

#### 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

> Wednesday, April 3, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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#### **AGENDA**

9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions - James Young, Chair

9:02 a.m. **Approval of March 2024 Meeting Minutes** 

9:03 a.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Nick Gill, MORPC

Dave Dixon, MORPC

9:10 a.m. **Funding Programs** 

Attributable Funds Project Status Update – Thomas Graham, MORPC

9:15 a.m. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update- Maria Schaper, MORPC

9:25 a.m. Informational Items

• Member Update: City of Westerville – Kevin Weaver, City of Westerville

William Murdock, AICP **Executive Director** 

Chair

**Chris Amorose Groomes** 

Michelle Crandall

**Ben Kessler** Secretary

Vice Chair

TAC Meeting Agenda Wednesday, April 3, 2024 Page 2

- 2025 Planning Work Program (PWP) Nick Gill, MORPC
- Subcommittee Updates
  - Intelligent Transportation Systems Jon Heider, MORPC
  - Active Transportation Systems Matt Peoples, City of Canal Winchester & Lauren Cardoni, MORPC

9:55 a.m. Other Business

10:00 a.m. Adjourn

PLEASE NOTIFY APRIL BUMGARDNER AT 614.233.4167 OR EMAIL <a href="mailto:abumgardner@morpc.org">abumgardner@morpc.org</a> TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The next TAC meeting is May 1, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

# Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes



Date: March 6, 2024
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: MORPC

#### **Members Present**

Andrako, Mike Moran, Ala Biesterveld, Andrew (online) Moss, Kimb Boucher, Christine (online) Nittle, Tim

Cox, Barbara Ferrigno, William Francis, Corey Moran, Alan Schamp, Letty
Moss, Kimberly Upp, Jeremiah
Nittle, Tim Volenik, Andy (online)

Owen, Jonathan (online) Weaver, Kevin Peoples, Matthew (online) Wilfong, Gary Sanders, Scott Young, James

#### <u>Guests</u>

Avellano, Mike (online) Dar, Susan (online) Hibbard, Tom

Ciotola, Michael (online) Elsea, Amy (online) Madineni, Veena (online)

## **MORPC Staff**

Agrawal, Parag Dixon, Dave Peggau, Karina (online)
Borger, Mike (online) Franco, Taylor (online) Schaper, Maria
Bumgardner, April Gill, Nick Strange, Emma
Cardoni, Lauren (online) Graham, Thomas Turner, Mary (online)
Diaz-Hernandez, Mauro Lewis, Elliott

#### I. Welcome & Introductions

• Chair Young called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. There was a quorum present.

## II. Approval of February 2024 Meeting Minutes

• Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the February 2024 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Ferrigno moved; Mr. Weaver seconded; and the motion passed.

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

- Mr. Gill began the meeting by discussing several Active Transportation Plans that
  are currently in progress or about to begin. Orange Township recently adopted their
  plan. Gahanna has begun the process to write a plan and Grove City recently
  received funding from ODOT to start the process. MORPC plays a role in facilitating
  these plans and providing data.
- Mr. Gill then went on to discuss the public comment period for MORPC Attributable
  Funding and Complete Street Policies. The Attributable Funding Policies updates
  only received one comment. The Complete Street Policies received about 20
  comments. Several of those comments were from a template related to incorporating
  Smart Growth America's National Complete Streets Coalition information. This
  information had been brought up with the committee, and most of these were geared

- toward implementation agencies versus funding agencies like MORPC. Other comments included support of the policy with notations regarding the poor conditions of some bike/pedestrian infrastructure throughout the region. With those comments, a word or two may change, but will be pretty much as the draft showed.
- Mr. Gill went on to discuss the final TRAC Awards for 2023. Final voting was on February 28, 2024 and seven projects were approved partially or completely for the Central Ohio Region. In total, \$63 million will be allocated for the region. Of the total funding of \$127 million for the state of Ohio, almost 53% will be coming to Central Ohio. This is the third year in a row that the region has done very well.
- The final item Mr. Gill had for the MPO Report, was to update the committee regarding federal discretionary funding. The RAISE Planning Grant was due on February 28, 2024. MORPC applied titled, *Trail Towns in the Nation's Heartland*. This active transportation plan seeks to extend the Central Ohio Greenways plan to all 15 MORPC counties. The grant request was purely for planning and totaled \$1.5 million. There were four other agencies in the region who also submitted RAISE applications the City of Columbus Linden Greenline; Franklin County Engineer's Office Alum Creek Drive project; City of Heath Thornwood Drive Corridor; and the City of Lancaster East Side Industrial Corridor. MORPC provided supported some support for the Linden Greenline and Thornwood Drive Corridor projects.
- Mr. Dixon continued the MPO report by updating the committee regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Data Day event. There were 150 attendees, and the event was sold out. OU-Dublin hosted the event and next year the committee is looking for a larger space for the event. Data Day is put on by the Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC). The RDAC recently approved the Regional Data Agenda, which is the guiding document for all MORPC's data activities through the RDAC Working Groups, as well as the Data & Mapping Teams.
- Mr. Dixon continued by explaining that a Regional Water Study will be kicking off in March, in partnership with ODNR and the Ohio EPA. The study is being funded by the Ohio Water Development Authority and will examine existing and future water supply and demand in the region to better understand gaps and priority areas for infrastructure development and investments in the future.
- Moving on, Mr. Dixon highlighted MORPC's Leader's Listen survey efforts that have been ongoing since 2023. The Sustainability Survey wrapped up recently and the report has been published and is available for review on MORPC's website. The current survey is looking at Housing in the region. Mr. Dixon's final update was to let the committee know that MORPC's State of the Region is coming up on March 15, 2024. The event is sold out and will play host to around 1,000 local leaders to discuss the theme for the event of: Connecting Communities Building the future of Housing and Transportation.

## IV. Funding Programs

- Mr. Graham provided a brief update on the Attributable Funding Project Status.
- Mr. Graham then presented the Resolution T-2-24: Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This amendment includes seven projects which are either being added or modified to the 2024 to 2027 TIP and three projects that are being removed from the TIP. Mr. Graham started by explaining that the three projects being removed from the TIP were all transit projects. All of these were duplicate project identification numbers that were included. These tasks and funds are just being reallocated and consolidated into a different project.

- Continuing, Mr. Graham explained that he wanted to highlight some of the new funding and not just the formula funding that was moved around. Mr. Graham noted that in the memo, there was a table that highlighted all the new funding coming into the region. Projects for COTA the East Main and West Broad LinkUS Corridors are on the amendment with the addition of \$8.1 million each of FTA Section 5309 Capital Investment Program funds. This is more of an accounting move on COTA's part in moving some 5307 funds, as well as some local funds between different projects.
- The next change highlighted was the COTA Electric Bus PID. This added the award of \$13.8 million of the FTA Lower or No Emissions Grant. Next is the SFY 2024 COTA Workforce Mobility Program awards. COTA received \$2.7 million through the Ohio Workforce Mobility program.
- Mr. Graham then pointed out that there was one ODOT project for this TIP, the US 62 from Smith Mill Road to Clark Drive project. This project is looking to study the corridor and engage in preliminary engineering. At this time there is a total of \$14 million being added for preliminary engineering and \$1 million for detailed design. With that Mr. Graham concluded and opened the floor for questions.
- Mr. Young asked for a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Nittle gave the motion and Ms. Cox seconded the motion. The Resolution passed.

# V. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

- Mr. Gill started by stating that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is the region's long range transportation plan that identifies priority strategies and projects, looking out at least 20 plus years, and is required to be updated every four years. This document is submitted to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the US Department of Transportation (USDOT). The MTP is a fiscally constrained plan, which means that not every project included has funding committed, but that based on a financial forecast and cost estimates, we think it will be affordable by 2050. The MTP is required federally as a function of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). As central Ohio continues to grow, the demands on the transportation systems are changing.
- Mr. Gill then continued with the process for the MTP. Generally, the process begins by establishing goals, objectives, and targets. MORPC looks at local, state, and other regional plans, and if a project has been identified at a local level, it should be considered as a part of the process. The next step in the assessment is to look at where people are living and working, and what travel patterns need to be considered. A fiscal analysis is done, and cost estimates are reviewed. The process also looks at impacts on things like air quality, environmentally sensitive areas, as well as disadvantaged communities. The major component is the regional strategies and priority projects. Throughout the process public participation is encouraged.
- Mr. Gill continued by showing a chart that indicates that the 15-county region that the MPO encompasses will be around 3.15 million persons by 2050. This increase translates to around 726,000 more people and around 360,000 more jobs by 2050.
- Next in the process, the plan looks at growth estimates within each county. This is based on local land use and comprehensive plans and looking at what local land use policies are allowing for, and at what levels they are planning for growth to occur.
- Back in 2022, the first resolution for the MTP process was to approve the six goals
  for the plan to be based on. The MTP identifies these six goals and strategies to
  guide investment and transportation and mobility infrastructure and service in Central

