



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 111
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

NOTICE OF A MEETING

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

Thursday, April 11, 2024
1:30 p.m.

Remote Option

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

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 238 257 085 227

Passcode: pDv5hZ

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

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

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

Phone Conference ID: 218 025 254#

AGENDA

1:30 p.m.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin, MORPC Chair)
 - **Recognition of Guests and New Members** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
3. **Executive Director’s Report** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

- 4. Proposed Resolution 06-24: “Accepting the Village of Mt. Sterling as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)”** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director

Committees

- 5. Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Christina Drummond (City of Powell), Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair
- 6. Regional Policy Roundtable** – Lourdes Barroso de Padilla (City of Columbus), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
- **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations
- 7. Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
- 8. Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
- a. **Call to Order** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
 - b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report** – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer & Senior Director of Programming
 - c. **2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update** – Nick Gill, MORPC Transportation Study Director
 - d. **Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**
 - 1) Approval of **March 14, 2024 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**
 - e. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
- 9. Commission Consent Agenda**
- a. Approval of **March 14, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes**
 - b. **Proposed Resolution 05-24: “To authorize the executive director to enter into agreements with the Affordable Housing**

Trust (AHT) for \$100,000 for a 12-month period to perform mold remediation on properties identified through MORPC's Weatherization Program"

- c. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

10. Other Business

2:45 p.m. **11. Adjourn** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair

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

The next Commission Meeting is

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 1:30 p.m.

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100

Columbus, Ohio 43215

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

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

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



MORPC Monthly Agency Report
March 2024

Senior Directors

Parag Agrawal pagrawal@morpc.org
Kerstin Carr kcarr@morpc.org
Joe Garrity jgarrity@morpc.org

Shawn Hufstедler shufstедler@morpc.org
Níel M. Jurist njurist@morpc.org
Robert Williams rwilliams@morpc.org

CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY

Gohio Commute

Four new vanpools joined the MORPC Vanpool Program. Team Members met with companies interested in forming vanpools. Gohio ran a marketing campaign on social media focusing on vanpooling and carpooling.

Active Transportation Planning

MORPC participated in the City of Columbus Bike Plus Plan Open House for stakeholders on March 18. Team Members provided information regarding critical cross-jurisdictional connections for the consultant team and City staff to consider in their network planning process.

The next Active Transportation Committee meeting is May 22, 10 a.m.-Noon.

MORPC hosts virtual group viewings of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) monthly Professional Development webinars. The webinars are eligible for 1.0 hour of American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Maintenance credit. Contact Jordan Petrov (jpetrov@morpc.org) if you are interested in attending any of the MORPC group viewings. The next webinar is Wednesday, April 17, on: *"Best Practices: Emergency Vehicle Access for Bicycle/Pedestrian Friendly Streets."*

Transportation Safety

The Ohio Traffic Safety Office is hosting the first annual Ohio Traffic Safety Summit in Columbus, May 20-21. This is 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. More information is available at <https://ohiotrafficsafetysummit.com/>.

Team Members participated in the following safety committee meetings:

- Central Ohio Alliance for Safe Transportation Meeting
- Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review Meeting

Technical Assistance Program

Team Members hosted workshops with Jefferson Township and Franklin Township. Key community stakeholders and regional partners joined MORPC and the townships to discuss existing conditions and needs related to infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists in the townships.

Central Ohio Greenways (COG)

The COG Board met March 27 and heard project updates and working group progress. The COG Trail Towns Working Group met March 11 to discuss implementation of the COG Trail Town Framework.

The Outdoor Trails Pass partnership with Experience Columbus is upgraded with new features every Spring. This Spring local tourism groups 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, at Genoa Park.

MORPC is convening 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.

MORPC hosted a COG Forum on March 20 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 will 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 postponed their meetings 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

Conversations around housing issues continue with MORPC member communities. Team Members continue 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. MORPC is also involved in national conversations surrounding the housing crisis to learn how peer organizations are approaching housing issues.

