



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

July 17, 2024
10:00 – 11:30
AGENDA

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions:** *Melinda Vonstein*
- 2) **MORPC Updates – MORPC Staff**
 - a. Legislative
 - b. LinkUS
 - c. Blueways
 - d. Events
- 3) **RAPID 5 – Luke Messinger**
- 4) **COG Summer Research Projects –**
 1. **Social Connection and Trails – Katie McMahon**
 2. **Easton Future Vision Fellow – Harold Deanda**
- 5) **COG Working Group and Steering Committee Updates - Melinda Vonstein, MORPC**
 - a. COG Board Project Updates
 - i. COG Wayfinding Strategy
 - ii. COG Mapping Natural Assets
 - iii. COG Detours and Reroutes Guidelines
 - b. Trail Development Working Group –
 - c. Trail Towns Working Group -
- 6) **Other Business – Board Members**
- 7) **Closing – Melinda Vonstein**

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary



CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

Board Meeting

July 17, 2024



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MORPC PROGRAM UPDATES

- LEGISLATIVE
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- LinkUS
- BLUEWAYS
- COMMUNITY BASED PLANNING ASSISTANCE
- EVENTS



Central Ohio Blueways

Jonathan Miller, MPA, AICP, GISP



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Central Ohio Blueways Steering Committee - May



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MISSION

To promote and preserve both recreational and environmental stewardship opportunities along Central Ohio’s waterways by convening and collaborating with local communities and partners on expanding safe and sustainable access to – and education of – our region’s rivers and streams.

VISION

Every Central Ohioan has an equal opportunity to experience and foster meaningful connections between our region and its rivers and streams.

WORKING GROUPS

Environmental Stewardship

Water Trail Designation

User Experience

Marketing & Tourism

Community- Based Planning Assistance

Jonathan Miller, MPA, AICP, GISP



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Community-Based Planning Assistance



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CONSULTANT SERVICES PROGRAM



Assistance with the RFP and Consultant Procurement Process for Planning & Zoning Related Activities

RFP Clearinghouse for all member community projects

PLANNER POOL PROGRAM



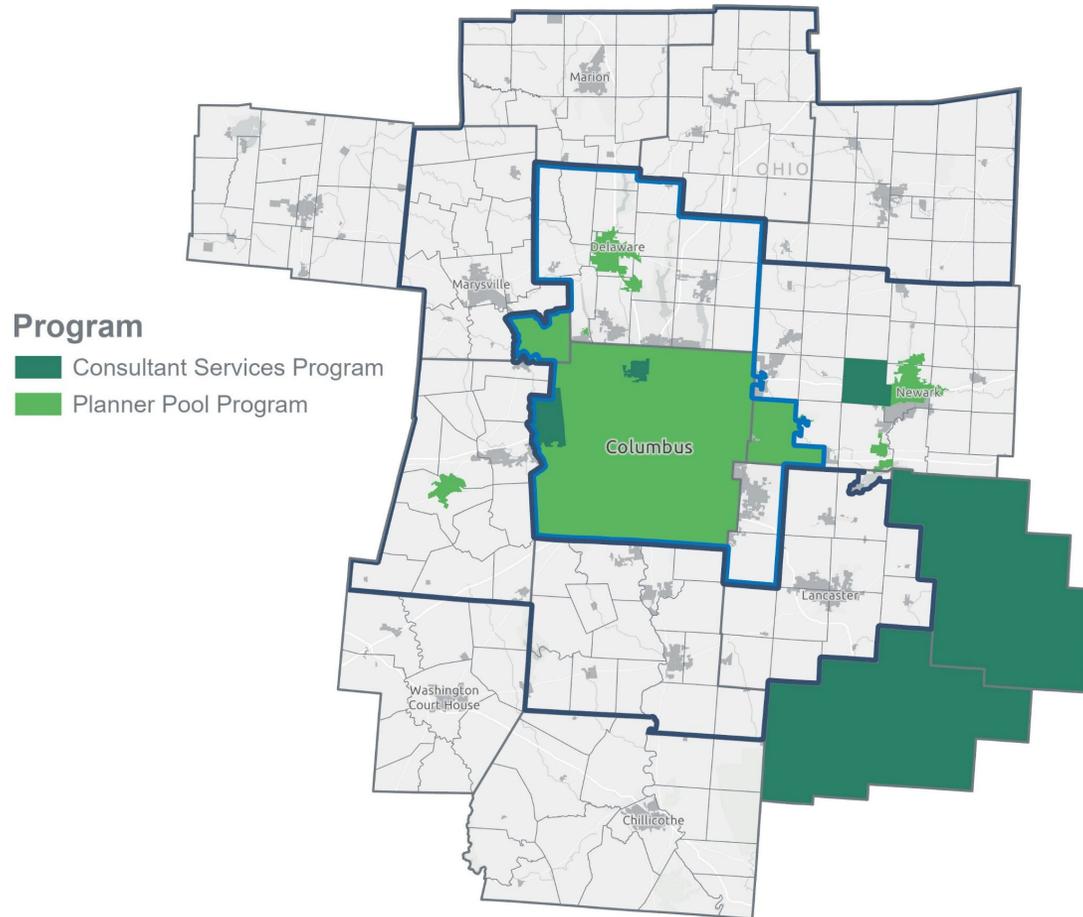
Assistance with Smaller-Scale Projects and Pre-Planning Activities

Short-term temporary planning staffing assistance

Community-Based Planning Assistance



MORPC



PROJECT REQUESTS

- Comprehensive Plan Update
- New Zoning Code
- Zoning Code Best Practices
- Project Management
- Neighborhood Visioning Study
- Community Character Study
- Apartment / Student Generation Study
- Parking Assessment
- Development Review Assistance
- Commission Trainings

Contact **Jonathan Miller** (jmiller@morpc.org) for more information on Community-Based Planning Assistance Programs

Technical Assistance Program

Jordan Petrov



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Current Technical Assistance Activities



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Active Transportation Planning

Active Transportation Project Prioritization

Complete Streets Policy Development

Transit Supportive Infrastructure Planning

Central Ohio Greenways Visioning

Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement

Trail Access & Connectivity Planning

Trail Town Planning

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

Complete Streets Safety Audit

Systemic Pedestrian Safety Analysis

Safety Action Plan Development

Land Use Planning

Transit Oriented Development Planning

Conceptual Development Framework

Other

Write your own Scope of Work

Applicant Agency	Requested Activity	Emphasis
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Jefferson Township	Active Transportation Project Prioritization	Recreational Walking & Biking
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Franklin Township	Active Transportation Project Prioritization	Sidewalk Gaps & Safe Routes to Schools
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City & Village Studies

Study Type

- COG Vision Refinement
- Trail Access & Connectivity
- Complete Streets Policy Development
- Complete Streets Policy Development, Safety Action Plan Development
- Speed Management Toolkit
- None

