



## MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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### NOTICE OF A MEETING

#### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**October 4, 2023**  
**9 a.m.**

Microsoft Teams meeting  
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device  
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Phone Conference ID: 615 232 725#  
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### AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions** – James Young, Chair
- 9:02 a.m. Approval of August 30, 2023 Meeting Minutes**
- 9:03 a.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** – Nick Gill, MORPC  
Jennifer Noll, MORPC
- 9:15 a.m. Funding Programs**
- Attributable Funds Project Status Update – Thomas Graham, MORPC
- 9:20 a.m. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**
- 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update – Maria Schaper, MORPC
- 9:30 a.m. Informational Items**
- TAC Member Update – Gahanna - Tom Komlanc, City of Gahanna

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Chris Amorose Groomes**  
Interim Chair

**Michelle Crandall**  
Interim Vice Chair

**Ben Kessler**  
Interim Secretary

- Complete Streets Policy Highlights – Lauren Cardoni, MORPC
- TAC Subcommittees
  - Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee– Nick Gill, MORPC
  - Active Transportation Committee – Matt Peoples, Canal Winchester

**9:45 a.m.      Other Business**

**10:00 a.m.      Adjourn**

PLEASE NOTIFY CHUCK RATLIFF AT 614-233-4115 OR EMAIL [cratliff@morpc.org](mailto:cratliff@morpc.org) TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

**The Attributable Funds Committee meeting will follow this meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

**The next TAC meeting is:  
November 1, 2023, at 9 a.m.**

# Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

## Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **August 30, 2023**  
Time: **9:00 a.m.**  
Location: **MORPC**

### **Members Present**

Biesterveld, Andrew	Jenkins, Tiffany	Nittle, Tim
Boucher, Christine (online)	Komlanc, Tom	Pajk, Jim
Cox, Barbara	Lockhart, Josh	Peoples, Matthew
Davidson, Brian	McKee, Rozland (online)	Thompson, Ty
Ferrigno, William	Moran, Alan	Toth, Kelly
Francis, Corey (online)	Moss, Kimberly	Weaver, Kevin

### **Guests**

Ciotola, Michael (online)	Elsea, Amy	Madineni, Veena (online)
Dar, Naureen (online)	Hibbard, Tom	

### **MORPC Staff**

Cardoni, Lauren	Gill, Nick	Ratliff, Chuck
Frick, Preston	Graham, Tom	Schaper, Maria
Franco, Taylor	Hampton, Ralonda	
Gardocki, John	Oldroyd, Shelby	

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

- Vice-Chair Weaver called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. There was a quorum present.

### **II. Approval of August 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

- Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve the August 2, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Komlanc moved; Mr. Peoples seconded; and the motion passed.

### **III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** – Nick Gill, MORPC

- Mr. Gill began the report, informing the committee of the following:
  - Money Mondays are hosted every Monday from 1 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and are used to identify upcoming funding opportunities. Contact MORPC for information on how to sign up for future sessions. Upcoming sessions were provided, noting that a session is not scheduled for September 4, 2023 due to the Labor Day holiday.
  - MORPC will be hosting the annual Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum on Thursday, September 21 from 10 a.m. to noon. The event will be in person this year. We'll be joined by Councilor John Barth from the City of Indianapolis to talk about some of their recent initiatives focused on

improving safety for people walking and bicycling. There will also be a panel discussion with experts focused on the psychology behind driver behavior, the basics of vehicle safety, and why the Safe System approach is so critical to reducing fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways. Registration for the event is available on the MORPC website.

- Mr. Gill concluded his report stating that MORPC will be opening applications for FY 2023 5310 funding with \$1.7 million available this year. Eligible subrecipients must attend the virtual workshop at noon on September 27, 2023.
- Mr. Dixon continued the report, stating the following:
  - At the August Commission meeting, MORPC introduced the Community Based Planning Assistance Program, designed to make it easier for member communities to let MORPC know how we can help. The suite of services includes the already established Technical Assistance Program, as well as the new consultant services and planner pool programs giving members a one-stop shop to request assistance from MORPC staff. Visit MORPC's website to learn more about the Community Based Planning Assistance Program and the various services. MORPC members interested in requesting assistance through the Community Based Planning Assistance program are welcome to submit a Request for Assistance using the form found on the Program website.
  - Registration is now open for the Summit on Sustainability, taking place on October 26, 2023 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. Individual and group registrations are available. If your community or organization is interested in sponsoring, a variety of sponsorship options remain available. Contact Brandi Whetstone or Amanda McEldowney for more information.
  - MORPC and their partners would like to hear from interested parties in a 10-county planning area (Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Hocking, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, & Union) on how they would like to be engaged in this planning process throughout the Columbus Climate Action Plan project. This planning process will help identify regional goals and strategies and will position local governments to be eligible for \$4.6 billion in Phase II Implementation grant opportunities to put these plans into action. This could translate into funding for energy-saving improvements, electric vehicle charging, and more. Contact Brian Filiatraut at [bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org) if you have any questions or would like to learn more.
  - MORPC recently adopted an updated Regional Data Agenda for 2023 through 2025. The new agenda is action-oriented, targeting areas where the RDAC, its working groups, and user groups are well positioned to impact the use of data on a regional scale. New or expanded areas of focus include cybersecurity, digital inclusion, as well as exploring how to leverage artificial intelligence (AI), while mitigating bias and unintended consequences. Questions or suggestions related to AI specifically, should be directed to [aiteam@morpc.org](mailto:aiteam@morpc.org).
  - MORPC, in partnership with Measurement Resources Company and The Columbus Dispatch, is preparing to launch the second survey in our Leaders Listen public opinion survey series. The survey will focus on area residents' perceptions and priorities around environmental and sustainability concerns. We encourage everyone to participate and share the survey within your communities.

