



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

**NOTICE OF A MEETING
CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS FORUM
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

REMOTE MEETING

December 18, 2024, 11:00 am

AGENDA

Welcome

Central Ohio Greenways Updates

Year-End Report

Regional Trail Vision

- Will add over 500 miles of trails.
- passing of the LinkUS initiative (Issue 47), in November secured funding for transit and trail infrastructure. \$60 million annually through 2050 will support sidewalks, bikeways, and trails.
- 189 miles of proposed trails, 175 of which are eligible for funding.
- Has been expanded to all 15 counties in the MORPC footprint

Central Ohio Greenways Trail Towns

- This program's aim is to foster community engagement with trails.
- The Trail Town Working Group received the 2024 Collaborative Achievement in Sustainability Award at the Summit on Sustainability.
- A branding effort is underway, including collectible badges for participating communities.
- Staff is exploring the OuterSpatial wayfinding app for better navigation and engagement.
- Staff is seeking operational funding for trail town initiatives through state and grant funding.
- Members are identifying community gateways and premier trailheads to enhance access and visibility.
- Staff encouraged communities to submit visionary projects for regional collaboration.

Central Ohio Greenways Partner Updates

Paint Creek Trail – Ted Hagarman, Ross County Park District

- The trail, initially established in 1994, connects multiple communities and features over 15 bridges. Plans include enhanced amenities such as water stations, bike racks, and signage.
- The Ross County Park District manages 22 miles of the trail, addressing erosion issues and trail maintenance. The Park District is working to establish more official trail towns and increase connectivity to Dayton and Xenia.

Trails & Tourism in Knox County – Olivia Toth, Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

- Knox County relies on trails as a core tourism asset. The County has four major trails, forming a key part of the Ohio to Erie Trail, and is developing a mobile-friendly Green Spaces Guide. The County also
 - Engages in youth outreach through programs such as the "All Kids Bike" initiative.
- Trails & Tourism in Fairfield County – *Jonett Haberfield, Visit Fairfield County*
- Fairfield County operates under two brands: Visit Fairfield County and Escape to Buckeye Lake., and promotes outdoor recreation through websites, social media, and printed guides. County staff work with Bike Buckeye Lake and other local organizations to expand cycling events and infrastructure
 - The County plans to work on making Lancaster an official Trail Town

Adjourn

Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or LKaufman@morpc.org to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

**The date and time of the next Central Ohio Greenways Forum
Is to be determined. Details to follow.**