Township Studies

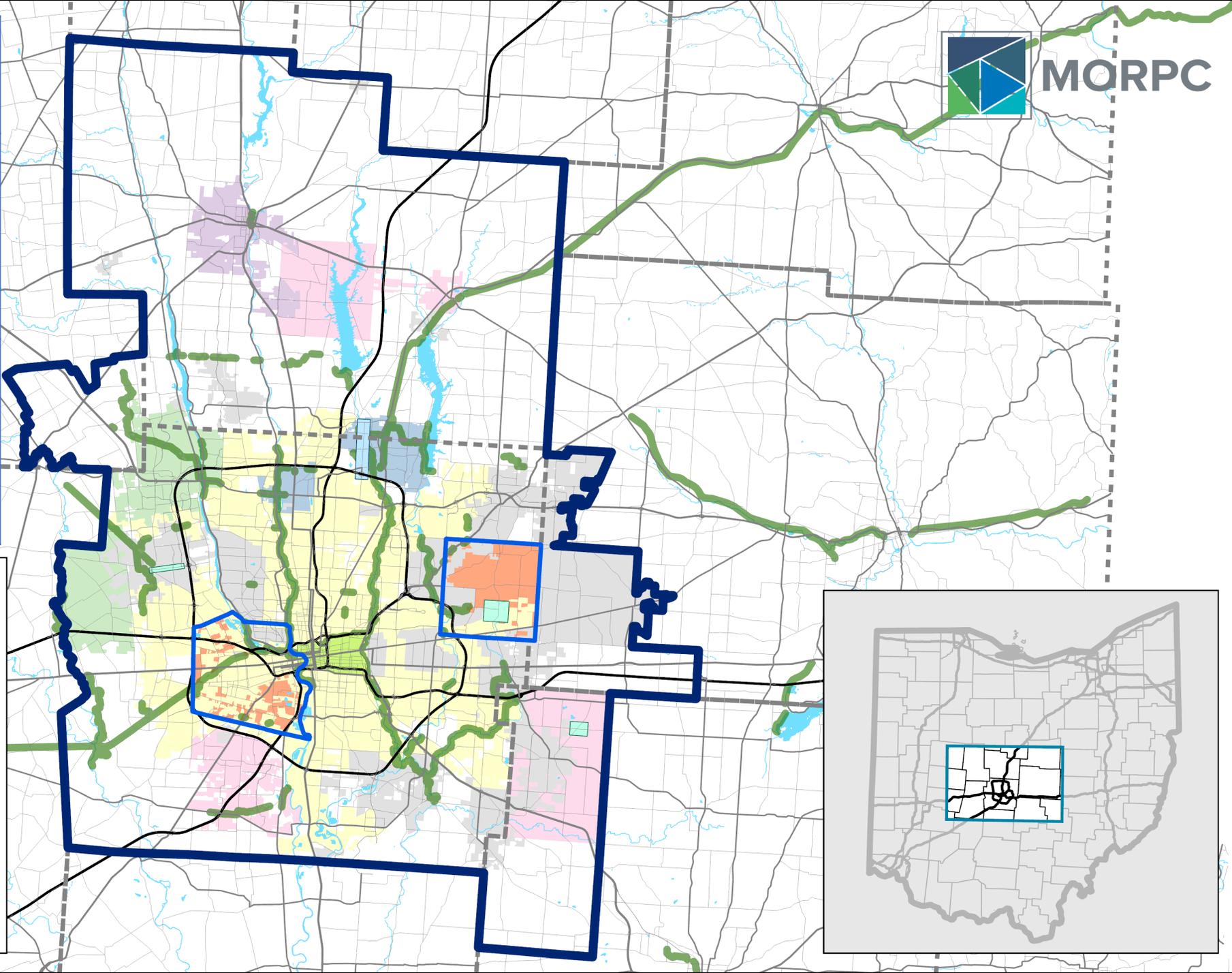
Study Type

- Active Transportation Project Prioritization
- COG Vision Refinement
- Trail Access & Connectivity Planning

Study/Focus Areas

Study Type

- COG Vision Refinement & Trail Access Improvements
- Conceptual Development Framework
- Corridor Study