- Lastly, Mr. Dixon expressed thanks for everyone who has been active in reviewing and providing feedback on MORPC's Draft 2023 Population Estimates. The Data Team is working to review all the local input they have received and incorporate updates where appropriate. The 2023 estimates will be presented at the September Commission meeting and introduced for formal adoption in October. All inquiries pertaining to this population estimated should be directed to [dataandmaps@morpc.org](mailto:dataandmaps@morpc.org).

#### **IV. Funding Programs**

- **Attributable Funds Project Status Update**
  - Mr. Graham stated that there have not been any advancements in the current commitments and there are no updates relative to the August report.
  - Mr. Thompson pointed out that the status comment for the Refugee Rd Intersections program incorrectly listed the sale date as 9/15/2024. This date should have been 9/15/2023. Mr. Graham acknowledged that this was a typo that would be corrected for future reports.
- **Resolution T-11-23: Amending the State Fiscal Year 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program**
  - Mr. Graham informed the committee that this amendment seeks to add or modify seven projects. Additionally, it would remove four projects. This also amends Appendix A of the TIP which is removing the draft COTA short-range transit plan and adding the final and adopted version.
  - The Ferris Road from Karl Road to Westerville Road project previously did not have the preliminary engineering, environmental study, or detailed design phase in the TIP. It recently has been federally earmarked for those phases, so they are being added to the TIP. The project has a commitment of MORPC Attributable funds for both right away and construction. However, there are no changes to the commitment proposed in this amendment.
  - Similarly, for the City of Hilliard, the amendment adds the environmental study and detail design phases to the TIP for the Cemetery Road over I-270 shared use path. This project has a commitment of MORPC Attributable funds, but there is no change to this commitment. Rather than being federally earmarked, which is funding the earlier phases, it is a recent award of ODOT safety funds.
  - For the Pike St. from State Route 310 to Aetna, United Methodist Church project, this is being modified to more accurately reflect that they have a partial funding award through MORPC's process and therefore are doing ½ of what the original application applied for. There are no changes to the funding commitments.
  - The Paving the Way program has been cancelled so the 4 PIDs in the TIP related to that program are being removed.
  - The Sawmill Parkway extension is being added.
  - U.S 33 from Allen Rd. to Pickerington Rd. project which adds a new interchange at Pickerington Rd. is adding the right of way and construction phases. At the time of adoption, there were some uncommitted funds in those phases, but at this time, all funds have been committed.

- There was a reduction in the estimate for the detailed design funding for the I-71 at I-270 on the North outer belt. This amendment is showing that reduction.
  - For the U.S. 23 at State Route 229 in Delaware County project adds a new interchange and is being added to the TIP through the environmental study phase.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Ms. Cox moved; Mr. Nittle seconded; and the motion passed.
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- Resolution T-12-23: Establishing Priorities for Central Ohio Candidate Projects Submitted in 2023 for TRAC Funding
    - Mr. Lewis presented the staff recommendations for the TRAC priority list, with 10 applications from within our region submitted for funding this round. Six of these are for construction and four for project development totaling \$350 million in requests. This reflects the amount requested, not the total cost.
    - When these applications are evaluated, they are put through a performance measures analysis that includes many metrics that are aligned with the six goals of the MTP of creating stable neighborhoods, economic opportunity, regional collaboration, protecting natural resources, reducing per capita energy consumption, and health, safety, and welfare of all people.
    - Referring to the public comment summary slide, Mr. Lewis noted that 22 comments were received, 12 in support, and 10 in opposition. However, the Taylor Rd/SR 256 Interchanges opposed comment was noted as incorrect and that it was a general comment not directed towards that application.
    - In general, commenters expressed their support for including room for transit and multimodal connections where at all possible for any of these projects but were opposed to highway widenings or interchange expansions or modifications that did not include potential options for multimodal, transit, or non-motorized connections as well.
    - Mr. Lewis presented the staff recommendation of projects, which shows the I-70/I-71 Downtown Ramp Up Phases 2D & 3 scoring very highly on economic opportunity on sustainable neighborhoods as well as regional collaboration. There's a lot of employment and residential density, and origin destinations, as well as a project history of collaboration.
    - The LinkUS West Broad BRT project also scored very highly on economic opportunity, regional collaboration, health, safety and welfare and sustainable neighborhoods, connecting a lot of residents, jobs, and services along the West Broad corridor.
    - The hard shoulder running smart lane on I-71 was third and ranked highly on Economic Opportunity Natural resources, which includes emissions reduction from congestion mitigation as well as health, safety and welfare and sustainable neighborhoods.
    - Mr. Lewis closed, stating that after consideration and eventual approval of this priority list, it will be presented to TRAC on October 25, 2023 at the regional public hearing. There will also be a public hearing on October 4, 2023 in Newark for applications submitted from ODOT District 5. It is expected that in January and February of 2024, TRAC will vote on the final project list.

- Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Biesterveld moved; Mr. Ferrigno seconded; and the motion passed.

## **V. Resolutions**

- Resolution T-13-23: Adopting the 2024 Technical Assistance Program Guide
  - Mr. Petrov pointed out changes that have been made to the program guide such as focusing more on active transportation network connectivity and putting an emphasis on pedestrian safety.
  - A new service type, Trail Town Planning was added. Any community that's within two miles of the Central Ohio Greenway will be eligible for this activity. This activity will execute an immersive and dynamic place making exercise to uncover the valuable assets and cultural elements and embrace individuals seeking to connect through trail-based experiences.
  - Mr. Petrov closed with stating that application will be accepted starting on September 15, 2023 until October 13, 2023. The next round of services will kick off before the end of the year.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. People moved; Mr. Komlanc seconded, and the motion passed.
- Resolution T-14-23: Accepting the Planning Work Program Completion Report for State Fiscal Year 2023
  - Mr. Gill explained that the Planning Work Program is MORPC's annual scope of work that is funded with the federal transportation planning dollars we receive to fulfill the primary planning products of the MTP, the TIP, and other special activities we do for the transportation planning in the region. The completion report states what we have accomplished in the previous state fiscal year.
  - Mr. Gill closed with stating that this resolution accepts the PWP completion report, which will be delivered to ODOT at the end of September.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Nittle moved; Ms. Toth seconded; and the motion passed.

