



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

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NOTICE OF A MEETING

COMMISSION MEETING
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
TOWN HALL

Thursday, August 10, 2023
1:30 p.m.

Remote Option

To join by video and see any screen sharing, click on “Join Microsoft Teams Meeting” below. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams for the link to work.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 244 441 672 513

Passcode: mu9nyH

To participate by phone, use the conference call information below.

[+1 614-362-3056](#) United States, Columbus

[\(888\) 596-2819](#) United States (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 826 327 502#

AGENDA

- 1:30 p.m.
- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
 - 2. Welcome and Introductions** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair
 - **Recognition of Guests and New Members** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
 - 3. Executive Director’s Report** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director
 - **MORPC Brand Platform & Strategic Framework** – Níel Jurist, MORPC Communications & Engagement Senior Director; Haley Stangebye, Hunter Marketing; and Pete McGinty, Align2Market

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Erik J. Janas
Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Vice Chair

Michelle Crandall
Secretary

- **Drive Investment Update** – Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations
- **Community Based Planning Assistance** – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Senior Director of Planning
- **Quarterly Membership Update** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

Committees

4. **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Brad Ebersole (Delaware County), Regional Data Advisory Committee
 - **Proposed Resolution 09-23: “Adoption of MORPC’s 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda”**
5. **Regional Policy Roundtable** – David Scheffler (City of Lancaster), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
 - **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations
6. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
7. **Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair
 - a. **Call to Order** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair
 - b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report**
 - Programming – Nick Gill, MORPC Interim Senior Director of Programming & Transportation Study Director
 - c. **Proposed Resolution T-9-23: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Central Ohio Transit Authority for Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program”** – Nick Gill, MORPC Interim Senior Director of Programming & Transportation Study Director
 - d. **Proposed Resolution T-10-23: “Recognizing the proposed apportionment of sales tax revenues collected by the Central Ohio Transit Authority as it relates to the LinkUS Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program funding”** – Nick Gill, MORPC

2:31 p.m.

2:35 p.m.

2:40 p.m.

Interim Senior Director of Programming & Transportation Study
Director

- 2:45 p.m. e. **2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update** – Nick Gill, MORPC Interim Senior Director of Programming & Transportation Study Director
- 2:50 p.m. f. **Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**
- 1) Approval of **June 8, 2023 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**
 - 2) **Proposed Resolution T-8-23: “Amending the SFY 2024 Planning Work Program”**
- 2:52 p.m. g. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair
- 2:53 p.m. 8. **Commission Consent Agenda**
- a. Approval of **June 8, 2023 Commission Meeting Minutes**
 - b. **Proposed Resolution 10-23: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Central Ohio Transit Authority for Transit Supportive Infrastructure”**
 - c. **Proposed Resolution 11-23: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) for the July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027 Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) and enter into related subcontracts”**
 - d. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee
- 2:55 p.m. 9. **Other Business**
- 2:45 p.m. 10. **Adjourn** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair

PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR ssaunders@morpc.org IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The next Commission Meeting is
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 1:30 p.m.
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

PARKING AND TRANSIT: When parking in MORPC's parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with a yellow “M”. Handicapped parking is available at the side of MORPC's building. On Commission meeting days only, additional parking is available in numbered spaces toward the west end of the parking lot. Electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

MORPC is accessible by COTA BUS. The closest bus stop to MORPC southbound is High Street & W. Blenkner Street. Buses that accommodate this stop are the 5 - West 5th Ave./Refugee, and the 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons. The closest stop to MORPC northbound is High Street & E. Hoster Street. Buses that accommodate this stop are the 5 - West 5th Avenue/Refugee and the 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons. Accessible from the Courthouse stop by a quick walk are COTA lines 1, 2, 4, and CMAX.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

MORPC Monthly Agency Report

June 2023

Senior Directors

Kerstin Carr kcarr@morpc.org
Joe Garrity jgarrity@morpc.org
Nick Gill ngill@morpc.org

Shawn Hufstedler shufstedler@morpc.org
Niel M. Jurist njurist@morpc.org
Robert Williams rwilliams@morpc.org

CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY

Advocacy

MORPC submitted priority memos to state legislators on the state operating budget. Team Members secured support letters for the CFI grant from state and federal legislators.

MORPC hosted the Columbus Region Coalition monthly meeting.

Community-Based Planning Assistance

Team Members continue to develop an Assistance Program for communities which includes two components:

- The Consultant Services Program is in the final stages of development and is projected to be active in August 2023. The Program is planned to run on a quarterly basis with tentative dates throughout 2024 in the process of finalization.
- The Planner Pool Program is also in the process of finalizing details. New Hire positions are posted and Team Members are currently working out details surrounding which planning and sustainability services might be most useful to make available to member communities.

Gohio Commute

MORPC welcomed two new vanpools:

- Washington Courthouse to Chillicothe
- Logan to Columbus

Gohio Commute launched its July/August Challenge, Make Your Miles Matter. Commuters can log their sustainable work commutes for a chance to win a digital gift card.

The OARC Rideshare and Air Quality Subcommittee continues planning for the *Ohio Statewide Commuter Challenge* to be held September 11-24. The purpose of the challenge is to reengage Ohioans with the Gohio Commute rideshare platform and start thinking about sustainable commuting to work.

Transportation Safety

MORPC participated in the following safety committee meetings and safety-related events:

- Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition meeting, June 7
- Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Technical Council meeting, June 15

MORPC submitted a grant application for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) federal grant program on July 10. The application includes a request for funding to update the [Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan](#) and to conduct supplemental planning and demonstration activities. MORPC also supported three additional SS4A applications in the region from the City of Columbus, the City of Canal Winchester, and the Franklin County Engineer's Office.

MORPC is hosting the annual Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum on September 21.

Technical Assistance Program

Work continues with the five communities awarded technical assistance services for 2023:

- MORPC and Violet Township hosted a collaborative workshop with key local stakeholders on July 17 to discuss opportunities for new shared use path connections throughout the township.
- MORPC and Berlin Township hosted a public workshop on July 19 to collect feedback on routes identified as priority corridors for trail connections within the township.
- MORPC and the City of Delaware hosted a collaborative workshop with key local stakeholders on July 20 to review the draft Safety Action Plan for the City.
- MORPC and Brown Township hosted a public workshop on July 20 to collect feedback from the community on how they would like to access a regional trail through the township and what destinations they want the trail to connect to.
- MORPC participated in the Grove City Bicycle Transportation Task Force Meeting on July 20 to discuss how the technical assistance program services for Grove City will integrate with other local and regional initiatives underway.

Team Members began reviewing the Technical Assistance Program Guide to update it for the 2024 application cycle, which opens in the fall. Team Members welcome feedback from communities that participated in the TA Program in the past. Contact Lauren Cardoni (lcardoni@morpc.org).

Central Ohio Greenways (COG)

The COG Board met July 19 and adopted the updated COG Strategic Plan Action Items. Meeting materials are available [here](#). The next meeting is September 20.

- The COG Trail Development Working Group met June 15 and is offering advice to MORPC's technical assistance program, helping update the trail count program, and providing trail vision refinements. The next meeting is August 17.
- The Marketing Working Group met June 14 and is advising on website upgrades, social media calendar development, the Wayfinding Project, and the Trail Town Framework Development. The next meeting is August 15.

The next COG Forum is August 16 focusing on projects along the Big Walnut Corridor.

MORPC is releasing a COG Board Members Survey to evaluate board member interest in Strategic Plan Action Items and to inform an updated working group structure.

Central Ohio Blueways

The Central Ohio Blueways Advisory Panel met in June and July to continue discussions around appropriate considerations and measures for State Water Trail Designation through ODNR. The meetings focused on the management of woody debris in the waterways, as well as various considerations and input from EMS personnel. One-on-one meetings were held with some of the communities along Big Walnut Creek to discuss State Water Trail Designation. Feedback to this point from Big Walnut Creek communities has been very positive, with several future meetings still being scheduled.

Regional Housing Strategy

For those interested in a housing/growth workshop for your community's elected officials, staff, or community leaders, MORPC is accepting requests for presentations and workshops. Our team will work with you to design the agenda, including recommended speakers and learning objectives. Contact Jennifer Noll for more information (JNoll@morpc.org).

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Sustainability Advisory Committee met June 21. The agenda included updates on the CFI Grant and next steps for creating a sub-committee of the SAC to establish regional participation in the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. Committee members also cast their votes for Regional Sustainability Awards, which will be presented at the Summit on Sustainability on October 26. The next meeting is September 20.

Sustainable2050

Del-Co Water Company hosted the June 22 Sustainable2050 Meeting. After presentations from the MORPC Sustainability Team, the group received a behind-the-scenes tour of the water treatment facilities and reservoirs led by General Manager & CEO Glenn Marzluf. AmeriCorps Sustainability Fellow Grant Lach

wrapped up the sustainability toolkit and developed a maintenance guide before his last day (July 21). Team Members coordinated a social media campaign to feature Sustainable2050 members during “Sustainable September”. The next meeting is September 28.

Sustaining Scioto Board

The June Board meeting was rescheduled to August 23. In the near term, MORPC Staff will continue collaborating with partners to develop an outreach strategy for building awareness, continued support, and outreach for the value of the updated precipitation estimate focused on Franklin County. Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District and Ohio State University’s Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center completed phase 1 of the precipitation estimates update.

- The Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team met July 20 and heard a presentation from Broc Sehen, District Technician with Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District. The presentation is one of the steps being taken by the Outreach Team to strengthen relationships with the northern counties within the Upper Scioto watershed. The Team discussed organizing a forum addressing potential stressors upon water from a utility standpoint and future programming for mitigation of these stressors. Members agreed to establish a relationship with the City of Columbus regarding the City’s engagement with the agricultural community. The Team hopes to identify opportunities for further collaboration between stakeholders on the One Water Plan being proposed by the city. One Water is defined by the Water Research Foundation (WRF) as an integrated planning and implementation approach to managing finite water resources for long-term resilience and reliability. This approach will meet both the community and the ecosystem needs, commonly known as integrated urban water management. The next meeting is September 21.

Ohio EPA Water Resources Planning Work

Team Members continue to verify and update facility planning area boundaries and water quality management plans in the ten-county area. Data collected will inform the creation of an interactive map.

Energy & Air Quality

The Energy & Air Quality Working Group met July 25 and focused on updating the group and gaining feedback.

The second round of the Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op is open and available for homeowners interested in going solar. The Co-op is a collaborative effort among the City of Columbus, Solar United Neighbors, MORPC, and IMPACT Community Action. Residents considering solar who live in Franklin County and the surrounding areas can join with other residents in the region to secure better pricing.

Residents for a Sustainable Central Ohio (RSCO) briefly met July 19 to discuss the Summit on Sustainability. The date and time of the next meeting is still to be determined but will likely be in-person in mid-September. For more information, please contact Brian Filiatraut, Energy & Sustainability Program Manager (BFiliatraut@morpc.org).

Team Members continue to develop the air quality social media plan. The goal is to provide education around ozone, PM2.5 and actions for protecting health/reducing pollution levels. MORPC will convene an informational session for public health and healthcare partners regarding air quality, health resources and coordinated communication on alert days.

Air Quality Alerts

It has been an unprecedented year for wildfires in Canada, which brought hazy skies and unhealthy pollution levels across Central Ohio in June. Until this year, unhealthy air quality days were not a typical occurrence; it has been more than ten years since the last one was recorded. During June and July, MORPC issued 11 Air Quality Alerts. Nine of those were for particle pollution due to wildfires. It has been over 13 years since the region recorded a particle pollution day that was unhealthy for all residents during the summer. Throughout the month of June, MORPC received several media requests about the high pollution levels. Coverage included The Columbus Dispatch, Axios, NBC 4, Channel 10, WOSU, and Spectrum News.

Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project

Team Members are working on the U.S. EPA project working through the administrative requirements. A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) is required for documenting the data management and quality

assurance procedures. The Staff attended the EPA's hybrid training conference focused on air sensor quality assurance July 27-29.

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)

RDAC met June 6 and approved the final Regional Data Agenda. Members are devising next steps to align Committee and Working Groups work with the new agenda.

- The Regional Data Agenda Update Working Group completed their work.
- The Capacity Building & Partnerships Working Group is planning for Data Day 2024. The group continues developing a resource to assist local non-profits with data acquisition, usage and management. The group is meeting with the Local Government Resources Working Group to discuss collaboration on the project.
- The Local Government Resources Working Group is considering alternative ways to share resources related to data policies that are more sustainable to manage and more accessible. The group meets the last Tuesday of each month.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) met July 19 focusing on AI and its uses, problems, and functions in the workplace. The next meeting is September 27.

Data & Research Activities

Team Members produced an Actionable Insights report focused on transportation needs and experiences. The report, which was released in June, is based upon the findings of the Leaders Listen American Population Panel (APP) public opinion poll. MORPC continues to work with its partners at the Center for Human Resource Research (CHRR) and the Columbus Dispatch to expand the survey series into additional topical domains and sustain these activities into the future.

