



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
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 10, 2025
1:30 p.m.

Note: Due to changes in Ohio Revised Code 121.221 regarding public bodies and virtual meetings, the Commission meeting will be aired via live stream. We will note who views the meeting via live stream.

Live Stream Option

To view the meeting via live stream, click on “View Commission Meeting via Live Stream” below.

[View Commission Meeting via Live Stream](#)

Meeting ID: 268 253 220 749

Passcode: k2XvQr

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

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

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

Phone conference ID: 356 398 203#

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 04-25: “Authorizing the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) the ability to pursue designation as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency”** – Tom Homan, 208 Process Review Committee Chair & Brandi Whetstone, MORPC Director of Sustainability

Committees

5. **Bylaws Committee** – Haley Lupton (Village of Plain City), Bylaws Committee Chair
6. **Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization** – Jeff Stauch (Union County), Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Chair
7. **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Dave Dixon, MORPC Data Analytics & Strategy Director
8. **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
9. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
 - **Proposed Resolution 05-25: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) to become a Regional Engagement Partner for the Charging Smart Program”** – Jessica Kuenzli, MORPC Chief Regional Planning Officer & Senior Director of Planning
10. **Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
 - a. **Call to Order** – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
 - b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report** – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Development Officer
 - c. **Access Ohio 2050** – Randy Lane, ODOT Statewide Planning Manager

d. Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda

- 1) Approval of **March 13, 2025 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

e. Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO) – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair

11. Commission Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of **March 10, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes**
- b. **Proposed Resolution 02-25: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with and receive funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) through the recently awarded Pedestrian/Bike Special Solicitation Grant Program”**
- c. **Proposed Resolution 03-25: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the City of Columbus regarding the coordination and development of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging’s new Regional Council of Governments and enter into related subcontracts”**
- d. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

12. Other Business

2:45 p.m. **13. Adjourn – Chris Amorose Groomes (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 8, 2025, 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.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

MORPC Monthly Agency Report

March 2025

Senior Directors

Parag Agrawal pagrawal@morpc.org
Joe Garrity jgarrity@morpc.org
Shawn Hufstedler shufstedler@morpc.org

Ralonda Hampton rhampton@morpc.org
Jessica Kuenzli jkuenzli@morpc.org
Robert Williams rwilliams@morpc.org

CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY

208 Planning and Areawide Designation Process

At their final meeting on March 13, the 208 Process Review Committee made a recommendation for the MORPC Board that the agency pursue the State's 208 Areawide Planning Agency designation. The recommendation is contingent upon the following:

- MORPC to secure sufficient funding for staff capacity to support an areawide planning agency;
- The Areawide Planning Agency is to be governed by policies and procedures developed by MORPC and the 208 Process Review Committee; and
- The Areawide Agency's governing body will include the 208 Process Review Committee's recommended representation.
- The recommendation will be shared with the Executive Committee and Commission at their April meetings for final approval.

Regional Water Study

The Regional Water Study was completed at the end of February with final reviews underway by the agencies. The deliverables include an interactive dashboard, tutorials on how to use the dashboard, 15-county summary findings, individual county report-out videos, PowerPoint, PDFs, gap analysis, and proposed projects to fill potential gaps. MORPC is working in partnership with Ohio EPA to host a workshop for local governments in May. If you would like to be added to the listserv to receive the final deliverables, email Edwina Teye at eteye@morpc.org. Previous webinar recordings and slide deck information can be accessed [here](#).

Active Transportation Planning

Team Members, ODOT, and partners are planning the first annual Ohio Active Transportation Conference for April 29-30 in Columbus. Register [here](#).

The next Active Transportation Committee meeting is April 23. The agenda includes an update from the City of Columbus on the Regional Shared Mobility Initiative, as well as discussion with MORPC about the Regional Bikeways Layer, a Regional ATP update, and Regional Bike Map update.

MORPC coordinated with AARP Ohio as part of a series on Active Transportation. Team Members gave a presentation covering the benefits of active transportation, current active transportation planning activities and information on walk audits. MORPC also lead guests and local partners on a walk audit of East Main Street near the Bexley Library.

MORPC continues collaborating with the Delaware Public Health District to lead a bi-annual class lecture on Public Health and the Built Environment for public health students at Ohio Wesleyan University. Team Members also conducted walk audits with students and staff around the City of Delaware.