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

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Sustainability Advisory Committee met March 20. The SAC heard updates on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, the Regional Sustainability Agenda, and discussed sustainability-focused educational videos. Team Members completing member appointments for 2024. The next meeting is June 5.

Sustainable2050

Sustainable2050 membership and tier status certification is open to MORPC members. Contact Brandi Whetstone at bwhetstone@morpc.org if interested in earning tier status certification. 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 to be considered at the June Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting. The next Sustainable2050 meeting is May 9.

Sustaining Scioto Board

Team Members are creating a GIS data layer for the 208 water resources planning. The GIS data layer shows 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.

The Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team met March 28.

Energy & Air Quality

The Energy and Air Quality Working continues to recruit candidates interested in serving as either Chair or Vice-Chair. Email recommendations to Brian Filiatraut, bfiliatraut@morpc.org, MORPC's Energy and Sustainability Program Manager. The next meeting is May 22.

MORPC's 2022-2023 End of Season Air Quality Report released March 4, can be found [here](#). 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/U.S. EPA Project

Team Members continue to move forward the U.S. EPA funded air monitoring project working in partnership with Franklin County Public Health. MORPC is collocating 40 PurpleAir sensors with Ohio EPA monitors to test and validate their performance before placing them in the community. MORPC hosted the March 15 Project Advisory Committee meeting.

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)

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

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)

RDAC Met April 2. Their focus this year is on the areas of Workforce & Job Quality; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Cyber Security; and Regional Data Coaches projects and initiatives.

- Data Day Working Group: Data Day was February 7 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 includes a larger facility, dedicated networking spaces, and more refreshments available throughout the day. The Data Day Working Group reviewed attendee feedback and is planning for Data Day 2025.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG): RIDG met March 6. The meeting focused on data around the historic, current, and the projected future state of housing in Central Ohio. Bill LaFayette and Ethan Hug provided presentation. The tentative dates for the RIDG Steering Committee (SC) meetings and general RIDG meetings are: SC – April 8, July 9, and October 8; General – May 29, August 14, November 13.
- Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG): The next meeting is May 15.
- DEI & Data Working Group: The 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 group met in March for the second time and added two new members. The group will assemble 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 the information into a singular document and presentation best suited for educating local government stakeholders.

Data & Research Activities

Team Members began developing the MORPC Insights platform. Insights is 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 includes data on a variety of topics summarized at the regional, county, and community levels. Team Members are developing the platform in three phases. Phase 1 focuses on extracting more value from and improving access to MORPC's primary data products. Phase 2 focuses on derivative data products that highlight trends, patterns, and relationships between, within, and among those primary data products. Phase 3 focuses on engagement with our external partners and highlighting their data products. MORPC hired a dedicated Data Management Intern to exclusively assist with this product, thanks to a grant from The Columbus Foundation.

Staff created a two-step pipeline for retrieval and standardization of data from the American Community Survey (ACS) to help streamline the implementation of workflows relying ACS data.

MORPC produced the Leaders Listen: Housing Survey – the third in the series. Working with Measurement Resources Company (MRC) and The Columbus Dispatch, Team Members collected over 1,600 responses from residents across 140 zip codes. The survey concluded March 22. MORPC presented the preliminary survey results at the 2024 State of the Region along with other key insights derived from the comprehensive analysis of recent Census data. Team Members are producing an “Actionable Insights” report to share the results with Central Ohio stakeholders in the coming months.

Team Members are developing county-level forecasts of households/housing by type to better predict future housing needs. This is an extension to existing county forecasts for households and housing in general. Household types may include people living alone, two or more working-age adults with children, families with children, and adults of retirement age. Housing types may include attached housing, single-family small lot, and single-family large lot.

Mapping Activities

The ESRI User Conference accepted MORPC’s proposal on our Active Transportation Bike & Pedestrian network. Team Members will attend the July conference.