- Ohio. Thus, the focus now is on how the investment recommendations identified in this plan impact these goal areas. These include creating sustainable neighborhoods; positioning central Ohio to attract economic opportunities; protecting our natural resources; increasing regional collaboration; providing transportation and mobility options to benefit the health, safety, and welfare of all people; and reducing per capita energy consumption.
- Moving on, for each of those goals, measurable objectives are identified for each goal. There are around 20 measurable objectives. Next, knowing what needs to be done, what are the methods and capabilities that are going to be used to achieve those and that is where the strategies and projects come into play. There are around 78 strategies that are recommended to be part of the plan. Those are all available on the website for review. Furthermore, the strategies lead to then the specific projects. Those projects can then be measured and based on those measurable performance objectives that we identified to loop back to review the process in relation to the goals.
- Mr. Gill continued by talking about the projects. The process started by reviewing local, state, and regional plans. During the summer of 2023 the public was invited for a comment period using the web map to view the candidate projects that had been identified. In September of 2023, there were around 174 projects that were suggested, and Mr. Gill showed a chart that identified the project types. The interest in bike and pedestrian projects, as well as high-capacity transit projects were the two highest numbers. During the public comment period, participants were asked to provide their zip code. There was a lack of response in the eastern part of the region, and for the next comment period, the team needs to identify ways to better engage that area.
- Continuing, the projects are evaluated based on those goals and objectives. This evaluation looks at what data is available that we can use to measure those objectives quantitatively. Though it may not always be the way we prefer to measure, it is based on what can of data can be replicated easily for close to 1,000 projects. There are also some qualitative criteria that are taken into consideration. In October of 2023, there was a special Community Advisory Committee meeting to look further into the process and some of the data metrics used for the evaluation. Finally, for the project selection, the public comments and fiscal analysis are reviewed.
- For the fiscal analysis, a review is done of cost estimates identified through the local planning process. If it is not available, a cost is estimated based on a unit cost per mile and looking at some similarly constructed projects, accounting for inflation. For funding sources, we look at state dollars that are controlled through ODOT or Ohio Public Work Commissions or the county engineer's association. We also plan for local government portions. This is estimated by looking at historically what local communities have invested in their own funding and what private developers will also contribute.
- Moving on, Mr. Gill discussed the draft strategies and projects. There are 78 strategies focusing on the following: preservation and maintenance; technology and intelligent transportation systems; demand management; safety and security; infrastructure projects that include bike/pedestrian, transit, freight, roadways, and multimodal connections and hubs.
- For the draft list, the plan is looking at around a \$35 billion investment in the transportation system between now and 2050. The largest chunk of that is for transit, at \$13 billion. Mr. Gill explained that he would be showing the committee the map in more detail. However, to see the full listing and detail of the projects, members

- should go to the web map for review and comment. On the web map each project can be commented on individually, or comments can be sent to MORPC staff.
- Mr. Gill began the draft review looking at Transit Projects. There are three LinkUS corridors that are currently in design for bus rapid transit. There are a total of five corridors of high capacity or rapid transit that the plan identifies to be in place by 2050. The LinkUS partners went through an alternative analysis for each of these corridors to identify specific routes that make sense based on a wide variety of factors. Also identified are specific premium transit improvements and corridors that have been identified for additional studies. The corridors are being studied, but likely will not have construction by 2050. There is an assumption in the MTP that additional investment will be made in the existing bus service in both COTA and DCT transit service areas.
- Mr. Gill then showed the committee the map for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects. Mr. Gill explained that this map identified Stand-Alone routes. It is assumed that every roadway, non-freeway, will have a bicycle and pedestrian facility included as part of that project. Thus, the Stand-Alone routes, have been identified as projects outside of roadway projects. Mr. Gill also mentioned that one of the performance objectives identified was that for every arterial or collector within the urbanized area, a sidewalk should be planned for it by 2050.
- Next, the draft roadway projects were shown. These include major widenings, adding a through lane in each direction; minor widenings which would improve the efficiency of the roadway with center turn lanes or safety improvements; roadway connections; intersection improvements; or operational improvements which could be a one-way change to a two-way or road diets. This is a wide-ranging category.
- Mr. Gill then moved on to discuss the MTP Document. The MORPC Team is working to put all the information together. The general outline will include Plan Purpose and Goals; Regional Trends; The Transportation System; System Management; Demand Management; System Development; Project Evaluation and Fiscal Constraint; Summary of Strategies and Projects; and Plan Implementation. Mr. Gill gave a brief overview of each section and its components.
- For the next stages in the process, Mr. Gill said that the MORPC Team has been out in the community presenting the draft projects and strategies to local jurisdictions within the MPO. There are 54 presentations planned and have been ongoing since the beginning of February. The public comment period is open, and we are asking for feedback through the end of March. There is an Open House planned for March 19, 2024 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. The plan does need to be adopted by May 2024 to stay on the federal schedule. When the committee next meets, they will be asked to act on the MTP and adopt the MTP ahead of the May Transportation Policy Committee meeting.
- Ms. Schamp asked Mr. Gill what the most significant change in priorities has been over the past four, eight, etc. years that he had been working with the MTP. She also asked how this plays into the Travel Demand Model that MORPC uses to make projections for traffic volumes that help to guide project development. Mr. Gill responded that the biggest change in the last two plans is the inclusion of the high capacity rapid transit corridor. It has been included in the document that region would raise additional local funds to make this happen. He also stated that having almost \$2 billion for bike and pedestrian infrastructure is the largest portion in the MTP. That goes right along with the LinkUS initiative. Mr. Gill then answered that it has always been a challenge to work with the Travel Demand Model and this is significantly more since COVID with more work from home. It is hard to understand exactly how

many people are working from home. It is, however, still the best tool available and helps project where growth will occur. Part of this relies on how local communities develop their plans for growth and development.

## VI. Informational Items

- Mr. Diaz-Hernandez introduced himself and said that he would be providing an update on Air Quality and the End of Season Report for 2023. The End of Season Report for 2023 was released on Monday, March 4, 2024. This report looks at the time frame between March 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023. This monitoring is looking at particulate matter 2.5 and Ozone. MORPC uses the EPA Air Quality Scale for assessment. Most of the days in Columbus during the season rate in the green zone of good. Every so often, there are moderate or yellow days; and rarely there are orange (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups) or red (Unhealthy) days. This past season though was a bit of an outlier in air quality. There were four days within the orange zone, the most since 2016. There were also times in the red zone, for the first time in twelve years in this region.
- Mr. Diaz-Hernandez went on to explain that most of this was caused, not by any fault
  of Columbus residents, but by the Canadian wildfires that occurred in June of 2023.
  The smoke from the wildfires was brough to the region on jet streams, affecting the
  Midwest and mid-Atlantic states.
- Mr. Diaz-Hernandez then showed a chart highlighting the improvements that have been occurring in the region over the past 23 years. Mr. Diaz-Hernandez clarified that the red level day was due to the wildfires, but that the orange days do occur in the region and can be partially attributed to temperature increases and air pollution.
- Moving to the next portion of his presentation, Mr. Diaz-Hernandez to discuss U.S. EPA Clean Project Updates. MORPC is doing an air quality monitoring project using low-cost PurpleAir Sensors that are being put up around Franklin County. This allows MORPC to understand the granular level effects of all the air pollution that is being seen. The EPA uses two monitors in Franklin County to determine the air quality on specific days. MORPC wants to go deeper and look at levels in neighborhoods and near highways. MORPC wants to see data related to fluctuations based on proximity to highways and is working with Franklin County Public Health. The first step has been to calibrate the monitors against the EPA monitors. It will take about eight weeks and then all the monitors will be calibrated. MORPC is also working on outreach plans for public outreach, educational outreach, and working with neighborhoods. MORPC has formed a project advisory committee that is comprised of 14 Franklin County Professional and Community Leaders. This committee is helping to determine where to put these sensors.
- Mr. Diaz-Hernandez then proceeded with the final part of his presentation, to discuss the new EPA PM 2.5 Standard. The EPA tightened the standard for permissible particulate matter per year from 12 micrograms per cubic meter to 9 micrograms per cubic meter. The EPA shows that this change can help prevent about 4,500 premature deaths every year from inhalation of this particulate matter and ultimately yield about \$46 billion in benefits over the next ten years.

## VII. Other Business

 Mr. Gill then discussed Upcoming Meeting Topics and Resolutions. Some of the items that the committee would be seeing would include: Draft of the State Fiscal Year 2025 Planning Work Program; Active Transportation Committee & Intelligent Transportation System Updates; Local Community Updates; a variety

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- of Resolutions; LinkUS Updates; Transportation Improvement Program Amendments; and Transportation Review Advisory Council project updates.
- Kevin Weaver volunteered to provide a Westerville update as part of the local community update for the April meeting.