Team Members are preparing inputs for the 2023 sub-county population estimates and will seek feedback on preliminary estimates from member communities in late July.

Data & Mapping Activities

Team Members worked on various projects including the final draft of Household and Employment forecasts out to 2050 for the ten-county area. This data, which is part of the MTP process, was made available for community review via a web map. The review period ended July 14. Several communities submitted feedback.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

MORPC participated in ODOT's Division of Opportunity, Diversity, and Inclusion's inaugural MBE and Diverse Business Opportunity Expo on June 21. The expo featured nearly 100 booths including state agencies, local governments, and private sector corporations to highlight their procurement opportunities. MORPC met new potential vendors and engaged with attendees to inform them about programs and initiatives.

Each year, the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) Columbus hosts a scholarship luncheon to award local minority students. MORPC was recognized as a sponsor and a high school senior received a scholarship in MORPC's honor. The student will attend a Historically Black College and University.

DRIVE INVESTMENT

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Team Members coordinated with community stakeholders on draft zonal-level 2050 population and employment forecasts via a web map. Comments are being incorporated as appropriate to develop the final forecast data.

Staff developed an interactive web map to display candidate transportation projects being considered for inclusion in the MTP. The public is invited to comment on the projects and make suggestions for new project ideas to be considered.

Mobility Management

MORPC launched the new Gohio Mobility website June 1. Gohio Mobility is a free-to-use site where users can find statewide accessible transportation resources.

LinkUS Mobility Initiative

MORPC and COTA convened regional stakeholders in June and July to continue the development of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) committee and program guidelines. Team Members worked with COTA to draft an inter-agency agreement and memorandum of understanding outlining roles and responsibilities for administering the TSI program.

MORPC led the LinkUS partners in two workshops to develop evaluation criteria for identifying the next regional corridors to be studied for high-capacity transit.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)

MORPC held an applicant workshop on July 12 for the FY24-25 CORPO Dedicated Funding round. Applications are accepted through August 11, 5 p.m. Team Members continue developing the 2024-2050 CORPO Transportation Plan, specifically identifying transportation project priorities.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

FHWA and FTA approved the SFY 2024-2027 TIP which became effective July 1.

MORPC-Attributable Funding

ODOT programmed new and updated funding commitments which were incorporated into the updated TIP where appropriate.

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)

Applications for District 3 (Franklin County) SCIP and LTIP funding for SFY 2025 are open. Applications are due September 1.

Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)

MORPC submitted nine applications to TRAC for funding this cycle, totaling nearly \$350 million in requests. MORPC is reviewing each application and conducting a data-driven analysis to aid in developing a priority ranking of applications. Concurrently, a public comment period is open until August 11, 2023. A regional public hearing for Central Ohio will be scheduled for September or October. Final funding decisions are expected in December 2023 or January 2024.

Federal Competitive Programs

The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program announced awards for the 2023 Federal Fiscal year. Central Ohio did not obtain an award under this program. However, the City of Columbus's application for the Williams Road Multimodal Corridor Planning Project obtained Project of Merit Status.

On June 23, U.S. DOT announced the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program. This program enables funding for three grants: National Infrastructure Project Assistance Program (The Mega Grant Program), Infrastructure for Rebuilding America Program (INFRA), Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program (Rural). MORPC is providing support for an ODOT application for the unfunded phases of the I-70/I-71 Columbus Crossroads and also coordinating with a few CORPO communities for possible application to the Rural program. The deadline is August 21.

On July 5, U.S. DOT issued a NOFO for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Program (RCN). This program enables funding for two grants: Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program (RCP) and Neighborhood Access and Equity Program (NAE). The deadline is September 28.

MORPC submitted a grant application for the U.S. DOT Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant. The Mid-Ohio Regional Equity for Electric Vehicle Stations (MORE EVS) grant was a collaboration of MORPC, the City of Columbus, SmartColumbus, Electrification Coalition, AEP Ohio, and HNTB. The MORE EVS proposal requested \$15 million with an additional \$6.9 million in regional investment. The proposal included 62 confirmed charging site locations totaling 406 Level 2 and DCFC EV ports across 13 of MORPC's 15

counties. MORE EVS focuses on urban and rural underserved areas and building mobility hubs. MORPC anticipates learning the status of the MORE EVS application by Fall 2023.

MORPC was a co-applicant, with the City of Columbus as the lead applicant, for the U.S. EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Phase I: Planning Grant. This formula-based grant focuses on developing benchmarks and metrics, a benefits analysis for low-income disadvantaged communities, mitigation strategies, and an engagement and community outreach strategy in the ten-county Columbus Metropolitan Statistical Area. This grant will better position the region for the \$4.6 billion CPRG Phase II. Implementation opportunities should begin in early 2024. MORPC is forming a subcommittee to focus on this program. If you are interested in participating, please contact Brian Filiatraut, Energy & Sustainability Program Manager (BFiliatraut@morpc.org).

Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)

Team Members presented regional Competitive Advantage Projects to local leaders to showcase the coordination MORPC provides to members. Staff updated the CAP website to better represent new and existing projects. Team Members updated the CAP interactive web map to account for new regional projects and provide a more unique experience for users to focus on specific projects and locations.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

The Economic Development District application is moving ahead in the review process. Committee and governing board structure is established ahead of expected designation approval.

Brownfield Assessments

Team Members initiated a Phase II assessment for the Cleveland and Myrtle property in Linden, with the goal of further identifying the contaminants on the property before redevelopment. Staff approved the N. Liberty Street property in Powell to be assessed for hazardous materials in preparation for demolition. The funds for brownfield assessments have been designated and are not available for new projects due to the upcoming grant close-out period.

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

The Natural Resource Assistance Council met June 26 to hear preliminary screener presentations. These presentations allow Council members to offer feedback and eligibility comments to applicants prior to final application submission. Clean Ohio Funds requested by the preliminary screener application and presentation is approximately \$2.4 million. While screener presentations are encouraged, they are not mandatory. District 3 has approximately \$3.2 million for FY 2024, with final applications due September 1. For more information, contact Edwina Teye at eteye@morpc.org or visit: <https://www.morpc.org/program-service/clean-ohio-conservation-fund/>.

Money Mondays

MORPC hosted the following Money Monday sessions:

- June 26 – Affordable Housing
- July 10 – Transportation Update
- July 17 – State & Federal Budgeting Compliance
- July 24 – Digital Inclusion and ARPA Funding

Upcoming sessions:

- August 7 – State Infrastructure Bank (SIB)
- August 14 – How can NPOs and municipalities work together to secure funds for priority projects
- August 21 – Driving Investment Portal Tutorial
- August 28 – Regional Housing Strategy

PAY IT FORWARD

Summer Intern Program

MORPC hosted several events for the summer interns:

- Mixer to meet Senior Staff and Team about economic development career opportunities
- Second orientation for late start interns
- Neighborhood Design Center field trip
- Highbanks Metro Park hike
- Weekly appointments between interns and program coordinators

Member Services

Team Members hosted new member orientations with incoming board members. Staff went on five member visits in June.

Events

MORPC hosted/held the following events:

- MORPC Night at the Clippers
- Enriching Lives at Today's Modern Library, Gahanna
- Housing Forum, Plain City
- Sustainable Community Development, Buckeye Lake
- Central Ohio Defense Community Partnership Conference, Rickenbacker

Upcoming Events

- August 1 – MORPC Social Media Summit, MORPC
- August 10 – Rail Safety Progress, MORPC
- September 21 – Regional Transportation Safety Forum, MORPC
- October 26 – Summit on Sustainability, Hilton Columbus Downtown
- March 15, 2024 – State of the Region, Hilton Columbus Downtown

Public Involvement & Engagement

MORPC hosted a resource table at the Franklin County Faith Leaders Forum Leadership Fair on May 24. Organized by Franklin County Board of Commissioners President John O'Grady, the event kicked off conversations surrounding how organizations, such as MORPC can work together with the faith-based community to support residents in Franklin County.

MORPC was a featured agency at 614 Day on June 14 at the Columbus Commons. This community event highlighted local organizations and businesses and celebrated the Capital City. The event drew over 4,000 attendees and hosted more than 40 local vendors.

MORPC promoted the following requests for public input through social media:

- ZoneIn Columbus Community Conversation
- Summit on Sustainability Award Nominations
- MORPC Messaging Survey
- Mobility Survey
- DriveOhio Public Meeting
- Regional Investment Survey
- TRAC Public Comment
- CORPO Public Meeting

BUILD VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS

MORPC Annual Salary & Fringe Benefit Survey

The annual salary & fringe benefit survey is well underway. We are awaiting member submissions and anticipate releasing the survey in the next month.

MORPC in the News

Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews

Personnel Updates

The following new Team Members recently started at MORPC:

- Inspection Coordinator Josh Kirk began June 6
- Government & Community Affairs Intern Luka Srsic began June 6
- CORPO Senior Planner Mary Turner began June 20
- Associate Planner Shelby Oldroyd began July 18
- Programming Intern Matthew Skalicki began July 18

MORPC is currently recruiting for open positions:

- Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer and Director of Programming
- Energy Auditor/Field Technician
- Senior Planner – Community Development
- Senior Planner – Sustainability
- Planning Intern – Community Development
- Associate Engineer/Planner/Modeler
- GIS Intern
- IT Specialist
- IT Systems Engineer

The requirements for the posted positions are available for review on the website at <http://www.morpc.org/careers/>.

RFP/RFQ Postings

The following RFP's/RFQ's were posted:

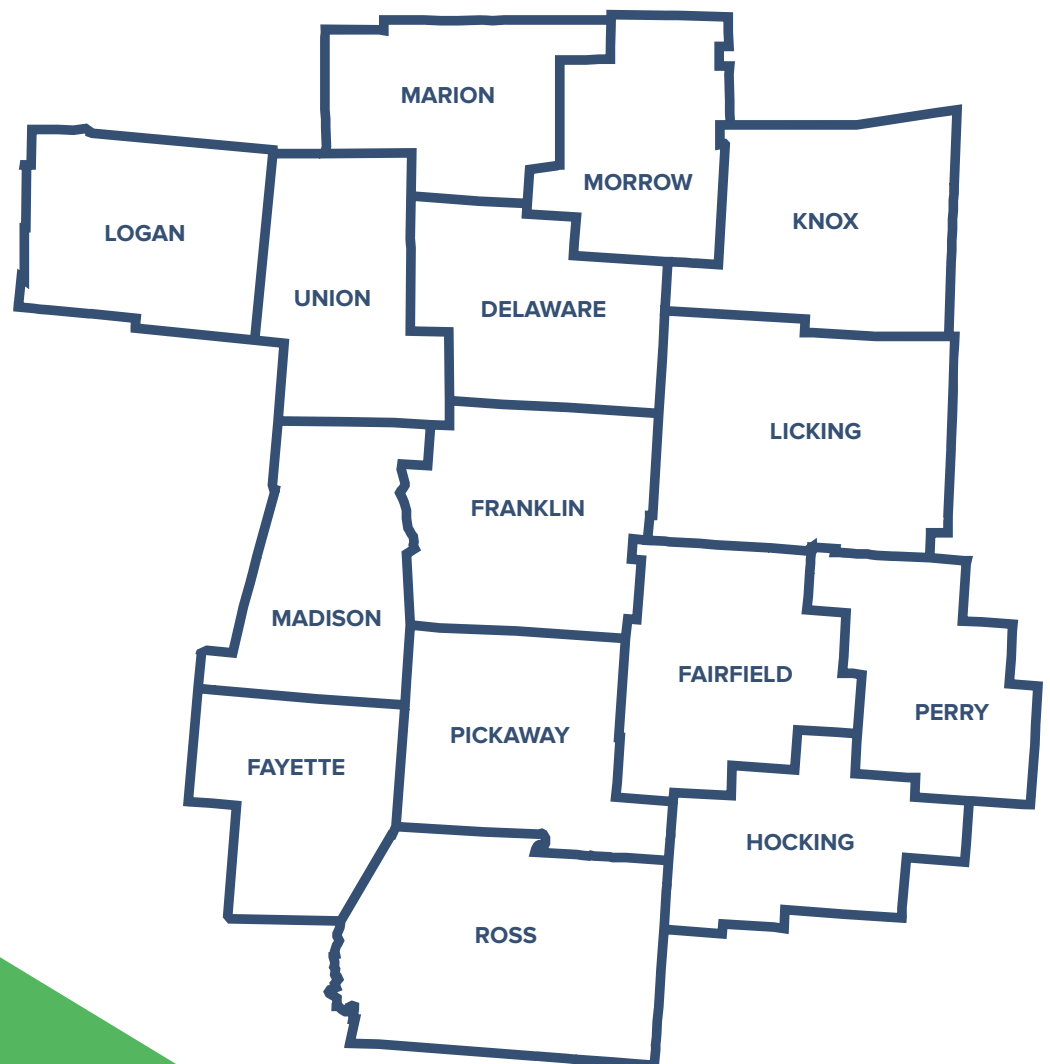
- HVAC Contractor for Residential Energy Programs 2022
- Insulation Contractor for Residential Energy Programs 2022