Team Members created a Central Ohio Greenways map to include in the new Franklin County Engineer’s County Road Map.

Diversity, Equity & 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.”

DRIVE INVESTMENT

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Team Members posted the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) on MORPC’s website. MORPC hosted an MTP Open House March 19. Staff continue to present MTP updates to communities. On schedule to present the final MTP for adoption at the May Commission Meeting.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Team Members interviewed seven peer MPOs with Economic Development Districts (EDDs) to gather insights on how other organizations structured their EDD Governing Boards and CEDS committees. The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) is reviewing the proposed framework.

MORPC is working with the Village of Alexandria in Licking County on a proposed project to be discussed with the United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development programs.

LinkUS Mobility Initiative

The Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) Committees continue to meet to identify priority projects and work towards a regional TSI capital improvement program. 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 long-distance passenger rail routes going through our region.

Mobility Management

Team Members attended transportation advisory committees in Fairfield County, Licking County, and Union Counties. Staff presented and facilitated a conversation on Mobility Planning for older adults with Village Connections. MORPC 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.

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. Completion of the 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 is open through Friday, April 19, 5:00 p.m. The CORPO Committee will consider final approval of the Safety Action Plan at their May 6 meeting.

MORPC-Attributable Funding

Team Members made no additional changes to the Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds based on comments received during the public comment period. The policies will be presented for adoption in the May transportation meetings.

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 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

The United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) 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 they will receive a \$42 million grant award from U.S. DOT 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 the grant application.

The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program, administered by U.S. DOT, concluded February 28. 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 submitted our first grant as an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Economic Development District. The application was submitted to the EDA's Partnership Planning Grant program. The award will support the implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

U.S. DOT announced the release of their Prioritization Process Pilot Program (PPPP) in late February. Team Members met internally to discuss how this program can support Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) activities and strategized on the creation of a competitive application.

Brownfield Assessments

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

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

The Clean Ohio Conservation Fund has approximately \$5 million available for FY 2025. Preliminary screeners are encouraged and due June 3. Final applications are due August 30. For more information, contact Edwina Teye at (ETeye@morpc.org) or visit MORPC's Clean Ohio Conservation Fund [website](#).

Money Mondays

MORPC hosted the following Money Monday sessions:

- 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

Upcoming sessions:

- April 1 – Public Safety Funding
- April 15 – Using Digital Signage to Enhance Your Value to our Community
- April 22 – Community Development Block Grant Program

PAY IT FORWARD

Membership Services

Team Members completed three member visits and attended seven various State of the City/Village/Township/County events.

Events

MORPC hosted/held the following events:

- March 15 – State of the Region – This year's theme was *Connecting Communities: Building the Future of Housing and Transportation*. Nearly 1,000 of the region's top political, business, and civic leaders attended this signature event.
- March 27 – Northwest Area of Central Ohio Regional Planning Luncheon – 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.

Upcoming Events

- April 25 – Mobilizing Your Workforce – 10 a.m.-1 p.m., includes lunch, MORPC
- May 1 – Central Area Regional Planning Luncheon – 12-1 p.m. – Franklin County Building, 373 S High Street, 16th Floor

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
- 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- CORPO Public Comment
- Leaders Listen Survey
- Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Grant Application
- Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

BUILD VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS

Community-Based Planning Assistance

The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program (CBPA) is available for community assistance requests. Members may learn more about, or request assistance from, the CBPA by visiting <https://www.morpc.org/community-based-planning-assistance/>. Contact Jonathan Miller at jmiller@morpc.org with any questions or to discuss potential ways that MORPC may provide assistance.

Consultant Services Program

MORPC is 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 was 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. MORPC 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 (jmiller@morpc.org) to schedule a time to discuss your communities potential needs and ways that MORPC may be able to assist.

Residential Services

Team Members are on target to meet Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) goals. Zero compliance issues were found, and zero actions were recommended following the recent HWAP Technical Monitoring. Team Members are streamlining the intake process using the Neighborly software system.