# VIII. Adjourn

• The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Nick Gill, Secretary

**Transportation Advisory Committee** 



# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION REPORT

# March 2024

## PROGRAMMING

Parag Agrawal, Chief Mobility and Infrastructure Officer and Senior Director of Programming – PAgrawal@morpc.org

# **Transportation**

Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director - NGill@morpc.org

# Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

- Draft MTP document was posted on the MORPC website on March 18, 2024. Project list, web map, and strategies document were posted in early February.
- MTP open house was held at MORPC on March 19, 2024 from 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- Programming staff has presented MTP updates at ~45 community meetings to date (since February) to solicit feedback. Ten additional meetings are scheduled for the next few weeks.
- On schedule to bring final plan for adoption at the May Commission meeting.

# Transit, Mobility & Human Services:

## Mobility Management

- Attended transportation advisory committees in Fairfield County, Licking County, and Union County.
- Presented and facilitated a conversation on Mobility Planning for older adults with Village Connections.
- Attended the American Society on Aging Conference and presented alongside the Age Friendly Innovation Center (AFIC) on the Regional Mobility Plan, Mobility Planning, and collaborative work with AFIC.

# FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient

- Continued to monitor subrecipient activities and federal reporting requirements.
- Assisted in the delivery and acceptance of backordered vehicles to subrecipient organizations.

#### Gohio Commute

- The annual NTD report for FY2023 was submitted
- Four new vanpools joined the MORPC Vanpool Program.

- A meeting was held with the Licking County Chamber of Commerce.
- A meeting was held with Marion Transportation Coalition to discuss partnership to bring a vanpool pilot to Marion.

# Transportation Planning Activities:

## LinkUS Mobility Initiative

- The Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) Committees continued to meet to identify priority projects and work towards a regional TSI capital improvement program.
- The LinkUS partner agencies continue to meet with local and regional stakeholders to share status updates on LinkUS activities.

## Passenger Rail

- MORPC continues to work with the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC), the City of Fort Wayne, and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) to begin planning for two routes through Central Ohio as part of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)'s Corridor Identification and Development Program.
- MORPC also continues to engage with the FRA on evaluating the potential for additional longdistance passenger rail routes going through our region.

# Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO):

• A draft of the CORPO Safety Action Plan was posted on the MORPC website for public comment. The plan identifies the most significant roadway safety concerns and establishes specific strategies and action items for implementation to address the identified roadway safety issues. The goal of this plan is to develop a holistic, well-defined approach to prevent fatal and serious injury crashes in the seven CORPO counties. Additionally, completion of this Safety Action Plan will make local agencies within the CORPO planning area eligible to apply for implementation funds through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. The public comment period will be open through Friday, April 19, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. The CORPO Committee will consider final approval of the Safety Action Plan at their next meeting on May 6, 2024.

# Active Transportation Planning:

- MORPC participated in the City of Columbus Bike Plus Plan Open House for stakeholders on March 18, 2024. MORPC team members provided information regarding critical cross-jurisdictional connections for the consultant team and City staff to consider in their network planning process.
- The second quarter Active Transportation Committee (ATC) meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. This will be a hybrid meeting with attendees able to join in-person at MORPC in the Board Room or via Microsoft Teams.
- MORPC is hosting virtual group viewings of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals
  (APBP) monthly Professional Development webinars again in 2024. These webinars are eligible for 1.0
  hour of American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Maintenance credit. Contact Jordan
  Petrov, (<u>JPetrov@morpc.org</u>) if you are interested in attending any of the MORPC group viewings. The
  next webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2024, on the topic of, "Best Practices: Emergency
  Vehicle Access for Bicycle/Pedestrian Friendly Streets."

# Transportation Safety:

- MORPC participated in the following safety committee meetings and events:
  - Central Ohio Alliance for Safe Transportation meeting on March 7, 2024.

- Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meeting on March 7, 2024.
- The first deadline for the FY24 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) federal discretionary grant program is Wednesday, April 4, 2024, at 5 p.m. EDT. This deadline is for Planning and Demonstration grants only. If your agency is interested in applying for an SS4A grant this year, please let the MORPC team know.
- The Ohio Traffic Safety Office is hosting the first annual Ohio Traffic Safety Summit in Columbus on May 20-21, 2024. This will be a great opportunity to hear from engaging speakers, participate in workshops, share resources and ideas, and network with colleagues from around the state. Registration is free and more information is available at <a href="https://ohiotrafficsafetysummit.com/">https://ohiotrafficsafetysummit.com/</a>.

# Technical Assistance Program:

- A stakeholder workshop with Jefferson Township was held on Monday, March 18, 2024, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Jefferson Township office. Interested residents and regional partners joined MORPC and Jefferson Township staff to discuss opportunities and needs related to infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists in the township. Information from this workshop will inform the geospatial analysis and recommendations that are developed in the coming months.
- A stakeholder workshop with Franklin Township has been scheduled for Friday, April 5, 2024, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Franklin Township office. Key community stakeholders and regional partners will join MORPC and Franklin Township staff to discuss existing conditions and needs related to infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists in the township.

# Infrastructure Funding:

## Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

• The March 2024 TIP amendment was transmitted to ODOT to be included in the April State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) amendment.

# MORPC-Attributable Funding

• The Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds have undergone a public comment period, and no additional changes to the Policies are being made because of comments received. The Policies will come before Community Advisory Committee (CAC), Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), and the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) in May for final approval.

# Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)

• The District 3 Public Works Integrating Committee began discussing potential modifications to the District's Evaluation Methodology in advance of soliciting applications for SFY 2026 State Capital Improvements Program (SCIP) and Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP) funding.

# Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)

- TRAC approved the 2024-2027 Major New Construction Program at its February 28, 2024 meeting. A total of \$127 million in new commitments were awarded to 18 projects. Of these, seven projects in Central Ohio received \$63 million in new funding.
- Applications for new commitments for the 2025-2028 program are expected to open in May.

## Federal Competitive Programs

 United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced awards for their Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant program. MORPC supported three applications in Central Ohio and partnered with The Ohio State University to apply. No awards were in MORPC's region.

- The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) announced that they will receive a \$42 million grant award from USDOT from their Reconnecting Community Pilot Program, Neighborhood Access, and Equity grant program. MORPC was identified as a Partner in this application and worked with COTA and the City of Columbus to submit this grant.
- The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program, administered by USDOT, concluded on February 28, 2024. MORPC supported four applications from Central Ohio and submitted one.
  - MORPC: Requested \$1.58 million in planning funds to study trail, and trail town, development throughout Central Ohio.
  - City of Columbus: Requested \$12 million in construction funds to develop the Linden Greenline.
  - Franklin County Engineer's Office: Requested \$25 million in construction funds to develop Alum Creek Drive from I-270 to Rickenbacker International Airport.
  - City of Heath: Requested \$2.5 million in planning funds to study the development of the Thornwood Drive Corridor.
  - City of Lancaster: Requested \$800,000 in planning funds to study the development of their Eastside Industrial Park Connector project.
- MORPC's Economic Development Team submitted our first grant as an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Economic Development District. This application was submitted to the EDA's Partnership Planning Grant program. This award will support the implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).
- USDOT announced the release of their Prioritization Process Pilot Program (PPPP) in late February. MORPC has held internal meetings to discuss how this program can support Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) activities and strategized on the creation of a competitive application.

## Money Mondays

- The following Money Mondays sessions were held:
  - February 26: Historic Preservation Funding
  - March 4: Capital Budget Updates
  - March 11: Transit supportive Infrastructure
  - March 18: MORPC Economic Development
  - March 25: Grants Education and how to use the Drive Investment Portal

# **Economic Development**

Padmini Roy-Dixon, Economic Development Director & Regional Innovation Officer - PRoyDixon@morpc.org

# Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)/ Economic Development District (EDD):

- The Economic Development team interviewed seven peer MPOs with Economic Development Districts (EDDs) to gather insights on how other organizations have structured their EDD Governing Boards and CEDS committees. The US Economic Development Administration (EDA) is currently reviewing the proposed framework.
- MORPC submitted its first Planning Partnership Grant to the EDA. The grant will help fund work related to CEDS updates and implementation.
- The team is working with the Village of Alexandria on a proposed project to be discussed with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD) programs.

• The Drive Investment newsletter launched in February in collaboration with the Government Affairs team. The newsletter contains details on funding resources, economic development activities, and is a means for member communities to share details on their projects and priorities with MORPC.

# Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)

MORPC leadership presented Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP) to Central Ohio's federal elected
officials. The presentations were successful, and helped elected officials obtain updated project
information on these regional priority projects.

#### **Brownfield Assessments:**

• An update from the US Environmental Protection Agency on MORPC's 2024 Brownfield Assessment application is expected between April-May 2024.