Team Members completed two Complete Streets project reviews for MORPC-funded projects.

Team Members participated in the following active transportation meetings and events:

- City of Columbus Accelerated Mobility Playbook Focus Group
- OSU Active Transportation Advisory Group
- Regional Shared Mobility Meeting
- ODOT Active Transportation Conference Planning Committee Meeting

Transportation Safety

MORPC collaborated with local and state partners to develop a formal procedure for and to conduct workshops and panel sessions on implementation of the Safe System Approach in fatal crash reviews. The sessions are featured at the following national and state conferences:

- 2025 Safe Mobility Conference in Madison, Wisconsin (April 7-9)
- 2025 Ohio Traffic Safety Summit in Columbus, Ohio (May 19-20)

Team Members participated in the following safety committee meetings and safety-related events:

- Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Steering Committee
- Ohio SHSP Data Emphasis Area Working Group
- Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review
- Ohio Traffic Safety Council Fatal Crash Review Working Group
- Central Ohio Alliance for Safe Transportation Meeting

Gohio Commute

Team Members provided transportation options for federal workers returning to the workplace. Approximately twelve new vans will be on the road in April and May, with more expected in June.

MORPC launched a carpool program with J.P. Morgan Chase at several locations to support transportation needs as their 19,000 employees return to the workplace.

MORPC introduced Commute Perks to Central Ohio, allowing commuters to earn local and national discounts by logging their sustainable commutes on Gohio Commute.

Team Members collaborated with Hunter Marketing to run an advertising campaign targeting the initial 50,000 workers returning to Franklin County in May and June.

Technical Assistance Program

Team Members meet every other week with local project managers to discuss progress and review materials. At the March 18 Trail Wayfinding stakeholder workshop, hosted in collaboration with the City of Hilliard, stakeholders reviewed and discussed wayfinding priorities for Central Ohio Greenways trails in their community.

Central Ohio Greenways (COG)

The COG Board met March 19 and welcomed new COG board members, set goals for next year, and reviewed a draft logo for the Trail Town Program.

An updated Outdoor Trails Pass will be launched in partnership with Experience Columbus on Earth Day. The updated pass includes new itineraries from local communities.

The Greenways Planning Studio (GPS) is seeking sponsorship for the 2025 COG Forums.

COG is encouraging communities to host Celebrate Trails Day events within their communities on April 26. Rails to Trails Conservancy is offering free drinks and marketing materials. MORPC is hosting a Celebrate Trails Day event in partnership with Green Columbus at Scioto Audubon Metro Park on April 27.

Central Ohio Blueways

The Central Ohio Blueways Working Groups continue to prioritize their 2025 goals.

- Environmental Stewardship Working Group – the group is reviewing a draft implementation guide for the installation of Onion Bag Project installations.
- River Ready Working Group – the group met March 20 to discuss contributions to an editable field map and plan for designating Big Walnut Creek as an Ohio Water Trail. The goal of the map is to provide details on amenities at access points and any useful information on the waterway's navigability and seasonality.

Regional Housing Strategy

If you are 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 Jessica Kuenzli for more information (jkuenzli@morpc.org).

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Sustainability Advisory Committee met at the City of Grandview Heights Parks Building on March 19. Members heard presentations regarding Sustainability in Grandview Heights and on Policy & Federal Funding. For more information, contact Brandi Whetstone at bwhetstone@morpc.org. The next meeting is June 18 at the Del-Co Water Company.

- The Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee met on March 25. A draft agenda will be available for member and stakeholder review in late April 2025. For more information, contact Brandi Whetstone at bwhetstone@morpc.org.

Sustainable2050

Sustainable2050 membership is open to all MORPC members, and current Sustainable2050 members interested in earning tier status certification should contact Brandi Whetstone (bwhetstone@morpc.org). A certification workbook will be provided, and a kick-off meeting is encouraged to review the process. Once a completed workbook is submitted and reviewed, the next step is to present the proposed certification to the SAC for approval.