MORPC is shifting from the Information Management System (IMS) to new software for WarmChoice. WarmChoice applications are down.

Lead safe grant work begins in April. The Affordable Housing Trust grant for mold remediation is in review. Teams Members continue discussions with ECDI concerning an expedited contractor payment proposal.

MORPC in the News

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

Personnel Updates

MORPC is currently recruiting for open positions:

- Water Planning Intern
- Chief Regional Planning Officer
- Strategic Director of Technology

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

RFP/RFQ Postings

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

- Attributable Funding Online Application Development – closed March 15
- HVAC Contractor for Residential Energy Programs
- Insulation Contractor for Residential Energy Programs

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



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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111 Liberty St., Suite 111
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Memorandum

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

FROM: William Murdock
Executive Director

DATE: March 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 06-24: **“Accepting the Village of Mt. Sterling as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)”**

On March 11, 2024, the Village Council of the Village of Mt. Sterling passed a resolution to join the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). This resolution accepts the Village of Mt. Sterling as a member of MORPC, which helps meet the desire of MORPC’s membership to continue to grow the organization for the benefit of a stronger Central Ohio region.

The net dues will be pro-rated as of the date of membership and assessed to the Village of Mt. Sterling in the amount of \$936.

Attachment: Resolution 06-24

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

RESOLUTION 06-24

“Accepting the Village of Mt. Sterling as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)”

WHEREAS, the Village of Mt. Sterling recognizes the need for collaborative, cooperative planning in order to ensure continued growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, MORPC’s mission is to be the regional voice and a catalyst for sustainability and economic prosperity in order to secure a competitive advantage for Central Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Mt. Sterling has petitioned for membership in MORPC; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of MORPC’s members to continue to grow for the benefit of strong collaboration on regional issues; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Mt. Sterling will be assessed dues based on the 2023 population projections; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2024, the Village Council of the Village of Mt. Sterling passed a resolution accepting the conditions of membership contained in MORPC’s Articles of Agreement; now therefore

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

- Section 1. That the Village of Mt. Sterling is accepted as a member of MORPC effective April 11, 2024.
- Section 2. That the Bylaws provide that one (1) representative appointed by the Village of Mt. Sterling is eligible to serve as a voting member on their behalf at the MORPC Commission meetings.
- Section 3. That net dues will be pro-rated as of the date of membership (April 11, 2024) and assessed to the Village of Mt. Sterling for 2024 in the amount of \$936.
- Section 4. That the Village of Mt. Sterling is entitled to the same regular services of MORPC as are other members and that any special services will be purchased by the Village based on standard MORPC rates.
- Section 5. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.
- Section 6. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: April 11, 2024
Submitted by: William Murdock, Executive Director
Prepared by: Eileen Leuby, Membership Services Officer
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: April 11, 2024



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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111 Liberty St., Suite 111
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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, <https://www.morpc.org/programs-services/planning-work-program-pwp/>. Any comments can be directed to me, Nick Gill at ngill@morpc.org. The final SFY 2025 PWP will be adopted during the May meeting cycle.

The total Fiscal Year 2025 budget of all work elements is approximately \$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

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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.

Products/Activities:

- 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-minute 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.

Products/Activities:

- 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 high-volume 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.

Products/Activities:

- 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.

Products/Activities:

- 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



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: March 14, 2024
Time: 2:15 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

LaGrieta Acheampong	Shane Farnsworth	Kevin Pangrace for
Chris Amorose Groomes	Brad Foster	John O'Grady
Kristen Atha	Pam Hykes O'Grady	Kent Shafer
Michael Bivens	Laurie Jadwin	Kimberly Sharp
Lee Bodnar	Carol Kauffman	Thom Slack
Ron Bullard	Nate Lang	Ike Stage
Gary Burkholder	Joe Long	Joe Steager
Monica Connors	Kris Long	Andy Volenik
Michelle Crandall	Steve Mazer	Christie Ward
Christina Drummond	Rory McGuinness	Nancy White
Brad Ebersole	Eric Meyer	Andrew Williams
Dave Efland		

Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

Herb Asher	Christine Houk	Elissa Schneider
Emily Cooner for Kevin Boyce	James Jewell	Alana Shockey
Ben Collins	Bill LaFayette	Chloe Siens-Núñez
Jeremiah Gracia	Hayley Lupton	Brandon Standley
Dave Gulden	Glenn Marzluf	Joe Stefanov
Daryl Hennessy	Dave Medley	Robyn Stewart
Tom Homan	Erin Prosser	Tim Wilson
	Eric Richter	Kenneth Wright

Commission Members Present in Person

Joe Antram	Luke Feeny	Matt Starr
Jamie Brucker	Thomas Hale	RC Wise
Franklin Christman	Jeff Hall	
David Crissman	Nick Shultz	

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Ben Carpenter	Mark Johns	Bill Narducci
Terry Emery	Tom Johnson	Eric Phillips
Sam Filkins	Mark Mauter	RC Wise
Bill Habig	Brittany Misner	

Associate Members Attending Remotely

Kristin Sutton

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Parag Agrawal	Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock
Todd Bradley	Shawn Hufstедler	Kyle Probert
Kerstin Carr	Niel Jurist	Padmini Roy-Dixon
Dave Dixon	Eileen Leuby	Shari Saunders
Preston Frick	Allison Mancz	Brandi Whetstone
Joe Garrity	Kelsey Matson	Robert Williams
Nick Gill	Amanda McEldowney	

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Mike Borger	April Bumgardner	Taylor Franco
Emily Brown	Brian Filiatraut	Karina Peggau

Emma Strange

Guests Present in Person

Lourdes Barroso de Padilla, Regional Policy
Roundtable Chair
Grace Byler, Morrow County
Scott Donaldson, Liberty Township

Dion Grener, Jefferson Township
Cornell Robertson, Mannik Smith Group
Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Guests Attending Remotely

Cindi Cooper, City of Sunbury
Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Brent Welch, FCEO

Meeting Called to Order – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair

Chair Chris Amorose Groomes called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer & Senior Director of Programming

Parag Agrawal presented the [Metropolitan Planning Organization Report](#). Mr. Agrawal reported the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is one of the most important documents MORPC puts together. It is a vision of transportation over the next 25 years. The 2024-2050 MTP plans for \$35 billion of investments. It includes \$15 billion in transit and \$2 billion in stand-alone bicycle and pedestrian facilities. It funds 600 regional projects. Team Members are meeting with communities to share the plan. The MTP will be presented to the transportation committees in May for adoption. Nick Gill is giving an extensive presentation later in today's meeting.

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment on the consent agenda is an administrative amendment. No activities are being added or deleted, just adjusting funding sources.

MORPC is working with communities to bring in more federal and state grants to the region. Five Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants were submitted from the region this year totaling \$42 million. Award announcements are expected in June.

Mr. Agrawal gave an update on LinkUS activities. The March 6 CMC Luncheon featured LinkUS. The Advisory Council meets March 27. The Transit Supportive Infrastructure Committees continue to meet regularly. Maria Schaper is the MORPC Project Manager for LinkUS.

2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update – Nick Gill, MORPC Transportation Study Director

Nick Gill presented the [2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update](#). The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is the long-range transportation vision for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and is updated every four years. Mr. Gill shared the 2024-2050 MTP development timeline:

- November 2022 – adopt goals (Resolution T-15-22)
- February 2023 – adopt measurable objectives (Resolution T-1-23)
- 2023 – develop strategies to achieve goals
 - Begin with population estimates for regional and county levels
 - Refine estimates to determine where growth will occur (traffic analysis zone level forecasts)
 - Receive feedback from communities
 - Strategies are about maintaining current systems and expanding the transportation systems