#### **Drive Investment Portal:**

- The Drive Investment Portal users totaled 102 in February. Two members Village of Minerva Park and the Village of Alexandria initiated contract requests.
- The team continues to update the Drive Investment Portal with changes to existing opportunities as well as adding new funding opportunities.

# **PLANNING**

Kerstin Carr, Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Sr. Director of Planning – KCarr@morpc.org

# **Community Development**

# Central Ohio Greenways (COG):

- The COG Board met on March 27, 2024 to hear project updates and working group progress.
- The COG Trail Towns Working Group met on March 11, 2024 to discuss how best to support the implementation of the COG Trail Town Framework.
- The Outdoor Trails Pass partnership with Experience Columbus was originally launched in 2020 and has been upgraded annually with new features every Spring. In 2023, we saw a significant increase in the number of people interacting with and using the pass. Much of the increase can be contributed to the inclusion of curated trail experience itineraries. This Spring the curated experiences will be further enhanced through a partnership with local tourism groups. Local tourism groups have submitted trail itineraries that include stops at trail side businesses, restaurants, and cultural amenities. These new curated experiences will be highlighted in the 2024 Outdoor Trails Pass, launching on Celebrate Trails Day, April 27, 2024 at Genoa Park.
- MORPC will convene the COG Trail Closure and Detours Steering Committee in the Spring to develop guidelines for managing and communicating trail closures and detours. The committee will meet monthly for six months. Participation interest should be submitted to Melinda Vonstein (<u>mvonstein@mrpc.org</u>) by March 31, 2024.
- 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. They have also
  integrated Trail Towns, Public Art, and Placemaking concepts into the wayfinding strategy. The project
  is expected to conclude in the Spring.
- MORPC hosted a COG Forum on March 20, 2024 bringing together nearly 100 trail planners, advocates, elected officials, and government staff to learn about regional projects that are going beyond basic trail infrastructure to provide an enjoyable and comfortable trail user experience.
- MORPC submitted an application to the federal Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program for a project called Trail Towns in the Nation's Heartland. This project would expand the Regional Trail Vision to 15 counties and design trail town elements in three communities. The proposal is a partnership with Buckeye Trail Association, the Village of Buckeye Lake, the City of Mount Vernon, and the Ohio to Erie Trail Board.
- MORPC is considering an application to the federal Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) due in June. The proposal will expand bikeways and trail planning in the region.

# Central Ohio Blueways:

• The Central Ohio Blueways Steering Committee meetings were postponed until May while Steering Committee Members were contacted regarding the timing and their other commitments. The initial meeting will focus on the development of an official mission and vision for Central Ohio Blueways. Members will also consider the development of working groups to focus on components of Central Ohio Blueways which are more pertinent to Members' organizational interests. Working Groups are anticipated to include Water Trail Designation, Water Stewardship, and User Experience.

# Regional Housing Strategy (RHS):

#### Outreach

- Conversations around housing issues continue with MORPC member communities. The Community
  Development Team is continuing to promote the identification of barriers and solutions related to
  housing for members through connections with MORPC's Community Assistance Programs and by
  giving presentations to councils and other organizations.
- The Community Development Team is also involved in national conversations surrounding the housing crisis to learn how peer organizations are approaching housing issues.

## Implementation Assistance

 Are you interested in a housing/growth workshop for your community's elected officials, staff, or community leaders? MORPC accepts requests for presentations and workshops. Our team will work with you to design the agenda, including recommended speakers and learning objectives. Contact Jonathan Miller for more information (JMiller@morpc.org).

# Community Based Planning Assistance:

The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program (CBPA) continues to be available for community assistance requests. Members may learn more about – or request assistance from – CBPA by visiting <a href="Community-Based Planning Assistance">Community-Based Planning Assistance</a>. Please contact Jonathan Miller (<a href="JMiller@morpc.org">JMiller@morpc.org</a>) with any questions or to discuss potential ways that MORPC may aid.

## Consultant Services Program

MORPC is currently working with several communities on the Consultant Services Program to assist
with the RFP process for both Comprehensive Plan Updates and Zoning Codes. The 2024
Prequalification Window recently closed and saw the addition of nine more prequalified consultants.
The Program has also been expanded to include economic development activities, like financial
planning and the creation of economic development overlays, as well as the addition of public
engagement services to assist with high-profile projects.

# Planner Pool Program

- Members are invited to submit applications for assistance from the Planner Pool Program. The Community Development Team is accepting projects related to planning, zoning, and sustainability.
- If you are interested in additional staffing assistance, filling staff vacancies during vacation, assistance with gaps in staffing, or other planning or pre-planning activities such as guidance with best practices, contact Jonathan Miller (<a href="mailto:JMiller@morpc.org">JMiller@morpc.org</a>) to schedule a time to discuss your community's potential needs and ways that MORPC may be able to help.

# Sustainability

# Sustainability Advisory Committee:

 The Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) met on March 20,2024 to hear updates on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, the Regional Sustainability Agenda, and discussion for shaping sustainability-focused educational videos. Work continues to complete member appointments for the 2024 Committee Year. The Committee will meet again on June 5,2024 at MORPC.

#### Sustainable2050:

## Member Engagement

- Sustainable2050 membership and tier status certification is open to MORPC members. Current
  Sustainable2050 members interested in earning their tier status certification should contact Brandi
  Whetstone at (BWhetstone@morpc.org). A certification workbook will be provided, and a kick-off
  meeting is encouraged to review the process. The deadline for completed workbooks is May 3, 2024
  for consideration at the June 5, 2024 SAC meeting.
- The next Sustainable2050 meeting will May 9, 2024 at MORPC.

# Water Resources Program:

# Sustaining Scioto Board

- The Sustaining Scioto Board met on February 28, 2024. Board members were updated on the
  Farming for Clean Water in the Upper Scioto Watershed. The project is focused on developing a
  communication plan targeted at the agricultural communities and to help increase awareness of
  climate change impacts on water as well as increasing awareness and support for farmer adoption of
  water quality practices and public and private sector investments.
- The Board was also updated on the Regional Water Study. The Ohio Water Development Authority will be funding this 15-county study, with Ohio EPA taking the lead and working in partnership with MORPC. Among other objectives, the study will explore current and future water supply and demand to identify gaps. The study will also include recommendations such as strategic locations for growth, potential regionalization of utility services, and innovative practices for water reuse and stormwater management. Hazen & Sawyer will be leading a consultant team to develop this study which is targeted to conclude at the end of 2024. MORPC and the Ohio EPA will be providing monthly virtual updates for members and stakeholders so that they may remain engaged in the process.

# 208 Water Resources Planning

• The creation of a GIS data layer is in process, to show facility planning boundaries and additional details, such as the designated management agencies responsible for the collection and treatment of wastewater in the 10-county area.

# Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team

• The Outreach Team met on March 28, 2024.

# Energy & Air Quality:

# Energy & Air Quality Working Group

- The Energy and Air Quality Working Group (EAQWG) met on February 29, 2024 and will continue to meet on a quarterly basis. The agenda included updates on funding opportunities and MORPC programming, with continued discussions on which topics to focus on for 2024.
- The EAQWG continues to recruit candidates interested in serving as either Chair or Vice-Chair.
   Please email recommendations to Energy and Sustainability Program Manager Brian Filiatraut,
   (BFiliatraut@morpc.org). The Working Group's next meeting will be on May 22, 2024.

# Air quality specific activities Air Quality Alerts

- No Air Quality Alerts have been issued for the Columbus region since July of 2023.
- MORPC released the 2022-2023 End of Season Air Quality Report on March 4, 2024 which can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Air quality was worse in the 2022-2023 season compared to the previous year, primarily

- due to the influence of external wildfire smoke. While there is some variation year-to-year due to weather and external factors, overall, air quality continues to improve, and the region is in attainment with federal standards.
- A recent report by IQ Air again claimed that Columbus has the worst air quality of the major cities in the United States. This claim is inaccurate and inconsistent with official data from Ohio EPA's regulatory air monitors. In addition, the report also identified Grove City as having worse air quality than Columbus this is also misleading. The Sustainability team investigated these claims, and the report appears to be based on two PurpleAir sensors. One of the sensors was malfunctioning during the analysis period, and the other is located at a school. School buses and drop off traffic could impact the readings of that second sensor. Industry best practices do not recommend drawing conclusions from one sensor to characterize an entire community.

#### Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project/US EPA project:

 The team continues to move forward the US EPA funded air monitoring project working in partnership with Franklin County Public Health. The team is collocating 40 PurpleAir sensors with Ohio EPA monitors to test and validate their performance before placing them in the community. MORPC hosted the Project Advisory Committee meeting on March 15, 2024.