Regional Water Advisory Council (formerly Sustaining Scioto Board)

The first Regional Water Advisory Council (RWAC) meeting is April 30. MORPC continues to collate a stakeholder list that includes representation from the 15-county region. RWAC will provide leadership in the planning, management, stewardship, and resiliency of waters in the region while ensuring clean and abundant water is readily available for everyone in Central Ohio.

- The Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team met April 3 to discuss the team's scope of work and priorities for the year.

Energy & Air Quality

The next Energy and Air Quality Working Group meeting is May 28. If interested in attending or being a featured speaker, contact Brian Filiatraut (bfiliatraut@morpc.org).

Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure

MORPC applied for the Charging Smart Regional Engagement Partner Grant run by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council. If awarded, this grant will allow MORPC to provide free technical assistance to help local governments become charging smart-designated communities, reducing soft EV infrastructure costs and streamlining deployment. We anticipate hearing notice of awards in mid-April 2025. If MORPC is an award winner, the cohort will likely start in May.

Energy Planning

MORPC is developing a four-part forum series of panel discussions and workshops: "Securing Our Energy Future: Navigating Today's Energy Landscape to Better Plan, Shape, and Lead a Resilient Tomorrow" featuring energy, regulatory, and economic development experts in Central Ohio. The forum is designed for local government and community leaders. The tentative timeline and topics are:

- Session One (May 15): Landscape of Energy Planning – Exploring the big-picture challenges and opportunities in Central Ohio, including insights from the Ohio Business Roundtable's Energy Competitiveness Study and current energy trends.
- Session Two (June 5): Permitting, Zoning, and Economic Development – A hands-on, in person workshop focused on how communities can set the table for energy investment.
- Session Three (July TBD): Funding and Resource Opportunities – Understanding tax incentives, funding opportunities, and available resources to help communities build a strong energy strategy.
- Session Four (August TBD): Emerging Energy Technologies and Future-Proofing the Region – Exploring what is on the energy horizon, including hydrogen, gas-to-energy biodigesters, and fuel cells.

For more information or ideas, contact Brian Filiatraut at bfiliatraut@morpc.org.

U.S. EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program

The core project team led by Sustainable Columbus, MORPC, and others continue to advance the deliverables of the Central Ohio Climate Action Plan (COCAP) for the ten-county Columbus MSA. Power a Clean Future Ohio is conducting the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets, the GHG emissions projections from the regional GHG inventory that MORPC completed, and the GHG measure quantification. Sustainable Columbus is leading the GHG measure selection, which will be the strategies that will reduce pollution and serve as a roadmap for the Columbus MSA. For more information, visit the [COCAP website](#) or email Brian Filiatraut at bfiliatraut@morpc.org.

Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project/U.S. EPA Project

Team Members, in partnership with Franklin County Public Health, deployed 36 sensors. Data collection for the EPA-funded project will continue through Summer 2026. Project consultant, Ramboll Americas Engineering, will use the data to populate an online dashboard. The focus now shifts to education and outreach, with events planned in April for Earth Month, Air Quality Awareness Week, and an April 29 Air Quality Webinar.

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)

The Regional Data Advisory Committee completed the Leaders Listen: Economic Development – Actionable Insights report, Economic Development Business First supplemental, the soft launch of the MORPC Insights platform, and began circulating the Workforce & Job Quality Working Group's draft Job Quality Fact Sheets for stakeholder feedback. Survey results can be found on the [Leaders Listen webpage](#) on MORPC's website. The report offers more in-depth analysis beyond what was shared during MORPC's State of the Region.