## **VI. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

- 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update
  - Ms. Schaper summarized what the Metropolitan Transportation Plan is and its importance due to changing demographics and demand on our transportation system.
  - Ms. Schaper mentioned the web map which includes projects that have been identified in local, regional, or state plans. The web map will be available through September 8, 2023. Ms. Schaper asked the committee to share the link with their networks.
  - As of August 22nd, we've had 107 suggested projects drawn on the map. Of these, 95% of projects suggested were new bike & pedestrian facilities or high-capacity transit lines. Projects with the most comments were those suggested by the public that were not already part of a local plan.
  - Ms. Schaper continued by reviewing the statistics for participation by zip code, provided by 66% of those that commented.
  - In closing, Ms. Schaper mentioned that all the projects identified through the web map and local plans will be evaluated against the performance

metrics and objectives. In addition, a fiscal analysis will be done, looking at resources that are expected to be available through 2050, costs, and what makes the most sense from a fiscal perspective as well as the public involvement. Finally, a draft list of projects will be presented to communities in November 2023 through January 2024. The final plan will be adopted in May of 2024.

- Resolution T-15-23: Adopting the 2050 Forecast Household and Employment Variables
  - Ms. Schaper explained how the household and employment variable forecasts are derived, showing the order of magnitude. This assists with understanding where people are going to be living, working, and travelling between now and 2050. This is a key dataset that will be used in the MTP development process going forward.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Nittle moved; Ms. Cox seconded; and the motion passed.

## **VII. Informational Items**

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Funding Opportunities Update
  - Mr. Frick informed the committee of the following:
    - The BIL was signed by President Biden on November 15, 2021 and authorized \$1.2 trillion dollars in overall funding to over 350 programs.
    - Just under half of this funding went to create new programs and just over half of this amount went to funding existing programs.
    - Eleven organizations received this funding but five were ineligible because of regional constraints.
    - MORPC is focusing on the Department of Transportation, Department of Interior, Department of Energy, and the Environmental Protection Agency as these agencies have priorities that are consistent with MORPC's responsibilities for the region.
    - All funded programs fall within thirteen program types, with roads, bridges, and major projects receiving the most at 38.80% percent.
    - MORPC is interested in the following programs that fall under the categories of public transportation, passenger and freight, rail safety, and electric vehicles, where the U.S. DOT is focusing their investments.
    - Of the U.S. DOT agencies, the Transit Administration is taking on a third of these programs, followed by the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Highway Administration, and Railroad Administration.
    - This shows that there is a lot of investment in public transportation, which is consistent with Central Ohio needs.
    - There are six programs that Central Ohio has been submitting applications and we are continuing the analysis by following releases from the U.S. DOT and other federal administrations when they announce awards or unsuccessful applications.
    - MORPC recently submitted a regional application to expand EV infrastructure throughout Central Ohio. We are still waiting to receive the results.



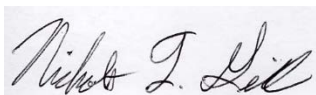
- MORPC works with our members to understand what their projects are and how they correspond to the BIL program and how the funding can help advance these projects.
- MORPC's approach in formulated funds enables our Attributable Funding program, where three of the four were continued from the FAST Act.
- To mitigate regional competition for funding, we try to understand what those projects are and how they correspond with the 350 programs available in the BIL and strategically pair these projects to those programs. We've provided some application assistance by providing data and modeling for benefit cost analysis and providing safety data with safety action plans. In addition, we can help to get the projects on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Mr. Gill added that one of our transportation plan performance measures is securing discretionary funding into the region. Involve MORPC early so we can assist with tight turnarounds.

#### **VIII. Other Business**

- Mr. Gill informed the committee that the Attributable Funds process will begin next month after the October TAC meeting. Also, the Complete Streets policy will be undergoing a review by the Active Transportation Safety Committee.
- Finally, Mr. Gill stated that we are looking for volunteers to give a presentation at the October TAC meeting to highlight activities going on in their community.

#### **IX. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nick I. Gill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nick Gill, Secretary  
**Transportation Advisory Committee**



# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION REPORT

September 2023

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## PROGRAMMING

Nick Gill, Transportation Director, Interim Sr. Director of Programming – [ngill@morpc.org](mailto:ngill@morpc.org)

### Transportation

Nick Gill, Transportation Director, Interim Sr. Director of Programming – [ngill@morpc.org](mailto:ngill@morpc.org)

#### Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

- The 2050 household and employment forecasts were adopted in September. This data set will be used for assessing future travel demand and project evaluation.
- The comment period for suggesting candidate projects closed on September 8, 2023. The web map remains open for public comment on identified candidate projects.
- Unit cost estimates and a regional revenue forecast were developed to be utilized to ensure fiscal constraint of the plan.
- Data is in process of being compiled and a database was developed to carry out the project evaluation process, which will take place during October.

#### Transit, Mobility & Human Services:

##### *Mobility Management*

- The Franklin County Mobility Advisory Committee (FCMAC) was held on September 11th initial results from the yearly survey was discussed.
- With FCMAC, developed and tested an intergenerational Mobility Planning tool which will be promoted to encourage individuals to create their own “My Mobility Plan” to think of alternatives to their current transportation modes. Roll out expected in October
- Participated in outreach activities and promoted Gohio Mobility at Bike the CBUS, the Senior Expo, Rise up CBUS, and the Affordable Housing Fair.

##### *FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient*

- Applications for the next round of 5310 funding opened on September 27, 2023 with a virtual workshop. Applications are due on Monday October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Additional information at <https://www.morpc.org/programs-services/enhanced-mobility/>.