# Energy specific activities

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG): The MORPC team is continuing its work with City of
Columbus and the core project team to lead regional planning and pollution mitigation actions. The
regional efforts are informed by the CPRG Strategy Subcommittee (CSS), which met in February. The
first deliverable of the planning grant was the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) which was
submitted by the March 1, 2024 deadline. The City of Columbus and MORPC teams are putting
forward a proposal for the Phase Two implementation grant that integrates key elements of the
LinkUS West Broad Street Mobility Corridor with the Regional Community Energy Strategy (ReCES),
which will provide solar installations on publicly owned buildings throughout the 10-county Columbus
Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The application will be submitted by April 1, 2024.

#### Clean Ohio Conservation Fund:

## **Application Process**

• Clean Ohio Conservation Fund has approximately \$5 million available for FY 2025. Preliminary screeners are encouraged and due on June 3, 2024. Final applications are due on August 30, 2024. For more information, please contact Edwina Teye at (<a href="mailto:ETeye@morpc.org">ETeye@morpc.org</a>) or visit our website at Clean Ohio Conservation Fund.

# **Data, Mapping & Modeling**

Dave Dixon, Director of Data Analytics & Strategy Planning – DDixon@morpc.org

# Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC):

 The next meeting of the Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) will be held on April 2, 2024 at MORPC. RDAC's focus in 2024 will be on the areas of Workforce & Job Quality, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Cyber Security, and Regional Data Coaches projects and initiatives.

## Working Groups

#### Data Day Working Group

 Data Day was held on February 7, 2024 and was a success, being sold out for the second year in a row. Post-event survey respondents rated the event at a 4.31 out of 5. Respondents also provided feedback for improvement in 2025 which included a larger facility, dedicated networking spaces, and more refreshments available throughout the day. The Data Day Working Group has reviewed attendee feedback and has already begun the planning for Data Day 2025.

### Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG)

• The first quarter 2024 RIDG meeting was held on March 6, 2024. The meeting was hosted in-person at MORPC with an online option available. The meeting's focus was on discussing the data around the historic, current, and the projected future state of housing in Central Ohio. The presentations were provided by Bill LaFayette and Ethan Hug. The dates tentatively set for the RIDG Steering Committee (SC) meetings and general RIDG meetings are: SC – January 30, April 8, July 9, and October 8; General – March 6, May 29, August 14, November 13. The RIDG chair and staff lead will meet prior to each SC meeting to discuss planning for the next meeting. The topic for the next RIDG meeting has not been decided.

#### Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG)

• The next meeting is May 15, 2024.

#### Regional Data Coaches Working Group

• The Working Group will meet virtually on March 28, 2024 to further refine the roles and responsibilities implicit in the initiative, and delegate tasks around defining subject areas to be included, as well as researching potential applications to facilitate the service.

#### Workforce and Job Quality Working Group

• The Working Group has continued recruiting efforts and has developed a project plan for initial activities based, in part, on feedback received at the recent Data Day unconference session.

#### **DEI & Data Working Group**

• The DEI & Data Working Group met in March to begin outlining the key aspects of a proposed DEI & Data workshop for later this year. Group members will report on proposed rubrics recommended to facilitate what is expected to be a wide range of stakeholders and types of data sets.

#### Cyber Security Working Group

• The Cybersecurity Working group met in March for the second time and added two new members. The group will be assembling documentation from a host of state, higher education, and federal agencies around cybersecurity best practices, programs, and services. During the next meeting, the group plans to consider how to compile all the information into a singular document and presentation best suited for educating local government stakeholders.

# Data Management:

 Development has begun on the MORPC Insights platform. Insights will be a web application whose purpose is to improve access to a curated set of data and analyses from MORPC, and eventually from our partners. The platform will include data on a variety of topics summarized at the regional, county, and community levels. Data elements at the regional and county levels will be accompanied by expert commentary provided by MORPC subject matter experts. Development of the platform will occur in three phases. Phase 1 will focus on extracting more value from and improving access to MORPC's primary data products. Phase 2 will focus on derivative data products that highlight trends, patterns, and relationships between, within, and among those primary data products. Phase 3 will focus on engagement with our external partners and highlighting their data products. Phase 1 will take place during the 2024 calendar year. A dedicated Data Management Intern has been hired exclusively to assist with this product, thanks to a grant from The Columbus Foundation.

 A two-step data pipeline was created for the retrieval and standardization of data from the American Community Survey (ACS), which will streamline the implementation of many downstream workflows which rely on ACS data, thereby reducing the development time for those workflows and others which may be created in the future. This effort will also facilitate the implementation of the MORPC Insights platform.

# Data Analytics, Mapping, and Research:

Team members are assisting with the writing of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Team
members have completed the chapter on regional trends and the Environmental Justice appendix and
are currently finalizing updates to the public methodology documentation that will be included in the
MTP Future Land Use appendix. Work continues with the initiative to improve the speed and quality of
Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) - level socioeconomic forecasts for the 2028 MTP cycle.

#### Data & Research Activities

- Sustainability, Data, and Communications & Engagement team members collaborated to produce the Leaders Listen: Housing Survey the third in the series. Working with Measurement Resources Company (MRC) and The Columbus Dispatch, staff collected over 1,600 responses from residents across 140 ZIP Codes. The survey will conclude on March 22, 2024. The preliminary survey results were presented at the 2024 State of the Region event on March 15, 2024 along with other key insights derived from the team's comprehensive analysis of recent Census data. An "Actionable Insights" report like recent Transportation and Sustainability reports will be produced to share the results with Central Ohio stakeholders in the coming months.
- Team members continue to manage the organization's air quality sensors in support of the EPA Air Quality Monitoring Grant. PurpleAir, the organization which provides a central repository for air quality data, recently began charging for retrieval of the data, therefore the team is revising the data processing scripts to minimize the incurred costs. The team also contributed substantively to the analysis and final report for another air quality monitoring project funded by the Thriving Earth Exchange. The report is undergoing final review and will be published in the coming weeks.
- The team is developing county-level forecasts of households / housing by type to better predict future
  housing needs. This will 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.
- Upcoming updates to standard data products:
  - Key American Community Survey (ACS) 2022 five-year estimate data for MORPC counties will be published on the Population Hub with new and improved user interface improvement (postponed until April to take advantage of nascent ACS data pipeline; see above).
  - County-level population estimates as of Jan 1, 2024 (April)
  - Net migration by county (domestic and international) (April)

## Mapping Activities

- Staff completed the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) benchmarks and are working on the draft of the Land Use Appendix as part of the final MTP report.
- All maps were created for the main MTP report as well as the three appendices and the boards for the March 19, 2024 MTP Open House.
- The Bike/Pedestrian Network was used to analyze the access between Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ).
- A presentation submittal on our Active Transportation Bike & Pedestrian network was accepted by the ESRI User Conference and staff will attend the conference in July.
- A Central Ohio Greenways (COG) map was created to be included in the new Franklin County Engineer's County road map. Staff provided mapping support for CORPO, Transportation Improvement District (TID), and Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) activities and assisted the Columbus Dispatch and the Village of West Jefferson with data requests.

## **Modeling Activities**

- The Modeling Team completed the Air Quality Conformity Appendix and Environmental Justice Appendix as part of the draft 2024-2050 MTP Report and are working on model updates related to MTP projects.
- Work continues on the intermediate year model runs.
- Team members supported member projects, including the North Knot project, Licking County Area Transportation Study (LCATS) scenario modeling, and assisting ODOT with various projects.
- The traffic count program was maintained, and responses were provided for various traffic growth rate requests from members.

# **COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT**

Níel Jurist, Sr. Director of Communications & Engagement – NJurist@morpc.org

#### **News Releases:**

- MORPC Releases End-of-Season Report on Central Ohio Air Quality
- More than \$5 Million Available in Funding to Preserve Land and Streams in Franklin County
- MORPC'S Annual State of the Region "Connecting Communities: Building the Future of Housing and <u>Transportation"</u>
- CORPO Proposes More Than \$1 Million for Transportation Projects Along with a Safety Action Plan