The full RFP/RFQs are available at <http://www.morpc.org/rfps-rfqs/>.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2023 - 24



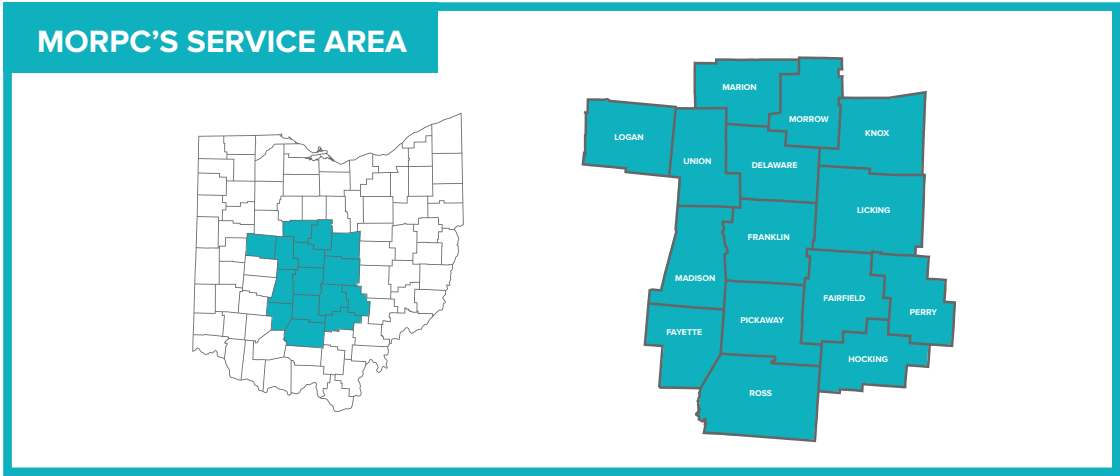
MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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ABOUT MORPC

Who We Are

MORPC is Central Ohio’s regional council for more than 80 communities and regional partners. We bring communities of all sizes and interests together to collaborate on best practices and planning through a variety of programs, services, projects, and initiatives to help drive a sustainable and prosperous future and improve the quality of life for everyone in Central Ohio.



What We Do

- Serve as Central Ohio’s resource hub and leadership forum for shared regional challenges and best practices.
- Convene local governments to plan, prioritize, and advance strategic transportation and infrastructure investments.
- Provide data tools, insights, and technical assistance for sustainability programs, growth planning, residential services, and shared solutions.
- Engage and represent Central Ohio’s community leaders, residents, and partner organizations on public policy.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

What the Strategic Framework Is

The strategic framework is built on four pillars: *Pay It Forward*, *Drive Investment*, *Build Value for Our Members*, and *Create an Environment for Prosperity*. Its focus is on tangible strategies for improving Central Ohio.

PAY IT FORWARD:
MORPC enhances public service leadership and builds capacity in communities.

BUILD VALUE FOR MEMBERS:
MORPC leverages creative ways to increase our members’ returns on investment.

DRIVE INVESTMENT:
MORPC creates opportunities for every community to enhance their assets for the future.

CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY:
MORPC delivers essential tools for the region to get better as it grows bigger.

FOCUS AREA GOALS

TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Metropolitan Transportation Plan



Create Sustainable Neighborhoods



Attract & Retain Economic Opportunity



Protect Natural Resources



Increase Regional Collaboration



Use Public Investments to Benefit Safety



Reduce Energy Consumption

Active Transportation Plan

GOAL 1: SAFETY



Increase the **safety** of Central Ohio's active transportation system.

GOAL 2: COMFORT



Improve the level of **comfort** on Central Ohio's active transportation system.

GOAL 3: CONNECTIVITY



Expand the **connectivity** of Central Ohio's active transportation network.

GOAL 4: ACCESS



Increase **access** to active transportation infrastructure across Central Ohio.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization



Preserve & Maintain Existing Transportation System in Good Repair



Make Transportation System Safe for All Users



Accessibility & Mobility Options for All Users



Create an Integrated, Connected & Coordinated Transportation System



Achieve Economic Vitality Through a Collaborative & Focused Transportation System



Preserve & Enhance Sustainable Environmental Resources

DIRECT SERVICE PROGRAMS



Keep your home safe and comfortable with free weatherization and home repair services.

WEATHERIZATION



Rethink your ride and find a smarter way to commute to work.

GOHIO



Know when air pollution levels are unsafe and how to protect you and your loved ones' health.

AIR QUALITY ALERTS

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND ENGAGEMENT

MORPC is committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive, and equitable environment for everyone in Central Ohio.

Areas of Focus



Workforce & Leadership



Supplier Diversity & Procurement



Workplace



Service to Diverse Populations



Diversity Requirements



Diversity in Communications

PROSPERITY FORECAST FOR 2050

**300,000
MORE JOBS**



**300,000
HOUSING UNITS**



**3.15 Million
PEOPLE BY 2050**



COLLABORATIVE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

This collaborative agenda details policy that makes Central Ohio a better place for all of its residents and actions that address racism and eliminate disparities.

REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA

This framework for communities and regional partners promotes a sustainable and equitable region with programs and collaboration.

REGIONAL DATA AGENDA

This guiding document elevates regional collaborative work in data, analytics, mapping, and digital infrastructure.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

For the Central Ohio Economic Development District

- ✓ Partner extensively to create the most prosperous region in the country
- ✓ Strategically plan for response and recovery to economic shocks
- ✓ Prepare the region for growth and opportunities
- ✓ Attract more federal funding and technical assistance to the region



Competitive
Advantage
Projects



Water & Energy
Resilience



Regional
Innovation

REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

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MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
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Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Executive Committee
Officers and Board Members

FROM: Kerstin Carr
Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Senior Director of Planning

DATE: July 31, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 09-23: **“Adoption of MORPC’s 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda”**

This resolution formally adopts the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC's) 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda. The Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) collaborated to create an action oriented and well-defined agenda leveraging MORPC, RDAC, and working group strengths. It comprises five overarching areas of activity and 15 objectives that advance the interests of MORPC members and other stakeholders in the Central Ohio region.

The Regional Data Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the final 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda at its June 6, 2023 meeting.

The 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda serves as a framework for MORPC staff, RDAC, and working groups to guide future data-related projects and initiatives. The Regional Data Agenda identifies the actions best suited to achieve specific regionally impactful objectives over the next few years.

The RDAC agreed to a three-year timeframe for the Regional Data Agenda to ensure that the aims and objectives remain relevant, while still allowing enough time to realize measurable outcomes. Prioritization of work within the existing agenda will be reviewed and updated on a continual basis; however, at the end of the three-year timeframe, the full agenda will be reviewed, edited, and re-written as necessary.

Attachment: Resolution 09-23

RESOLUTION 09-23

“Adoption of MORPC's 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda”

WHEREAS, members of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Board and the Regional Data Advisory Committee collaborated to create a robust and well-defined 2021-2022 Regional Data Agenda; and

WHEREAS, the 2021-2022 Regional Data Agenda was adopted by MORPC Members on May 9, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Data Agenda was in need of update and revision to support MORPC's ongoing vision of a diverse community of local governments and stakeholders collaborating on data-related practices, opportunities, and tools to support regional growth and vitality in the Central Ohio region; and

WHEREAS, the 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda now provides a framework for the goals and objectives that guide MORPC's Regional Data Advisory Committee, working groups, members, and staff; and

WHEREAS, Action Item 1 is “Foster value-added interactions among local governments and other stakeholders to enhance the use of data through robust sharing of best practices, analytics, and research in support of improved data-driven decision making in our region”; and

WHEREAS, Action Item 2 is “Educate & Inspire: Provide and champion learning opportunities to increase technical capacity and appropriate leveraging of data; catalyzing local governments and other stakeholders to adopt improved methods in support of better-informed decision making in our region”; and

WHEREAS, Action Item 3 is “Scale & Support: Help empower local governments and other stakeholders to incubate and fund data-related pilot projects and develop talent, while ensuring existing efforts are sustainably supported in our ever-changing regional landscape”; and

WHEREAS, Action Item 4 is “Expand & Include: Identify barriers and provide solutions to improve inclusive and equitable data access across our region”; and

WHEREAS, Action Item 5 is “Secure & Protect: Promote renewed focus on the security and resilience of systems and data through best practices and policy reviews with local governments and other stakeholders in the region”; and

WHEREAS, MORPC is committed to furthering data initiatives that contribute to the overall health, quality of life and economic prosperity of the region; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That it supports and adopts the 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda.

Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 3. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Erik J. Janas, Chair

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: August 10, 2023

Submitted by: Kerstin Carr, Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Senior Director of Planning

Prepared by: Dave Dixon, Director of Data Analytics & Strategy

Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21

For action date: August 10, 2023

Attachment: 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda

2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda

(1) CONVENE & COLLABORATE

Foster value-added interactions among local governments and other stakeholders to enhance the use of data through robust sharing of best practices, analytics, and research in support of improved data-driven decision making in our region.

Partner Regionally: Create partnerships and collaboration among local governments and other stakeholders to leverage resources and expertise for data-related projects and initiatives.

Share Information: Engage local governments and other stakeholders to develop data-sharing agreements to improve decision-making. Develop and implement data models to support this objective and operationalize analyses that generate insights from the data.

Engage the Community: Increase the number and scope of MORPC member, private sector and community organization participants in the Regional Data & Information Users Group (RIDG), Central Ohio GIS Users Group (COGUG), and annual Data Day event.

(2) EDUCATE & INSPIRE

Provide and champion learning opportunities to increase technical capacity and appropriate leveraging of data; catalyzing local governments and other stakeholders to adopt improved methods in support of better-informed decision making in our region.

Address Bias: Lead the regional conversation on data bias and model bias to improve the use and future development of data and models to empower decision makers in local government and other stakeholders to better serve diverse communities.

Explore & Leverage AI: Develop example artificial intelligence (AI) policies, use cases, and methods for improving employee productivity and service delivery, while aiming to mitigate misinformation and avoid other unintended consequences. Engage the community on appropriate uses of AI to ensure both accuracy and fit of purpose.

Inspire Novel Analytics: Showcase data analytics applications for public service by featuring successful implementations to help local governments and other stakeholders toward realizing improved outcomes.

(3) SCALE & SUPPORT

Help empower local governments and other stakeholders to incubate and fund data-related pilot projects and develop talent, while ensuring existing efforts are sustainably supported in our ever-changing regional landscape.

Track Job Quality & Equity: Support a holistic approach to how the region captures and evaluates job quality data and equity gaps in the workforce system, empowering local governments and workforce boards to pursue coordinated strategies toward better employment outcomes.

Support Pilots: Assist local governments and K-12 schools in securing sustainable funding sources and planning pilot programs or other new data-centric initiatives focused on the critical policy areas of workforce development, education, transportation and housing.

Evaluate & Learn from Pilots: Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of data-related pilots, and use this feedback to continually improve and refine strategies and approaches. Share lessons learned and success stories to aide in replicating success.

(4) EXPAND & INCLUDE

Identify barriers and provide solutions to improve inclusive and equitable data access across our region.

Identify Data Needs: Document and prioritize unmet data-related needs of local governments and other stakeholders to enhance data equity and access.

Partner on Digital Equity: Work with local governments and other stakeholders to develop and host digital equity-centered workshops, and connect individuals to data policy resources which will help Central Ohio to be at the forefront of digital equity and related data governance practices.

Improve Access to MORPC Data: Support decision makers in local government and other stakeholders through more convenient access to publicly available data sets and related documentation, such as methods, reports, and community-level insights.

(5) SECURE & PROTECT

Promote renewed focus on the security and resilience of systems and data through best practices and policy reviews with local governments and other stakeholders in the region.

Build Cybersecurity Capacity: Establish a Regional Data Advisory Committee cybersecurity working group, focused on advising local municipalities cybersecurity matters of elevated importance within the civic sector.

Partner on Cybersecurity: Work with local governments and other stakeholders to assess the feasibility and utility of facilitating local government and community organization cybersecurity self-assessments, aimed at advancing security improvements.

Assess Shared Savings Opportunities: Explore potential MORPC member organization cost savings through joint purchasing or shared cybersecurity services with the aim of lowering the cost burden and/or enabling existing funding for services to afford additional protections.