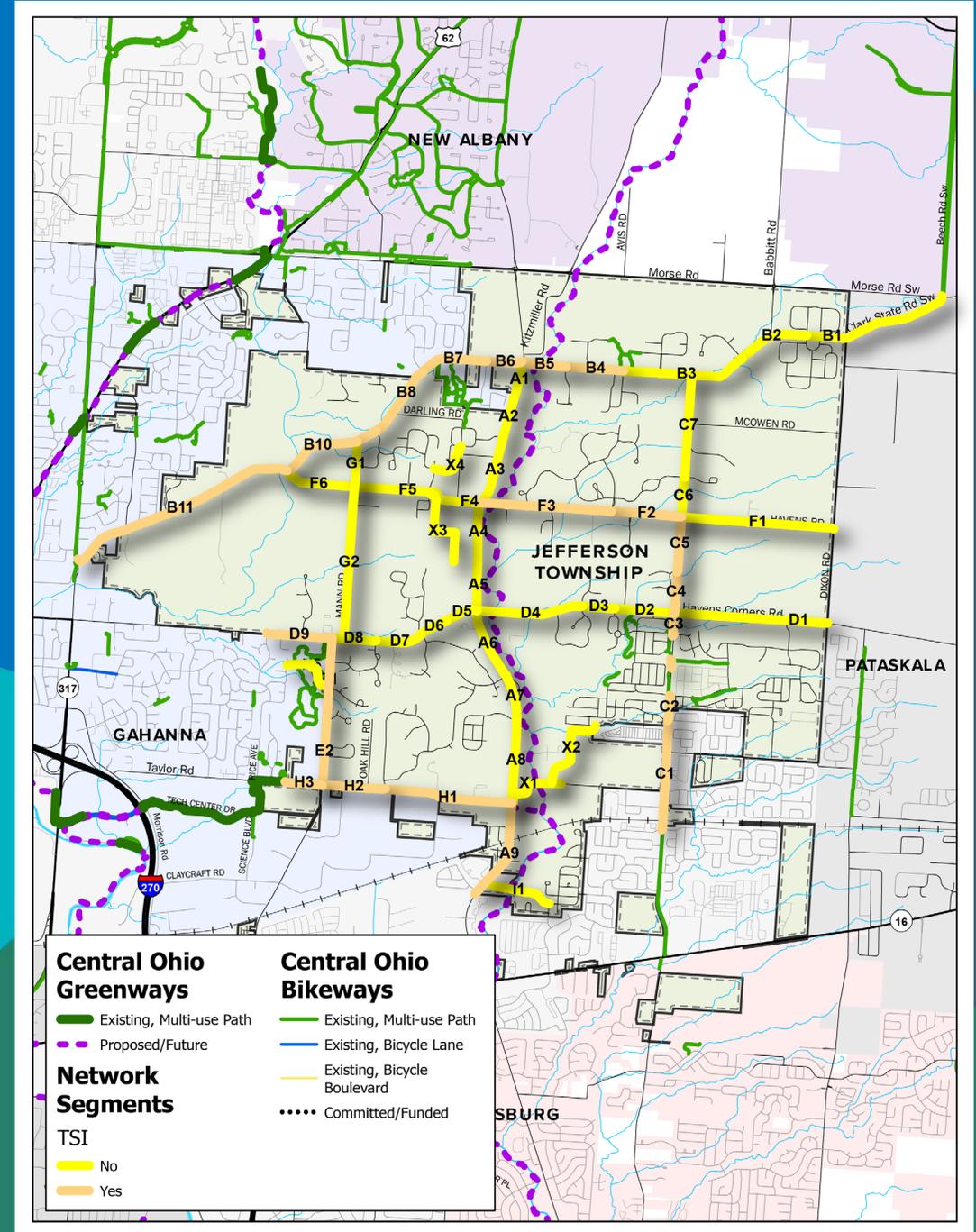


Jefferson Township

- **Study Goals** (*non-exhaustive*):
 - Co-create an active transportation vision
 - Identify & organize opportunities by priority and feasibility
 - Provide township with confident sense of next steps
- **Key Study Components**
 - Public Survey, 652 responses
 - Strong support for walking & biking
 - Two (2) Community Workshops
 - Initial visioning
 - Refinement of priorities, next steps
 - Geospatial Analysis
 - Network analysis to inform priorities
 - Connectivity between neighborhoods, to parks/trails



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Jefferson Township: Draft Project Priorities

Central Ohio Greenways

- Existing, Multi-use Path
- Proposed/Future

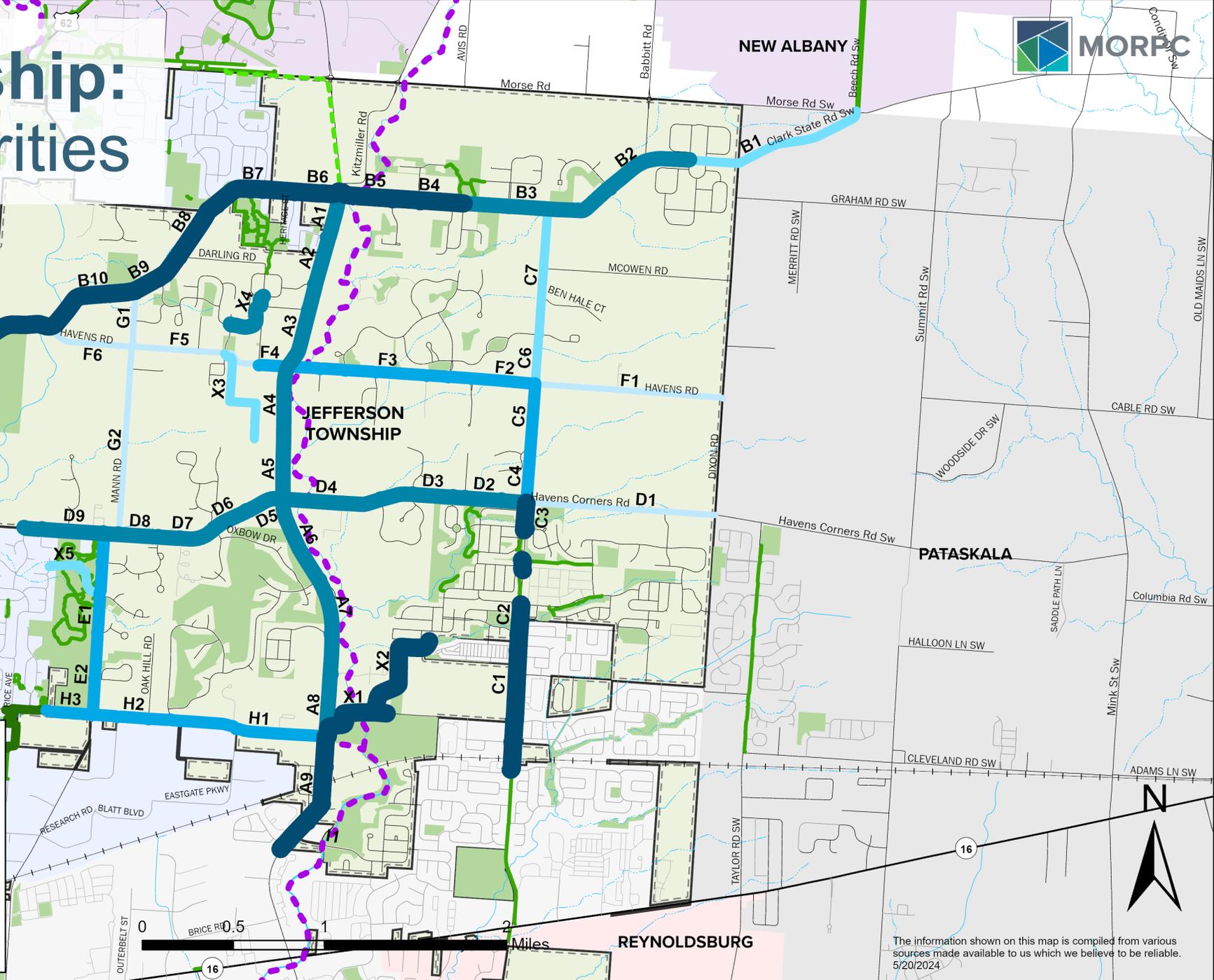
Central Ohio Bikeways

- Existing, Multi-use Path
- Existing, Bicycle Lane
- Existing, Bicycle Boulevard
- Committed/Funded

Draft Project Priorities

Initial Priority Level (1-5)

- 1 - Lowest
- 2 - Low
- 3 - Medium
- 4 - High
- 5 - Highest



The information shown on this map is compiled from various sources made available to us which we believe to be reliable. 5/20/2024

2025 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

EARLY SUMMER 2024

Begin Program Guide Review & Update

- Send MORPC team your thoughts/feedback on current program!

LATE SUMMER 2024

2024 Program Completion + 2025 Program Launch

- MORPC staff will complete 2024 program services
- CAC, TAC, & TPC will review 2025 Program Guide for approval
- **Call for applications in *September***

FALL 2024

2025 Program Application

- **Deadline for applications in October**
- Award announcements and kick-off meetings before the end of 2024!