#### MORPC in the News:

- The fastest-growing city in the U.S. is in Ohio (2/25/2024)
- COTA to study Dublin-New Albany route to meet demand for new jobs fueled by Intel growth (2/27/2024)
- Rapid 5 nonprofit names Dawes Arboretum director as new CEO to help build land trust (2/27/2024)
- Rapid 5 hires new CEO (2/27/2024)
- Expanding Ohio's Rail (2/29/2024)
- Cities across Ohio looking to become part of Amtrak expansion (3/1/2024)
- Road projects to address future area population and traffic increases (3/1/2024)
- Central Ohio Air Quality Report: Progress Made, Challenges Remain (3/4/2024)
- What parts of Central Ohio have lower air quality Tuesday as wildfire smoke blows through (3/5/2024)
- COTA Ridership climbing since pandemic drop (3/5/2024)
- Columbus Leaders discuss sales tax increase of \$8 billion in transportation upgrades (3/6/2024)
- The Future of Transit (3/7/2024)
- Lima whistle stop presentation provides an update on the possible return of passenger rail (3/11/2024)
- MORPC releases report on air quality (3/12/2024)
- Columbus home construction drops to five-year low despite housing shortage (3/12/2024)
- COTA Lands \$42 Million federal grant for first transit corridor (3/13/2024)
- Columbus' \$8 Billion Transit Investment: Can LinkUs build a better commute? (3/13/2024)
- COTA gets \$42 million grant for bus lane, walkable infrastructure on West Broad Street (3/13/2024)
- Perry County Commissioners hear MORPC updates, discuss special duty officer (3/13/2024)
- Wolfe Foundation gives \$50 million toward hospital tower, honors John F. Wolfe (3/14/2024)
- Mid-Ohio Planners Discuss If Region Can Get Better As It Gets Bigger (3/15/2024)
- MORPC State of the Region Coverage (3/15/24)
- Breaking down the Wexner Medical Center's \$3 billion budget allocation (3/19/2024)
- EDITORIAL: Columbus area's housing crisis 'a five-alarm fire.' Beyond time for a regional response. (3/18/2024)

- The budget was discussed by the chairman of the center's board, Leslie Wexner, at a February (3/19/2024)
- New study ranks Columbus most polluted city in the US. But is it really? Here's what to know. (3/19/2024)
- MORPC Board Chair Discusses Passenger Rail in Central Ohio (3/19/24)
- Columbus was named was named the most polluted city in America. Let's talk about it. (3/20/2024)
- Columbus is the most polluted major city in the country, says new report (3/20/2024)
- CORPO Proposes more than \$1 million for transportation projects, along with Safety Action Plan (3/21/2024)
- Bringing Passenger Rail to Central Ohio (3/26/24)

# Digital Content:

Social Media: Instagram, Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Threads:

Air Quality Alerts, Careers/Jobs, Internships, Central Ohio Greenways, Trails Pass, eSource, Gohio Commute, Gohio Mobility, RFPs/RFQs, Residential Services, News, State of the Region, Public Comment, LinkUS, Voter Education, Water Quality, Women's History Month, CORPO Dedicated Funds Program, Traffic Safety, Drive Sober, COTA Groundbreaking, BikePlus, MTP Open House & Comment Period, Housing Forum, COCF Grant Application, Pi Day, Equal Pay Day, Ramadan, International Women's Day, Affordable Housing Fair, 2023 Air Quality Report, World Engineering Day, COMPTO, MTP Roadshow, TIP Public Comment, Leaders Listen Survey, & MORPC News.

#### Reach:

Facebook & Instagram

#### Top Posts:

- <u>Instagram</u>
- Facebook
- X
- LinkedIn
- Reels

# Diversity & Inclusion:

- MORPC partnered with COMTO Columbus to host a panel conversation, Reimagining an Inclusive Equitable Future in Transportation. COMTO Columbus is known as "The voice of equity in transportation," and this discussion focused on the importance of equitable access to transportation systems.
- MORPC's internal DEI Committee met on Tuesday, March 12, with 10 staff members in attendance.
   The committee finalized April's calendar regarding Celebrate Diversity Month initiatives.

# Public Involvement & Engagement:

- MORPC promoted the following requests for public input through social media and on our website:
  - Make Your Miles Matter Challenge with Gohio Commute: <u>2/24</u>
  - 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

• Public Comment: 3/20

• Open House: <u>2/29</u>, <u>3/9</u>, <u>3/13</u>, <u>3/18</u>

Roadshow: 2/27

• CORPO Public Comment: 3/21

• Leaders Listen Survey: 3/6

• COCF Grant Application: 3/14

• Transportation Improvement Plan Amendments: <u>2/26</u>

# Marketing Campaigns:

• The Gohio Commute program ran a marketing campaign on social media that focused on vanpooling and carpooling with the goal to increase awareness of the program.

# MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Eileen Leuby, Member Services Officer – <u>ELeuby@morpc.org</u>

### **Events:**

- STATE OF THE REGION was held Friday, March 15, 2024 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This year's theme was Connecting Communities: Building the Future of Housing and Transportation. MORPC highlighted accomplishments and showcased upcoming plans for leading our region into the future. Nearly 1,000 of the region's top political, business, and civic leaders attended this signature event.
- NORTHWEST AREA OF CENTRAL OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING LUNCHEON Wednesday, March 27, 2024 was held from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Dublin Recreation Center, 5600 Post Road, Dublin, Ohio 43017. MORPC convened local governments to work collaboratively on short-and long-range community planning. Ideal participants for these Planning Luncheons include public officials, local government staff, and community partners with responsibilities for transportation, development, planning, and sustainability in Union County, Logan County, West Delaware County, North Madison County, Marion County, and Northwest Franklin County.
- MEMBER VISITS WERE COMPLETED OR PLANNED: Shawnee Hills 3/27/24; Jerome Township 3/27/24; Washington Township 3/27/24.
- MORPC continues to send representatives to the State of the Cities, Villages, Townships and County presentations. Schedule: City of Marysville 3/4/24; City of Dublin 3/14/24; City of Westerville 3/21/24; City of Hilliard 3/27/24; City of Gahanna 3/28/24; City of Powell 4/3/24; City of Bexley 4/15/24.
- MOBILIZING YOUR WORKFORCE Thursday April 25 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Includes lunch. LINK This
  forum is focused on the efforts to mobilize our workforce. As job growth continues to increase, local
  employers find themselves competing for workers. We will discuss innovative practices to help attract
  employees through public and private commute options.
- MORPC's CENTRAL AREA REGIONAL PLANNING LUNCHEON will take place on Wednesday May 1, 2024 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Franklin County Building, 373 South High Street, 16th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215. MORPC convenes local government members and stakeholders to work collaboratively on short- and long-range community planning. These meetings are free for MORPC members and members can choose to attend multiple meetings. Ideal participants include public

officials, local go transportation, do 270 belt are the f	vernment staff and o evelopment, commu focus.	community and privat nity planning and sus	te partners with respor stainability. Communit	nsibilities for ies located within the



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#### Memorandum

**TO:** Transportation Policy Committee

Transportation Advisory Committee Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director

**DATE:** March 28, 2024

SUBJECT: Draft State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025 Planning Work Program (PWP) Summary

Annually, MORPC prepares a Planning Work Program (PWP) that outlines the work of the metropolitan planning organization (MPO), the use of regional transportation planning funds, and the regional planning activities that will be undertaken in the coming year. The PWP constitutes MORPC's annual scope of work with ODOT using federal planning dollars. The draft PWP was submitted to ODOT on March 8, 2024. This memo and the attachment provide a summary of the full PWP draft. The full draft document is available in the PWP section of our website, <a href="https://www.morpc.org/programs-services/planning-work-program-pwp/">https://www.morpc.org/programs-services/planning-work-program-pwp/</a> Any comments can be directed to me, Nick Gill at <a href="mailto:ngill@morpc.org">ngill@morpc.org</a>. The final SFY 2025 PWP will be adopted during the May meeting cycle.

The total Fiscal Year 2025 budget of all work elements is \$8,504,760 to be spent in SFY 2025 or later. The work elements of the PWP as shown in the summary attached are divided into four sections:

- 1. Formula-Funded Planning Program Projects (total budget \$4,762,431 for SFY 2025)
  - This includes work elements related to the core federally required planning activities.
    These touch on all areas including Management & Operations, Transit & Human
    Services Planning, Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Active Transportation Plan,
    Transportation Improvement Plan, Public Involvement, Regional Strategic Initiatives
    (insight2050, housing, trail planning, Rapid5), as well as work related to data,
    mapping, and modeling.
- 2. Special Studies (total budget \$3,757,329 for SFY 2025 or later)
  - These are special studies completed with funding outside of the core planning funds. These include work elements related to the Central Ohio Greenways Wayfinding

Transportation Policy Committee Transportation Advisory Committee Community Advisory Committee Memo Page 2

Strategy, Growth and Major Economic Development Planning, Paving the Way, Technical Assistance Program, Mobility Management, and 5310 designated recipients for enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities programs.

- 3. Ridesharing and Air Quality Projects (total budget \$1,325,000 for SFY 2025)
  - This includes transportation services related to Ridesharing (Gohio Commute) and Air Quality Awareness activities.
- 4. Projects Undertaken by Other Entities
  - This area is provided to report on local and transit transportation planning activities throughout the region. No specific federal funding through MORPC is provided for these activities.

Attachment: SFY 2025 Draft PWP Summary

# Summary FISCAL YEAR 2025 MORPC PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Notes on Listing: The Total budget of all work elements (including funds spent prior to SFY 2025) is **\$9,174,760**. The amount estimated to remain to be expended in 2025 or subsequent years is **\$8,504,760**.