- September 2023 – adopt 2050 forecast household and employment variables (Resolution T-15-23)
- Interactive web map of specific projects
 - 174 additional projects suggested by the public
 - 1,052 comments received
 - 1,300 projects identified in the region
- Fiscal analysis
 - Determine what resources are expected
 - Project evaluation process related to the adopted goals
 - Public comment period
- Draft MTP – www.morpc.org/mtp
 - Over 600 projects
 - \$35 billion
 - Public comment period open through March
- January-March 2024 – community presentations
- March 2024 – MORPC MTP Open House
- Feedback incorporated into final document
- May 2024 – MTP Adoption

Mr. Gill recognized and thanked Team Members working on the MTP.

Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda

Pam Hykes O’Grady made a motion to accept the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Laurie Jadwin; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Ben Kessler, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: March 14, 2024
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Commission Members Present in Person

LaGrieta Acheampong	Brad Ebersole	Rory McGuinness
Chris Amorose Groomes	Dave Efland	Eric Meyer
Joe Antram	Shane Farnsworth	Kevin Pangrace for John O'Grady
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Christina Drummond	Steve Mazer	

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Tom Homan	Bill Narducci	Kenneth Wright
	Eric Phillips	

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

Kimberly Sharp	Thom Slack
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Kristin Sutton

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Guests Present in Person

Lourdes Barroso de Padilla, Regional Policy
Roundtable Chair
Grace Byler, Morrow County
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Dion Grener, Jefferson Township
Cornell Robertson, Mannik Smith Group
Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Guests Attending Remotely

Cindi Cooper, City of Sunbury
Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Brent Welch, FCEO

Meeting Called to Order – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair

Chair Chris Amorose Grooms called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Eileen Leuby welcomed new Commission representatives and guests:

- Michael Bivens, City of Whitehall, Mayor
- Joe Long, City of Whitehall, Director of Economic Development
- David Crissman, City of Bellefontaine, Mayor
- Nate Lang, City of Westerville, City Engineer
- Scott Donaldson, Liberty Township, Trustee
- Luke Feeney, City of Chillicothe, Mayor
- Carol Kauffman, Ohio Environmental Council, Executive Director
- Alli Mancz, MORPC, Intern Program Coordinator

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

William Murdock welcomed members to the March Pi Day Commission meeting and shared new regional leadership announcements. Monica Tellez-Fowler is the next President/CEO for COTA and Luke Messinger is the new RAPID 5 CEO.

Mr. Murdock stated the Census Bureau released updated numbers and shows Central Ohio as a growing region, but not the fastest growing region in the United States. We are still the fastest growing region in Ohio. The regions growing faster than Central Ohio are producing more housing. The population growth is proceeding as expected.

Mr. Murdock reported a delegation of MORPC Members and Staff attended the National Association of Regional Council's (NARC) National Conference of Regions in Washington, DC, where they heard best practices from other regional councils around the country. They had an opportunity to meet with U.S. DOT, Amtrak, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and the U.S. Economic Development Administration. MORPC led a nationwide panel on housing and Niel Jurist led diversity efforts while there.

Work continues on the Midwest Connect line. MORPC entered an MOU with the City of Fort Wayne and partners in Pittsburgh. Significant work has been done with the FRA. MORPC is setting up a passenger rail committee soon to act as an advisory group.

A Central Ohio Delegation of public and private stakeholders travelled to Florida to see passenger rail and how it is implemented in other regions. They met with the Orlando Airport CEO and saw how rail is integrated into the airport. They discovered what private passenger rail looks like with the Brightline. The delegation also met with the local transit agency and MPO. They are looking for opportunities to see other projects.

The Member Benefit of the Month is our educational partnership with Franklin University. Any employee of a member government can take advantage of the tuition discounts to further their professional development. Franklin University offers a 20% tuition discount for associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees. They offer a 10% tuition discount for doctoral programs and free textbooks for all programs. Learn more at www.franklin.edu/morpc.

