



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD MEETING
HYBRID MEETING**

November 20, 2024, 10:00 -11:30

AGENDA

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions:** *Mike Andrako, FCEO*
- 2) **MORPC Updates – MORPC Staff**
 - **Summit on Sustainability Awards**
 - Leadership in Mobility Award was presented to Mike Andrako for contributions to regional trail development.
 - The Collaborative Achievement in Sustainability Award was presented to the Trail Towns Working Group for efforts in advancing trail accessibility and community engagement.
 - **Legislative Update – Kyle Probert, MORPC**
 - **Impacts on Federal Programs:**
 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) programs may face cuts or elimination.
 - Reduced federal focus on climate and equity initiatives.
 - Possible funding shifts in transportation and regulatory policies.
 - **Technical Assistance – Jordan Petrov, MORPC**
 - **2024 Recap:**
 - Jefferson Township: Completed an active transportation study, prioritizing Blacklick Creek Trail alignment.
 - Franklin Township: Finalizing sidewalk and pedestrian safety enhancements.
 - **2025 Technical Assistance Awardees:**
 - Village of Galena: Complete Streets Safety Audit to address increasing traffic and enhance downtown safety.
 - City of Gahanna: CIP Digitization & Publication for enhanced interdepartmental coordination using GIS.
 - City of Grove City: TSI Study of US-62, focusing on safety improvements and corridor coordination.
 - City of Hilliard: Trail Towns & Wayfinding Study to integrate local signage strategies with regional trails.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

- Central Ohio Blueways – *Jonathan Miller, MORPC*
 - World Rivers Day Cleanup (September 28, 2024) removed 3,750 pounds of trash from regional waterways.
 - Working Groups Initiatives:
 - Environmental Stewardship: Developing an Invasive Species ID Guide and Onion Bag Project for litter control.
 - User Experience: Establishing a Hazard Removal Consortium for waterway obstructions.
 - Water Trail Designation: Advancing official recognition for Big Walnut Creek as a Water Trail.

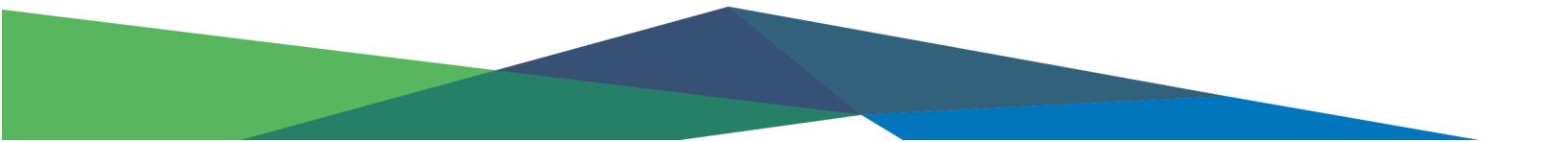
3) COG Working Group and Steering Committee Updates

- COG Board Project Updates – *Melinda Vonstein*
 - Wayfinding Project
 - Completed and available on the COG website.
 - COG Mapping Natural Assets
 - Technical Working Group finalizing data to support environmental conservation decisions.
 - Partnership with RAPID5 to integrate findings into regional greenway planning.
 - COG Detours and Reroutes Guidelines
 - Committee is finalizing a two-page detour guidance document, expected by year-end.
- Trail Development Working Group - *Kelly Scocco*
 - Regional Trail Vision Progress
 - 189 miles of proposed COG trails identified within the COTA Service Area (CSA).
 - 50 miles (26%) of the proposed network is funded for construction by 2030.
 - Key upcoming projects:
 - Hudson Urban Greenway Phase 1 to be completed by end of 2024.
 - Multiple TSI and MORPC-attributable projects advancing across the region.
 - Next Steps:
 - Identifying new regional priority trail corridors for vision updates in January 2025.
- Greenway Planning Studio Regional Collaboration Meetings – *Sam Smith*
 - Regional meetings held in southeast, northeast, southwest, and northwest quadrants to update the COG vision.
 - Key takeaways:
 - Increased community interest in trail-to-town connectivity.
 - Fairfield County highlighted as a regional trail expansion priority.
 - Upcoming sessions to refine project proposals for 2025 and beyond.
- Trail Towns Working Group – *Laura Ball*
 - Logo and Brand Development
 - New branding initiatives underway to enhance trail town identity.
 - Outerspatial
 - Exploring digital mapping options to improve public engagement.

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- 2024 Goals
 - Increasing local business participation in the Trail Towns program.
 - Strengthening community outreach and tourism initiatives.

4) **Other Business** – *Board Members*

5) **Closing** – *Mike Andrako*



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Hybrid Meeting

Central Ohio Greenways Board

November 20, 2024, 10:00 am

Members Present

- Chair Mike Andrako, Franklin County Engineer's Office
- Laura Ball, City of Westerville
- Jody Dzurainin, Ohio to Erie Trail
- Bertie Fields, Black Girls do Bike
- Adrienne Joly, City of New Albany
- Dan Kaderly, Metro Parks
- Kari Kauffman, Experience Columbus
- Tamisha Matus, Union County Health Dept
- Angela Mitchell, Black Women in Nature
- Eric Oberg, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
- Andrew Overbeck, MKSK
- JM Rayburn, City of Dublin
- Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
- Kelly Scocco, City of Columbus
- Kimberly Shields, Grove City
- Zachary Sunderland, COTA
- Olivia Toth, Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Mara Villaseca, Knowlton School of Architecture
- Brad Westall, City of Columbus

Staff Present

- Lauren Cardoni
- Lynn Kaufman
- Jessica Kuenzli
- Jonathan Miller
- Jordan Petrov
- Kyle Probert
- Melinda Vonstein

Public Present

- David Poole, CTP Sinto America