# I. Formula Funded Planning Program Activities

**Total Budget: \$4,762,431** 

## **Work Elements**

# 60125-3000 - Management & Operations Planning

**Budget:** \$170,000

Managing and maintaining the extensive existing transportation system is a priority of transportation agencies. This work element coordinates on the benefits of a holistically managed transportation system. Helping members collaborate on M&O, advancing ITS including connected infrastructure and CV/AV, access management, estimating costs to maintain the condition of the transportation system including pavement management and deficient bridges, etc., and incorporating security and emergency response into the planning process. Monitoring freight rail activities and analyzing for developing trends; meeting one-on-one with communities that are impacted by freight; and providing timely information via the web. Monitoring goods movement-related legislation and other regional freight initiatives.

#### Products/Activities:

- Condition report of highway system and resources
- Access Management
- Maintain Regional ITS Architecture
- Participation and education on freight initiatives
- Transportation security assistance

## 60135-3000 - Safety Planning

Budget: \$130,000

Safety continues to be a significant focus for FHWA, ODOT, and the entire Central Ohio region. This activity works to gather crash data, conduct crash data analyses, report on safety meetings, encourage and support local governments to apply for funding to implement safety countermeasures, conduct pre- and post-crash data analysis for safety projects to evaluate the benefits of each countermeasure, and implements the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Regional Crash Data Analysis
- Regional Safety Education
- · Member assistance
- Safety Committee Participation
- Project Evaluation
- Special projects and studies

# 60155-3000 - Transit and Human Services Planning

Budget: \$125,000

Coordination, assistance, and oversight to improve transit service and workforce mobility. Work includes integration of all aspects of transit and mobility to provide access to all populations while improving the range of options for meeting diverse mobility needs.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Maintain the urbanized area's Coordinated Plan
- Public transit provider coordination
- Transit Service planning assistance
- Monitor agreements and funding in the region
- Workforce Mobility Assistance

# 60205-3000 - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Implementation

**Budget:** \$400,000 The IIJA requirement of 2.5% of PL funds used for complete streets is encompassed with in the complete streets component of this work

element. Planning for complete streets and safe an accessible travel for bikes and pedestrians is also completed in work elements 61015-3000

and 61035-1000.

The TIP is one of the two required items to allow for the flow of federal and state transportation funds into the region. This activity includes the development, update and revisions of the TIP, monitoring of federally funded projects, coordination of federally funded infrastructure projects with projects funded from other sources, allocation of STBG, CMAQ, CRP, and TAP funding, the TRAC process, environmental studies and engineering source document review including complete street implementation, innovative financing, and financing education. Specific activities for the year are listed below.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Maintain the SFY 2024-2027 TIP & Prepare SFY 26-29 TIP
- Prioritized list of regional projects for TRAC
- Complete Streets Policy and Implementation
- Collaboration on innovative project delivery and financing options for projects
- Reports on the status of federally funded projects & annual obligation report
- Program of projects to use MORPC-attributable funding

## 60515-2000 - Manage, Map, Collect, and Share Data

**Budget: \$530,000** 

This element pertains to MORPC's role as a leader in coordinating data providers throughout the region, as well as managing its own internal data and GIS systems. It includes using technology for collecting, maintaining and sharing data sets that support transportation programs. It includes keeping data sets current and organized, and managing and monitoring the GIS system. In addition, it includes advancing collaboration among local data providers to reduce redundancies and improve efficiencies associated with information management.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Increase efficiencies of internal data systems
- Update and maintain data sets to support transportation planning efforts
- Promote data sharing among data providers to reduce redundancy
- Coordinate with U.S. Census
- Collection and maintenance of mobility data sets

# 60525-2000 - Data Analytics and Research for Transportation Projects and Programs

**Budget:** \$525,000

Many transportation programs and projects require GIS and database analytical methods. This element includes using information and tools to develop and prepare final products associated with the various projects and programs of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. In addition, MORPC functions as a regional resource for requests for information regarding transportation, demographic, development, and various other community needs. This element includes aspects of research associated with fulfilling those requests.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Provide GIS and technical assistance to transportation programs
- Prepare annual estimates of population and employment at the county and sub-county levels
- Transform raw data into useful information, suggest conclusions, and support decision-making
- Update the Transportation Plan Report Card
- Respond to and document requests

# 60555-3000 - Transportation Systems Analysis Techniques and Applications

**Budget: \$510,000** 

Building upon transportation data, this activity maintains, updates and refines the regional transportation models and continues to refine and implement the Congestion Management Process (CMP) procedures in the 3C planning process, including monitoring congestion, Environmental Justice (social equity) analysis, TIP and Transportation Plan air quality conformity, SIP revisions, and CMAQ justifications. Participation in other regional congestion management and air quality initiatives.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Up-to-date travel demand model
- Up-to-date data sets for SIP development and air quality conformity
- Up-to-date CMP and EJ analysis procedures, data and documents
- Determination of the emissions changes from proposed CMAQ projects
- Up-to-date Land Use Model processes
- Modeling assistance to ODOT staff in the certified design traffic development

# 61015-3000 - Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Planning

Budget: \$430,000

The Long-Range Transportation Plan is the major requirement of the MPO, including coordinating all Transportation Plan-related activities. This includes any follow-up to the completed 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan such as performance monitoring and amendments as necessary. This activity is also to coordinate with state and local agencies on transportation studies and plans. Specific activities this year are listed below.

#### Products/Activities:

- 2024-2050 MTP Follow-up
- Complete long-range system studies
- Coordination with ODOT planning activities
- Intercity transportation service planning
- Functional Class, National Highway System, and Thoroughfare Planning

# 61025-0400 - Transportation Public Involvement

**Budget:** \$160,000

Public involvement and outreach are vital components of the transportation planning process. These activities maintain the public involvement process for transportation consistent with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), federal regulations, and local needs. Efforts continue to seek the involvement of low-income and minority populations, handicapped, and elderly in the transportation planning process, Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, Active Transportation Plan, FTA's Section 5310, FTA's Section 5307, and other transportation-related studies. The Public Participation Plan supports the activities of the Community Advisory Committee and provides updates on transportation planning activities through in-person and virtual presentations, the web, electronic newsletters, social media, and other public involvement and outreach activities.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Transportation Public Involvement Process
- Public Involvement Activities for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- Public Involvement Activities for the Transportation Improvement Program
- Public Involvement Activities for the Active Transportation Plan
- Public Involvement for Miscellaneous Transportation Activities

# 61035-1000 - Regional Strategic Initiatives

Budget: \$435,000

Transportation is interrelated with land use, housing, air quality, energy, environmental sustainability, and quality of life. This work element is to ensure MORPC is leading the region in studying, identifying, and communicating best practices, as well as developing plans, tools, and programming to address these issues and advance regional goals in these areas. This work element includes connecting people to green space and our natural resources. Specific activities this year are listed below.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- insight2050 Resource Updates and Outreach
- · Planning for Housing
- Regional Trail Planning
- Central Ohio Greenways Vision Planning and Implementation
- River Corridor Development Planning

# 62515-1000 - Planning Coordination and Support

**Budget: \$215,000** 

Coordination of transportation planning efforts among different jurisdictions is a critical element to ensuring regional consistency in the transportation network. This activity includes informational sharing meetings among MORPC and others, regional collaboration meetings, and educational transportation workshops and forums. MORPC staff also provides support to individual communities with integrating regional initiatives into local land use and transportation plans and provides education around advancing active transportation.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Informational Meetings
- Regional Collaboration Group Meetings
- Member Education
- · Cross-jurisdictional Planning Assistance
- Active Transportation Education and Outreach

# 62524-1000 - Member Assistance and Support (2024)

**Budget:** \$550,000 \$200,000 remaining

Activity was previously authorized. Budget estimated to remain at the end of SFY 2024.

This work element will provide member support around how to plan and manage future growth in Central Ohio. As Central Ohio is expected to become a region of 3.15 million people by 2050, MORPC is well positioned to identify innovative ways on assisting its local government members with best practices, tools, and services to make bold changes to their comprehensive plans, zoning codes, and development standards in order to create neighborhoods that provide more housing and transportation options for residents. This element builds off of work element 62514-1000 which is to educate members on planning topics and for MORPC to continuously be aware of efforts being taken at the local level to inform the type of staff assistance needed by our members.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Member Planning Services
- Data for decision making
- Story Telling

## 62525-1000 - Member Assistance and Support

**Budget:** \$425,000

This work element will provide member support around how to plan and manage future growth in Central Ohio. As Central Ohio is expected to become a region of 3.15 million people by 2050, MORPC is well positioned to identify innovative ways on assisting its local government members with best practices, tools, and services to make bold changes to their comprehensive plans, zoning codes, and development standards in order to create neighborhoods that provide more housing and transportation options for residents. This element builds off of work element 62515-1000 which is to educate members on planning topics and for MORPC to continuously be aware of efforts being taken at the local level to inform the type of staff assistance needed by our members.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Member Planning Services
- Data for decision making
- Story Telling

# 69715-3000 - Program Administration

**Budget:** \$157,431

This work element is to facilitate the efficient administration of the transportation planning program. This work element provides for technical and policy direction of activities to fulfill ODOT, U.S. EPA, Ohio EPA, FHWA, FTA, and jointly funded work as described in the Planning Work Program where such activities are not directly attributable to specific work elements. These activities are listed below.