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Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director, Interim Senior Director of Programming

DATE: July 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolutions
T-9-23: **“AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY FOR TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM”**

T-10-23: **“RECOGNIZING THE PROPOSED APPORTIONMENT OF SALES TAX REVENUES COLLECTED BY THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY AS IT RELATES TO THE LINKUS TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FUNDING”**

Launched in 2020, the LinkUS initiative is a collaboration between COTA, the City of Columbus, Franklin County, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), (together, the LinkUS Partners) to implement high capacity, rapid transit and to expand integrated mobility solutions across Central Ohio. The LinkUS initiative is advancing several strategies included in the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The MTP strategies LinkUS will contribute to include:

- TRAN 3: Implement high capacity transit service along additional corridors
- TRAN 6: Make neighborhoods transit supportive through infrastructure projects
- BP 7: Ensure neighborhoods and employment locations have high comfort connections for pedestrians and bicyclists to the regional pedestrian, bicycle and transit networks

Much work has been completed over the last three years including a LinkUS Framework (2020), LinkUS State of Mobility report (2021), LinkUS Community Action Plan (2022), and significant project development work on the initial three high-capacity transit corridors. Overall, LinkUS is an \$8 billion mobility and development initiative for Central Ohio’s growing future. More information is available at www.linkuscolumbus.com.

A component of the LinkUS initiative is to increase access to transit through transit supportive infrastructure (TSI). TSI can be described as facilities that improve access to transit such as

pedestrian, bicyclist, and other safety and accessibility enhancements. Legislative amendments in 2022 to the Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 306.354 provide for MORPC to oversee and administer a TSI Program including the Policies, the development of a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and Capital Improvement Budget (CIB).

MORPC in partnership with COTA has been leading meetings and workshops over the past year with jurisdictions throughout the COTA service area to develop the structure and process for the TSI program. The work has progressed to the point that MORPC and COTA are ready to formally set up the TSI program per the ORC and have developed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) detailing the roles and responsibilities of each organization in the TSI program administration. Resolution T-9-23 will allow MORPC to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with COTA to administer the TSI Program. COTA approved entering into the IGA at their July board meeting.

The LinkUS Partners have also worked to develop a financial plan for the LinkUS initiative. This plan includes COTA going to the voters in November 2024 to increase its sales tax from the current 0.5% to 1%. The financial plan also established apportionment shares of any future revenues from the proposed sales tax increase for each aspect of the LinkUS initiative. The proportion of the sales tax increase to go towards the TSI program is 27.5%. T-10-23 authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with COTA recognizing the 27.5% proportion the LinkUS Partners have established for the TSI program.

Attachment: Resolutions T-9-23 and T-10-23



RESOLUTION T-9-23

“AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY FOR TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM”

WHEREAS, the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) establishes a set of regional transportation goals and objectives, and recommends strategies, including projects, that will maintain, manage, and develop Central Ohio's transportation system through 2050; and

WHEREAS, specific strategies in the MTP include: Implement high capacity transit service along additional corridors; make neighborhoods transit supportive through infrastructure projects; ensure neighborhoods and employment locations have high comfort connections for pedestrians and bicyclists to the regional pedestrian, bicycle and transit networks; and

WHEREAS, the LinkUS initiative is a collaboration between the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), the City of Columbus, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and Franklin County (together, the LinkUS Partners) to implement high capacity, rapid transit and expand integrated mobility solutions across Central Ohio; and

WHEREAS, a subset of the LinkUS initiative is to improve transit service and to increase access to transit through transit supportive infrastructure (TSI), which COTA is enabled to fund pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 306.354; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 306.354 enables MORPC to administer the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program for COTA within the COTA service boundary; and

WHEREAS, COTA and MORPC have agreed as part of the LinkUS Program to implement a TSI program as outlined in the attached Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for purposes of connecting the Central Ohio community to the existing and future expanded transit system; and

WHEREAS, as outlined in the IGA, MORPC administration of the program will include the TSI Policy including TSI committees, guidelines and evaluation of projects, development of TSI Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and TSI Capital Improvement Budget (CIB); and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its July 31, 2023 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its August 2, 2023 meeting recommended approval to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Section 1. That it supports the continued collaboration between the LinkUS Partners to develop and implement the LinkUS initiative to improve multimodal transportation and economic opportunity throughout Central Ohio.
- Section 2. That it authorizes the Executive Director to enter into the Intergovernmental Agreement attached between the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and the Central Ohio Transit Authority for the administration of the LinkUS Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program.
- Section 3. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he

shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 4. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Erik J. Janas, Chair

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date:	August 10, 2023
Submitted by:	Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director, Interim Senior Director of Programing
Prepared by:	John Gardocki, Transit & Mobility Manager, Programing
Authority:	Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date:	August 10, 2023
Attachment:	TSI Intergovernmental Agreement

MASTER TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY AND MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (**COTA**) and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (**MORPC**) agree to this Master Transit Supportive Infrastructure Agreement (the **Agreement**) as of August 10, 2023.

BACKGROUND

A. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission will develop a transit supportive infrastructure program (the **Program**) under the LinkUS Initiative Action Plan in partnership with COTA.

B. Under the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program, COTA will provide funds from the new sales tax initiative to fund the program.

C. MORPC serves as the program administrator for the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program as defined by Ohio Revised Code Section 306.354.

D. In consideration of the mutual obligations and duties described in this Agreement, COTA and MORPC agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

Section 1. Definitions.

In addition to the terms defined elsewhere in the body of this Agreement, capitalized terms used in this Agreement where the rules of grammar would not otherwise require capitalization are defined in the attached **Exhibit A**.

Section 2. Term.

The Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program's first term shall commence August 10, 2023 (the **Commencement Date**) and shall end, when terminated by both parties (the **Termination Date**).

This Agreement shall be effective from its date through and including the Termination Date.

Section 3. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Funding.

(a) *COTA Sales Tax*. The Central Ohio Transit Authority Board of Trustees will be

asking voters to approve a new funding solution to pay for transit resources within their service area boundary at a date to be determined. Current 0.25% permanent and 0.25% ten-year renewal sales tax receipts fund COTA operations. A new request to COTA service area voters would make a full 1.0% sales tax collection permanent. COTA will provide funding for the Transit Supportive Infrastructure program based on revenue received from the new increased levy, if passed.

(b) *Additional Funding Sources.* Eligible entities for program funding will/may utilize other local, state, private, or federal resources to fund their projects above and beyond Transit Supportive Infrastructure funding.

Section 4. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Administration Costs.

The annual administrative costs of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program are hereby determined to be:

2023 - \$0

2024 - \$100,000

2025 - \$200,000

2026 and subsequent years administrative costs will be subjected to a 3.0% annual increase in rate.

The discounted rate for 2023 and 2024 reflects the limited amount of work due to the sales tax increase not going before COTA service area voters.

COTA will be expending a portion of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure funding for transit authority TSI administration and auditing purposes.

If COTA's service area changes during the term of this agreement, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith the Transit Supportive Infrastructure program administrative costs.

Section 5. Payment of Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Administrative Costs.

MORPC shall bill installments of the cost of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program administrative costs to COTA January 1 of each year beginning in 2024 (each a Bill Date). COTA shall remit payment by February 1.

COTA shall utilize local match for administrative costs in 2024. Subsequent bills from MORPC to COTA will only be sent if the COTA Sales Tax Levy passes in the November 2024 General Election. This agreement will automatically terminate if the COTA sales tax ballot initiative or any part of the ballot initiative related to Transit Supportive Infrastructure fails or is subsequently removed and/or terminated unless COTA and MORPC mutually agree in

writing to continue the agreement.

Section 6. COTA Service Plan.

COTA will provide a service plan to be utilized by the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Committees to plan the five-year capital improvement plan. The COTA Short Range Transit Plan (**SRTP**) will be provided to the Committees every two years as COTA updates it to be used in the merit criteria for project selection. Exhibit C of the agreement shall include a map of the COTA service area, fixed route system, and the most current SRTP.

Section 7. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Committees.

The Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program will be made up of governing bodies including a Leadership Committee (**LC**), Technical Working Groups (**TWG**), and a Technical Coordinating Committee (**TCC**) to carry out various duties as assigned.

The COTA Board will approve the committee structure guidelines as set forth in Exhibit B. If municipalities outside of COTA's current service area join the COTA service area and subsequent sales tax zone, COTA shall determine how to incorporate them into the Transit Supportive Infrastructure committee structure if at all.

Section 8. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Definition and Guidelines.

The definition and project eligibility guidelines for the program will be decided on by the LinkUS partners and Transit Supportive Infrastructure entities through a collaborative approach. The document shall be included as Exhibit D and updated at least every four years alongside the development of the CIB and CIP.

Should there be a discrepancy about project appropriateness to meet the definition, the ultimate approval shall be up to the COTA.

Section 9. Capital Improvement Plan and Capital Improvement Budget.

A Capital Improvement Plan (**CIP**) and Capital Improvement Budget (**CIB**) shall be maintained by MORPC administrative staff dedicated to the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program.

Section 10. COTA Staff Responsibilities.

COTA shall provide a main point of contact to coordinate administrative efforts

between MORPC and the COTA Board of Trustees.

COTA roles include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Federal compliance with the FTA and FHWA
- Financial structure to coordinate grants/reimbursements
- Compiling grant agreements with each subrecipient
- Providing COTA service area maps and the Short-Range Transit Plan for development to the MORPC liaison
- Subrecipient compliance
- COTA Board coordination
- Participation in all Transit Supportive Infrastructure committees and administrative functions
- Submit annual sales tax revenue collections for development of the CIB

Section 11. MORPC Staff Responsibilities.

MORPC is responsible for overseeing the administration of the program.

MORPC roles include but are not limited to the following:

- Coordination with COTA Transit Supportive Infrastructure liaison
- Administering and overseeing the Transit Supportive Infrastructure program
- Convening all Transit Supportive Infrastructure committees
- Guiding the committees to recommend Transit Supportive Infrastructure policies/guidelines
- Developing and maintaining the CIB and CIP
- Developing the data and evaluation criteria for project selection

MORPC commits to one (1) full-time staff member to administer the program as well as additional staff support from the Programming, Data & Mapping, and Communications & Engagement teams.

Section 12. COTA Board of Trustees Responsibilities.

The COTA Board is responsible for approving the policies and guidelines, the CIP, and the CIB. COTA staff will negotiate individual contracts granting municipalities the funds to implement Transit Supportive Infrastructure projects. The COTA Board will have the power to approve or decline the individual contracts granting municipalities the funds to implement Transit Supportive Infrastructure projects.

Section 13. MORPC Transportation Policy Committee Responsibilities.

The Transportation Policy Committee will review and incorporate the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program into the metropolitan transportation planning process and associated documents, specifically, the Transportation Improvement Program, as appropriate.

[Signature Page Immediately Follows]

THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

By: _____

Name: Joanna M. Pinkerton

Title: President/ CEO

THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

By: _____

Name: William Murdock

Title: Executive Director

[Signature Page to Master Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Agreement]

EXHIBIT A

Definitions

- A. **COTA** means, Central Ohio Transit Authority
- B. **MORPC** means, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- C. **Agreement** means memorandum of understanding between COTA and MORPC for the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program
- D. **Program** means the agreed upon policies, structure, and guidelines for transit supportive infrastructure
- E. **Commencement Date** means the official start date of the agreement between COTA and MORPC
- F. **Termination Date** means the date COTA and MORPC agree to terminate the agreement together.
- G. **Fund** Those funds provided by COTA, and any other entity for Transit Supportive Infrastructure to MORPC for the purposes listed in this Agreement.
- H. **Bill Date** means the annual date MORPC will bill COTA for administrative costs
- I. **SRTP** means the COTA Short Range Transit Plan
- J. **LC** means the Leadership Committee
- K. **TWG** means the Technical Working Group
- L. **TCC** means the Technical Coordinating Committee
- M. **CIP** means the Capital Improvement Plan
- N. **CIB** means the Capital Improvement Budget
- O. **Notice Address** means:

As to COTA:

Central Ohio Transit Authority
33 North High Street Columbus, Ohio
43215
Attn: Joanna M. Pinkerton

As to MORPC:

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Attn: William Murdock

EXHIBIT B**COTA Transit Service Area Map****EXHIBIT C****COTA Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP)****EXHIBIT D****Ohio Revised Code**

HB 338 of the 134th General Assembly

(C) A regional transit authority to which this section applies may do any of the following:

(2) Use the proceeds of a tax levied under section 5739.023 of the Revised Code for the general construction or maintenance of roads, bridges, greenways, pathways, bikeways, or pedestrian underpasses or overpasses related to the provision of service by the regional transit authority that do not otherwise constitute a transit facility;

(D) Prior to funding projects described in division (C)(2) of this section, a regional transit authority shall enter into agreements with the applicable counties, municipal corporations, and townships located within the regional transit authority's territorial boundaries to fund such projects.

(1) The regional transit authority shall submit each agreement for approval to the governing board of the applicable designated metropolitan planning organization.

