



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

> CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD MEETING HYBRID MICROSOFT TEAMS OR MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 111 LIBERTY ST, SUITE 100 COLUMBUS, OH 43215

<u>January 24, 2024</u> <u>10:00 – 11:30</u> AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and Introductions: Mike Andrako, COG Board Chair
 - a. New Board Member Spotlight

2) MORPC Updates

- a. Legislative
- b. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- c. Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)
- d. Active Transportation
- e. LinkUS
- f. Blueways
- g. Events

3) COG Working Group and Steering Committee Updates

- a. Trail Development Working Group Kelly Scocco, Working Group Chair
 - i. Regional Trail Vision Updates Melinda Vonstein, MORPC
 - ii. Trail Development Working Group 2024 Meeting Dates
- b. Trail Towns Working Group Kari Kauffman, Working Group Co-Chair
 - i. Working Group Update
 - ii. Outdoor Trails Pass Jessie Sampson, MORPC
- c. COG Board Project Updates Melinda Vonstein, MORPC
 - i. COG Wayfinding Strategy
 - ii. COG Mapping Natural Assets
 - iii. COG Detours and Reroutes Guidelines
- 4) Other Business Board Members
- 5) Closing Mike Andrako, Board Chair

William Murdock, AICP Executive Director Chris Amorose Groomes Interim Chair Michelle Crandall Interim Vice Chair Ben Kessler Interim Secretary



Central Ohio Greenways Board Meeting

January 24, 2024



WELCOME CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD MEMBERS



- Sarah DeMeo, Ohio Hispanic Coalition
- Kim Shields, City of Grove City
- Zach Sunderland, COTA
- Olivia Toth, Visit Knox County
- Mara Villaseca, OSU Ph.D. Candidate



COG BOARD MEMBERS

COG BOARD LEADERSHIP

Mike Andrako, *Board Chair*, Franklin County Engineers Office Laura Ball, *Trail Towns Working Group Co-Chair*, City of Westerville Kari Kauffman, *Trail Towns Working Group Co-Chair*, Experience Columbus Kelly Scocco, *Trail Development Working Group Chair*, City of Columbus

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- Kacey Brankamp Capital Crossroads & Discovery Special Improvements District
- Sarah DeMeo
 Ohio Hispanic Coalition
- Jody Dzuranin
 Ohio to Erie Trail
- Bertie Fields
 Black Girls Do Bike
- Bill Habig
 Granville Township

- Beth Hugh KORDA
- Adrienne Joly City Of New Albany
- Dan Kaderly Metro Parks
- Tamisha Matus
 Union County
- Angela Mitchell
 Black Women in Nature
- Alex Nouanesengsy
 LCATS

- Eric Oberg Rails to Trails Conservancy
- Andrew Overbeck
 MKSK
- J.M. Rayburn City of Dublin

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- Letty Schamp
 City of Hilliard
- Kim Shields
 City of Grove City
- Zach Sunderland
 COTA

- Olivia Toth Visit Knox County
- Mara Villaseca OSU Ph.D. Candidate
- Julie Walcoff
 Toole Design

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Brad Westall

City of Columbus Recreation and Parks





2024 COG WORKING GROUPS & STEERING COMMITTEES



Trail Development Working Group

Trail Towns Working Group

Mapping Natural Assets Steering Committee

Trail Detour and Closures Steering Committee



MORPC UPDATES



Legislative Update



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kyle Probert – Public Policy Coordinator



- Capital Budget & OTSCIF
 - Separate timelines a possibility
 - Senate Deadline April 8th
 - OTSCIF bill may move like a budget
- Federal Budget Negotiations
 Ongoing
 - FY 25 coming fast



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kyle Probert – Public Policy Coordinator

- ODOT Systemic Safety Funding (January 31)
- Safe Routes to School (March 1)
- ODNR Trail Grants (April 17)
 - Clean Ohio Trail Fund
 - Recreational Trails Program
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) (Opening in February)



CORPO Dedicated Funds Program

- CORPO is seeking funding applications
- CORPO has close to \$1,000,000 in funds still available during the two-year cycle

 Part of the biennial transportation budget (SFY 2024-2025)
 Suballocation of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)
 Funds can be used for BOTH capital and planning projects
- Applications for funding are due on February 9, 2023, at 5 PM.
- An online application form is available on the CORPO webpage (<u>https://www.morpc.org/committees/central-ohio-rural-planning-organization-corpo/</u>)

Eligibility

- Eligible sponsors
 - Public agency
 - Non-public entities may indirectly sponsor
- Eligible roadways
 - Federal aid system
 - Bridge on any road
- Eligible costs
 - All phases
 - Require 20% local match

Eligibility

- Eligible Project Types
- Bicycle Lanes
- Bridge Maintenance / Replacement
- Interchange Modification
- Intersection Modification
 ·
- Minor Widening
- Multi-Use Paths
- Planning Activity

- Preventive Maintenance
- Program Administration
- Reconstruction
 - Resurfacing
- Sidewalks
- Street-scape Improvements
- Traffic Signals

- Transit Capital Expansion
- Transit Capital Maintenance
- Transit Service Expansion
- Travel Demand
 Management

Schedule

Date	Milestone
11-6-2023	CORPO Re-Adopts CORPO Dedicated-Funds Policy
1-8-2024	Two-year funding cycle application period opens
1-10-2024	CORPO hosts an Applicant Workshop from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
2-9-2024	Applications must be completed online by 5 p.m.
2-16-2024	Staff notifies sponsors of any errors and omissions on the application.
3-8-2024	CORPO Staff emails CORPO Funds Selection Committee an overview of applications received, and the results of the application evaluations
3-13-2024	CORPO Funds Selection Committee meets to make recommendations for the public comment period.
3-15-2024	Staff publishes draft list of selected projects and opens public comment period.
4-15-2024	Close of public comment period
5-6-2024	CORPO Funds Selection Committee makes final recommendations of fund awards to CORPO Committee
5-6-2024	CORPO Committee meets to approve funding commitments.

CORPO Dedicated Funds Program

CORPO Web Page

 <u>https://www.morpc.org/committee</u> <u>s/central-ohio-rural-planning-</u> <u>organization-corpo/</u>

Mary Turner

Senior Planner, CORPO Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission P: 614-233-4138 E: mturner@morpc.org

SFY 2024-2025 Second Application Round

CORPO will open a second application round for the remaining dedicated funds for the SY 2024-2025 two-year funding cycle. Starting on January 8th, 2024, CORPO will seek funding applications for transportation projects and programs from eligible local public agencies located within CORPO's member counties.

