



LINKUS UPDATE

**MORPC Executive
Committee**

February 1st, 2024

LINKUS OVERVIEW

WHY LINKUS?

LinkUS is Central Ohio's comprehensive mobility plan to help address growth, affordability and opportunity gaps in our community.

GROWTH



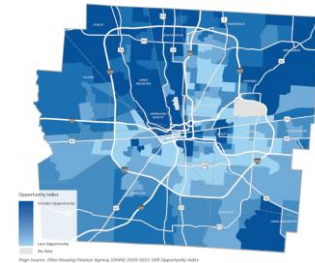
3.15 million people
total by 2050*

AFFORDABILITY



Housing prices have
increased 32% since March
2020 and 16% in 2022 alone

OPPORTUNITY GAPS



1/3 of Franklin County residents live in
areas of low or very low opportunity

*Opportunity Index
(lighter = less opportunity)*

HOW DO WE GET THERE?



**FASTER, MORE
RELIABLE PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

**SAFER AND EXPANDED BIKE
AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS**

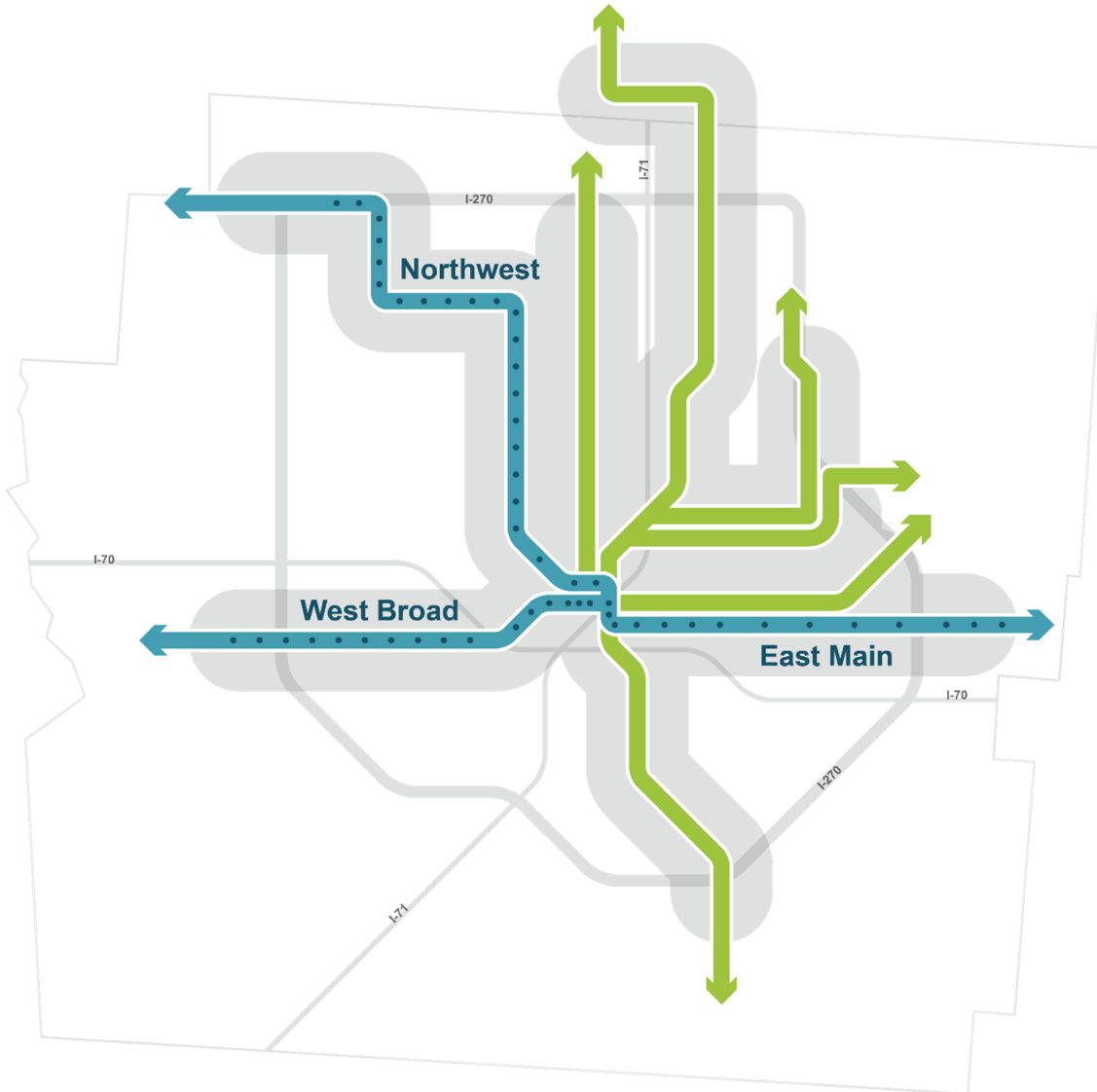
**WALKABLE
COMMUNITIES MORE
AFFORDABLE ACCESS
TO WORK, HOME, AND
ENTERTAINMENT**