Important Dates for 2025 Program Cycle



MORPC

July 22, 2024

- 2025 DRAFT Program Guide Posted Online

September 4, 2024

- **CAC/TAC Meetings for Final Approval**

★ September 16, 2024

- **Call for Applications**

September 18, 2024

- Informational Webinar

October 11, 2024

- **Deadline to Submit Applications**

November 15, 2024

- Awardees Notified

End of Nov

- **Kick-off Meetings with Awardees**

www.morpc.org/program-service/technical-assistance-program



Just Added!



Tuesday, August 27

Central Ohio Greenways Summer Forum

Select tickets

Join us for an engaging forum where leaders will discuss recreational and active transportation projects.



By Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Follow

+ Kayaking with Metro Parks to follow!

Date and time

Tuesday, August 27 · 9am - 3:30pm EDT



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GROWING BETTER TOGETHER

SAVE THE DATE

SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABILITY

October 29, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Hilton Columbus Downtown
401 North High Street | Columbus, OH 43215

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT : RAPID 5

5





Social Connection and Central Ohio Greenways

COG Board Update

07/18/2024



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Agenda

- Social Connection Public Health Overview
 - Definition and health impact
 - National prevalence
 - Ohio and MORPC regional impact
- Behaviors Affecting Social Connection
- Social Determinants of Health
- Community Impact
- Recommendations for MORPC/COG
- Next Steps



Public Health Overview



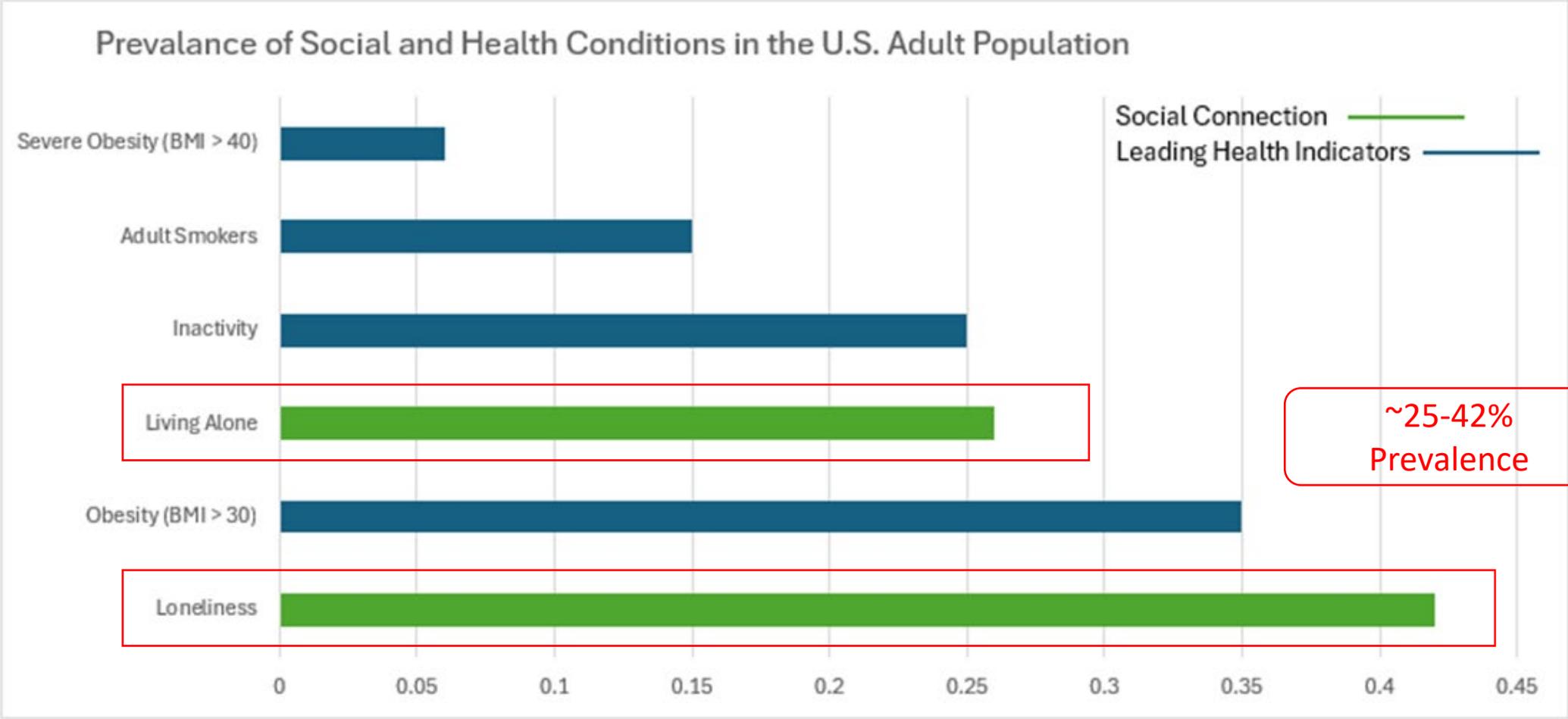
Poor social connection health facts:

- ✓ Increased likelihood for poor health outcomes including increased risk for premature death by up to 29%.
- ✓ Other morbidities, including increased risk of heart disease by 29%, increased risk of stroke by 32%, and increased risk for anxiety, depression, and dementia.

Public Health Overview



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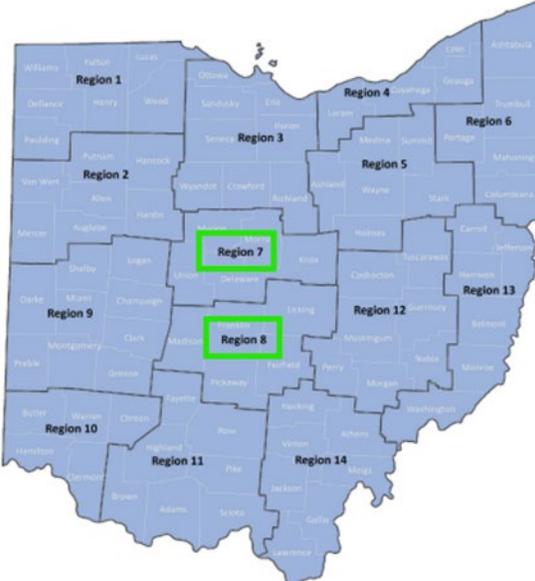