(2) The metropolitan planning organization shall, on at least an annual basis, review and approve or deny any agreement submitted to it by an affirmative vote of its governing board and shall notify the regional transit authority of the approval or denial.

(3) The regional transit authority shall expend funds only as authorized in an approved agreement

RESOLUTION T-10-23

“RECOGNIZING THE PROPOSED APPORTIONMENT OF SALES TAX REVENUES COLLECTED BY THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY AS IT RELATES TO THE LINKUS TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FUNDING”

WHEREAS, the LinkUS initiative is a collaboration between the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), the City of Columbus, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and Franklin County (together, the LinkUS Partners) to implement high capacity, rapid transit and expand integrated mobility solutions across Central Ohio; and

WHEREAS, a subset of the LinkUS initiative is to improve transit service and to increase access to transit through transit supportive infrastructure (TSI); and

WHEREAS, Section 306.30 to 306.50 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) vests the COTA Board of Trustees with the power to oversee COTA, including service planning, financial management and to levy and collect sales tax revenue within its service boundary, which is currently levied at a combined 0.5% rate; and

WHEREAS, the LinkUS initiative is expected to be funded, in part, by a sales tax increase at a rate to be finalized and approved by electors within the COTA service area; and

WHEREAS, any tax increase proposed by the COTA Board of Trustees must be approved by electors within the transit service boundary pursuant to Section 306.70 of the ORC; and

WHEREAS, ORC Section 306.354 allows for sales tax revenue to be use for transit supportive infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, T-9-23 authorizes MORPC to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with COTA to administer the TSI program which helps move forward specific transit, bike, and pedestrian related strategies included in the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the LinkUS Partners, in creating the financial plan for the LinkUS initiative, established apportionment shares of any future revenues from the proposed sales tax increase for each aspect of the LinkUS initiative, including 27.5% of the increased sales tax for the TSI Program; and

WHEREAS, MORPC and COTA have created a Memorandum of Understanding (attached) documenting the 27.5% proportion of an increased sales tax to the LinkUS TSI program; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its July 31, 2023 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its August 2, 2023 meeting recommended approval to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION PLOICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Section 1. That it supports the continued collaboration between the LinkUS Partners to develop and implement the LinkUS initiative to improve multimodal transportation and economic opportunity throughout Central Ohio
- Section 2. That it authorizes the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding establishing 27.5% of the collections from the proposed sales tax increase to be dedicated to the LinkUS TSI Program in consideration of MORPC's administration of the LinkUS TSI Program.

Section 3. That this set proportion remains in effect for the duration of the program unless modified in scope, amount, or time as agreed upon by the LinkUS Partners and approved by the COTA Board of Trustees and the MORPC Commission.

Section 4. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Erik Janas, Chair

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: August 10, 2023

Submitted by: Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director, Interim Senior Director of Programing

Prepared by: John Gardocki, Transit & Mobility Manager, Programing

Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21

For action date: August 10, 2023

Attachment: Memorandum of Understanding

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA) AND MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MORPC)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) represents a mutual understanding and continuing partnership to financially support the Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) program as part of the overall LinkUS initiative (LinkUS).

1.0 PARTIES

This understanding is between MORPC and COTA, which individually may be referred to as a “Party” or collectively as “Parties” to this MOU.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

- 2.1** LinkUS is a collaboration between MORPC, COTA, the City of Columbus, and Franklin County (together, the LinkUS Partners) to implement high capacity, rapid transit and expand integrated mobility solutions across Central Ohio. A subset of the LinkUS initiative is to improve transit service and to increase access to transit through transit supportive infrastructure (TSI), which COTA is enabled to fund pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 306.354.
- 2.2** MORPC serves as the program administrator for the TSI Program as defined by ORC Section 306.354. The terms and conditions governing the administration of the program are executed in a separate master service agreement between MORPC and COTA.
- 2.3** LinkUS is expected to be funded, in part, by a sales tax increase at a rate to be finalized and approved by electors within the COTA service area. ORC Section 306.35(H) enables COTA to levy and collect sales tax revenue within its service boundary, which is currently levied at a combined 0.5% rate. Any tax increase proposed by the COTA Board of Trustees must be approved by electors within the transit service boundary pursuant to Section 306.70 of the ORC.
- 2.4** The LinkUS Partners, in creating the financial plan for LinkUS, established apportionment shares of any future revenues from the proposed sales tax increase for each program in the LinkUS initiative. The TSI Program was planned to be funded through allocating 27.5% of the sales tax increase above the current rate from the 2024 approval of the 0.5% levy increase.

3.0 SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

- 3.1** COTA will be paying MORPC administration costs as spelled out in the IGA. COTA will be expending funds in the administration of the TSI program. Both sets of costs will come out of the 27.5% of the additional 0.5% sales tax revenue collections, if approved by voters in the 2024 election.
- 3.2** COTA will allocate the remaining portion of the 27.5% of the additional 0.5% sales tax revenue collections, if approved by voters in the 2024 election, to the TSI Program. This does not apply to the prior 0.25% permanent sales tax or the prior 0.25% temporary sales tax that is being made permanent.
- 3.3** Through this MOU, MORPC acknowledges and supports the establishment of the TSI Program and that this portion of the 27.5% of the additional sales tax revenue will be allocated to the TSI Program.

4.0 TERMS OF MEMORANDUM

- 4.1** This MOU shall commence upon execution by all parties, but funds shall not be allocated unless and until the 2024 approval of the 0.5% levy increase.
- 4.2** This MOU shall automatically terminate if part or all of the COTA levy measure is changed, amended, or overturned by the Board of Elections, the Ohio Secretary of State, any Court, or any other governmental entity with the ability to do so, including, but not limited to the state legislature.

- 4.3** This MOU shall automatically terminate if state law changes in any way that may directly impact COTA's ability to fund or operate the TSI program.
- 4.4** This MOU shall be construed and interpreted and the rights of the parties determined in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio.
- 4.5** This MOU constitutes the entire agreement among the parties, and no changes or modifications to this MOU shall be made unless agreed to by all parties to this MOU in writing. Specifically, any changes to the 27.5% allocation referenced in Section 2.4 must also be approved by the COTA Board of Trustees and MORPC Commission.
- 4.6** This MOU may be amended by a separate writing signed by all of the parties. Each amendment shall be incorporated as if fully rewritten into this agreement.

5.0 AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES AND DATES

 Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
 William Murdock
 Executive Director

 Central Ohio Transit Authority
 Joanna M. Pinkerton
 President/CEO

Date: _____

Date: _____



2024-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Plan Development Status Update - August 2023

Development of the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Columbus Urbanized Area is underway. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is the long-range planning document that identifies transportation priorities, strategies, and projects over the next two decades. It is updated on a four-year cycle. We coordinate the development of the MTP with communities throughout Central Ohio and with other local, state, and federal agencies.

The MTP makes the greater Columbus region eligible to receive a large amount of federal transportation funding to improve, maintain, and operate public transit, highways, bikeways, sidewalks, and related facilities. Transportation projects must be included in the MTP to be eligible to receive federal funding.

The following is a summary of the components that make up the MTP, and a status update for each item. Additional information can be found at www.morpc.org/mtp

Goals & Objectives

The MTP is developed based on a set of regional goals. The goals guide the development of the MTP and give direction to investments in the regional transportation system and were updated for the 2024-2050 version of the plan. For each of these goals, measurable objectives are developed, that are intended to track regional progress toward advancing the MTP goals, and for developing criteria for evaluating strategies and projects to be included in the MTP. The regional goals were adopted by the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and Transportation Policy Committee during their November 2022 meetings, and corresponding objectives were adopted by these committees in February 2023 following a public comment period.

Population & Employment Forecasts

In February 2023 MORPC published county-level population and employment projections for 2050 for 15 central Ohio counties. This was the result of months of research and analyses that included data modeling, studying historical trends, and consulting with industry experts. Based on this research and analysis, the region is expected to have a population of 3.15 million people, 1.2 million households, and 1.6 million jobs by 2050. County by county information can be viewed on the population resource hub on the MORPC website.

For the ten counties that are located within the MORPC, LCATS, or CORPO transportation planning areas, MORPC has a process in place to distribute the forecasted population and employment in each county to smaller geographies called Traffic Analysis Zones or (TAZs).



2024-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

This process starts by establishing base year (2021) estimates of population and employment based on parcel level land use review, decennial Census data, building permit data, and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data. Additionally, local future land use policies and plans are reviewed to identify where local communities are focusing growth and development. The county-level control totals for households and jobs are then distributed to TAZ's according to the local policies and plans as well as other factors that attract or deter development such as environmental constraints and known transportation and development projects of regional impact. The draft TAZ-level forecasts are then made available for review by local planners.

The local review process ended on June 30, 2023. The MORPC team incorporated the comments and have developed a draft TAZ-level household and employment forecast. The TAZ-level forecasts will be presented to CAC, TAC, and Transportation Policy committee for adoption in September.

The TAZ-level household, population, and employment information, both existing and forecast, will be used to further identify transportation needs and evaluate transportation projects for inclusion in the MTP.

Strategy Development and Candidate Projects

The primary component of the MTP is the set of strategies and priority projects. Strategies are the action items that will move the region forward in advancing the established goals and guide transportation investments. The strategies identified in the MTP are intended to be fulfilled by MORPC and other regional and local planning partners. Strategies will be developed that will help the advance the region toward the targets set for each of the performance measures. These typically include strategies for managing the existing transportation system, strategies for developing or expanding the transportation system, and strategies that may not address the transportation system directly, but related infrastructure or facilities that impact the transportation system.

A subset of the transportation system management and development strategies are the priority transportation projects that will manage or expand the transportation system. These projects are identified through a review of state, regional, and local plans and activities. Projects that have already been identified through a planning process are considered as candidates for inclusion the MTP. Additionally, the public is invited to submit project suggestions, or identify locations where there are safety, connectivity, or access concerns and a project should be considered for inclusion in the MTP.



2024-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A candidate project webmap is now available for public review and comment at <https://www.morpc.org/2024-2050-metropolitan-transportation-plan/>. The map allows users to publicly comment on candidate projects and make project suggestions. The map will be available through September 8, 2023 at 5:00 PM. Information collected via the webmap will be incorporated into the project evaluation process.

Project Evaluation

Not all the candidate projects can be included in the MTP due to the fiscal constraint requirement. To prioritize the projects that will best help the region advance the established goals, quantitative and qualitative evaluation criteria are developed and utilized. The project evaluation criteria are directly related to the goals, objectives and performance measures and are applied to each candidate project being considered for inclusion in the MTP. By applying these criteria, each project can be evaluated based on its ability to help the region meet its adopted goals, objectives and targets. It will also be a tool in prioritizing projects in the fiscally constrained MTP.

The evaluation score resulting from this process is just one piece of information used to determine the projects to be included in the MTP. The projects to be included in the MTP will be shaped by member and public input. This fall, the initial list of projects proposed to be included will be shared with members and the public for comments.

Fiscal Constraint

The MTP is required by USDOT to be fiscally constrained. This means that the projects included in the MTP must be financially feasible based on project cost estimates and a regional revenue forecast. To ensure fiscal balance of the plan, cost estimates are developed for each candidate project, and adjustments are made for inflation. A revenue forecast is also developed to estimate how much funding will be available to the region for transportation projects through 2050. Public investments are assumed at the federal, state, and local levels, and private sector investments are also considered. These revenue sources are assumed to be no less than current levels of investment and grow incrementally through 2050.

The financial forecast for the 2024-2050 MTP is currently underway and is one tool that is used to determine which candidate projects get included in the MTP.



2024-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Community Engagement and MTP Adoption

Beginning in the late fall 2023, upon publishing the draft list of strategies and priority projects, MORPC team members plan to visit each MPO community to share the proposed projects and provide an opportunity to discuss the local projects included in each community.

Concurrently, a complete MTP document will be drafted, including technical appendices, and be made available for public review and comment in early Spring.

Feedback received from local communities and the public will be incorporated as appropriate and the final 2024-2050 MTP will be presented to CAC, TAC, and Transportation Policy Committee for adoption in May 2024.