- Cyber Security Working Group: The Working Group met March 18 and is developing a plan to roll out OC3's cybersecurity "First Aid Kit" and monthly "Cyber Tip of the Month" content. The group supported one session on cybersecurity basics at Data Day. Cyber Ohio members released and shared information on Aggregate Price Guide for cybersecurity services.
- Data Day Working Group: The Working Group began planning for Data Day 2026. One major point of consideration is how to facilitate increasing interactive sessions and participant engagement. The group is also looking for additional members. If you have any suggestions for members, themes, keynote speakers, or improvements for Data Day 2026, contact Jordan Inskeep at jinskeep@morpc.org.
- D E I & Data Working Group: The Working Group met March 19. Three equity-centered sessions were facilitated or presented by group members at Data Day. Overall session attendance and feedback were positive. The group discussed the pros and cons of generating original content, and is considering different project types for next steps, with one contender being to leverage data to identify opportunities to improve underserved communities' access to greenspace and trails. The group is also recommending to RDAC a name change to the "Data for Access and Opportunity Working Group."
- Regional Data Coaches Working Group: The Working Group launched two Office 365 listservs, "Regional Data Coaches" and "Regional GIS Coaches" at Data Day, with about 40 individuals signing up. The listservs were promoted at RIDG and COGUG meetings. The group hosted the March 25 outreach pop-up event at the Columbus Metropolitan Library Parsons Branch and continues to develop plans for future outreach activities.
- Workforce and Job Quality Working Group: At their April meeting, the Working Group will hear from two members who attended the Results for America Job Quality Fellowship Convening in February. The convening provided an opportunity to learn from other groups doing similar work around the country and to collect feedback on our work, namely the draft set of fact sheets focused on five job quality standards. The fact sheets are meant to be a tool for local workforce development boards, economic development agencies, local governments, and others. The group also plans to revisit their project plan to refine the scope and timeline.
- Central Ohio GIS User Group: The User Group met February 26. Meeting notes are available [here](#).
- Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG): The next meeting is May 14. The proposed agenda includes a discussion led by RDAC Chair Christina Drummond on "While APIs, Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) and standardized metadata facilitate impact data use at scale, substantial time and human resources are required across legal, privacy, and data teams to authorize, track, normalize, compile, and link sensitive metrics received from an ever-increasing number of platforms and services."

Data & Research Activities

Team Members released the MORPC Insights platform to a limited set of stakeholders to collect feedback prior to the full launch, expected in late April. Insights is a web application whose purpose is to provide data-derived insights on various topics at the regional, county, and community levels. Each insight is supported by data, visualizations, and expert commentary. Insights will eventually feature content from trusted partners in addition to MORPC-produced content.

MORPC is kicking off an effort to improve our methods for population estimates for sub-county jurisdictions. The estimates are used for computation of MORPC member dues, among other things. It is hoped that an alternative process will require less effort on the part of MORPC staff and member community staff without sacrificing accuracy. We are seeking feedback from MORPC member communities about possible alternatives. If you would like to participate, contact dataandmaps@morpc.org.

DRIVE INVESTMENT

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

MORPC released the draft SFY 2026–2029 TIP for public comment on March 11. Comments are accepted through April 11. MORPC hosted a public open house for TIP on April 2.

Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)

In February 2025, TRAC approved more than \$34 million in additional funding for four projects in the MORPC planning area. TRAC held a working session to deliberate the first draft of projects to be included in the Major New Construction Program. The final draft program was approved for public comment at TRAC's meeting on March 26 and is available [here](#). Final program approval is expected at TRAC's April 23 meeting.

Passenger Rail

The Central Ohio Passenger Rail Committee met March 11. Updates were provided by MORPC; the Midwest Connect planning team; Amtrak; and Railtowns.org, a non-profit organization assisting municipalities with rail-related safety and development.

Deliverables for Step 1 of the Corridor ID Program are under review by the Federal Railroad Administration. The study is expected to advance to Step 2, creating the service development plan, starting this summer and lasting into 2028.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)

CORPO released the draft SFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for public comment March 11. The comment period is open through April 11. MORPC held a public open house for the TIP April 2.

CORPO Team Members are preparing data and supporting materials for the Functional Classification Review process, then will coordinate with CORPO counties and jurisdictions on draft revisions to functional classification. The full review is due August 2025.

CORPO hosted subcommittee meetings in each of the seven CORPO counties in March. The next CORPO meeting is May 5.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)/Economic Development District

MORPC announced the findings from the Leaders Listen survey on Economic Development at the March 21 State of the Region. A more detailed report will be available online. Over 2,200 respondents from the Central Ohio region participated in the survey.

Freight Planning

MORPC, in partnership with Columbus Region Logistics Council (CRLC) and the Rickenbacker Employer Assistance Network (REAN), organized a tour of the Rickenbacker Area on March 3. Along with staff from COTA and ODOT, the visit included meetings at two distribution centers, a tour of the upcoming COTA Mobility Center and a drive-by of the Anduril site. The meetings reaffirmed the strategic importance of the Rickenbacker Area as a key transit, global trade and infrastructure asset that employs almost 25,000 people.