These funds may be used for construction, expansion, reconstruction, preliminary engineering, right of way or preservation of roads and bridges on any public road; capital costs for public transit and bus terminals; bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and other transportation-related activities. Please reference the updated CORPO 2024-2025 Policies for Managing CORPO Funds document in the links below.

Application Link

https://morpc.formstack.com/forms/corpo_funding_application

Virtual Applicant Workshop

A virtual, public workshop on the CORPO Dedicated Funds application and selection process will be held on Wednesday, January 10th from 2:30 to 3:30 PM. At the time of the workshop, join at this link.

POLICIES FOR MANAGING CORPO DEDICATED FUNDS

FIRST ROUND OF PROJECTS USING CORPO-DEDICATED FUNDING FOR SFY 2024 AND 2025

2024 - 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Jon Heider





WHY IS THE MTP IMPORTANT?

- Central Ohio is growing
 - Demographics are changing
 - Development is changing
 - Demands on the transportation system are changing
- Transportation projects must be on MTP to be eligible for federal funding
 - Formula & Discretionary (BIL)
 - Guides the work of MORPC and regional and local planning partners

2024-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN



By guiding investment in transportation and mobility infrastructure and services in Central Ohio, the MTP identifies strategies to advance the following six goals:



Create sustainable neighborhoods to improve all residents' quality of life.



Increase regional collaboration and employ innovative transportation solutions to maximize the return on public expenditures.

Position Central Ohio to attract and retain economic opportunity to prosper as a region and compete globally.



Protect natural resources and mitigate infrastructure vulnerabilities to maintain a healthy ecosystem and community.



Provide transportation and mobility options to benefit the health, safety, and welfare of all people.



Reduce per capita energy consumption and promote alternative fuel resources to increase affordability and resilience of regional energy supplies.

2024-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

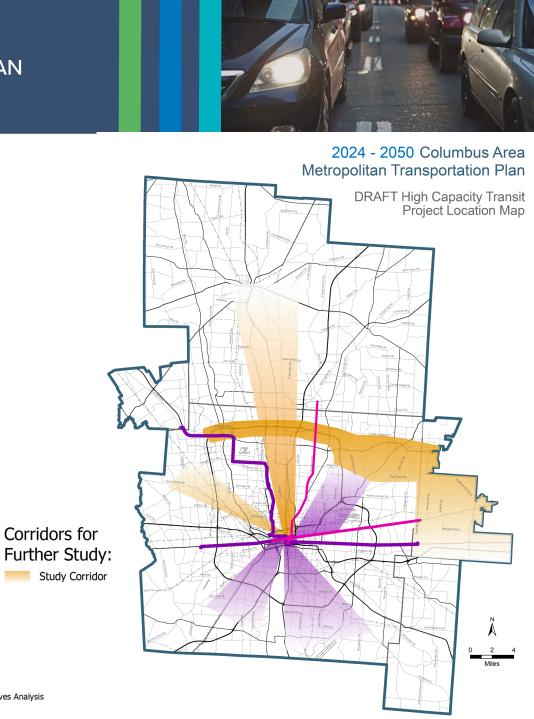
DRAFT PROJECTS

- Transit project priorities have been identified by LinkUS team
- Web map of all draft projects will be available during February public comment period.
 - Will include all projects identified in COG Vision.



*Mode and route alignment to be identified by separate Alternatives Analysis

^One Corridor to be constructed by 2050, to be identified by separate Alternatives Analysis



Active Transportation Update



LinkUS UPDATE



DATA DAY 2024 REGISTRATION OPEN

Wednesday, February 7th, 2024 | 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ohio University Dublin Integrated Education Center | 6805 Bobcat Way | Dublin, OH 43016



TO REGISTER SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT morpc.org/event/data-day



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE

For more details about sponsorship opportunities, contact: *Amanda McEldowney* | *amceldowney@morpc.org*





CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

REGISTER NOW

State of the Region 2024

Friday, March 15, 2024 The Hilton Columbus Downtown 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.



Trail Development Working Group



TRAIL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP 2024

GOALS

1) Maintain the Regional Trail Vision

- Trails in the "Intel Region"
- Regional Trails and Active
 Transportation Collaboration Meetings
- Expand Vision to MORPC's 15 County Region
- 2) Support the Trails Detours and Closures Steering Committee
- 3) Advance the "COG Wayfinding Strategy"
- 4) Support Funding and Project Development

MEETING DATES

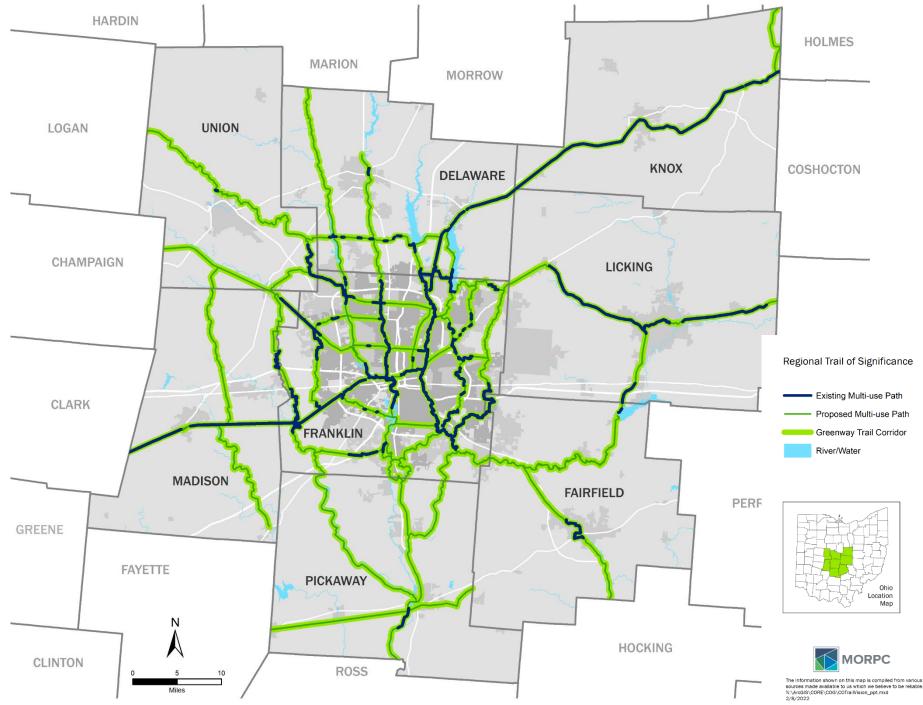
- Feb 15: 9:30 10:30
- April 18: 9:30 10:30
- June 20: 9:30 10:30
- August 15: 9:30 10:30
- October 17: 9:30 10:30
- December 19: 9:30 10:30