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 8, 2023
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

Chris Amorose Groomes	Dave Gulden	Bonnie Michael
Karen Angelou	Matt Huffman	Erin Prosser
Kristen Atha	Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Bernita Reese
Lee Bodnar	Erik Janas	Cornell Robertson
Ron Bullard	James Jewell	Jim Schimmer
Ben Collins	Ben Kessler	Kimberly Sharp
Tina Cottone	Bill LaFayette	Chloe Siens-Núñez
Michelle Crandall	Greg Lestini	Thom Slack
Christina Drummond	Glenn Marzluf	Robyn Stewart
Brad Ebersole	Rory McGuiness	Christie Ward
Jennifer Fening	Rozland McKee	Tim Wilson
Jennifer Gallagher	Eric Meyer	

Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

LaGrieta Acheampong	Laurie Jadwin	Lauren Rummel
Karl Craven	Emily Keeler	Alana Shockey
Chris Harkness	Steve Mazer	Brandon Standley
Tom Homan	Eric Richter	Joe Stefanov
Christine Houk	Ryan Rivers	Michael Watson

Commission Members Present in Person

Joe Antram	Jamie Brucker
Stephanie Bosco	Franklin Christman

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Sam Filkins	Kerr Murray	Jim Stanley
Jeff Hall	Bill Narducci	RC Wise
Mark Johns	Eric Phillips	
Mark Mauter	Nick Shultz	

Associate Members Attending Remotely

Kristin Sutton

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Kerstin Carr	Anthony Perry	Cory Tressler
Dave Dixon	Kyle Probert	Mara Villaseca
Shawn Hufstedler	Melissa Rapp	Brandi Whetstone
Eileen Leuby	Shari Saunders	Robert Williams
Kelsey Matson	Maria Schaper	
William Murdock	Luka Srsic	

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Brian Filiatraut	John Gardocki	Ralonda Hampton
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Guests Present in Person

Elijah Bulluck, City of Columbus	Skyler Goody, Village of Ashville
Mackayla Culbertson, City of Lancaster	Luke Hutchinson, Village of Somerset

Ethan Koch, Licking SWCD
Alexis Pasenen, City of Lancaster
Josie Silver, City of Grove City

Allex Smith, City of Reynoldsburg
Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Grace Walker, Morrow County

Guests Attending Remotely

Rut Bansal, City of Gahanna
Kaelyn Covington, Fairfield County Workforce Center
Kaleif Covington, Fairfield County
Drake Cromes, City of Gahanna
Cameron Das, Village of Plain City
Reagan Dewey, City of Columbus
Drishya Dhital, COTA
Janelle Emmett, Village of Buckeye Lake
Ethan Fischer, Licking County Planning
Taylor Franco, City of Whitehall
Myra Garrison, City of Columbus
Anna Goulson, City of Columbus
Hayden Hostetler, City of Hilliard

Mack Ito, City of Lancaster
Paritosh Jambhale, City of Westerville
Maria Klocke, Madison County
Andrew Lineweaver, City of Hilliard
Marie Meeks, City of Hilliard
Elizabeth Mehnert, City of Gahanna
Brynn Patterson, FCC Boyce
Julia Rizzo
Jeremy Staigl, City of Columbus
Madison Strauss, Village of Somerset
Isabelle Trinh, Fairfield County
Kjersti Wendlandt, City of Grove City
Stephen Yankyera, Licking County Planning
Linghao Zhang, City of Columbus

Meeting Called to Order – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair

Chair Erik Janas called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Organization(MPO) Report

- **Programming – Maria Schaper, Associate Director of Transportation & Interim Economic Development Officer**

Maria Schaper presented the [Metropolitan Planning Organization Report](#). Ms. Schaper gave an update on the Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) which is a subset of the LinkUS program. The June 9 workshop focuses on identifying parameters to build the program. TSI Committees will begin meeting later this summer. The next round of regional engagement begins this month.

The 2023 ODOT Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) commits ODOT funding for major new capacity program projects. MPOs and RTPs provide local project prioritization recommendations to ODOT. MORPC is submitting ten projects for the MPO and one project for CORPO. The public comment period for the recommendations is open June 28-August 11. The recommendations will be presented to the Transportation Policy Committee for approval at the September meeting.

Gohio Mobility connects older adults and those with disabilities with transportation needs. The new website launched June 1 and is a resource to understand what resources are available.

2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update – Maria Schaper, Associate Director of Transportation & Interim Economic Development Officer

Maria Schaper presented the [2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update](#). Ms. Schaper reviewed what the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is and why it is important. Ms. Schaper encouraged members to review the 2050 population and employment forecasts going out this week to local technical staff. Feedback is due June 23. The information is used for the regional plan and other planning activities throughout the region. The more feedback, the better output.

The public web map showing candidate projects for inclusion in the MTP is being released June 16. Members are encouraged to review and comment directly on the map. The map is available at www.morpc.org/mtp2050.

Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda

Bill LaFayette made a motion to accept the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Rozland McKee; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Michelle Crandall, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

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TTY. 1.800.750.0750
info@morpc.org

Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director and Interim Senior
Director of Programming

DATE: July 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-8-23: **"AMENDING THE SFY 2024
PLANNING WORK PROGRAM"**

Resolution T-8-23 amends the SFY 2024 Planning Work Program (PWP) to add a new work element and remove a work element.

Resolution T-8-23 will add a new work element, Mobility Management ODOT Regional Supplemental 2023 (67433-3000), to the PWP to support Region 6 Human Service Transportation Coordination Mobility Management. MORPC holds the Regional Mobility Coordinator role for the nine (9) county Central Ohio region. Work element 67433-3000, with a budget of \$300,000 from ODOT, will continue the regional accessibility goals and strategies from the Regional Mobility Plan.

T-8-23 also removes the Paving the Way work Element (66544-0400) from the SFY 2024 PWP. Over the past year, MORPC staff analyzed the effectiveness of the site, interviewed several users, and observed the website's stats to determine its usefulness as a service. Our conclusion is that the separate Paving the Way service is no longer a useful or necessary tool for Central Ohio. After July 31st, users and visitors will be redirected to the State of Ohio's OHGO site.

Attachment: Resolution T-8-23

RESOLUTION T-8-23

"AMENDING THE SFY 2024 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM"

WHEREAS, following review by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), the Transportation Policy Committee accepted the MORPC Planning Work Program (PWP) for Fiscal Year 202 by Resolution T-6-23; and

WHEREAS, ODOT is providing MORPC \$300,000 in funding for our mobility management activities with no match required; and

WHEREAS, a new work element as shown in the attachment has been developed to be added to the SFY 2024 PWP; and

WHEREAS, the SFY 2024 PWP includes Work Element 66544-0400, Paving the Way with a budget of \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, MORPC staff analyzed the effectiveness of the site, interviewed several users, and observed the website's stats to determine its usefulness as a service and concluded that the separate Paving the Way service is no longer a useful or necessary tool for Central Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its July 31, 2023 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its August 2, 2023 meeting recommended approval to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE **MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Section 1. That it hereby amends the SFY 2024 Planning Work Program (PWP) to add the work element as shown in the attachment.
- Section 2. That it hereby amends the SFY 2024 Planning Work Program (PWP) to remove work element 66544-0400, Paving the Way.
- Section 3. That staff is authorized to make such changes to the work elements as are needed to satisfy clarifying comments from the Ohio Department of Transportation and U.S. Department of Transportation, but which do not change the intent of an activity.
- Section 4. That this resolution be forwarded to ODOT and the Federal Highway Administration as evidence of acceptance of this amendment by the Transportation Policy Committee.
- Section 5. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of the committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Erik J. Janas, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Prepared by: Transportation Staff
Attachment: State Fiscal Year 2024 Work Element 67423-3000 Budget Adjustment

Mobility Management ODOT Regional Supplemental 2023

This work element will support mobility management coordinating programs among public, private and human service transportation providers that serve older adults, people with disabilities and individuals with lower incomes. Mobility management will focus on increasing access to service by increasing awareness, coordinating services and addressing barriers to achieve a more efficient transportation system. MORPC maintains the locally developed Coordinated Plan (Regional Mobility Plan) for the MPO and administers the FTA's Section 5310 funding for the Columbus urbanized area. This element specifically refers to the regional work of the Regional Mobility Plan.

MOPRC works with existing mobility managers in the MORPC MPO area, Licking County, the Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) counties, ODOT's Human Service Transportation Coordination Regions (HSTCR) 5 and 6 and ODOT's Office of Transit for a more regional multi-county approach to the Coordinated Plan now called the Regional Mobility Plan. The Regional Mobility Plan is a nine-county partnership of ODOT's HSTC Region 6 including Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Logan, Madison, Pickaway, and Union Counties.

Product: Method	Agency/ies:	Schedule:
Engagement: Work with human service agencies, municipalities, transit agencies, private providers, and the public to address gaps in understanding and awareness of mobility options for older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income populations.	FTA, MORPC, LCATS, COTA, DCT, CORPO in ODOT HSTC Region 6	<i>Progress through June 30, 2024</i>
Increase capacity: Address the gaps and needs identified in the Regional Mobility Plan that impact transportation capacity. Work with current transportation providers and stakeholders to improve coordination and increase capacity	FTA, MORPC, LCATS, COTA, DCT, CORPO in ODOT HSTC Region 6	Progress through June 30, 2024
Information coordination: Facilitate regional collaboration among transit agencies and private transportation providers to develop operational planning for technology that coordinates the transportation system, mode eligibility, and trip arrangement for users.	MORPC, COTA, LCATS, LCT, DCT, PICCA, UCATS, KCT, LFCT	Progress through June 30, 2024
State and local coordination: Convene the Regional Mobility Plan Steering Committee to exchange best practices, provide feedback on urban and rural program progress, to assist in tracking the Regional Mobility Plan Action Plan (Goals and Strategies) providing input.	FTA, MORPC, LCATS, COTA, DCT, CORPO in ODOT HSTC Region 6	Progress through June 30, 2024

Awareness and accessibility: Develop a regional inventory (Gohio Mobility) of accessible transportation options, travel training, scheduling/routing software etc. Track barriers to transportation caused by cost, benefit coverage, geography, language, age, ability, infrastructure and accessibility challenges. Incorporate inclusive transportation in to MORPC's Transportation Demand Management and Active Transportation Plans.	FTA, MORPC, LCATS, COTA, DCT, CORPO in ODOT HSTC Region 6	Progress through June 30, 2024
Training and Professional Development: Develop a skilled team of mobility professionals to tackle the regional goals of the Regional Mobility Plan. Training will include American Public Transit Association (APTA), Ohio Public Transit Association (OPTA), and Easter Seals opportunities among others.	MOPRC	Progress through June 30, 2024

Related Activities:

5310 Designated Recipient-2023 (see 67413-3000)
Transit and Human Services Planning (see 60154-3000)
Transportation Services (Ridesharing) (see 66714-3000)
Mobility Management (see 67423-3000)

Budget

Total Work Element Budget: \$300,000 \$0 FTA \$300,000 ODOT \$0 MORPC
Spent Previous Year(s): \$0
Remaining Work Element Budget: \$300,000



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: June 8, 2023
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Commission Members Present in Person

Chris Amorose Groomes	Brad Ebersole	Rozland McKee
Karen Angelou	Jennifer Fening	Eric Meyer
Joe Antram	Jennifer Gallagher	Bonnie Michael
Kristen Atha	Dave Gulden	Erin Prosser
Lee Bodnar	Matt Huffman	Bernita Reese
Stephanie Bosco	Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Cornell Robertson
Jamie Brucker	Erik Janas	Jim Schimmer
Ron Bullard	James Jewell	Chloe Siens-Núñez
Franklin Christman	Ben Kessler	Robyn Stewart
Ben Collins	Bill LaFayette	Christie Ward
Tina Cottone	Greg Lestini	Tim Wilson
Michelle Crandall	Glenn Marzluf	
Christina Drummond	Rory McGuinness	

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Karl Craven	Emily Keeler	Lauren Rummel
Sam Filkins	Mark Mauter	Alana Shockey
Jeff Hall	Steve Mazer	Nick Shultz
Chris Harkness	Kerr Murray	Brandon Standley
Tom Homan	Bill Narducci	Jim Stanley
Christine Houk	Eric Phillips	Joe Stefanov
Laurie Jadwin	Eric Richter	Michael Watson
Mark Johns	Ryan Rivers	RC Wise

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

Kimberly Sharp	Thom Slack
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Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

LaGrieta Acheampong

Associate Members Attending Remotely

Kristin Sutton

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Kerstin Carr	Anthony Perry	Cory Tressler
Dave Dixon	Kyle Probert	Mara Villaseca
Shawn Hufstedler	Melissa Rapp	Brandi Whetstone
Eileen Leuby	Shari Saunders	Robert Williams
Kelsey Matson	Maria Schaper	
William Murdock	Luka Srsic	

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Brian Filiatraut	John Gardocki	Ralonda Hampton
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Guests Present in Person

Elijah Bulluck, City of Columbus	Skyler Goody, Village of Ashville
Mackayla Culbertson, City of Lancaster	Luke Hutchinson, Village of Somerset

Ethan Koch, Licking SWCD
Alexis Pasenen, City of Lancaster
Josie Silver, City of Grove City

Alex Smith, City of Reynoldsburg
Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Grace Walker, Morrow County

Guests Attending Remotely

Rut Bansal, City of Gahanna
Kaelyn Covington, Fairfield County Workforce Center
Kaleif Covington, Fairfield County
Drake Cromes, City of Gahanna
Cameron Das, Village of Plain City
Reagan Dewey, City of Columbus
Drishya Dhital, COTA
Janelle Emmett, Village of Buckeye Lake
Ethan Fischer, Licking County Planning
Taylor Franco, City of Whitehall
Myra Garrison, City of Columbus
Anna Goulson, City of Columbus
Hayden Hostetler, City of Hilliard

Mack Ito, City of Lancaster
Paritosh Jambhale, City of Westerville
Maria Klocke, Madison County
Andrew Lineweaver, City of Hilliard
Marie Meeks, City of Hilliard
Elizabeth Mehnert, City of Gahanna
Brynn Patterson, FCC Boyce
Julia Rizzo
Jeremy Staigl, City of Columbus
Madison Strauss, Village of Somerset
Isabelle Trinh, Fairfield County
Kjersti Wendlandt, City of Grove City
Stephen Yankyera, Licking County Planning
Linghao Zhang, City of Columbus

Meeting Called to Order – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair

Chair Erik Janas called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Janas recognized and congratulated the following:

- City of Hilliard City Manager and MORPC Secretary Michelle Crandall for an excellent first pitch at the MORPC Night at the Clippers game. Ms. Crandall was also named by Columbus Business First as a Women of Influence.
- Clinton Township Administrator Matt Huffman is retiring in July.
- Founding Dean of Ohio University's George V. Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service Mark Weinberg is transitioning from that role June 30.
- William Murdock, Erin Prosser, Charles Hilman, Mike Stevens & Trudy Bartley for being named to the Columbus Business First Power 100.