Ohio and MORPC Membership Data Trends

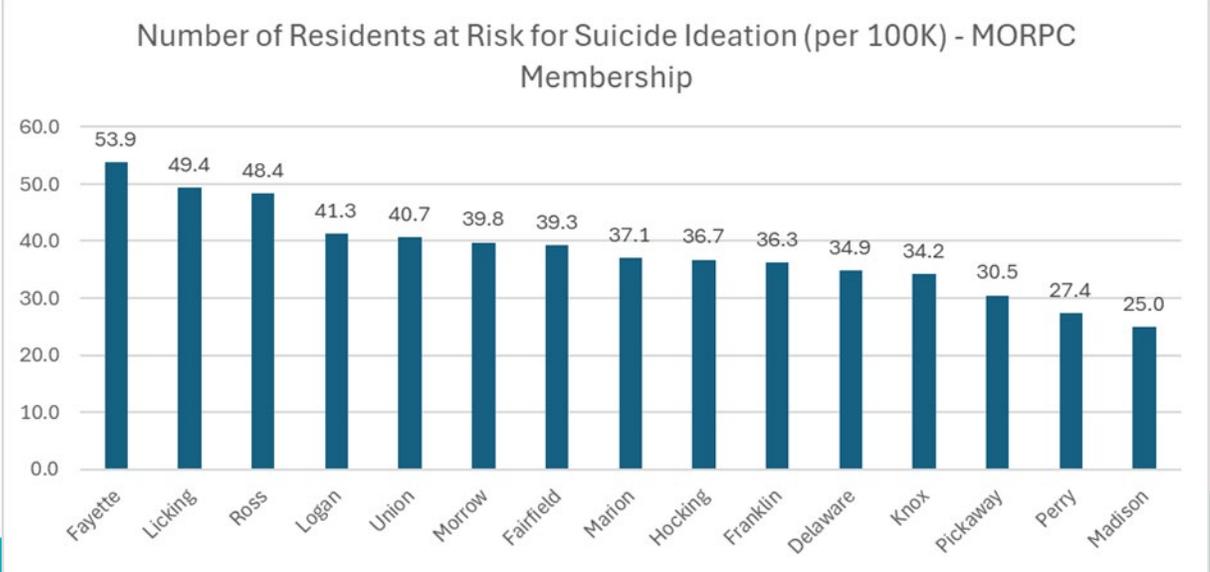
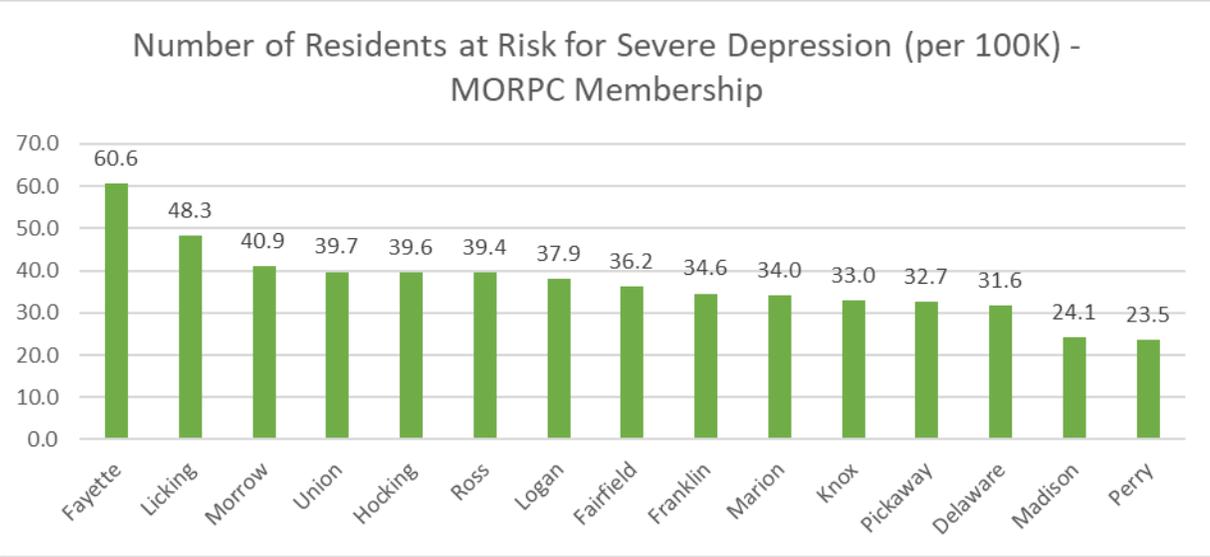


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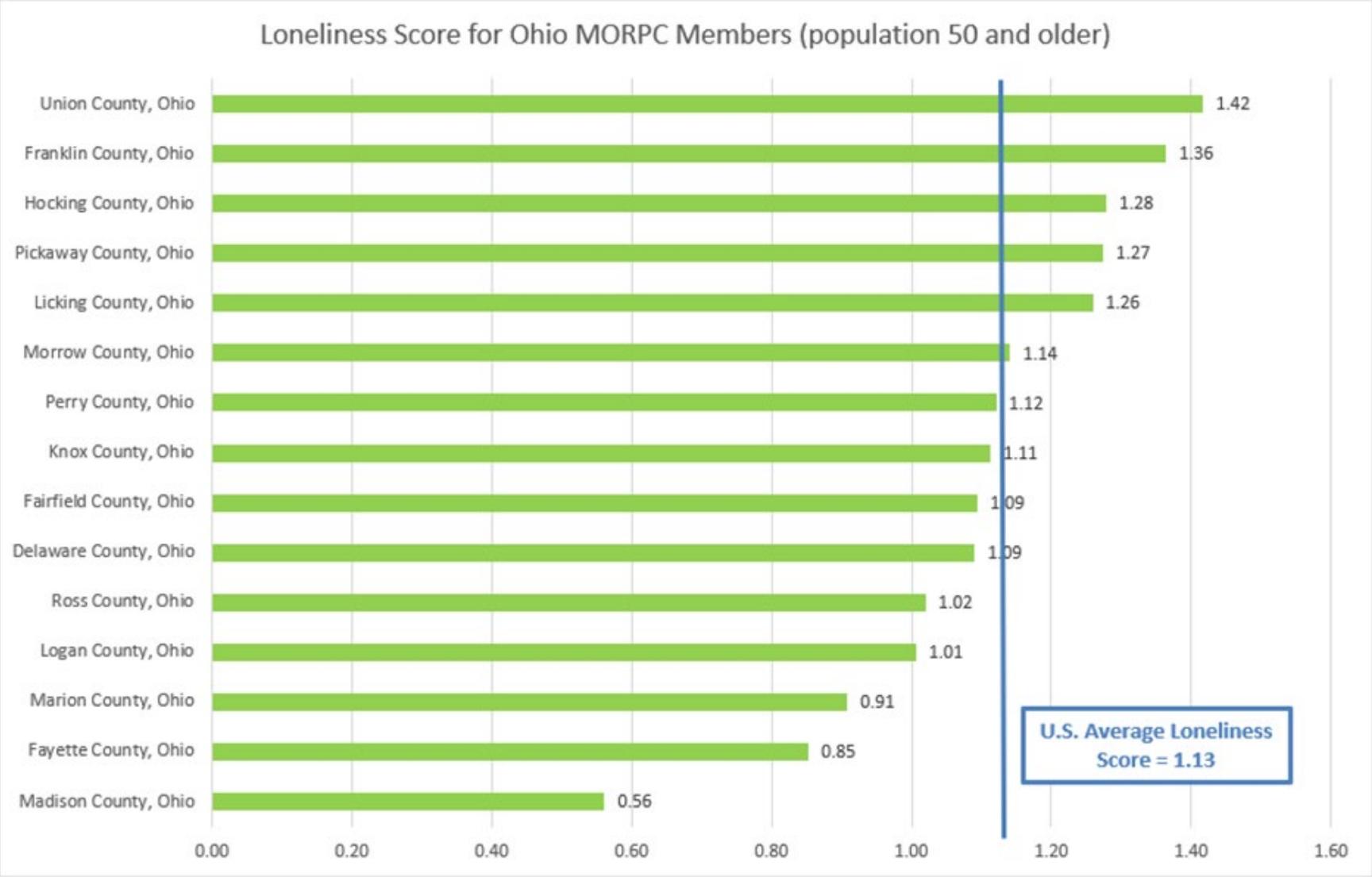
2019 Ohio BRFSS Regions



