locations with state or regional safety priority or a completed local road safety plan. A minimum of 3 crashes per year and 30% injury crashes are required to apply. The application window closes August 31st.
- ❖ Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), ODOT- TAP provides funding for transportation alternatives projects, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; and safe routes to school projects. The LOI form for the next round of TAP funding will be available on October 1st.

NEW GOHIO MOBILITY WEBSITE IS LIVE

MORPC announced the launch of Gohio Mobility – a website aimed at improving access to accessible transportation for residents and visitors. Gohio Mobility is a free, comprehensive, statewide platform that brings together various modes of transportation. Users can search for transportation options using filters for location, payment type, and accommodations. To learn more, find and contact your Mobility Manager at https://gohiocommute.com/#/mobility by clicking the "Find a Mobility Manager" button.