- CAC, TAC, TPC agendas and meeting summaries
- Annual Planning Work Program and Completion Report
- · Title VI & DBE Process
- Maintain certification and planning agreements
- Monitor federal and state planning requirements

# **II. Special Studies**

Total Budget: \$3,757,329

## **Work Elements**

# 66534-3000 - Growth and Major Economic Development Planning

**Budget:** \$1,000,000 \$900,000 remaining

Budget breakdown is approximately \$875,000 for consultant services and \$125,000 of staff services. Work to be spread out over state fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Activity was previously authorized. Budget estimated to remain at the end of SFY 2024.

This work element focuses on conducting regional coordination of long-range transportation planning which includes consideration of access, infrastructure, land use, and housing. The outcomes are intended to address medium term needs, long-term investment planning and comprehensively align various local and regional efforts of the Central Ohio Region for the Intel investment and subsequent growth.

MORPC will coordinate with the State of Ohio, LCATS, and other regional stakeholders (including but not limited to Foundations, TIDs, Counties, Municipalities and Townships) to address the needs of the region and prepare for growth demands associated with the Intel investment. The coordination approach will be transect- based with a focal point being the Silicon Heartland Site in New Albany. The primary focus will start with geographies that are within the 40-minutes travel of the site.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Agency Coordination Plan
- Enhanced data and travel demand model coverage
- Updated local planning documents
- · Funding Opportunities
- List of Improvement Concepts

# 66565-3000 - Regional Supplemental Planning

**Budget:** \$400,000 100% STBG using toll credit

This work element supplements the formula-funded program and includes research and planning efforts that are required to fulfill MPO planning and project implementation responsibilities. The activity includes elements that supplement project delivery, data collection and data management, interregional travel planning, long-range studies and sustainability. Specific activities this year are listed below.

#### Products/Activities:

- Regular reports to members and MORPC committees on project delivery
- Traffic counts for approximately 200 locations, including bike and pedestrian counts as identified in active transportation count plan
- Implement projects to address the goals, objectives, and action items detailed in the Regional Data Agenda.
- Provide special services and conduct special transportation studies
- Support for interregional travel
- Resiliency Planning
- Coordination with other regional activities, such as the Regional Sustainability Agenda to further the 2024-2050 MTP goals

## 66575-1000 - Technical Assistance Program

**Budget:** \$275,000 %100 STBG using toll credit

The purpose of this work element is to provide technical planning assistance to support individual communities in their efforts to implement the strategies identified in the MTP. Services will be provided for specific community planning and development projects related to active transportation, trails, transportation safety, and land use planning. Part of this work element is to maintain online references, tools, policies, and expertise developed under this PWP work element.

#### **Products/Activities:**

Planning Assistance

## 66584-3000 - Safe Streets For All Action Plan and Demonstration Activities

**Budget:** \$1,290,000

Activity is expected to continue beyond SFY 2025.

In 2023, MORPC applied to USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary grant program for safety planning funds. In December 2023, MORPC received notification of the award. These funds will be used to update the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan and conduct supplemental planning activities that address key action items from the 2019 plan.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- Safety Plan Update
- Non-Motorized Volume Data Program
- Complete Streets Safety Audit Program
- · Pedestrian Safety Demonstration Projects

## 67414-3000 - 5310 Designated Recipient 2024

**Budget:** \$169,079 \$109,079 remaining

Activity was previously authorized. Budget estimated to remain at the end of SFY 2024.

This work element is to carry out the responsibility and authority for the administration of the FTA Section 5310 Program for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities for each federal fiscal year apportionment for the Columbus urbanized area. The program will follow FTA policy and program guidance in the selection of projects and apply for FTA funding using the designated FTA electronic grant management system on behalf of eligible recipients.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- A Program Management Plan (PMP) according to FTA provisions
- Comply with other FTA requirements
- Program of Projects
- Update and Maintain the Coordinated Plan

# 67415-3000 - 5310 Designated Recipient 2025

**Budget:** \$173,250

This work element is to carry out the responsibility and authority for the administration of the FTA Section 5310 Program for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities for each federal fiscal year apportionment for the Columbus urbanized area. The program will follow FTA policy and program guidance in the selection of projects and apply for FTA funding using the designated FTA electronic grant management system on behalf of eligible recipients.

#### **Products/Activities:**

A Program Management Plan (PMP) according to FTA provisions

- Comply with other FTA requirements
- · Program of Projects
- Update and Maintain the Coordinated Plan

## 67424-3000 - Mobility Management 2024

**Budget:** \$150,000 \$140,000 remaining

Activity was previously authorized. Budget estimated to remain at the end

of SFY 2024.

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 as well as mobility management activities in Franklin County. 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 for the MPO and administers the FTA's Section 5310 funding for the Columbus urbanized area. MORPC is the host for the Franklin County Mobility Manager.

#### Products/Activities:

- Engagement
- Increase capacity
- Information coordination
- State and local coordination
- · Awareness and accessibility

# 67433-3000 - Mobility Management ODOT Regional Supplemental 2023

**Budget:** \$300,000 \$150,000 remaining

Activity was previously authorized. Budget estimated to remain at the end

of SFY 2024.

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.

- Engagement
- Increase capacity
- Information coordination
- State and local coordination
- Awareness and accessibility
- Training and Professional Development

# III. Ridesharing and Air Quality

Total Budget: \$1,325,000

**Work Elements** 

66715-3000 - Transportation Services (Ridesharing)

**Budget:** \$750,000 100% MORPC CMAQ

Promote Travel Demand Reduction (TDM) in Central Ohio; and market programs and service in a 15-county area. Program services include carpool matching, vanpool formation, transit, bike and pedestrian support and strategies for employers and the general public. MORPC administers an emergency ride home program, vanpool program, and a statewide rideshare matching vendor contract in coordination with OARC rideshare agencies.

#### Products/Activities:

- Promote a culture of sustainable and smart multimodal travel throughout Central Ohio. Public education and ride matching services.
- Raise public awareness about mobility options in the region. Increase ridesharing and TDM acceptance to improve air quality.
- National Transit Database Reporting
- Program evaluation, strategic plan and telework policy
- Promote TDM services to reduce SOV travel and associated air pollution in communities near highvolume corridors as well as in diverse and underserved populations

## 66735-1000 - Air Quality Awareness

**Budget:** \$575,000 MORPC CMAQ (100% using toll credit)

This work element ensures that MORPC continues air pollution forecasting and educating its members and the public on the importance of air quality, its health and environmental impacts, and how to reduce air pollution. Furthermore, MORPC provides technical and planning assistance to the region on strategies to reduce fuel use and reduce emissions and energy use.

- Air Quality Alerts and Coordination
- · Air Quality Research
- Education and Outreach
- Conduct special studies and projects related to GHG emissions
- Planning and policy assistance

# IV. Planning Activities Undertaken By Other Entities

**Total Budget: \$0** 

# **Work Elements**

# 66505-3000 - Ongoing Local Planning

Other agencies also undertake transportation planning activities. This activity includes identifying local planning efforts and coordinating with them through other projects. No budget.

This activity is provided only for informational purposes and has no final product or any budget within the work program. However, staff may be involved through the related activities in planning activities undertaken by others.

#### Products/Activities:

Integrate local planning efforts into MORPC's regional transportation planning processes

## 67401-3000 - Ongoing COTA Activities

This work element is for coordination with COTA to ensure adherence to federal and state requirements and for the facilitation of effective transit services in the COTA service area, mainly in Franklin County and in portions of adjacent counties. No budget.

This activity is provided only for informational purposes and has no final product or any budget within the work program. However, staff may be involved through the related activities in planning activities undertaken by others.

#### **Products/Activities:**

- COTA's planning process
- Continued refinement of COTA's Long-Range Plan and other planning activities
- Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) update
- Service change planning
- COTA safety and asset management plans

# 67402-3000 - Ongoing DCT Activities

This work element is for coordination with DCT to ensure adherence to federal and state requirements and for the facilitation of effective transit services in Delaware County. No budget.

This activity is provided only for informational purposes and has no final product or any budget within the work program. However, staff may be involved through the related activities in planning activities undertaken by others.

- DCT's planning process and requirements needed to receive federal urban area and state funds
- Implement recommendations from DCT's Interim SRTP
- Implement recommendations from DCT's Strategic Plan
- DCT safety and asset management plans