UPDATE: CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT & IDENTIFICATION



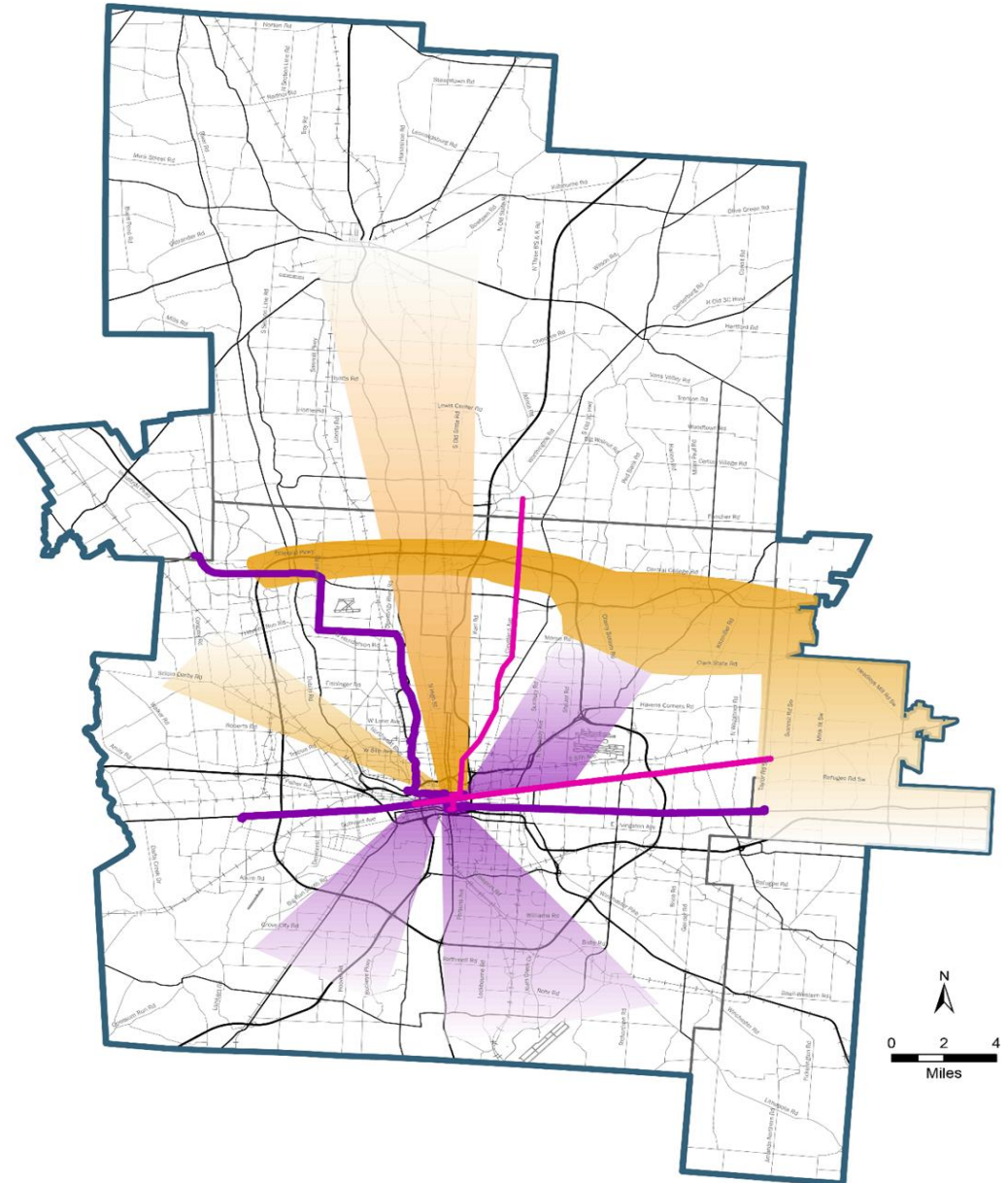
NETWORK OF CORRIDORS



- West Broad Corridor
 - 60% Design
 - Scoping 90% Design
- East Main Corridor
 - Kicking-off 60% Design
- Northwest Corridor
 - Scoping 30% Design