The Grant Opportunity of the Month is Safe Streets and Roads for All. The FY24 round is open for the grant looking for initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Over \$3 billion is available.

The Leaders Listen Survey is open until March 22. MORPC will share preliminary results at the March 15 State of the Region. We received nearly 2,000 responses covering all of MORPC's region.

The State of the Region is sold out. Keynote Speaker Majora Carter will talk about the value of connecting communities. Panel guests include ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks, Columbus City Council President Shannon Hardin, COTA Deputy CEO Monica Tellez-Fowler, and new RAPID 5 Executive Director Luke Messinger.

Upcoming Events:

- Regional Planning Update Lunch Northwest Area – March 27, 12 p.m., Dublin Recreation Center
- Mobilizing Your Workforce Rural Series – April 25, 10 a.m., City of Marysville City Hall

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer & Senior Director of Programming

Parag Agrawal gave the [Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization \(CORPO\) Report](#) on behalf of CORPO Chair Mark Forrest. CORPO is the transportation planning organization for the seven counties in the nonmetropolitan area and includes Fairfield, Knox, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway, and Union Counties. MORPC Team Member Mary Turner serves as the program manager. CORPO received three applications for the SFY 2024-2025 CORPO Dedicated Funds. After funding all three applications, CORPO had \$1 million available and opened a second round. They received six applications this time and dedicated \$1.1 million for five projects.

MORPC is working with CORPO members to draft a Roadway Safety Plan for CORPO counties. CORPO received a federal grant to create a safety action plan. The goal is an annual reduction of two percent in fatalities/serious injuries. A one-month public comment period for the plan starts next week. Once the plan is in place, CORPO communities can pursue implementation funding for projects identified in the plan.

MORPC Team Members are visiting each CORPO county to get feedback on how MORPC can assist them.

Regional Policy Roundtable – Lourdes Barroso de Padilla (City of Columbus), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair

Lourdes Barroso de Padilla presented the [Regional Policy Roundtable Update](#). The Regional Policy Roundtable met February 29 with new chair, City of Columbus Council Member Lourdes Barroso de Padilla, and new vice chair, City of New Albany Mayor Sloan Spalding. Senator Andrew Brenner gave the Regional Leader Update focusing on his work on the Senate Special Housing Committee, which MORPC testified to last year. The committee plans to release its findings in a report over the next few weeks and introduce legislation based on that report.

While at the NARC Conference, MORPC's delegation met with Central Ohio legislators and provided information on and advocated for 47 regional projects. They also shared MORPC's Public Policy Agenda. The delegation also met with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Amtrak and had promising conversations regarding regional connecting opportunities.

- **Legislative Update – Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations**

Joe Garrity gave the legislative update highlighting the following:

- Select Committee on Housing/HB 315
- One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund
- Capital Budget
- Federal Appropriations
- Election Day

Sustainability Advisory Committee – Laurie Jadwin (City of Gahanna), Sustainability Advisory Committee Vice Chair

Laurie Jadwin presented the [Sustainability Advisory Committee Report](#). Mayor Jadwin recognized the Sustainability Advisory Committee and welcomed new members joining in 2024:

- Christine Houk, Council Member, City of Grove City
- Carol Kaufman, Executive Director, Ohio Environmental Council
- Kenneth Wright, Mayor, City of Westerville

Appointed members serve a two-year term, with the option to renew. Several members continue to serve multiple terms. Mayor Jadwin thanked them for their service.

MORPC released its annual End of Season Air Quality Report on March 4, coinciding with the start of ozone monitoring season (March 1-October 31). MORPC issues air quality forecasts and alerts for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM2.5). During the 2022-2023 season, Central Ohio experienced worse air quality compared to the previous year, largely influenced by wildfire smoke from outside the region. MORPC issued eleven alerts for both pollutants. Central Ohio exceeded the federal standards on nine of those days. The region also experienced "red" or unhealthy PM2.5 levels for the first time in twelve years due to the wildfire smoke from Canada. The full report is available on [MORPC's website](#).

