



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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## **COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)**

### **MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is Central Ohio's regional council with more than 80 local governments and community partners. We take pride in bringing communities of all sizes and interests together to collaborate on best practices and plan for the future growth and sustainability of our region.

The Community-Based Planning Assistance Service is intended to act as a one-stop shop for assistance requests from MORPC's member communities. By utilizing a streamlined approach, MORPC will be better suited to connect member communities to the resources they need.

The following is a list of frequently asked questions. If you cannot locate an answer to a question you may have, please contact [jmiller@morpc.org](mailto:jmiller@morpc.org).

***This document will be updated as new questions are received.***

*Updated: August 24, 2023*

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

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\*Updated: August 24, 2023

**1. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING ASSISTANCE? / WHY NOT APPLY DIRECTLY TO PROGRAMS?**

Community-Based Planning Assistance is intended to be a gateway to the assistance services provided by MORPC. In order to better serve communities, CBPA is set up as a way to learn more about the project needs to ensure that communities are being connected to the appropriate programs. Utilizing CBPA will also create an opportunity for MORPC for work with communities on how a particular need might be able to be served by multiple projects; resulting in additional cost-savings for the communities.

**2. DOES A COMMUNITY NEED TO KNOW WHAT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THEY'RE APPLYING FOR BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM?**

No, a community does not need to know anything about the CBPA Programs – or which one might apply to their project – before applying for assistance. The CBPA Form is set up to learn more about the assistance a community might need, so that MORPC Staff can refer the request to the program which may be best suited to provide assistance.

In the Request for Assistance Form, the first question in *Section 3: Assistance Information* asks about the anticipated program need. This question helps MORPC Staff understand the anticipated scale and scope of the request, which may help in determining the most suitable program.

**3. WHAT IS THE COST ASSOCIATED WITH SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FORM?**

There is no cost associated with submitting a Request for Assistance Form. There may be costs associated with the program that the request will ultimately be referred to, but submitting a Request for Assistance Form to learn about the potential assistance available does not cost anything.

**4. HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE I SHOULD EXPECT TO HEAR A RESPONSE?**

It may take upwards of one week for a member of MORPC Staff to get back to a community after submitting a Request for Assistance Form. At that time, MORPC will reach out to the community to schedule a short follow-up meeting to discuss the request and confirm any pertinent details that are needed to determine which Program would be most suited to address the community's needs. Within a few days of the follow-up meeting, the community should receive guidance on which program(s) the request is being referred to.