- Region 1:** Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Paulding, Williams, Wood
- Region 2:** Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, Van Wert
- Region 3:** Crawford, Erie, Huron, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Wyandot
- Region 4:** Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain
- Region 5:** Ashland, Holmes, Medina, Stark, Summit, Wayne
- Region 6:** Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning, Portage, Trumbull
- Region 7:** Delaware, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Union
- Region 8:** Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway
- Region 9:** Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby
- Region 10:** Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Warren
- Region 11:** Adams, Brown, Fayette, Highland, Pike, Ross, Scioto
- Region 12:** Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas
- Region 13:** Belmont, Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Washington
- Region 14:** Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Vinton



Ohio and MORPC Membership Data Trends



Behaviors



SOCIAL INTERACTION



SHARED EXPERIENCE

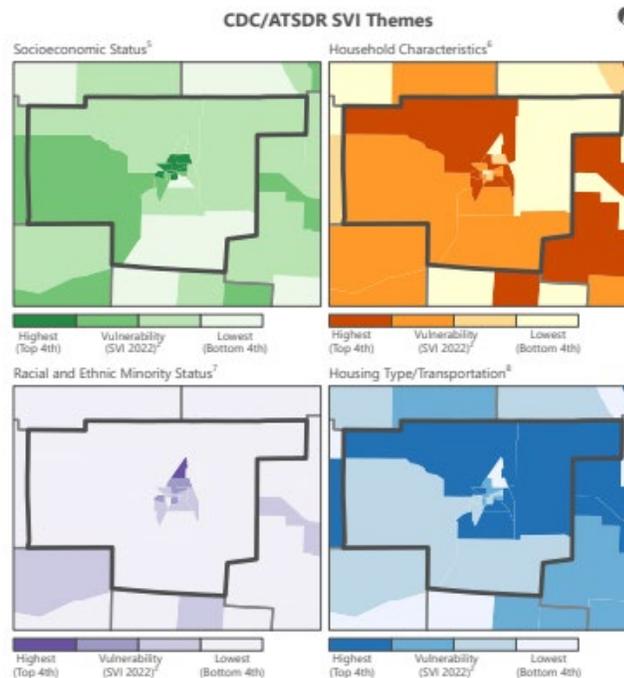
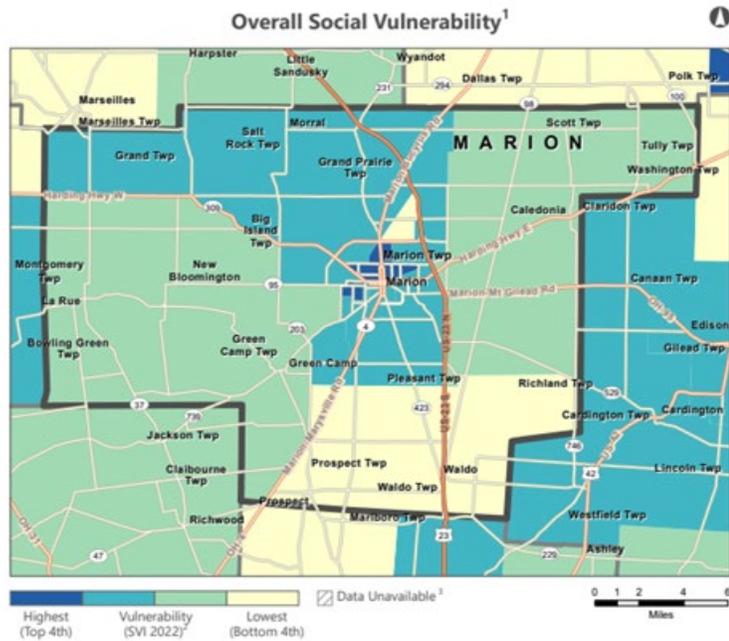


COMMUNICATION



Social Determinants of Health

- ✓ Community Cohesion
- ✓ Built Environment
- ✓ Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)





Community Impact

High Community Cohesion and Social Connection

- ✓ Evidence of better health outcomes, less all-cause mortality, and higher resiliency.
 - Very good or excellent health ratings were 2.6 times higher for those with high community belonging versus those with a very low belonging rate
- ✓ High social connection can also influence the ability of a community to respond to a natural disaster or emergency and increase a community's resiliency.
- ✓ Safer neighborhoods
 - 21% reduction in murders
 - 20% reduction in car thefts

Recommendations for MORPC and COG



Explore programming expansion where trail usage can be increased, particularly in a way that encourages behavior change to affect social connection.



Next Steps – Program Development



- ✓ Develop program recommendations that incorporate methods to encourage behavior change:
 - Social interaction
 - Shared experiences
 - Communication

- ✓ Decrease barriers from social determinants of health
 - Community cohesion
 - Built environment
 - Social vulnerability index

Ultimately, improving opportunity, access and self-efficacy for populations.

THANK YOU!