- Downtown Convergence
 - Ongoing coordination between City of Columbus and COTA, working with ODOT
- Future Corridor #4
- Future Corridor #5

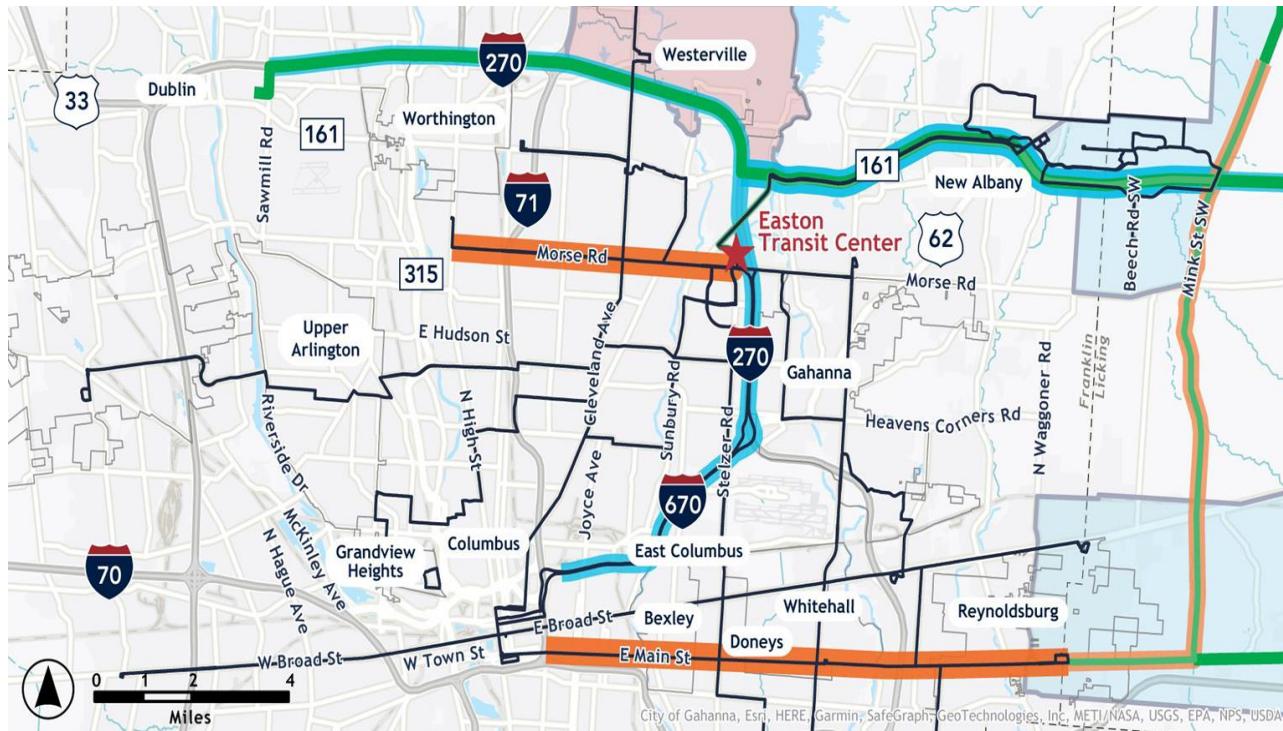
2024-2050 DRAFT MTP

- Planned BRT Corridors
- Premium Transit Improvements
- Future Rapid Transit Corridors
- Corridors to Study