Regional Trail Vision Update Recommendations







Regional Trail Vision

500+ Proposed Trail Miles

230+ Existing Trail Miles







sources made available to us which we believe to be reliable. N:\ArcGIS\CORE\COG\COTrailVision_ppt.mxd



REGIONAL TRAIL VISION UPDATES



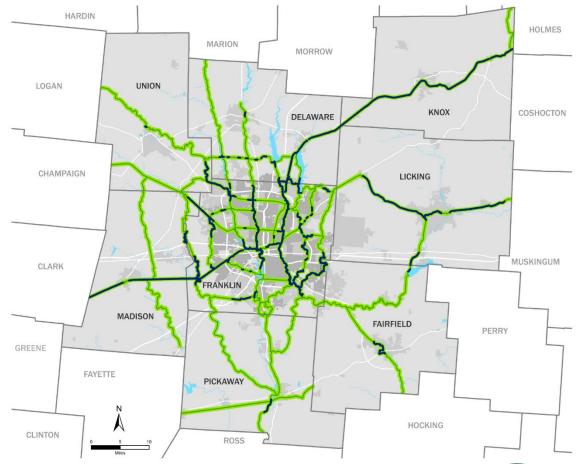
- > The Regional Trail Vision Map is a network of 700+ existing and proposed Trails of Regional Significance that spans 7 counties in Central Ohio. The Regional Trail Vision Map was originally adopted in 2018 by the COG Board and MORPC's commission.
 - The Regional Trail Vision Map may be updated annually. Candidate Trails of Regional Significance must be recommended to the board by the COG Trail Development Working Group during a COG Board Meeting. The COG Board may choose to adopt an updated Regional Trail Vision Map if the adopted update adheres to the definitions as described in this document.



REGIONAL TRAIL VISION UPDATES



A **Trail of Regional Significance** is a primary trail, predominantly off-street, that is multi-jurisdictional and connects people to major > destination points. These trails have a well maintained, improved surface and should prioritize comfort and safety for trail users. In locations where Trails of Regional Significance intersect or conflict with vehicular traffic, the trail should be emphasized as highly as practicable. Landscaping and buffering should be incorporated into the design of these trails. Access to amenities, such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and parking, should be provided periodically. Wayfinding, snow & ice removal, maintenance, and 24/7 access of Trails of Regional Significance are critical to ensure that reliable and equitable access is provided to all users.

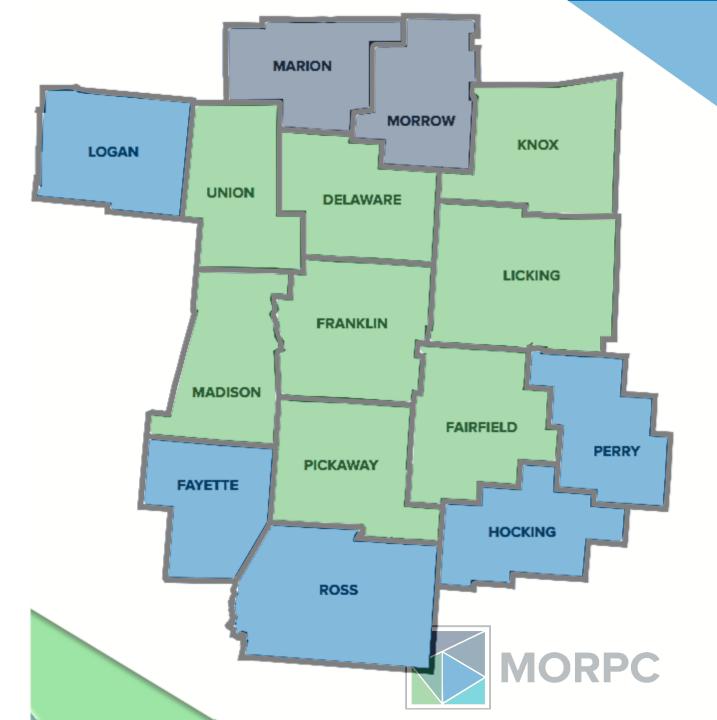




MORPC 15 County Area

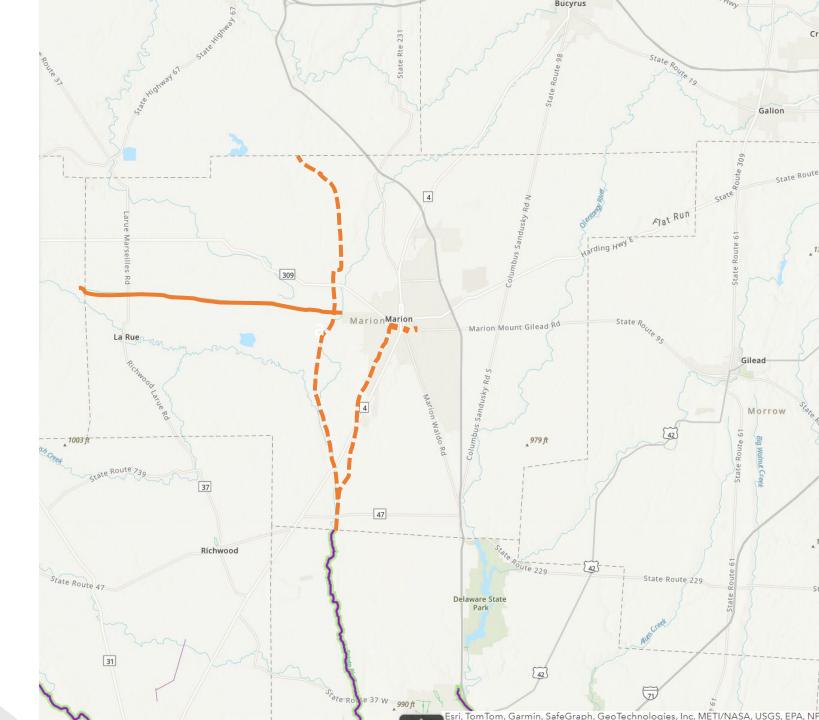
Proposal:

- Expand COG Vision to all 15 Counties in MORPC's service area.
- CORPO Counties will be encouraged to work through CORPO committees to recommend annual updates to the Trail Development Working Group
- MORPC Staff will reach out to Counties in 2024 to request trail plans/engage in planning efforts.



Marion County

- Existing 12 Mile Trail: Tall Grass Trail
- Proposed Trails connecting Prospect to Marion at the County Line.
- Proposals informed by the Marion County Active Transportation Plan.





Rocky Fork – New Albany

• Proposal: Replace proposed alignment with the existing alignment of the new trail on the east side of the river.