Easton Future Vision Project

An Overview of the Summer Internship Project



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Introduction



Knowlton — School —



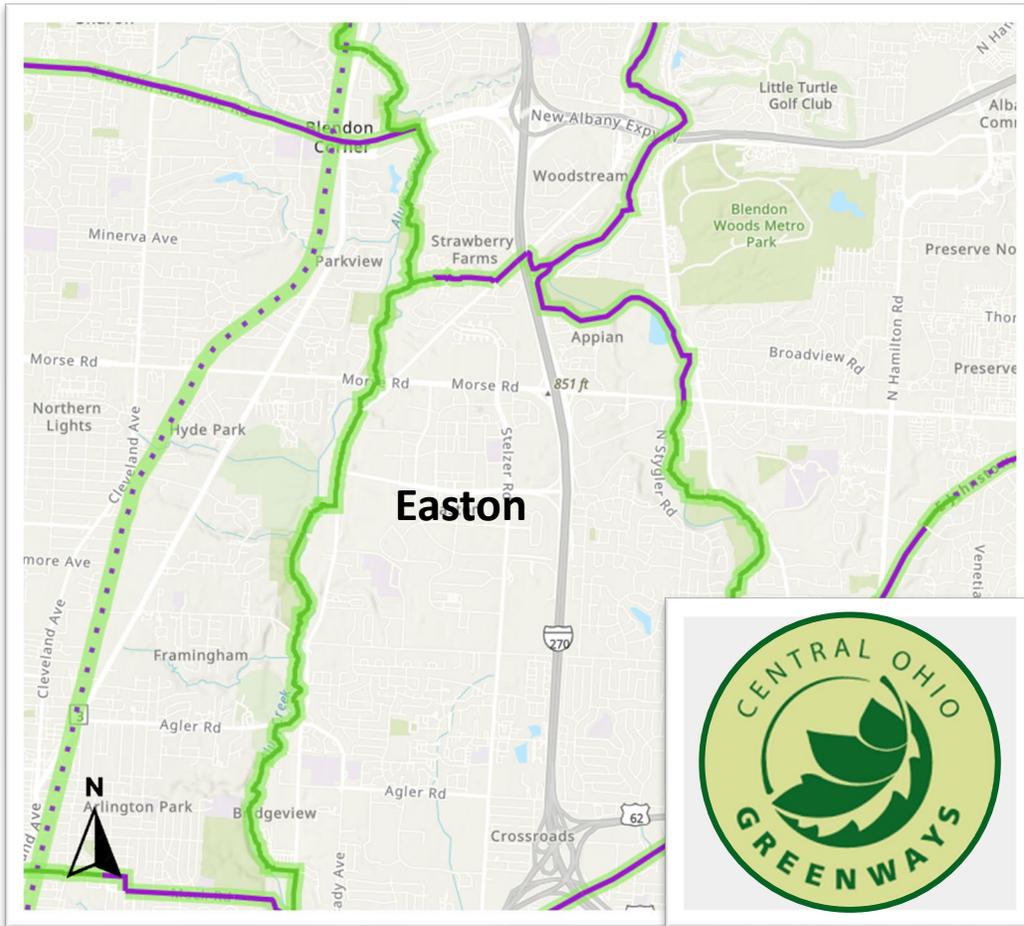
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS-

Advancing the wayfinding principles of Easton



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VISION

Reimagine COG trails
alongside Easton Town Center

MISSION

Enhance the usage and
accessing experience of
Greenways trails for a growing
Easton community

Guiding Documents

GOAL: All Central Ohio Greenways users feel **secure**, **exploratory**, and **inspired** on their journeys.

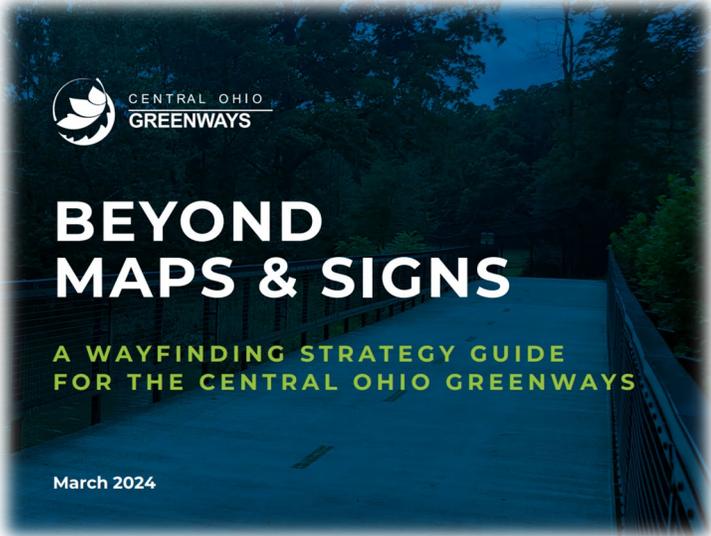
STRATEGIES	<p>1</p> <p>TRAILHEADS</p> <p>will orient trail users to both the trail and the places it runs through, and welcome them with vital amenities.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>MAPS & SIGNS</p> <p>will keep trail users moving effortlessly to, from, and along a trail by providing the information they need, at precisely the point at which they need it.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>TECHNOLOGY</p> <p>will enable trail users to access current information on routes, amenities, and destinations.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>CREATIVE ELEMENTS</p> <p>will help trail users create mental maps that enable them to better navigate the trail over time.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>TRAIL AMBASSADORS</p> <p>will be the social support for trail users within trail-adjacent communities that help them find their way.</p>
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FILTERED THROUGH

