



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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MEETING NOTES

FRANKLIN COUNTY MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
BOARD ROOM CONFERENCE ROOM

February 13th, 2023
10:00 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Roundtable introductions of those in attendance: Emma Strange (MORPC), Clint Stockham (Arc Industries), Holly Dabelko-Schoeny (AFIC), Christine Happel (AFIC), John Gardocki (MORPC), Steve Skovensky (CSB), Bob Dowler (City of Groveport), Corrina Hyde (COTA), Claire Jennings (COTA), Amber Boyd (COTA), Barb Sullivan (Franklin County Office of Aging)

2. Advisory Committee Overview and Name Change

- a. MORPC already has a Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), so as to reduce confusion, proposed to call this committee the Franklin County Mobility Advisory Committee (FCMAC).
- b. The FCMAC is meant to be adaptable to the community's needs and can form subcommittees, change the strategies for Franklin County, implement projects to achieve those strategies, etc.
- c. The FCMAC is open to anyone, but particularly is in need of representatives that represent hospitals, public health, transit riders, and New Americans. If current FCMAC members know of people or key interest groups that should be included in this committee, they are encouraged to extend an invitation to them and let Emma Strange (estrange@morpc.org) know.

3. Regional Mobility Plan and Franklin County Overview

- a. Emma presented the three goals of Region 6. There are nine counties working together to achieve the Region 6 goals; each has their own goals and strategies which fall under the umbrella of the Region 6 goals.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Erik J. Janas
Chair

Chris Amorose Grooms
Vice Chair

Michelle Crandall
Secretary

- b. Mobility Managers in each county have their own Transportation Advisory Committees which review and revise county goals and strategies. Mobility Managers also connect individuals with rides and advance the goals and strategies of the coordinated plan with their TACs.
- c. Emma presented the needs highlighted by a 2021 survey of Franklin County residents and people who worked in Franklin County. Some needs most highlighted were cross county transportation, on demand service, and expanded hours for direct bus routes.

4. Gohio Mobility Update

- a. Emma presented an update on Gohio Mobility as well as a brief introduction to the site. Gohio Mobility is intended to allow for people to connect to transportation options in their area, particularly services such as non-emergency medical transportation and affordable options for seniors and people with developmental disabilities.
- b. Launch for Gohio Mobility planned for June 2023
 - i. ODOT will be coordinating for marketing needs
 - ii. Creating a user working group is a part of Franklin County strategies
- c. Christine Happel asked if there was a possibility for there to be clarification on Gohio Mobility for services such as Village in the Ville where transportation services are available after an application process.
 - i. Emma responded that that would likely be included in the “Description” portion of the service provider’s page
- d. Holly Dabelko-Schoeny brought up that a “Same-Day” option for Gohio Mobility may be helpful for those who need a ride that day and cannot wait for an application process with an agency or are not going to schedule 48 hours in advance. Clint brought up potentially being able to select how soon a user would need transportation such as within the same day, 48 hours, 72 hours, etc.
 - i. Emma will bring this up with RideAmigos, the developers of the software, and explore the possibility of adding a feature like a same day option or time frame window

5. Discussion and Questions

- a. Steve Skovensky suggested that more information on 5310 funding may be helpful. Seconded by Barb Sullivan and others in the meeting. Agenda point for next meeting will be a presentation by John Gardocki on 5310 funding and process for applying for it.
 - i. Next call for 5310 applications will be in Fall of 2023
- b. For Strategy 3.1: Holly and Christine brought up points surrounding who we are trying to market to and access, in particular the groups of seniors that had never used public transit before but may need to. Holly remarked on the importance of focusing on the behavior change, destigmatization, and awareness factors when it comes to engaging people in using transportation. AFIC has resources to share concerning their travel plan and focus group information.
 - i. Barb Sullivan brought up challenges for Franklin County Senior Options transportation including workforce issues
 - 1. Workforce challenges can be added to strategies should the group be interested in it
 - ii. The Senior Options program provides door to door service for medical and non medical needs, with medical needs being prioritized. Wheelchair riders typically will need to book a ride 3-5 days in advance. Senior Options also provide grant opportunities to the community for transportation.

- c. Technology gap: There is a gap in the accessibility in technology as noted by multiple members in the FCMAC. Possibility of folding this into an existing strategy or creating a new strategy for expanding technology access with the goal of enabling more people to use transit, particularly for those with lower incomes and older adults.
- d. Steve Skovensky brought up that there is a gap in transportation options for people who need emergency rides to shelters or rides after midnight to shelters. Holly brought up a partnership with Lyft
 - i. Potential to apply for 5310 funding for one time emergency rides to address this need
- e. Next meeting: March 13th. There will be both an in person and remote option. At this meeting there will be a presentation by John Gardocki on 5310 funding and further discussion on how to revise the strategies.