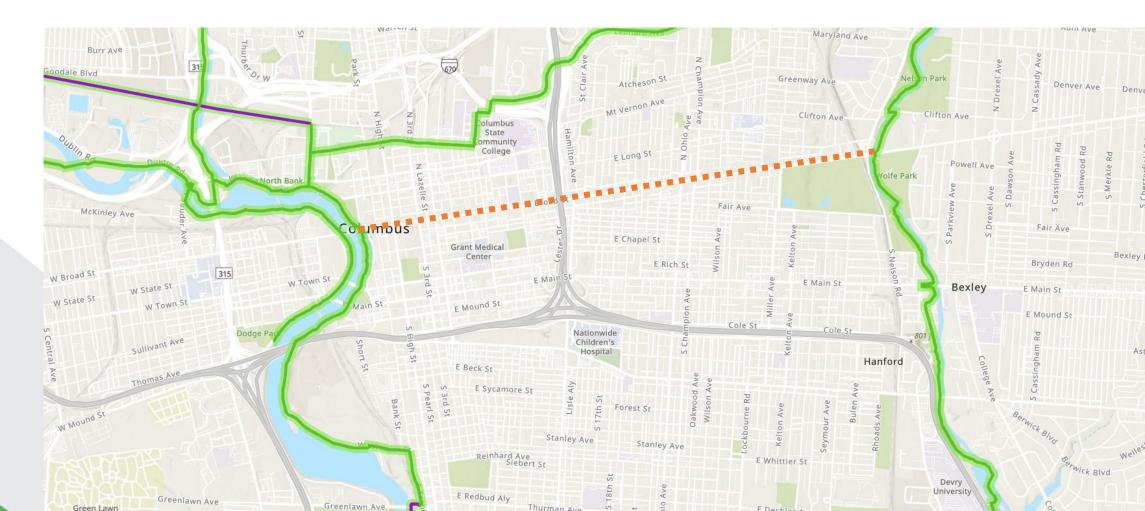




Capital Trail – City of Columbus

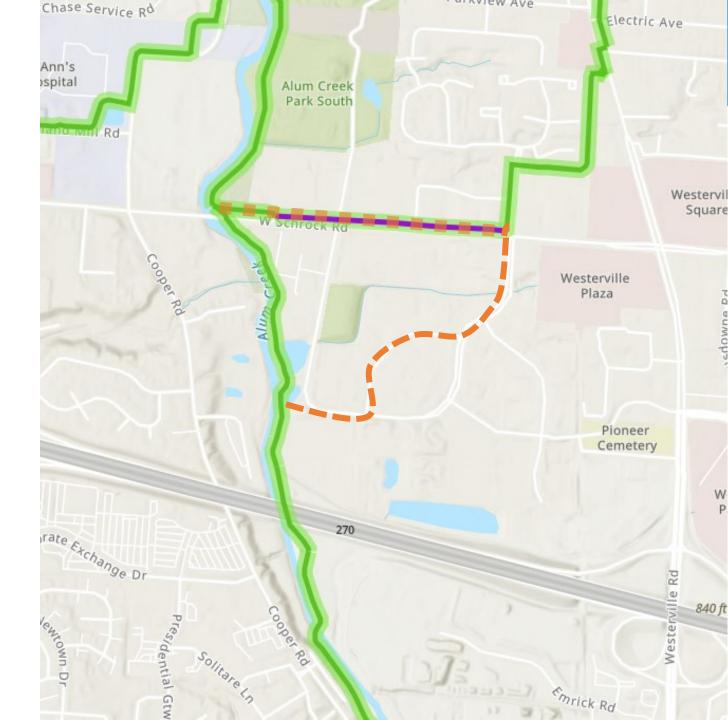
Proposal: Add Proposed Urban Greenway along Broad Street from Scioto to Alum Creek

SS4A - Demonstration on Broad East of 70.



Westerville OTET

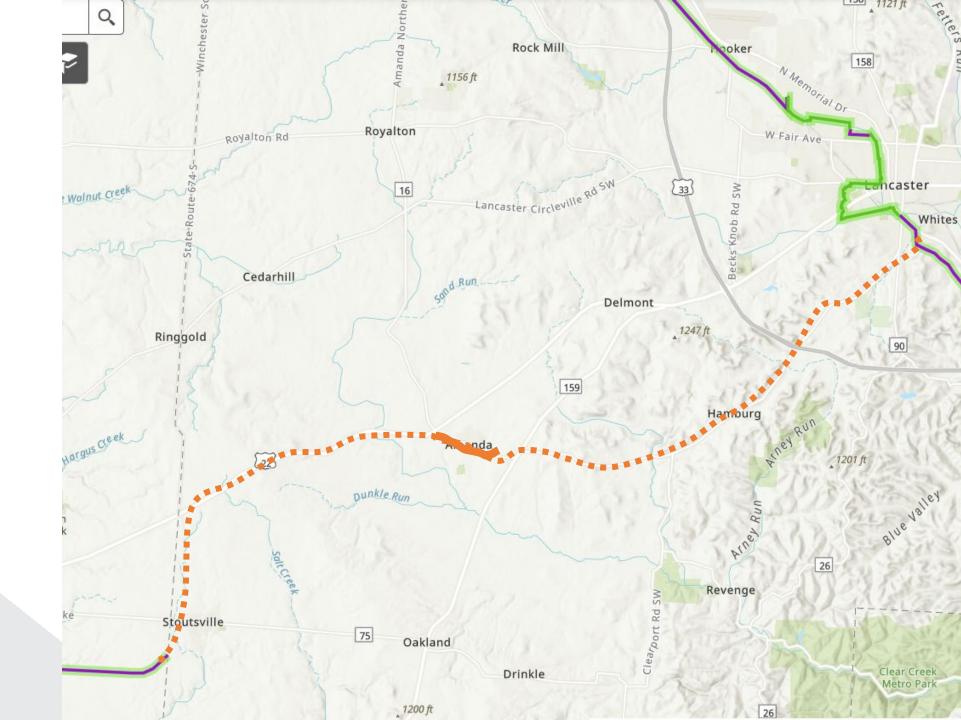
 Realign the Ohio to Erie Trail to follow
 Brooksedge Plaza and
 Brooksedge Blvd
 instead of Schrock Rd