### *Gohio Commute*

- Participated in various community events and health and wellness fairs to educate the public about sustainable rideshare options.
- Lead and participated in the OARC statewide commuter challenge called the “*Ohio Commuter Challenge*”. This challenge was held to increase brand awareness of Gohio Commute and to encourage commuters to rideshare.
- Started a new rideshare program with Acloche to provide more workforce transportation options for their employees. Acloche is currently participating in the new Gohio Commute 30-day launch program.
- Welcomed a new vanpool traveling from Dayton to the Chalmers P. Wylie VA.

### Transportation Planning Activities:

#### *LinkUS Mobility Initiative*

- MORPC hosted the launch of the LinkUS Community Advisory Committee with over 80 attendees learning about the LinkUS initiative and how to get involved on September 14, 2023.
- Led the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Technical Working Group quadrant meetings (9/19, 9/20, 9/27 & 9/28) to start the project identification phase.
- Continued to provide traffic forecast data support for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor design process.

#### *Intel Area Long Range Planning Support*

- Four proposals were received in response to the RFP that closed on September 25 to provide long range planning support for area of the region centered on the Intel locations. The proposals are being evaluated with consultant selection in late October.

### Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO):

- County-level Sub-committee meetings were held in each county. The focus of the meetings was to discuss project priorities for the CORPO Transportation Plan.
- The majority of the draft CORPO Transportation Plan was completed and posted on the website. The public comment period on the draft strategies and projects began September 25, 2023 and will be open through October 25, 2023. More information at <https://www.morpc.org/committees/central-ohio-rural-planning-organization-corpo/>.

### Active Transportation Planning:

- MORPC hosted the Q3 Active Transportation Committee meeting on September 12, 2023. The committee heard updates from ODOT about the Ohio Vulnerable Road User Assessment and kicked off a new Local Community Highlight agenda item with updates from the City of Canal Winchester. Many of our communities throughout the region are doing great work and we hope to use this time during each meeting to highlight that.
- MORPC hosted a virtual group viewing of the September APBP monthly professional development webinar. The next webinar is on October 18, 2023 on the topic of Tactile Walking Surface Indicators to Aid Wayfinding for Pedestrians with Vision Disabilities. These webinars are eligible for 1.0 hour of AICP Certification Maintenance credit. Contact Jordan Petrov at [jpetrov@morpc.org](mailto:jpetrov@morpc.org) if interested in attending.
- Team members completed all tasks for the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) grant work with Franklin County Public Health (FCPH). The City of Reynoldsburg adopted a new Complete Streets Policy as a result of the work completed with their staff.

- MORPC participated in the ODOT Active Transportation Advisory Committee Q3 meeting.
- MORPC will be reviewing the MORPC Complete Streets Policy in tandem with the review of the Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds. A working group will be formed to conduct this review that will engage members of the Attributable Funds Committee as well as the Active Transportation Committee. The first working group meeting will be scheduled for late October or early November.

## Transportation Safety:

- MORPC participated in a kick-off meeting for a new Pedestrian Safety Working Group of the Ohio Traffic Safety Council. This group will identify action items focused on improving pedestrian safety throughout the state of Ohio and report back to the full Council in August 2024.
- MORPC presented motorcycle crash trends in Central Ohio at the State Motorcycle Safety Association National Summit that was held in Columbus on Friday, September 15, 2023.
- MORPC hosted the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum on September 21, 2023. The Forum featured a keynote presentation from Councilor John Barth of Indianapolis and discussion with Columbus City Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla. A panel session was also held featuring speakers from the Ohio State University to highlight the psychology behind driver behavior, the basics of vehicle safety, and why the Safe System approach is so critical to reducing fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways.
- MORPC participated in the following safety committee meetings and safety-related events:
  - OARC Transportation Safety Subcommittee Q3 meeting, September 5, 2023.
  - Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review, September 7, 2023.
  - Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Technical Council Meeting, September 14, 2023.
- MORPC presented regional crash trends and the impacts of speed and roadway design on crash severity at the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Annual Conference in Cleveland on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

## Technical Assistance Program:

- The application window for the 2024 Technical Assistance Program opened on Friday, September 15, 2023. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, October 13, 2023. All 2024 Program information and the link to apply is available <https://www.morpc.org/programs-services/technical-assistance-program/>.
- Team members continue to work with the five communities awarded technical assistance for 2023 and will be wrapping up those services in the coming weeks. Final deliverables for each community will include recommendations for next steps that should lead to implementation of identified items. Team members are also working to ensure that those recommendations are included in the upcoming project evaluation process for inclusion in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

## Infrastructure Funding:

### *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*

- The September TIP amendment was shared with ODOT for inclusion in the October STIP amendment.

### *MORPC-Attributable Funding*

- Preliminary Draft Policies for managing MORPC-Attributable Funding were prepared for discussion at the October 4, 2023 AFC meeting.

### *Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)*

- The Public Works Integrating Committee for District 3 (Franklin County) received 21 applications for FY 25 SCIP/LTIP funding at the beginning of September. These applications are requesting just over \$45 million, and District 3 is projected to have about \$34.5 million in funding available for these requests.
- Evaluation of fiscal year 2025 applications has begun. Applicants are invited to briefly present their projects to the PWIC at the October 20, 2023 meeting. Final project rankings are expected to be available in early December.

### *Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)*

- The 2023 TRAC application priority list was approved by the Transportation Policy Committee on September 14, 2023 and sent to ODOT. MORPC will present the regional priorities to TRAC at their Central Ohio regional public hearing on October 25, 2023 at ODOT Central Office.

### *Federal Competitive Programs*

- The Drive Investment Portal (DIP) is updated with over 160 grant opportunities. This portal has been developed to inform MORPC partners of available federal, state, and local funding opportunities. About 98 opportunities are allocated through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and are tracked through SharePoint to monitor Federal spending trends.
- MORPC is currently working or assisting on several federal funding applications including:
  - The Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing).
  - COTA and Columbus applications for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) grant.
  - COTA and the City of Columbus application for the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Pilot Program.
- The state of Ohio has announced the availability of \$100 million to assist Ohio communities in developing projects and securing funding to eliminate at-grade railroad crossings for the Grade Crossing Elimination Program. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

### *Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)*

- Analysis of Competitive Advantage Projects has continued to better understand how these member projects align with federal initiatives. This analysis largely focuses on the Justice40 Initiative. Specifically, how these projects affect climate change and disadvantaged communities throughout Central Ohio. This analysis has helped inform which CAPs will score the most competitively when applying for a federal funding opportunity.