MORPC is hosting a Rickenbacker Area business focus group in April to discuss the challenges they face, and how organizations like MORPC, COTA, ODOT and others can support them better.

Federal Competitive Programs

MORPC assists partners in leveraging Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding opportunities. Team Members recently discussed EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program with the Franklin County Engineer's Office for the Alum Creek project.

Drive Investment Portal

The Drive Investment Portal is a free member resource with up-to-date information on active and proposed funding opportunities to help finance regional priorities. For questions, contact Preston Frick at pfrick@morpc.org.

LinkUS

Team Members continue to support COTA and local sponsors to formalize the first funding agreements for 2026 Transit-Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) commitments.

Mobility Management

Team Members are analyzing the Gohio Mobility with vendor RideAmigos to determine where enhancements and improvements can be made.

FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient

The first vehicle order from the FY23 5310 award cycle was delivered to the City of Obetz. The city is using the new transit vehicle to improve mobility for their seniors and residents with disabilities, connecting them with appointments, shopping, and other tasks. Additional awards from FY23 and FY24 are in process.

MORPC-Attributable Funding

New and updated MORPC-Attributable Funding commitments were adopted, transmitted to ODOT, and included in the draft SFY 26-29 TIP.

Ohio Public Works Commission

The Public Works Integrating Committee for District 3 (Franklin County) met to begin discussing potential modifications to the district methodology.

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

The District 3 (Franklin County) Natural Resources Assistance Council met March 20 and reviewed and approved the District's methodology for FY 2026. District 3 has approximately \$4.5 million available in the upcoming cycle. Preliminary screeners are encouraged and are due June 2.

District 17 (Delaware, Fairfield, Knox, Licking, Morrow & Pickaway Counties) has approximately \$2.5 million available in the FY 26 cycle. Final applications are due September 19.

For more information about Clean Ohio funding, contact Edwina Teye at eteye@morpc.org or visit our [website](#).

Money Mondays

MORPC hosted the following Money Monday sessions:

- March 3 – Gohio Commute Program
- March 10 – Alternative Financing for Public Entities
- March 17 – Advancing Transit
- March 31 – Community Shelter Board

Upcoming sessions:

- April 7 – Community Waste Reduction Grant 2.0
- April 14 – America Ohio 250 Celebration & How Communities Can Get Involved
- April 21 – Operating and Transportation Budgets
- April 28 – Public Finance Investment Banking

PAY IT FORWARD

Membership Services

Team Members completed three member visits and attended five member events.

Public Involvement & Engagement

Team Members participated in the following opportunities:

- Franklin County Auditor's Housing Resource Fair

MORPC promoted the following through social media and our website: Air Quality; Blueways; eSource; Trail Pass; Gohio Commute; Housing; LinkUS; Careers; Residential Services; RFPs/RFQs; Water Quality; State of the Region; Member Monday; Women's History Month; Ramadan; Air Quality Report; Attributable Funds; TIP & CORPO Open House; Community House Resource Fair; and MORPC News.

MORPC is a member of the Central Ohio Belonging Consortium. On March 4, MORPC hosted "Common Ground: Connecting Culture in Central Ohio."

Events

MORPC hosted/held the following events:

- March 21 – State of the Region

MORPC in the News

Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at [News – MORPC.org](https://www.morpc.org/news).

BUILD VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS

STEPZ Workshop

Team Members are organizing the second STEPZ workshop; *STEPZ: Planning Staff* for May 20. If you have any questions about the event and how it can assist your community's planning commissions and boards of zoning appeals, contact Tunazzina Alam (talam@morpc.org).

Community-Based Planning Assistance

The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program (CBPA) continues to be a resource for members, and we are always looking for ways to improve to better serve your needs. Members can learn more and request assistance from the program by visiting <https://www.morpc.org/community-based-planning-assistance> or contacting Jessica Kuenzli at jkuenzli@morpc.org.

Planner Pool Program

Members are invited to submit applications for assistance through the Planner Pool Program. If you are interested in additional staffing support related to planning, zoning, and/or sustainability, please contact Jessica Kuenzli to schedule a time to discuss your community's needs and ways that MORPC may be able to help.