Connector Lancaster – Pickaway

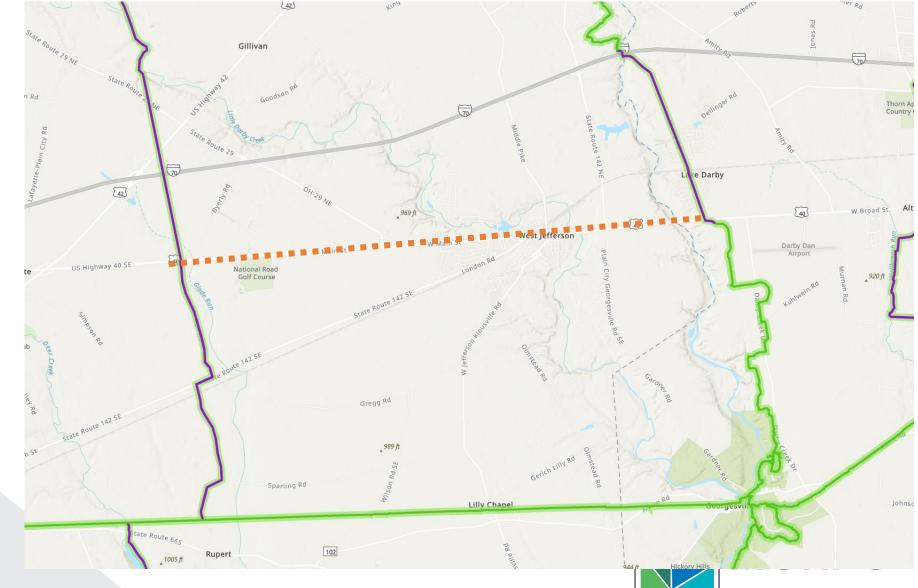
- Add proposed alignment from Lancaster to Stoutsville through Amanda
- Alignment informed by Fairfield County Active Transportation Plan
- Existing in Amanda





West Jefferson -Darby

 Add proposed Alignment to/from Darby through West Jefferson.



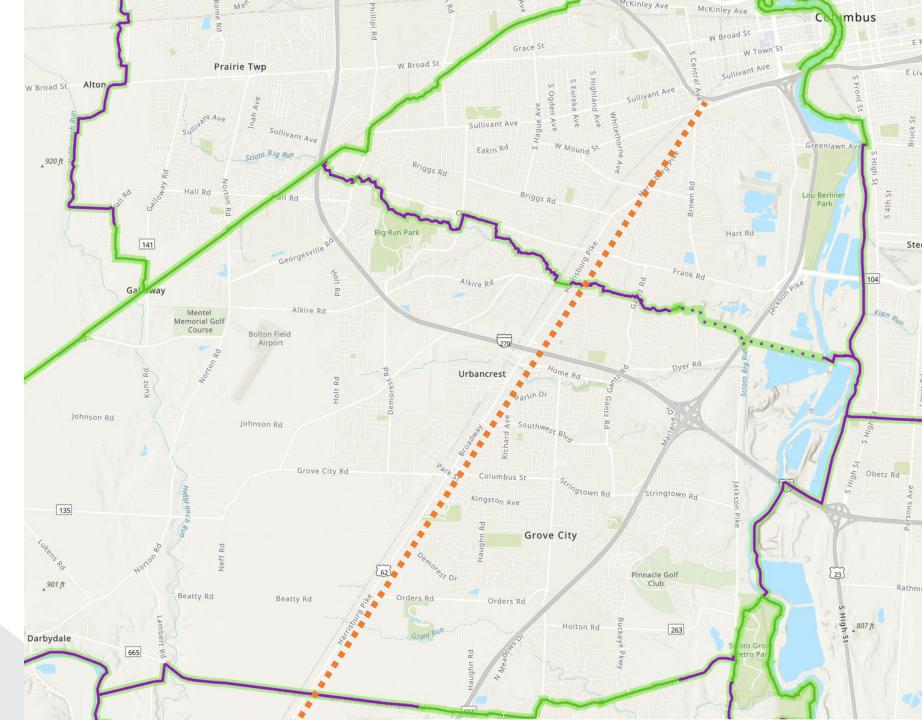


Alignments to Consider



US 62

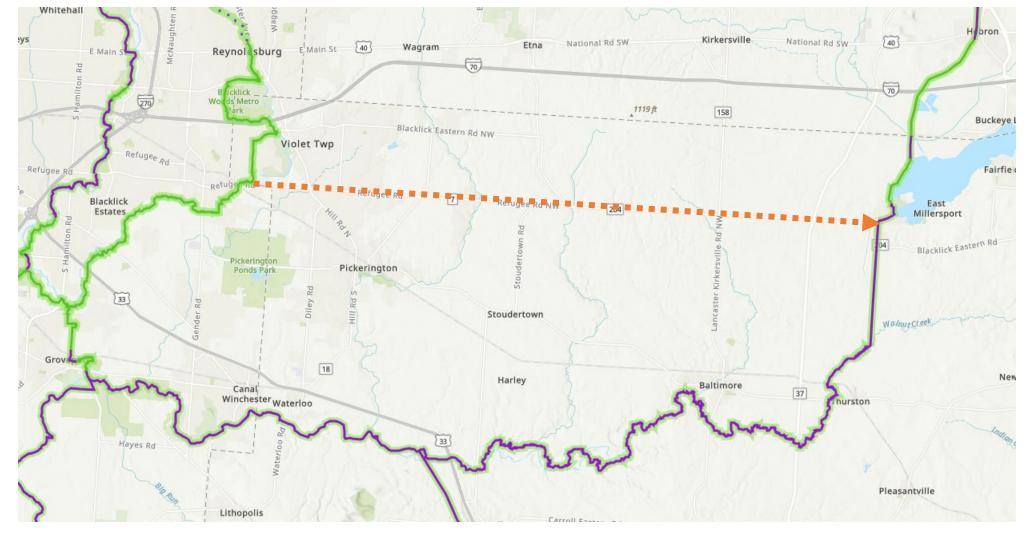
- Consideration for COG and Active Transportation
- Rail Corridor
- Alignment "to keep in mind"