PLANNING COORDINATION

ODOT Workforce Transit Plan



Inter-City Passenger Rail





TSI REGIONAL PRIORITIES



TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

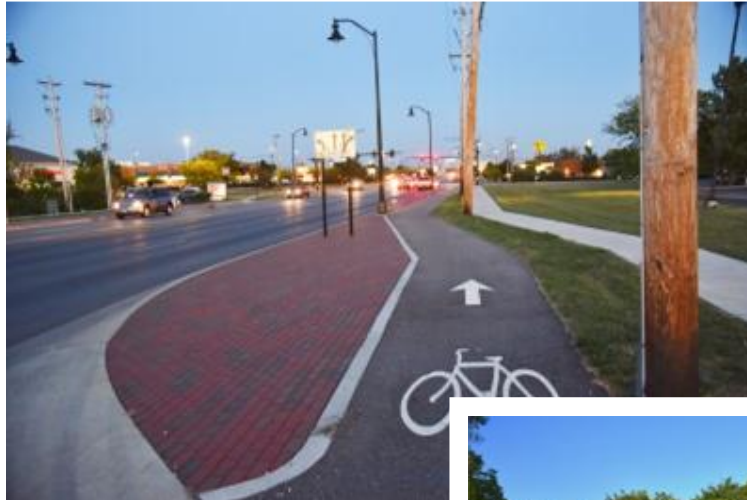
27.5%

Dedicated of the New 0.5% Sales
Tax Collection



~\$60M

Estimated Annual Collections
Dedicated to Transit Supportive
Infrastructure





TSI COMMITTEES



Technical Working Groups (TWG)

- Direct representation for each jurisdiction
- Technical staff (planners, engineers, financial managers)
- Identify and prioritize TSI projects within their geographic quadrant

Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

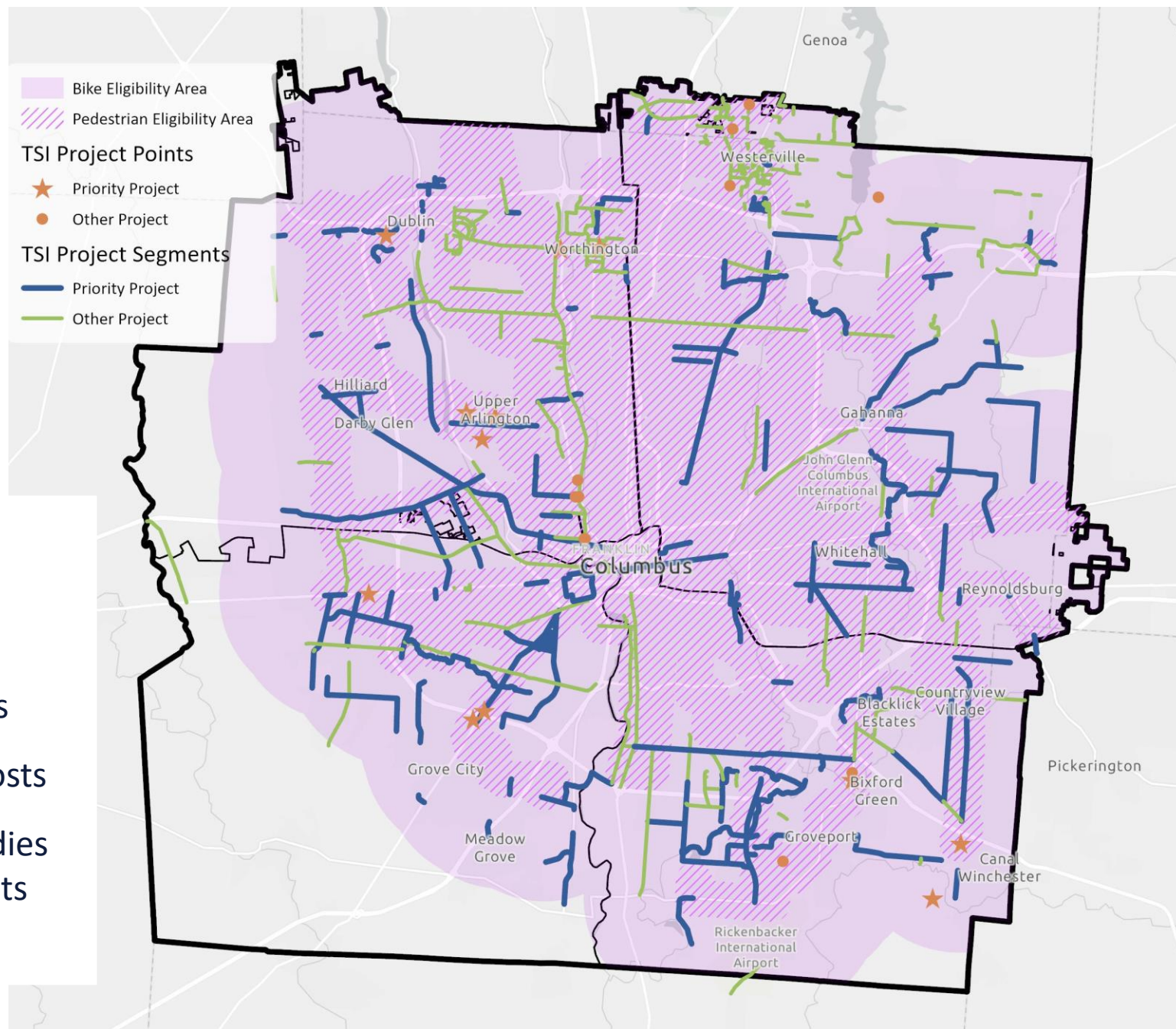
- Subset of TWG members
- Build consensus between quadrants and recommend regional CIB/CIP
- Maintain pipeline of projects for future CIP updates
- Chair and Vice-Chair:
Cindi Fitzpatrick and
Council Person Emily Keeler

Leadership Committee (LC)

- Elected/executive level officials
- Approves bylaws, policies, and procedures
- Review and approve recommended TSI CIB/CIP
- Determine overall programmatic strategy with TCC
- Chair and Vice-Chair:
Megan O'Callaghan and
James Jewell

TSI REGIONAL PRIORITIES

- 330+ projects under consideration
- 130+ identified as local priorities
- 360+ miles of trails, sidewalks, bike paths
- \$500-700 M in total estimated project costs
- Collaborating to complete feasibility studies and cost estimates for conceptual projects





TSI ACTION ITEMS

- In 2023, our focus was engaging with jurisdictions to design a program to benefit every community.
 - Executed interagency agreements for program management
 - Formalized and convened TSI Committees
 - Drafted program policies
 - Identified TSI project priorities
- In 2024, TSI Committees will focus on:
 - Finalize program policies
 - Develop TSI CIP/Budget
 - Communicate project priorities
 - Collaborate to get priority projects “grant-ready” and maintain pipeline of projects





COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH





SPOTLIGHT: REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT

- In 2023, the focus was on engaging mayors and city managers, plus their administrative leadership to:
 - raise awareness of LinkUS and create enthusiasm and a unified vision for enhanced mobility within the region;
 - recruit participants in ongoing TSI work and leadership coalition committees.
- In 2024, engagement will focus on maintaining communication with 2023 audiences and focus newly on:
 - city councils
 - zoning and planning commissions
 - schools
 - area private, non-profit, and community institutions

Key Tactics in 2024

- Encourage regional stakeholders to share the COTA-produced LinkUS videos and other LinkUS educational resources on their websites and in e-news content.
- Encourage jurisdictions to invite residents and officials to join them at COTA and MORPC events where LinkUS will be discussed.
- Encourage jurisdictions to convene their own LinkUS events and create other opportunities to engage.