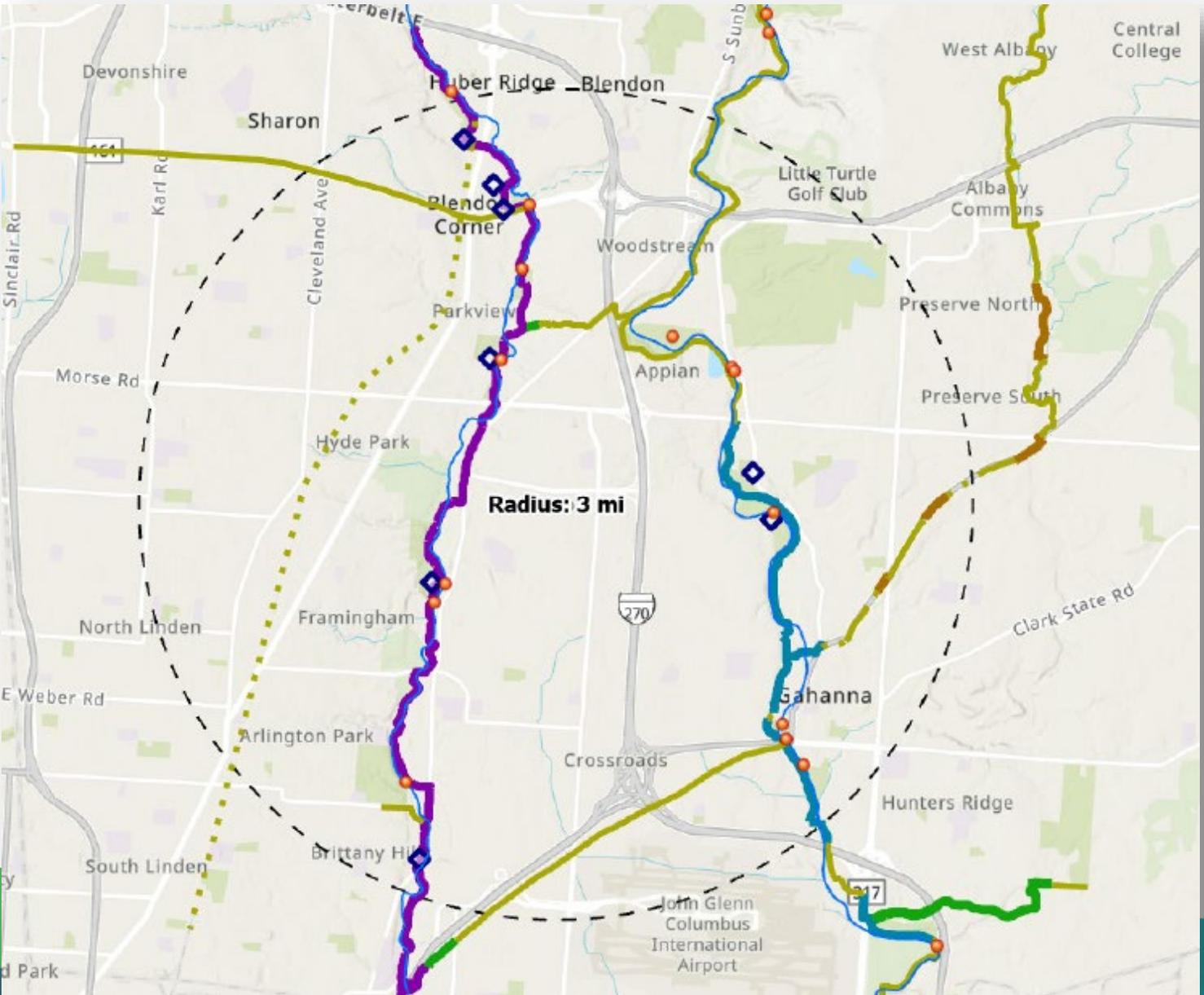
WAYFINDING PRINCIPLES	<p>DON'T MAKE ME THINK!</p> <p>Wayfinding elements will be predictable, consistent, and simple to understand.</p>	<p>KEEP ME MOVING!</p> <p>Wayfinding elements will be at the proper scale for cyclists, walkers, and those using mobility devices. There will be clarity at all decision points. Trail users will not need to stop for any reason unless desired.</p>	<p>MEET ME WHERE I AM!</p> <p>Wayfinding elements will feature inclusive design and universal icons that are accessible to all users. They will prioritize the needs of new trail users, and the needs of trail users over providers.</p>	<p>ANTICIPATE MY NEEDS!</p> <p>Wayfinding elements will provide users with the right information, at the right time, in the right format. Trail users will have the assets they need, when they need them.</p>	<p>MAKE IT MEMORABLE!</p> <p>Wayfinding elements will include many types of environmental cues, including public art. Memorable places will support the creation of robust mental maps.</p>	<p>HELP ME CONNECT!</p> <p>Wayfinding elements will allow trail users the opportunity to connect with each other and with communities' people, places, and cultures.</p>
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RESULTING IN

TACTICS	<p>TRAILHEADS Chapter 4</p>	<p>MAPS & SIGNS Chapter 5</p>	<p>TECHNOLOGY Chapter 6</p>	<p>CREATIVE ELEMENTS Chapter 7</p>	<p>TRAIL AMBASSADORS Chapter 8</p>
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Project Approach



EASTON PATHWAYS

A RECOMMENDATIONAL GUIDE FOR WAYFINDING SUCCESS

AUGUST 2024



Existing Conditions



EXISTING TRAILHEAD FEATURES

- Information Kiosk/Map
- Bike Parking
- Seating
- Transit Access < 1m
- Sidewalk Access
- Restrooms
- Water Access
- Transit Access < .25m
- Placemaking Element(s)
- Shelter(s)
- Facilities Staff
- Unique Design

	ROTARY PARK	HANBY PARK	WILSON PARK	PRAIRIE TRAILHEAD	MCNAMARA PARK	KNOX CO VISITORS CENTER	BRIDGE OF DREAMS	KOKOSING GAP	BATTELLE DARBY PARK	COOPER PARK	JAMES O. CASTO PARK	DANVILLE (KOKOSING)	MEMORIAL PARK (MT VERNON)	CENTERBURG (HOOT)	LAYMON RD (KOKOSING)	HAYDEN PARK	ALUM CREEK	DANVILLE (MOHICAN VALLEY)	SANDEL LEGACY	HUFFMAN RD (HOOT)	E. CENTER ST, LONDON	HOOVER SCENIC TRAIL LOT	KILDUFF RD (KOKOSING)	STULL RD (KOKOSING)	SUNBURY NORTH (HOOT)
Information Kiosk/Map	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bike Parking	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seating	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Transit Access < 1m	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sidewalk Access	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Restrooms	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water Access	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transit Access < .25m	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Placemaking Element(s)	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shelter(s)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facilities Staff	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unique Design	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

86
ACCESS POINTS

34
TRAILHEADS

7
BASIC

2
ENHANCED

0
PREMIER

Trailhead Site Visits



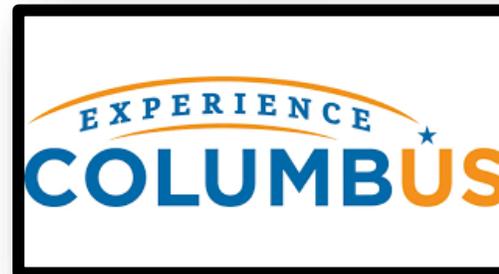
Trailhead Site Visits



Recommendations- Additional Enhancements for Easton



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- Trailhead installation recommendations (within proposed trails alongside Big Walnut)
- COGO implementation into Trailheads
- Kayak access points along Trailheads
- Destination Experience (Tourist Trailway)
- Showcase digital trail data modifications
- Trail Ambassadors
- Sponsor/Adopt - A - Trailhead



THANK YOU!

Questions?

HAROLD DEANDA

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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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Columbus, OH 43215



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COG WORKING GROUP & STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

Wayfinding

- Complete
- Available on the COG Website
- COG Staff available to share the results
- MORPC technical assistance available to help implement

Mapping Natural Assets

- Technical Working Group meeting end of July
- Project completion anticipated in fall 2024

Detours & Closures

- Committee has meet twice to provide input on detour designs and detour communications
- Communities may request support from COG TD working group to design detours in the future
- Two page guidance anticipated fall 2024

Trail Development Working Group

- Group is subdivided into rural and urban groups
- Quadrant meetings anticipated in October
- Partna schedule in fall

Trail Towns Working Group

- Submitted a Trail Town Ambassador Training Program proposal to ATIIP in partnership with Columbus
- Seeking funding for a branding project



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Mike Andrako, P.E.

COG Board Chair
Mobility Engineer
Franklin County Engineers Office