NW Fairfield County

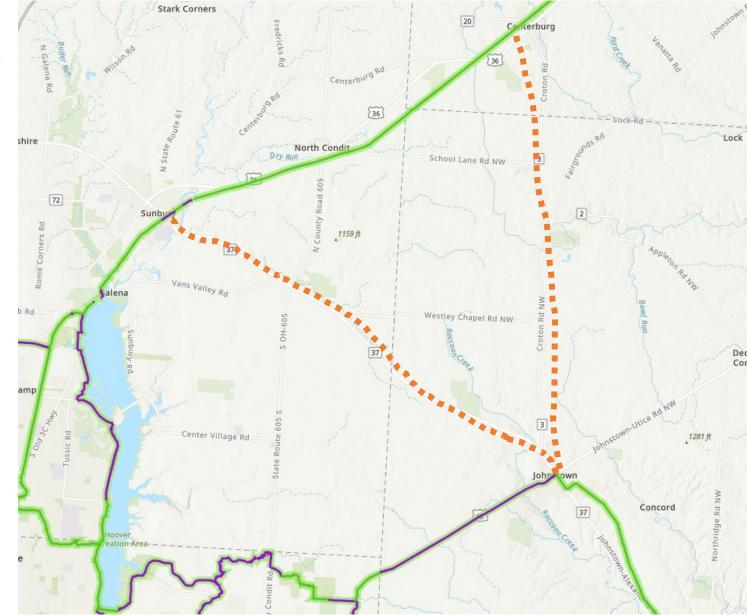




Trails in the "Intel" Region

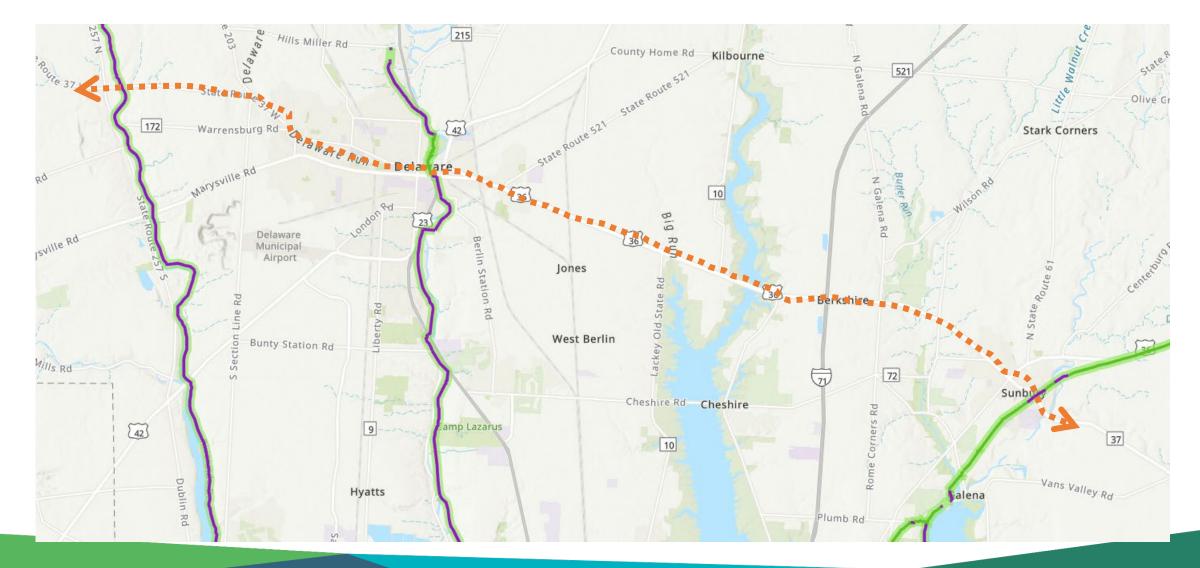
Ideas from Subregion Meetings:

- Continuation of 36/37 trail from Delaware through Berlin Township (see next slide)
- Potential rail-trail between Centerburg and Johnstown – connect through Hartford



Delaware Run & 36/37 Connector





Trail Towns Working Group



MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

TRAIL TOWNS WORKING GROUP

<u>GOALS</u>

- 1) Implement the "COG Trail Town Framework"
- 2) Advance the "COG Wayfinding Strategy"
- 3) Support the Outdoor Trails Pass Program
- 4) Support a COG Forum



MEETING DATES

- January 8: 10:00 11:00
- March 11: 10:00 11:00
- May 13: 10:00 11:00
- July 15: 10:00 11:00
- September 9: 10:00 11:00
- November 18: 10:00 11:00

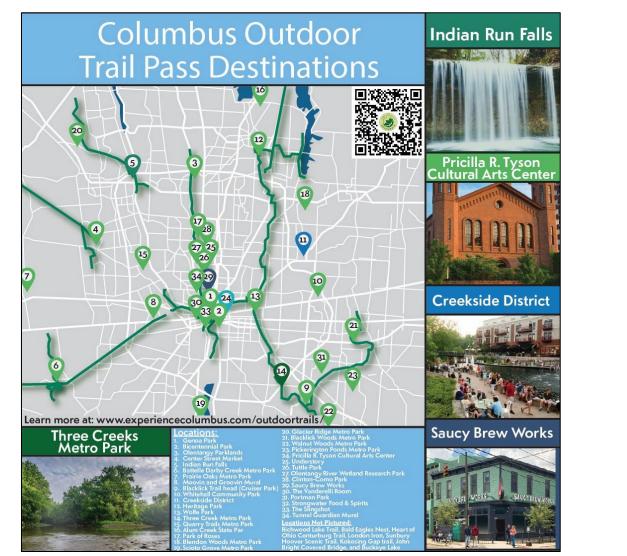


The Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass



MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

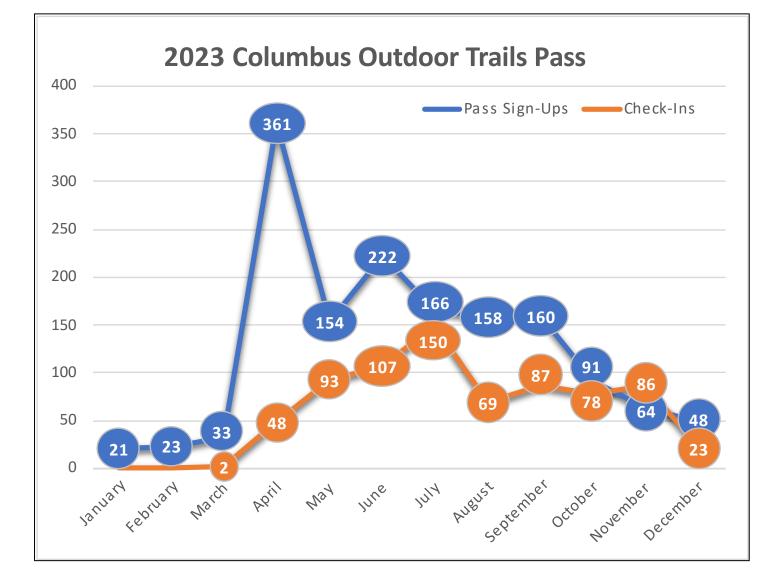
What is the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass





Special thanks to Kari Kauffman and everyone at Experience Columbus for your support of this program!

2023 Recap: Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass



MORPC

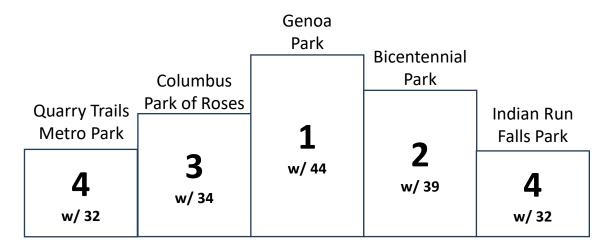
In 2023, the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass recorded **1,501 sign-ups** and **743 check-ins**, indicating significant engagement with the program!