Air Quality Awareness Week is May 6-10. The annual initiative's goal is to increase public understanding and awareness of air quality issues that affect our health and the environment. This year's theme is "Knowing Your Air." To raise awareness, MORPC encourages local governments to adopt a proclamation recognizing Air Quality Awareness Week. Contact Mauro Diaz-Hernandez, MORPC Air Quality Sustainability Coordinator, for more information and for a sample proclamation.

Working in partnership with MORPC, OSU, Power a Clean Future Ohio, and IMPACT, Sustainable Columbus submitted the first deliverable for Phase 1 of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG). Regional priorities were selected by polling over 400 people from different sectors across ten counties. The full Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), along with PCAPs submitted by the state of Ohio and others, is available [here](#). The Phase 2 implementation grant proposal is due April 1. The team is finalizing their proposal for the Regional Community Energy Strategy (ReCES), which provides no-cost solar installations on public buildings, as well as measures along the LinkUS W. Broad corridor to support bus electrification and other measures that save energy and lower emissions.

Ohio EPA is leading a Regional Water Study working together with other state agencies, MORPC, and a consultant team. The review team selected a consultant, Hazen and Sawyer, who brought together several consultants with diverse areas of expertise to ensure completion by the end of the

year. MORPC and Ohio EPA will host monthly webinars to update key stakeholders throughout the process.

The next Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting is March 20, 2:30 p.m. at MORPC. Meeting topics include ongoing priorities and updating the 2021-2024 Regional Sustainability Agenda.

Transportation Policy Committee – **Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**
Chair Amorose Grooms called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:15 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:48 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Commission Consent Agenda

Nancy White made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Pam Hykes O’Grady; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

Ben Kessler, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 111
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

Memorandum

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

FROM: Robert A. Williams Jr.
Senior Director of Residential Services

DATE: March 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 05-24: **“To authorize the executive director to enter into agreements with the Affordable Housing Trust (AHT) for \$100,000 for a 12-month period to perform mold remediation on properties identified through MORPC’s Weatherization Program”**

MORPC has been providing free residential home repairs and energy efficiency services in Franklin County to eligible residents for over 30 years through public-private partnerships utilizing public and private funds.

The services of mold remediation and mitigation will be performed pursuant to properties identified as part of MORPC’s weatherization program. Mold remediation will be under the oversight of MORPC and be implemented through a combination of MORPC staff and local businesses that are contracted in MORPC’s service area.

Attachment: Resolution 05-24

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

RESOLUTION 05-24

“To authorize the executive director to enter into agreements with the Affordable Housing Trust (AHT) for \$100,000 for a 12-month period to perform mold remediation on properties identified through MORPC’s Weatherization Program.”

WHEREAS, The Affordable Housing Trust (AHT) has awarded a grant to MORPC for the purpose of mold remediation; and

WHEREAS, MORPC will identify homes with mold through its existing weatherization program; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of mold remediation MORPC will then perform additional weatherization measures on said properties; and

WHEREAS, MORPC has been providing free residential home repairs and energy efficiency services in Franklin County to eligible residents for over 30 years through public-private partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the services performed pursuant to properties identified as part of MORPC’s weatherization program will be under the oversight of MORPC and be implemented through a combination of MORPC staff and local businesses that are contracted in MORPC’s service area; now therefore

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

- Section 1. That the executive director is hereby authorized to enter into agreement with AHT for work described in the forthcoming contracts to be awarded to MORPC in the amount of \$100,000 through 2025 and enter into related subcontracts.
- Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to approve one or more extensions for performance of services under the foregoing agreements and change orders for amounts up to the financial authorization levels in the MORPC bylaws without further authorization from this Commission.
- Section 3. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.
- Section 4. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: April 11, 2024
Submitted by: Robert Williams, Senior Director of Residential Services
Prepared by: Robert Williams, Senior Director of Residential Services
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: April 11, 2024