### *Money Mondays*

- The following Money Mondays sessions were held:
  - August 21: Driving Investment Portal Tutorial
  - August 28: MORPC Residential Services
  - September 11: Brownfield Remediation Funding
  - September 18: State Capital Budget and Community Investment

## **Economic Development**

### **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):**

- The Columbus Region Economic Development District (CREDD) was officially approved by the federal Economic Development Administration. This makes MORPC the newest Economic Development

District in Ohio, as well as the largest metropolitan area in Ohio to achieve this designation. This designation supports an eleven-county region: Logan, Marion, Morrow, Knox, Union, Delaware, Licking, Madison, Franklin, Fairfield, Pickaway.

### Brownfield Assessments:

- MORPC completed the final meeting with our EPA Brownfields Project Manager. During this meeting, we discussed how to close out MORPC Brownfield Assessment grant, while strategizing how to obtain more Brownfield funding in future rounds.
- A quarterly meeting with MORPC Brownfield consultant, SME, was completed to identify what final invoices will be submitted before the end date of September 30, 2023.

# PLANNING

Kerstin Carr, Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Sr. Director of Planning – [kcarr@morpc.org](mailto:kcarr@morpc.org)

## Community Development

### Central Ohio Greenways:

- The Central Ohio Greenways Board met on July 19, 2023 to approve the updated Strategic Plan Action Items. The Board met again on September 20, 2023 to review and approve a new working group structure that will support the advancement of the updated action Items. The proposed new structure will include two ongoing program-based working groups, time constrained project based working groups, and annual collaboration meetings.
- The Outdoor Trails Pass partnership with Experience Columbus was relaunched in April 2023. Since the relaunch we have seen a significant increase in the number of people interacting with and using the pass. Over 1,000 people have checked into destinations along the COG trails since April.
- A Trail Alerts page has been added to the COG website to communicate trail closures and detours. Partners are encouraged to share their trail closures with MORPC staff.
- The Designing Local consultant team is under contract to complete the COG Wayfinding Strategy. The team has met with stakeholders and has drafted a recommended signage strategy. Over the next month they will integrate Trail Towns concepts into the wayfinding strategy.
- Cycle Forward is under contract to complete the COG Trail Town Framework Urban Expansion project. The team met with select communities in Franklin County along the Ohio to Erie Trail to learn more about their interests, needs, and concerns with a Trail Town Program. The project is expected to be completed in October.
- COG is hosting a Trail Forum in Westerville on October 12, 2023. The results of the Trail Towns Project, updates to the Wayfinding work, community trail spotlights, and other tourism related topics will be shared.
- The Trail Development Working Group will be supporting Regional Partnership meetings during the second half of 2023. The partnership meetings are scheduled for November 2023.
- COG received partial funding for a Natural Asset Mapping effort from the Columbus Foundation. When fully funded, the project will provide data to support holistic decision making around how development impacts the sustainability of our region's watersheds.

### Central Ohio Blueways:

- The Central Ohio Blueways Advisory Panel met September 13, 2023 to continue discussions around appropriate considerations and measures for State Water Trail Designation through ODNR. The MORPC team is continuing to reach out to, and have discussions with, stakeholders along Big Walnut Creek regarding State Designation efforts.
- Central Ohio Blueways is also partnering with a capstone class in The Ohio State University EEDS (Environment, Economic Development, and Sustainability) Program to develop an Access Point Design Guideline. The project will create various access point typologies and make recommendations on elements of access points to be designed in a sustainable and eco-friendly manner. The capstone class is a semester-long course, with an expected finished document completed in early December.
- The Central Ohio Blueways Advisory Panel will meet again on October 11, 2023, and will begin discussing the organizational structure of a permanent Central Ohio Blueways Steering Committee.



## insight2050:

### *LinkUS Mobility Initiative*

- Together with the Programming Department, staff are engaged in ongoing committee and working group meetings for the LinkUS initiative.

### *RAPID 5*

- RAPID 5 was the featured topic at the September Environmental Professionals Network Breakfast. A recording of the event is available [here](#).
- MORPC is engaging with RAPID 5 on its Central Ohio Greenways and Blueways programming. Team members continue to provide transitional support to RAPID 5, which includes assisting with processing speaker requests and presentation needs. MORPC team members are also assisting with developing a resource library of data, resources, insights, and information about pertinent topics, including land use, multi-modal transportation systems, sustainability, economic development, etc. Stay up to date with RAPID 5 news and events at [rapid5.org](https://rapid5.org). MORPC's main contact for the RAPID 5 initiative is Chief Regional Strategy Officer, Kerstin Carr ([KCarr@morpc.org](mailto:KCarr@morpc.org)).

## Regional Housing Strategy (RHS):

### *Outreach*

- Team members were invited to discuss regional housing and growth trends with various media outlets and in meetings and events hosted by several MORPC member communities and partner organizations.
- MORPC is coordinating with Franklin County and the City of Columbus on the Multifamily Bond Program and associated Joint Housing Advisory Board to assess the program's effectiveness and explore opportunities to increase utilization.
- Regional Housing Coalition Task Force recommendations were shared with the coalition's convening partners this past spring. MORPC and other task force leaders expect to receive guidance on next steps soon and will provide updates as they become available.

### *Implementation Assistance*

- Are you 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](mailto:JNoll@morpc.org)).