While in 2022, the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass recorded **840 sign-ups** and **125 check-ins.**



2023 Recap: Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass

Top 5 Most Checked-in Destinations Among the 42 Featured on the Pass



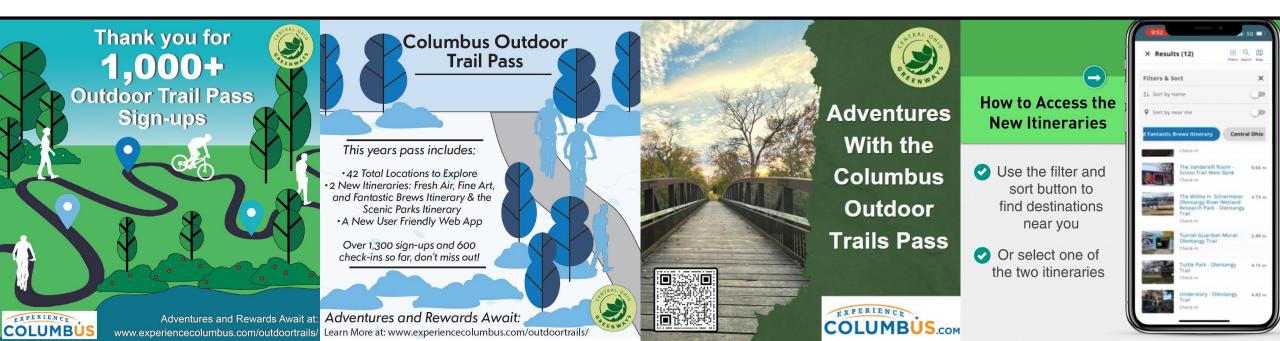
2023 Destination Check-Ins (Ranked):

Genoa Park	Bicentennial Park 39	Columbus Park of Roses 34	Indian Run Falls Park 32	Quarry Trails Metro Parks 32	Blendon Woods Metro Park 31	Pricilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center 30	Tuttle Park	Center Street Market 25	The Slingshot	Olentangy River Research Park 23	Clinton- Como Park 22	Prairie Oaks Metro Park 22	Creekside District 20
44	23	- 54	52	52	51	50	20	25	24	25	22	22	20
Strongwater Food & Spirits	The Vanderelli room	Understory	Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park	Heritage Park	Glacier Ridge Metro Park	Saucy Brew Work	Scioto Grove Metro Park	Blacklick Woods Metro Park	Three Creeks Metro Park	Wolfe Park	Tunnel Guardian Mural	Olentangy Parklands	Walnut Woods Metro Park
20	20	20	19	19	17	17	17	16	16	15	14	13	13
Alum Creek State Park	Movin' and Groovin Mural	Pickerington Ponds Metro Park	Portman	Sunbury	Bald Eagles Nests	Kokosing Gap Trail	Whitehall Community Park	Richwood Lake Trail	Buckeye Lake State Park	Heart of Ohio Trailhead Centerburg	John Bright No. 2 Covered Bridge	Blacklick Trail	London Iron at the Prairie Grass Trailhead
12	12	10	9	9	7	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	4

Plans for 2024



- New Community Driven Itineraries are in the process of being crafted for the 2024 Passport Relaunch.
 - Stay tuned for information on these exciting itineraries and destinations at the next board meeting!
 - If you have any destinations you feel like should be on the 2024 passport, please send me an email with that recommendation by 1/30!
- Replicate high engagement of the 2023 passport through extensive promotion on social media platform and events!
 - I encourage all board members to actively share and promote this information through their own channels, as they see fit!



THANK YOU!

Jessie Sampson (He/Him)

MID-OHIO REGIONAL

Central Ohio Greenways Intern Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

T: 614.233.4140 jsampson@morpc.org 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43215

COG Board Project Updates

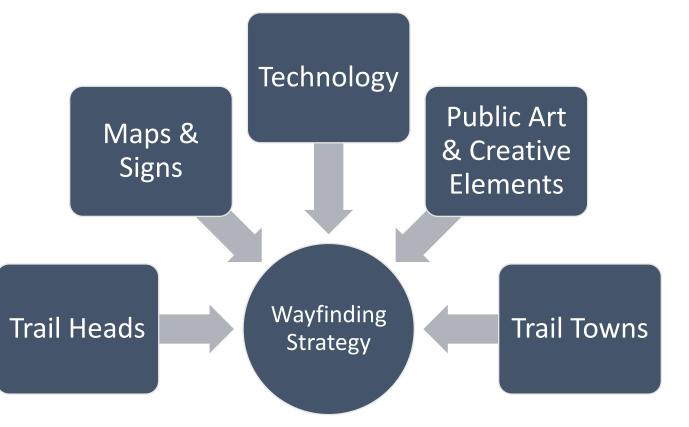


MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

COG WAYFINDING STRATEGY

Project Next Steps

- 1) Final Steering Committee Meeting was held in December 2023
- 2) MORPC Reviewing Final Draft
- 3) Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024