Recognition of Guests and New Members – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

Eileen Leuby recognized the summer interns attending (22 remotely and 12 in person). Ms. Leuby welcomed new City of Columbus representatives Bernita Reese, Chloe Siens-Núñez, Erin Prosser, and Jennifer Fening.

Executive Director's Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director

William Murdock reminded members there is no Commission meeting in July.

Mr. Murdock gave a brief air quality update. The air quality experienced this week in the region is the worst it's been in over a decade. MORPC is working closely with the National Weather Service and our monitoring service to stay ahead of it. We issued five air quality alerts in the last week (two for ozone and three for PM2.5). The air quality alert system can get the word out in moments to sensitive groups. Mr. Murdock thanked Sustainability Coordinator Brandi Whetstone and her team for their work this week.

Mr. Murdock announced that MORPC Interim Senior Director of Programming & Transportation Study Director Nick Gill is in Texas celebrating with his daughter and her team after winning the Division 3 Softball World Series.

MORPC is close to announcing the new Chief Mobility Officer. We posted a job position for an Economic Development Director & Regional Innovation Officer.

A few of MORPC's Team attended the National Association of Regional Conferences National Conference in Detroit last week. They came back with notes on what Detroit is doing on the Riverwalk, with their neighborhoods, with housing, and looking at how to use federal funds and work with private sectors.

Maria Schaper will be mentioning LinkUS later. We are bringing a couple resolutions to the Commission in August about this important mass transit and housing initiative. We are working with our partners the City of Columbus, Franklin County, COTA and the suburbs.

Invitations to take part in MORPC's Annual Salary Survey will be sent soon. Over 30 communities participated last year.

Mr. Murdock announced Paving the Way is sunsetting. The program usage is extremely low as other resources such as Google Maps have filled the community need. Team Members will determine who has been using it and notify them later this summer and then work to identify potential tools to better connect community project plans into new and existing systems.

Meetings for the 23 Connect Study project in Delaware are postponed until later in the year due to scheduling issues.

The Smart Lane on 71 project is moving forward. We are looking at downtown Columbus and north for the smart lane. Public meetings, preliminary engineering and other activities are going on.

Thom Slack announced ODOT is hosting public meetings regarding the I-71/SR 36/37 interchange in Delaware next week.

MORPC is working with The Columbus Partnership and other partners on a regional tech hub designation, which could bring \$65 million to the region. MORPC is the lead applicant. The application deadline is August 15.

Mr. Murdock gave an update on MORPC's Residential Services Program. MORPC's weatherization program is funded by Columbia Gas (WarmChoice) and the Ohio Department of Development (home weatherization or HWAP). The WarmChoice service area is all of Franklin County. The HWAP service area is serviced by three providers. Other counties have similar programs. In July, MORPC will expand their HWAP service area in Franklin County. This is reflected in Resolution 07-23 on the consent agenda. Mr. Murdock encouraged members to help make people aware of this program. MORPC is also expanding our housing advisory services. Our residential services program is focusing on financial sustainability and innovation.

Mr. Murdock introduced MORPC's new Strategic Director of Technology, Cory Tressler. Mr. Tressler comes from Apple and is excited to be here and provide support.

Mr. Murdock congratulated MORPC Diversity, Inclusion & Engagement Officer Ralonda Hampton for being recognized by the Columbus Urban League as a Herstory Mover & Shaker.

Mr. Murdock gave a preview of MORPC's overhauled website. The website was updated so it appears better on mobile devices. The updated site gives access to tools upfront and has a more robust search function. We are doing a soft launch. Let us know if you see things that aren't perfect or that could be done better.

Upcoming Events:

- Riverfest – June 10-11, Downtown Riverfront, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Enriching Lives at Today's Modern Library – June 15, Columbus Metropolitan Library Gahanna Branch, 8-9 a.m.
- Rural Forum: Rural Housing – June 21, Plain City Municipal Building, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 2023 Social Media Summit – August 1, MORPC, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Mr. Murdock reminded members the overhauled member update email includes information on events, the director's report, grants, and legislative updates.

Proposed Resolution 06-23: "Adopting a fee schedule for use in assessing members in 2024"
– Shawn Hufstедler, MORPC Chief Operating Officer

Shawn Hufstедler reported Resolution 06-23 was approved by the Executive Committee last week and includes a one cent higher rate than suggested in the five-year plan last year. It also includes a small bump in the minimum rate. The five-year plan is a non-binding estimate. MORPC looks at the rate each year. This resolution only approves the 2024 rate. Population estimates will be presented in the fall at which time communities will know their 2024 dues. The results will be included in the 2024 budget presented for approval in December.

Greg Lestini made a motion to approve Resolution 06-23, second by Brad Ebersole; motion passed.

Committees

Regional Data Advisory Committee – Brad Ebersole (Delaware County) Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair

Brad Ebersole presented the [Regional Data Advisory Committee Update](#). Mr. Ebersole announced Christina Drummond begins as the Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) Chair next month.

The RDAC committee met Tuesday to review and approve the proposed 2023-2025 Regional Data Agenda. Mr. Ebersole thanked Dave Dixon for his work on the updated agenda which brings more focus on achievable impacts in the region and addresses newly emerging areas of concern and opportunity. Each agenda item has three prioritized objectives. The committee also developed evaluation criteria to be used to decide which projects and initiatives will go forward and to measure their success. The proposed agenda is available at your seats and via the QR Code on the slide.

Mr. Ebersole reviewed the proposed agenda. This first agenda item focuses on convening stakeholders and collaborating on projects and research to improve data-driven decision-making. The second agenda item focuses on offering and promoting inspirational educational opportunities with specific emphasis on mitigating bias, taking initial cautious steps into the realm of artificial intelligence, and highlighting new or re-imagined ways to support decision making with data analytics. The third agenda item focuses on finding ways to scale promising pilot projects or programs and helping stakeholders secure the funding and/or talent needed for ongoing support of successful new initiatives. The fourth agenda item focuses on expanding data access to be more inclusive of traditionally underserved populations in the region. The final agenda item seeks to better

protect data, infrastructure, and our organizations and constituents. Direct feedback to Mr. Ebersole or Dave Dixon. The final version of the Regional Data Agenda will be presented to the Commission for adoption at the August Commission meeting.

Mr. Ebersole provided an update of MORPC's Data and Mapping Team's current activities. The Team is piloting a streamlined process for the collection of local building permit data with interested local governments. The goals of the new process include facilitating value-added outputs which can be shared back with communities. Reach out if you are interested in taking part and receiving permit data visualizations from MORPC.

MORPC shared a draft of the household and job forecasts with local stakeholders via a web map. Member feedback on the projected values is a key step to incorporating local knowledge before MTP planning moves to the next steps. If you have any questions, contact dataandmaps@morpc.org.

The Team will soon be publishing an updated Neighborhood Gentrification Dashboard which includes a web map of Columbus area neighborhoods and their current risk or state of gentrification.

Chair Janas thanked Mr. Ebersole for his service on the Regional Data Advisory Committee and welcomed Christina Drummond.

Regional Policy Roundtable – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Steve Tugend presented the [Regional Policy Roundtable & Legislative Updates](#). The Regional Policy Roundtable hosted Ohio House Minority Leader Alison Russo at their May 16 meeting. Rep. Russo shared insights on the house version of the budget. The next meeting is August 15.

Mr. Tugend gave the legislative update highlighting the following:

- Senate version of the state operating budget
- State operating budget next steps
- HB 64 – Eminent Domain
- Central Ohio Defense Group

Sustainability Advisory Committee – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair

Ben Kessler presented the [Sustainability Advisory Committee Report](#). Emily Keeler is the newest Sustainability Advisory Committee member.

Riverfest is June 10-11 during the Columbus Arts Festival located along the Scioto Mile in downtown Columbus. Riverfest celebrates Central Ohio's water resources, provides opportunities for the public to experience our waterways, and educates on the importance of protecting and conserving our waterways. Event partners and sponsors include:

- The Greater Columbus Arts Council
- City of Columbus
- Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
- Metro Parks
- OBLSK
- Priscilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center

The next Sustainable2050 meeting is June 22, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Del-Co Water's new Wolf Water Center. The new center includes office space, food prep kitchen, lounge area, and pull-through

equipment bays. The second story will be used as a training center for the water and wastewater industry as well as a venue for hosting local and regional events. A tour of the plant and reservoir follows the Sustainable2050 meeting. Mayor Kessler thanked Glenn Marzluf for hosting the meeting.

As mentioned previously, it's been an eventful week for air quality. MORPC issued five air quality alerts at the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups levels. Ohio EPA issued a statewide air advisory for today as well. Last Thursday and Friday we experienced ozone alert days. This week we are experiencing high levels of particle pollution (PM2.5) from Canadian wildfire smoke. On air quality alert days, MORPC recommends limiting prolonged outdoor activity, especially for sensitive groups including young children, older adults, and those with respiratory issues. MORPC provides air quality forecasts and alerts as a public health service. With this information, residents can stay informed, protect their health, and take steps to reduce pollution. You can check current air quality conditions at [AirNow.gov](https://airnow.gov). Mayor Kessler encouraged members to sign up to receive air quality alerts directly to their email or by text.

MORPC is collaborating with our partners on a Charging & Fueling Infrastructure grant application. MORPC, in partnership with Smart Columbus and community stakeholders, worked through a collaborative process to identify electric charging infrastructure gaps in the region and selected project partners and locations that best meet the region's needs, vision, and goals.

The Columbus MSA application was submitted for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to develop and implement plans to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other harmful air pollution. The planning phase is required to be eligible for competitive implementation funding to put projects on the ground.

The next Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is June 21, 2:30 p.m., at MORPC.

Transportation Policy Committee – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair

Chair Janas called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:30 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:43 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Commission Consent Agenda

Bonnie Michael made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Joe Antram; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Michelle Crandall, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



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Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Executive Committee
Officers and Board Members

FROM: Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director, Interim Senior Director of Programming

DATE: July 31, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 10-23: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Central Ohio Transit Authority for Transit Supportive Infrastructure”**

Resolution 10-23 authorizes the Executive Director to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) and receive funds to administer the Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) program component of the LinkUS initiative.

Launched in 2020, the LinkUS initiative is a collaboration between COTA, the City of Columbus, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and Franklin County (together, the LinkUS Partners) to implement high capacity, rapid transit and expand integrated mobility solutions across Central Ohio. Much work has been completed over the last three years including a LinkUS Framework (2020), LinkUS state of Mobility report (2021), LINKUS Community Action Plan and significant project development work on the initial three high capacity transit corridors. More information is available at www.linkuscolumbus.com.

A component of the LinkUS initiative is to increase access to transit through transit supportive infrastructure (TSI). TSI can be described as facilities that improve access to transit such as pedestrian, bicyclist, and other safety and accessibility enhancements. Legislative amendments in 2022 to the Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 306.354 provide for MORPC to oversee and administer a TSI Program including the Policies, the development of a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and Capital Improvement Budget (CIB).