## Community-Based Planning Assistance

- The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program (CBPA) was announced at the August 10, 2023 Commission meeting. Notifications of the Program opening through MORPC's social media channels began in September, and the Community Development team is continuing to meet with Regional Planning Organizations throughout Central Ohio to discuss how the Program can assist their communities.
- Members may learn more about CBPA by visiting <https://www.morpc.org/community-based-planning-assistance> as well as utilize this link to request assistance.

### *Consultant Services Program*

- The Consultant Services Program opened in August, with widespread notification of the program via a press release and a social media campaign in September, as well as direct announcements sent through MORPC's contact lists and ODOT's Consultant Services team. The Prequalification and Assistance Request windows are open through October 13, 2023.



### *Planner Pool Program*

- Members are invited to submit applications for assistance from the Planner Pool Program. MORPC will begin reviewing and fulfilling requests for assistance this fall, following the onboarding of new staff who will join current team members in providing direct planner assistance to member communities.

## **Sustainability**

### **Sustainability Advisory Committee:**

- The committee met on September 20, 2023. The agenda included regional updates regarding policy and funding, the Summit on Sustainability, and progress on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG). The MORPC team encouraged early engagement and input on the CPRG and discussed next steps. The committee also voted on the proposed City of Columbus Sustainable2050 recertification, and more information will be presented at the October Commission meeting. The next SAC meeting will take place on December 13, 2023 at 2:30 pm at the Jeffrey Mansion in Bexley.

### **Sustainable2050:**

- Sustainable2050 members have been highlighted through a Sustainable September social media campaign. The next Sustainable2050 meeting will be September 28, 2023 at 9:30 a.m., where the MORPC and Sustainable Columbus team will give an informational presentation on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant and how the members can stay engaged throughout the process.

### **Water Resources Program:**

#### *Sustaining Scioto Board*

- The Sustaining Scioto Board met on August 23, 2023. Board members heard a preliminary project overview of the Farming for Cleaner Water project in the Upper Scioto watershed. MORPC has received funding from American Farmland Trust to provide communication planning services and is working with New Reach Consulting. Members are being asked to complete a survey focused on gaining insights and information about their experiences as stakeholders involved in water quality activities in the Upper Scioto watershed. Input will help develop comprehensive messaging based on the needs and experiences of organizations and regions. Thanks to funding awarded by the Columbus Foundation Green Funds, Central Ohio Greenways Program Manager Melinda Vonstein presented a new project which will inventory and map the natural assets within Franklin County's watersheds.
- Brandi Whetstone presented an overview of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, and encouraged members to take a survey that will inform the engagement strategy.
- MORPC is working with Ohio EPA to support their proposed regional water supply and demand study that will likely take place in early 2024. As the scope is being fleshed out, MORPC will be able to share more detailed information.
- The Sustaining Scioto Board will meet again on October 25, 2023.

#### *Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team*

- The September Outreach Team meeting has been rescheduled and members will meet remotely on November 16, 2023.

#### *Ohio EPA Water Resources Planning Work*

- MORPC continues to review facility planning area maps and collaborate with stakeholders in the ten-county area where draft water quality management plans have been developed to collect data on their wastewater prescriptions. The data collected will be used to create interactive GIS data layers highlighting treatment prescriptions of sewer service areas as well as designated management

agencies in the region. Furthermore, MORPC is working with Ohio EPA to identify a process that can help resolve disputes over sewer service boundaries.

### *Clean Ohio Conservation Fund:*

- Final applications for FY 2024 were due September 1, 2023. The Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) received three applications requesting \$1,997,820 in Clean Ohio funds. Committee members visited applicant sites on September 14, 2023, and will meet on October 2, 2023 for the scoring session.
- For more information, please contact Edwina Teye at [eteye@morpc.org](mailto:eteye@morpc.org) or visit our website at <https://www.morpc.org/program-service/clean-ohio-conservation-fund/>.

## Energy & Air Quality:

### *Energy & Air Quality Working Group*

- The Energy & Air Quality Working Group met on September 27, 2023, getting the group's input on updates from MORPC. However, with both Chair Matt Stephens-Rich and Vice-Chair Dale Arnold stepping down from their roles at the end of the year when their terms expire, the main focus of the meeting was discussing the process and logistics for the upcoming change in leadership. If you recommend anyone as a leadership candidate, please contact Brian Filiatraut, MORPC's Energy & Sustainability Program Manager ([bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org)).
- The Energy and Air Quality Working Group will hold its next and final meeting of 2023 on Wednesday, November 29, 2023. At this meeting, members will vote to elect the next Chair and Vice-Chair.

### *Energy Planning*

- On October 10, 2023, MORPC will co-host along with the City of Columbus, America Is All In's Cash In On Clean Energy Tour held at COSI. The event will bring together state and local government officials and business and nonprofit leaders to learn and discuss how to unlock federal funds from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). More details to follow.
- MORPC continues its collaboration with the City of Columbus, The Ohio State University, Power a Clean Future Ohio, and IMPACT Community Action in its work on the USEPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Phase I: Planning grant. This core project team finished collecting responses on a pre-engagement survey from residents in the ten-county Columbus Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). This survey is the first of many touch points with the public to better communicate and engage on the CPRG work. In an effort to increase a more meaningful outreach and engagement strategy throughout the ten MSA counties, the Sustainability Advisory Committee is developing a Subcommittee that will be co-chaired by Alana Shockey of Sustainable Columbus and Jennie McAdams of Franklin County Public Health. More details to follow as the subcommittee is rounded out.

### *Air Quality Planning*

- No Air Quality Alerts were issued for the Columbus region in August. The Air Quality Index (AQI) levels were Good on 16 days and Moderate on 15 days. Particle pollution was the primary pollutant on 12 of the 15 days with Moderate AQI levels, with wildfire smoke from Canada and the western U.S. contributing to the elevated levels. Overall, air quality conditions for August 2023 were worse than August 2022 and 2021.
- The Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project/US EPA project team, made up of MORPC and Franklin County Public Health staff, collected quotes for air sensor equipment and selected a vendor. The team is continuing to invite partners and community members to join a project advisory committee, develop processes for equipment and data management, and will submit a quarterly report to U.S. EPA.
- WOSU interviewed MORPC's Sustainability Officer about air pollution caused by unnecessary vehicle idling, and featured the City of Bexley's no-idling ordinance which was recently introduced.