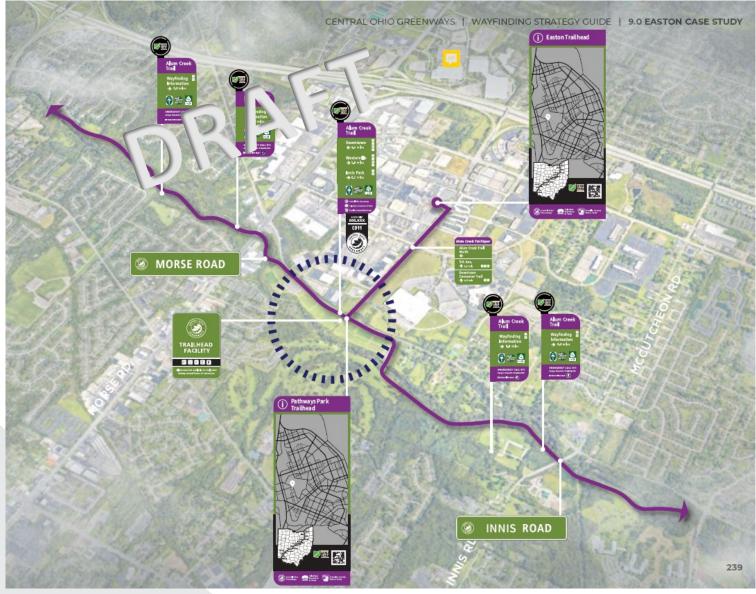


COG WAYFINDING STRATEGY





TRAL

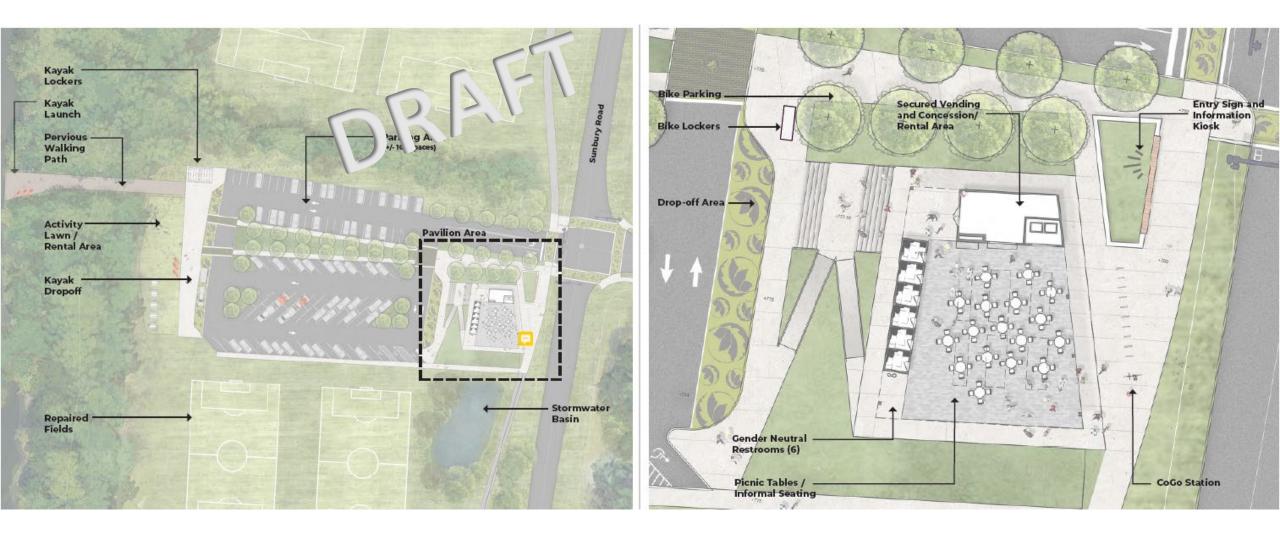


















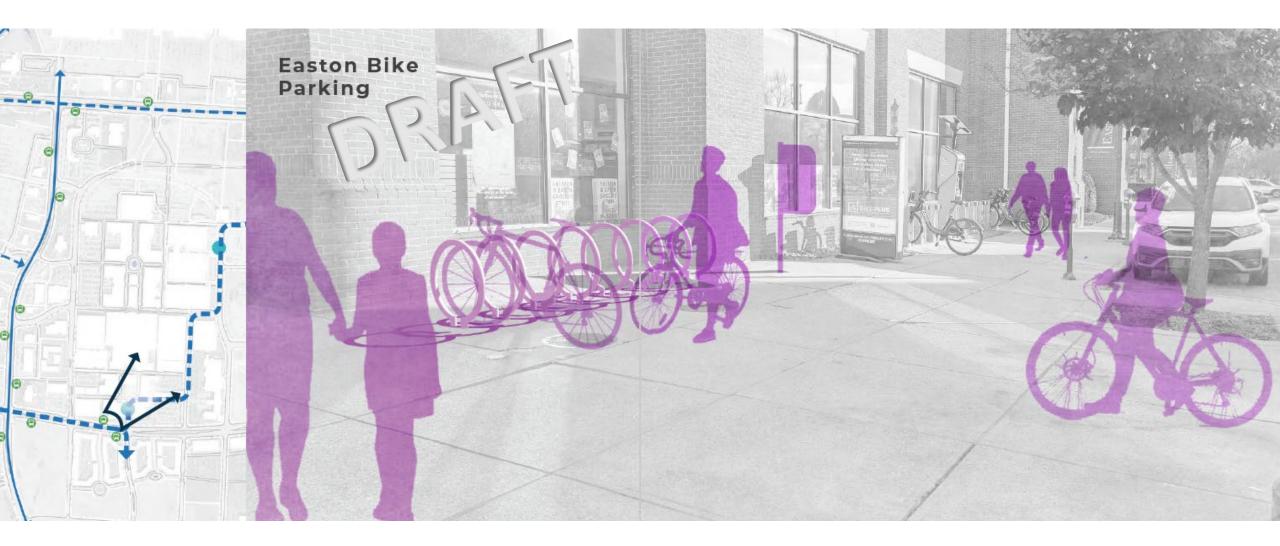


CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS | WAYFINDING STRATEGY GUIDE | 9.0 EASTON CASE STUDY

High-Comfort Route to Easton

CONDITION 2







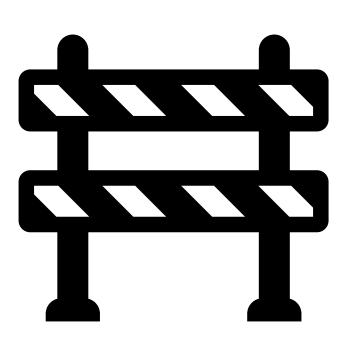




COG Detours and Closures Working Group

Project Next Steps

1) Identify a Steering Committee Start meeting in spring 2024







COG Mapping Natural Assets

Project Next Steps

- 1) FSWCD summarize environmental data Spring and Summer 2024
- 2) MORPC Analyze environmental and demographic data to produce a digital map and report

Summer and Fall 2024

***Project will be guided by a Steering Committee

Will meet monthly for 6 months





Central Ohio Blueways Steering Committee

GOALS

- Big Walnut Creek Designation with ODNR
- Mapping updates
- Curated Routes

To participate in the steering committee contact: Jonathan Miller, jmiller@morpc.org

MEETING DATES

- January 8: 10:00 11:00
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CENTRAL OHIO BLUEWAYS



DRAFT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

- Outlines stakeholder communities and geographic scope
- Addresses Maintenance, Signage, Accessibility and Responsibilities

ACCESS POINT DESIGN GUIDELINES (OSU EEDS CAPSTONE)

- Parking
 - Stormwater Management, Materials, Accessibility and Scale
- Trail
 - Materials, Surrounding Vegetation and Maintenance
- Launch Points
 - Materials, Access and Siting

WEBSITE UPDATES

- Additional Informational Pages
 - Safety Tips, Water Stewardship, Education, Boat Registration
- Updated Mapping (In Progress)



MELINDA VONSTEIN, AICP

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Columbus, OH 43215



Mike Andrako, P.E.

Franklin

County

Engineer

Cornell

COG Board Chair Mobility Engineer Franklin County Engineers Office