MORPC in partnership with COTA has been leading meetings and workshops over the past year with jurisdictions throughout the COTA service area to develop the structure and process for the TSI program. The work has progressed to the point that MORPC and COTA are ready to formally set up the TSI program per the ORC and have developed an IGA detailing the roles and responsibilities of each organization in the TSI program administration. This agreement includes COTA providing funds to MORPC beginning in 2024 for TSI program administration.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Erik J. Janas
Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Vice Chair

Michelle Crandall
Secretary

Attachment: Resolution 10-23



RESOLUTION 10-23

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Central Ohio Transit Authority for Transit Supportive Infrastructure”

WHEREAS, the LinkUS initiative is a collaboration between the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), the City of Columbus, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and Franklin County (together, the LinkUS Partners) to implement high capacity, rapid transit and expand integrated mobility solutions across Central Ohio; and

WHEREAS, a subset of the LinkUS initiative is to improve transit service and to increase access to transit through transit supportive infrastructure (TSI), which COTA is enabled to fund pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 306.354; and

WHEREAS, Section 306.30 to 306.50 of the ORC vests the COTA Board of Trustees with the power to oversee COTA, including service planning and financial management; and

WHEREAS, MORPC will serve as the program administrator for the TSI Program as defined by ORC Section 306.354; and

WHEREAS, COTA will provide to MORPC as outlined in the attached Intergovernmental Agreement; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Section 1. That the executive director is hereby authorized to enter into an IGA in substantially the form as attached and accept funding from COTA to administer the TSI program.
- Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to approve one or more extensions for performance of services under the foregoing agreements and change orders for amounts up to the financial authorization levels in the MORPC bylaws without further authorization from this Commission.
- Section 3. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.
- Section 4. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Erik Janas, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date:	August 10, 2023
Submitted by:	Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director, Interim Senior Director of Programming
Prepared by:	Programming Staff
Authority:	Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date:	August 10, 2023
Attachment:	Master Transit Supportive Infrastructure Agreement

MASTER TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY AND MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (**COTA**) and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (**MORPC**) agree to this Master Transit Supportive Infrastructure Agreement (the **Agreement**) as of August 10, 2023.

BACKGROUND

A. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission will develop a transit supportive infrastructure program (the **Program**) under the LinkUS Initiative Action Plan in partnership with COTA.

B. Under the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program, COTA will provide funds from the new sales tax initiative to fund the program.

C. MORPC serves as the program administrator for the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program as defined by Ohio Revised Code Section 306.354.

D. In consideration of the mutual obligations and duties described in this Agreement, COTA and MORPC agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

Section 1. Definitions.

In addition to the terms defined elsewhere in the body of this Agreement, capitalized terms used in this Agreement where the rules of grammar would not otherwise require capitalization are defined in the attached **Exhibit A**.

Section 2. Term.

The Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program's first term shall commence August 10, 2023 (the **Commencement Date**) and shall end, when terminated by both parties (the **Termination Date**).

This Agreement shall be effective from its date through and including the Termination Date.

Section 3. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Funding.

(a) *COTA Sales Tax*. The Central Ohio Transit Authority Board of Trustees will be

asking voters to approve a new funding solution to pay for transit resources within their service area boundary at a date to be determined. Current 0.25% permanent and 0.25% ten-year renewal sales tax receipts fund COTA operations. A new request to COTA service area voters would make a full 1.0% sales tax collection permanent. COTA will provide funding for the Transit Supportive Infrastructure program based on revenue received from the new increased levy, if passed.

(b) *Additional Funding Sources.* Eligible entities for program funding will/may utilize other local, state, private, or federal resources to fund their projects above and beyond Transit Supportive Infrastructure funding.

Section 4. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Administration Costs.

The annual administrative costs of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program are hereby determined to be:

2023 - \$0

2024 - \$100,000

2025 - \$200,000

2026 and subsequent years administrative costs will be subjected to a 3.0% annual increase in rate.

The discounted rate for 2023 and 2024 reflects the limited amount of work due to the sales tax increase not going before COTA service area voters.

COTA will be expending a portion of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure funding for transit authority TSI administration and auditing purposes.

If COTA's service area changes during the term of this agreement, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith the Transit Supportive Infrastructure program administrative costs.

Section 5. Payment of Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Administrative Costs.

MORPC shall bill installments of the cost of the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program administrative costs to COTA January 1 of each year beginning in 2024 (each a Bill Date). COTA shall remit payment by February 1.

COTA shall utilize local match for administrative costs in 2024. Subsequent bills from MORPC to COTA will only be sent if the COTA Sales Tax Levy passes in the November 2024 General Election. This agreement will automatically terminate if the COTA sales tax ballot initiative or any part of the ballot initiative related to Transit Supportive Infrastructure fails or is subsequently removed and/or terminated unless COTA and MORPC mutually agree in

writing to continue the agreement.

Section 6. COTA Service Plan.

COTA will provide a service plan to be utilized by the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Committees to plan the five-year capital improvement plan. The COTA Short Range Transit Plan (**SRTP**) will be provided to the Committees every two years as COTA updates it to be used in the merit criteria for project selection. Exhibit C of the agreement shall include a map of the COTA service area, fixed route system, and the most current SRTP.

Section 7. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Committees.

The Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program will be made up of governing bodies including a Leadership Committee (**LC**), Technical Working Groups (**TWG**), and a Technical Coordinating Committee (**TCC**) to carry out various duties as assigned.

The COTA Board will approve the committee structure guidelines as set forth in Exhibit B. If municipalities outside of COTA's current service area join the COTA service area and subsequent sales tax zone, COTA shall determine how to incorporate them into the Transit Supportive Infrastructure committee structure if at all.

Section 8. Transit Supportive Infrastructure Definition and Guidelines.

The definition and project eligibility guidelines for the program will be decided on by the LinkUS partners and Transit Supportive Infrastructure entities through a collaborative approach. The document shall be included as Exhibit D and updated at least every four years alongside the development of the CIB and CIP.

Should there be a discrepancy about project appropriateness to meet the definition, the ultimate approval shall be up to the COTA.

Section 9. Capital Improvement Plan and Capital Improvement Budget.

A Capital Improvement Plan (**CIP**) and Capital Improvement Budget (**CIB**) shall be maintained by MORPC administrative staff dedicated to the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program.

Section 10. COTA Staff Responsibilities.

COTA shall provide a main point of contact to coordinate administrative efforts

between MORPC and the COTA Board of Trustees.

COTA roles include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Federal compliance with the FTA and FHWA
- Financial structure to coordinate grants/reimbursements
- Compiling grant agreements with each subrecipient
- Providing COTA service area maps and the Short-Range Transit Plan for development to the MORPC liaison
- Subrecipient compliance
- COTA Board coordination
- Participation in all Transit Supportive Infrastructure committees and administrative functions
- Submit annual sales tax revenue collections for development of the CIB

Section 11. MORPC Staff Responsibilities.

MORPC is responsible for overseeing the administration of the program.

MORPC roles include but are not limited to the following:

- Coordination with COTA Transit Supportive Infrastructure liaison
- Administering and overseeing the Transit Supportive Infrastructure program
- Convening all Transit Supportive Infrastructure committees
- Guiding the committees to recommend Transit Supportive Infrastructure policies/guidelines
- Developing and maintaining the CIB and CIP
- Developing the data and evaluation criteria for project selection

MORPC commits to one (1) full-time staff member to administer the program as well as additional staff support from the Programming, Data & Mapping, and Communications & Engagement teams.

Section 12. COTA Board of Trustees Responsibilities.

The COTA Board is responsible for approving the policies and guidelines, the CIP, and the CIB. COTA staff will negotiate individual contracts granting municipalities the funds to implement Transit Supportive Infrastructure projects. The COTA Board will have the power to approve or decline the individual contracts granting municipalities the funds to implement Transit Supportive Infrastructure projects.

Section 13. MORPC Transportation Policy Committee Responsibilities.

The Transportation Policy Committee will review and incorporate the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program into the metropolitan transportation planning process and associated documents, specifically, the Transportation Improvement Program, as appropriate.

[Signature Page Immediately Follows]

THE CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

By: _____

Name: Joanna M. Pinkerton

Title: President/ CEO

THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

By: _____

Name: William Murdock

Title: Executive Director

[Signature Page to Master Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program Agreement]

EXHIBIT A

Definitions

- A. **COTA** means, Central Ohio Transit Authority
- B. **MORPC** means, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- C. **Agreement** means memorandum of understanding between COTA and MORPC for the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Program
- D. **Program** means the agreed upon policies, structure, and guidelines for transit supportive infrastructure
- E. **Commencement Date** means the official start date of the agreement between COTA and MORPC
- F. **Termination Date** means the date COTA and MORPC agree to terminate the agreement together.
- G. **Fund** Those funds provided by COTA, and any other entity for Transit Supportive Infrastructure to MORPC for the purposes listed in this Agreement.
- H. **Bill Date** means the annual date MORPC will bill COTA for administrative costs
- I. **SRTP** means the COTA Short Range Transit Plan
- J. **LC** means the Leadership Committee
- K. **TWG** means the Technical Working Group
- L. **TCC** means the Technical Coordinating Committee
- M. **CIP** means the Capital Improvement Plan
- N. **CIB** means the Capital Improvement Budget
- O. **Notice Address** means:

As to COTA:

Central Ohio Transit Authority
33 North High Street Columbus, Ohio
43215
Attn: Joanna M. Pinkerton

As to MORPC:

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Attn: William Murdock

EXHIBIT B**COTA Transit Service Area Map****EXHIBIT C****COTA Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP)****EXHIBIT D****Ohio Revised Code**

HB 338 of the 134th General Assembly

(C) A regional transit authority to which this section applies may do any of the following:

(2) Use the proceeds of a tax levied under section 5739.023 of the Revised Code for the general construction or maintenance of roads, bridges, greenways, pathways, bikeways, or pedestrian underpasses or overpasses related to the provision of service by the regional transit authority that do not otherwise constitute a transit facility;

(D) Prior to funding projects described in division (C)(2) of this section, a regional transit authority shall enter into agreements with the applicable counties, municipal corporations, and townships located within the regional transit authority's territorial boundaries to fund such projects.

(1) The regional transit authority shall submit each agreement for approval to the governing board of the applicable designated metropolitan planning organization.

(2) The metropolitan planning organization shall, on at least an annual basis, review and approve or deny any agreement submitted to it by an affirmative vote of its governing board and shall notify the regional transit authority of the approval or denial.

(3) The regional transit authority shall expend funds only as authorized in an approved agreement



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Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Executive Committee
Officers and Board Members

FROM: Robert Williams, Senior Director
Residential Services

DATE: August 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 11-23: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) for the July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027 Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) and to enter into related subcontracts”**

For many years MORPC has contracted with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) to implement the Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) in portions of Franklin County. The source of funds is federal from the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services including the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The program includes work by MORPC to provide client intake, home inspections, installation of energy efficiency measures such as heating and weatherization materials, and quality control over all client cases. MORPC will provide inspection services and quality control to verify work performed adheres to industry and program standards. The installation of weatherization materials, heating and electrical work will be subcontracted to businesses in MORPC’s service area.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant agreements for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027, total \$5,902,358. These funds represent a combined amount that includes funds for territories previously serviced by the provider GLS and the traditional MORPC territory zip codes. The BIL funds in this grant agreement are to be spread out over a 4-year period.

Additionally, the previously approved non-BIL HWAP amounts for both MORPC and former GLS territories are larger than originally anticipated. While the agreements are not yet available, these are anticipated to remain one-year agreements for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. The award amounts have been provided, and these now total \$3,361,883.

Together, all HWAP funding noted above totals \$9,264,241.

Attachment: Resolution 11-23

RESOLUTION 11-23

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) for the July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027 Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) and to enter into related subcontracts”

WHEREAS, ODOD implements the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, pursuant to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Title IV, Part A (P.L. 94-385); and

WHEREAS, ODOD seeks to contract with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to implement this program inside portions of Franklin County for eligible low-income customers and improve the energy efficiency of their household; and

WHEREAS, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant agreements for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027 total \$5,902,358 and will be leveraged with other funds from local utilities and other non-federal sources; and that these funds represent a combined amount that includes funds for territories previously serviced by the provider GLS; and

WHEREAS, the previously approved non-BIL HWAP amounts for both MORPC and former GLS territories are larger than originally anticipated and approved by the Commission in June (Resolution 07-23) and now total \$3,361,883; and

WHEREAS, the services performed pursuant to this contract will be under the oversight of MORPC and be implemented through a combination of MORPC staff and local businesses that are subcontracted in MORPC's service area; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Section 1. That the executive director is authorized to enter into an agreement with ODOD for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027 BIL Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) funds for a total of \$5,902,358 and for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 non-BIL HWAP funds for a total of \$3,361,883 and enter into related subcontracts.
- Section 2. That the executive director is hereby authorized to approve one or more extensions of time not to exceed 180 days in the aggregate for performance of services under the foregoing agreements and contract changes not to exceed 20 percent of the total agreement price without further authorization from this Commission.
- Section 3. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.
- Section 4. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Erik J. Janas, Chair

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date:	August 10, 2023
Submitted by:	Robert Williams, Senior Director, Residential Services
Prepared by:	Robert Williams, Senior Director, Residential Services
Authority:	Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date:	August 10, 2023