# Data, Mapping & Modeling

## Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC):

- The 2023-2025 Regional Data agenda was presented to the Commission and formally adopted on August 10, 2023. RDAC leadership is evaluating newly proposed projects and initiatives to be further evaluated and prioritized during the full committee meeting on September 26, 2023.

### *Working Groups & User Groups*

- Capacity Building & Partnerships Working Group – The group has pivoted in the short-term to focus on planning for Data Day 2024, which is scheduled to be held at Ohio University’s Dublin Integrated Education Center on February 7, 2024. A Call for Proposals was sent to a contact list, including Regional and Information Data Group (RIDG) and Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) members, as well as last year’s Data Day attendees, speakers, sponsors, and RDAC members.
- Local Government Resources Working Group – The group continues to explore the possibility of using the nascent “data coaches” platform envisioned by the Capacity Building & Partnerships Working Group to share tailored data policy resource recommendations to requestors on-demand. The Working Group meets the last Tuesday of each month at 3:00 pm.
- Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) – The RIDG Steering Committee met on August 22, 2023 in preparation for the September 27, 2023 third quarter RIDG meeting. At the September 27, 2023 RIDG meeting, members will discuss aspects of Data Management. Specifically, the meeting will be composed of a brief presentation on Data Engineering: automating data retrievals, updates, and database management, followed by an infield discussion of application of best practices. Following this, small groups of attendees will discuss their work in this area and any successes/ issues they face and lessons they have learned, followed by a report out and larger group discussion.
- Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) – The most recent COGUG meeting was held on August 23, 2023. The meeting was hybrid, with 25 people in-person and 50 online. Lightning presentations by ODOT on Urban Area boundary and functional class, ArcMap, and Power BI by ThreeScale, as well as a discussion about URISA and pending GIS conferences were among the topics discussed. The group will meet again on November 15, 2023, which is National GIS Day.

## Data Analytics, Mapping, and Research:

- Continued to explore ways to standardize data tools and workflows and to improve data and workflow version control and documentation. This month, the team automated more of the sub-county jurisdiction population estimates and member dues computations, and improved the accuracy of population estimates for arbitrary jurisdictions, such as library districts and school districts. The team has also made significant progress documenting the existing process for computing zonal socioeconomic variables for the MTP.
- The team is preparing inputs required for the Travel Demand Model.

## Data Analytics, Mapping, and Research:

### *Data & Research Activities*

- Sustainability, Data, and Communications & Engagement team members collaborated to produce the Leaders Listen: Sustainability survey. MORPC is working with Measurement Resources Company (MRC) and The Columbus Dispatch to conduct the survey in preparation for the October 26, 2023 Summit on Sustainability. An “Actionable Insights” report similar in form and format to the recent Transportation report will be produced to share the results with Central Ohio stakeholders.

- The MORPC AI Team met on September 19, 2023 to evaluate and prioritize proposed projects and initiatives. Projects focusing on acceptable use of AI and inventorying available AI resources have begun, while projects focused on providing educational opportunities are expected to begin in October.
- The Data Team completed the 2023 sub-county population estimates and 2024 member dues, which were shared with Commission on September 14, 2023. A resolution to approve the estimates and dues will be submitted to the Commission at the October 12, 2023 meeting. The team is grateful for the feedback provided by member communities, which often included additional housing permit data.
- Team members continue to manage the organization's air quality sensors and develop quality assurance processes and documentation to support the EPA air quality monitoring grant.
- Continued to develop county-level forecasts of households & housing by type to better predict future housing needs. This would be an extension to existing county forecasts for households and housing in general. Household types may include people living alone, two or more working-age adults with children, families with children, and adults of retirement age. Housing types may include attached housing, single-family small lot, and single-family large lot.

### *Mapping Activities*

- The Mapping team is creating data and maps as part of the CORPO long range plan as well as mapped OPWC projects and working on Central Ohio water supply and demand mapping and collection information for a 208 project, both with OEPA.
- MTP project web map has been turned off for public input, so project mapping and evaluation can begin. MTP benchmark data is being calculated.
- The Active Transportation Network Tool was delivered by Cultivate Geospatial. Staff are now working to refine the data inputs to create a network to show access for bicyclists and pedestrians. This allows for various drop-down travel scenarios and will provide useful information to the casual GIS user, once the network is best available.
- Attended the Ohio GIS Conference to network with other government agencies and learn about projects in the region.

### *Modeling Activities*

- The Modeling Team is working on various projects, including TRAC projects evaluation using the regional travel demand model. Other projects are preparing the travel demand model for MTP project evaluation, reviewing Zonal Socioeconomic Data (ZSED), maintaining the traffic count program, and responding to traffic growth rate and modeling requests.
- The Modeling team completed work on the Columbus Downtown Multimodal project, Dublin Model Update, West Broad Weave and BCA Modeling for I-71 Phase 2D and 3.
- MORPC is recruiting for the position of Associate Engineer/Planner/Modeler.

# COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

Níel M. Jurist, Sr. Director of Communications & Engagement – [njurist@morpc.org](mailto:njurist@morpc.org)

## News Releases:

- [MORPC updates Regional Data Agenda to boost data-driven innovation \(8/22/2023\)](#)
- [CORPO proposes more than \\$1.1 million for transportation projects \(9/5/2023\)](#)
- [MORPC achieves Economic Development District designation for Central Ohio \(9/12/2023\)](#)
- [Funding availability announced to enhance mobility for older adults and individuals with disabilities \(9/13/2023\)](#)
- [Community-based planning assistance program expanded to empower communities to address future growth \(9/14/2023\)](#)
- [MORPC launches 2024 Technical Assistance Program \(9/14/2023\)](#)
- [MORPC launches latest “Leaders Listen” survey focused on sustainability and the environment \(9/15/2023\)](#)

## MORPC in the News:

- [New Fairfield County land use plan worries many who fear runaway growth \(8/20/2023\)](#)
- [Planning official wants region to take advantage of ‘transformational time’ | | logandaily.com \(9/5/2023\)](#)
- [Fairfield County receives over 250,000 for Southern Gateway Project in Lancaster \(9/5/2023\)](#)
- [Hilliard planning pedestrian bridge across 1-270 \(9/5/2023\)](#)
- [Planning official wants region to take advantage of “transformational time” \(9/5/2023\)](#)
- [OKI Freight Conference attracts national audience \(9/8/2023\)](#)
- [Bexley considers banning vehicle idling, citing health, environmental concerns \(9/11/2023\)](#)
- [Search begins for new Mount Vernon safety-service director \(9/12/2023\)](#)
- [Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission study to target Intel impact outside of Central Ohio \(9/12/2023\)](#)
- [With Intel moving ahead, broad-scale planning around New Albany is, too \(9/13/2023\)](#)
- [Nutshells: Your local news roundup \(9/14/2023\)](#)
- [CORPO Seeking Public Comment on Widening of SR-31 \(9/14/2023\)](#)
- [Region granted special designation \(9/15/2023\)](#)
- [Community-based planning assistance program expanded to prepare for growth \(9/16/2023\)](#)
- [Proposed project could build 1 to 3 crosswalks on Memorial Drive \(9/20/2023\)](#)
- [Dublin preparing for possible passenger rail station \(9/21/2023\)](#)



## Digital Content:

Social Media: Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn:

- Air Quality Alerts, Careers/Jobs, Central Ohio Greenways, Trails Pass, Gohio Commute, Gohio Mobility RFPs/RFQs, Sustainability, Residential Services, Summit on Sustainability, Public Comment, LinkUS, Voter Education, Supplier Diversity Procurement Fair, Water Quality, TRAC Comments, MTP Comments, e-Source, Child Passenger Safety Week, Rosh Hashanah, National Hispanic Heritage Month, Leaders Listen Survey, Technical Assistance Program, CPRG Survey, Sustainable September Community Highlight, Ohio Commuter Challenge, 5310 Funding, National Preparedness Month, Regional Transportation Safety Forum, Labor Day, 9.11, Women's Equality Day, Regional Investment Survey, Solar United Neighbors, Senior Citizens Day, and MORPC News.

Reach:

- [Facebook & Instagram](#)

Top Posts:

- [Instagram](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

## Diversity & Inclusion:

- One of MORPC's goals in the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion workplan is to increase the promotion of services to diverse audiences and those who speak English as a second language (ESL). MORPC has partnered with Community Refugee & Immigration Services (CRIS), to provide translation and interpretation options. CRIS has translated several MORPC marketing materials (such as the Regional Mobility Plan Survey) into different languages. To celebrate their grand opening and new facility, MORPC staff toured and visited their facility to learn more about the programs that they offer.
- Communications & Engagement participated in the Franklin County Board of Commissioners Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion's event to introduce small emerging businesses to Franklin County representatives and community partners.

## Public Involvement & Engagement:

- MORPC hosted the September Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO), meeting on September 13, 2023. COMTO is known as the "*Voice of Equity in Transportation*" and their organization strives to determine strategic priorities for multimodal transportation development in Central Ohio.
- Participated in the Capitol Square Power Up Career Expo on September 21, 2023, hosted by Jobs Ohio, Ohio Means Jobs, Ohio Workforce Transformation, the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce and Senator Michele Reynolds. The expo was held at the Ohio Statehouse and MORPC staff shared information about the agency's resources, programs, services, and career opportunities.
- MORPC promoted the following requests for public input through social media and on our website:
  - Regional Investment Survey: [8/25](#)
  - MTP Public Comments: [8/16](#), [9/8](#)
  - CORPO Public Comments: [9/5](#)
  - RFP/RFQ: [8/25](#)
  - 5310 Applications: [9/13](#)
  - CRPG Survey: [8/24](#), [8/31](#), [9/5](#), [9/14](#)

- Technical Assistance Program: [9/14](#)

## Marketing Campaigns:

- The Gohio Commute program is running a marketing campaign through radio advertising and on social media that focuses on the Ohio Commuter Challenge with the goal to increase participation in the program.

## Events:

### Upcoming Events:

- September 21, 2023 – [Regional Transportation Safety Forum, MORPC Offices](#)
- October 11, 2023 – MORPC invites you to bring your big, bold ideas on transportation, housing, climate, and economic development for a Big Table conversation with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Share your perspective and learn from others in the community as we discuss ideas for creating a prosperous future Central Ohio. Registration is open until Friday, October 6, 2023. [Follow this link to register.](#)
- October 26, 2023 – [Summit on Sustainability, Hilton Columbus Downtown](#)
- March 15, 2024 – [State of the Region, Hilton Columbus Downtown](#)

# MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Eileen Leuby, Member Services Officer – [eleuby@morpc.org](mailto:eleuby@morpc.org)

## Events:

- Every Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., MORPC hosts "Money Mondays" virtual presentations with our Regional Investment Officer, Dr. Todd Bradley to learn about key funding opportunities.
- Rural Mobility Event: Trails & Tourism Economy – Tuesday Oct. 17, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (with an optional hike post-event) at Hocking Hills Lodge & Conference Center, Logan, Ohio. The event is free to MORPC members, but advance registration is required. This forum will feature Modern Trail Opportunities, Advocacy, and regional investment initiatives to foster a connected Central Ohio Trail Network. [Register for the event here.](#)

## Past Events:

- Region Update Breakfast – Southwest Area of Central Ohio was held on September 26, 2023 9 a.m. – 10:30 am.at City of London. Local Governments located in Madison County, Franklin County (Southwest), Fayette County, Pickaway County (West) and Ross County (West) and our community planning stakeholders were invited to attend.