MORPC is assembling a list of fixed-fee services that relate to the most common issues communities in Central Ohio are experiencing. Suggestions on potential services are greatly appreciated and can be directed to Jessica Kuenzli at jkuenzli@morpc.org.

Consultant Services Program

The Consultant Services Program assists communities with the Request for Proposal (RFP) process through the drafting of RFP documents, prequalifying consultants in the eligible program areas, reviewing initial proposals and facilitating final presentations.

Each year, the Consultant Services Program prequalifies Consultants to submit proposals for – and complete work on – long-range planning projects initiated by communities in Central Ohio. Eligible project types include the completion of – or updates to – comprehensive planning and zoning codes, economic development activities, public engagement, neighborhood or area plans, housing action plans, active transportation plans, and parking plans or assessments.

Team Members reviewed and identified pre-qualified entities for 2025. New eligible services include cost estimating and feasibility studies; additional information, including the list of consultants, can be found at: <https://www.morpc.org/consultant-services-program/>.

If you have a RFP you would like advertised through the Consultant Services Program or need assistance with writing an RFP, please contact consultantservices@morpc.org for additional information.

Personnel Updates

The following new Team Members recently started at MORPC:

- MODE Executive Assistant Eva Reda began March 11

MORPC is currently recruiting for open positions:

- Energy Auditor
- Human Resources Director
- Planning & Sustainability Principal Planner
- Summer Intern Positions

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:

- 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: Brandi Whetstone
Director of Sustainability

DATE: March 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 04-25: **“Authorizing the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) the ability to pursue designation as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency”**

MORPC has been providing services to Ohio EPA in support of 208 planning and mapping in Central Ohio for the past four years. 208 Plans, also known as Water Quality Management Plans, describe and promote efficient and comprehensive programs for controlling water pollution from point and nonpoint sources in a defined geographic area.

Recently, it was requested by Ohio EPA that MORPC further their role and consider becoming a designated Areawide Planning Agency for the region. The designation would position MORPC to take the lead in updating and maintaining the region’s water quality management plans, working with local governments to determine sewer service providers and define service areas; facilitating boundary modifications and dispute resolutions related to facility planning areas; and assist with reviews of permit-to-install applications received by Ohio EPA for the designated service area. There are currently six Areawide Planning Agencies in the state of Ohio covering 24 counties, including such areas as Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, and Toledo.

Over the past ten months, MORPC has been convening an ad-hoc committee to evaluate whether this is the best approach for the Central Ohio region. In working with the committee, MORPC feels confident stepping into this larger role as an Areawide Planning Agency for the following counties: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking and Union; a map of the proposed service area can be found in Figure 1 below. MORPC also proposes to continue to support Ohio EPA for 208 planning and mapping in six additional counties.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Interim Chair

Michelle Crandall
Interim Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Interim Secretary

Potential benefits of designating MORPC as the Areawide Planning Agency for Central Ohio include:

- **Driving investment and supporting economic growth**
 - Our region has experienced unprecedented levels of economic growth, especially in advanced manufacturing, over the past several years with new opportunities continuing to be announced. This level of development and its impact on water and sewer infrastructure requires localized review and attention as well as proactive planning, which would be provided under the establishment of MORPC as an Areawide Planning Agency.
- **Expedited permit review with reduced impact on Ohio EPA**
 - Allowing MORPC to serve in this capacity for the five counties will not only allow for a timelier review and approval of permits in that area but would also provide additional capacity for Ohio EPA through reduced workload allowing it to continue to serve the other areas of Ohio not covered by Areawide Planning Agencies.
- **Created for the region, by the region**
 - MORPC is a trusted convener and catalyst for regional initiatives in Central Ohio in infrastructure, development, environment, and more as well as a longtime partner with Ohio EPA. It also serves and represents 90 local governments of all sizes – rural, urban, and suburban. Allowing MORPC to lead this effort will ensure that the framework is constructed in a way that meets the needs of our growing region and ensures vested stakeholders have a seat at the table.

At its March 13 meeting, the ad-hoc committee passed a motion to recommend that the MORPC Board consider a resolution at the April meeting to authorize the agency to continue to pursue designation as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency. This recommendation was made contingent upon MORPC securing sufficient funding for this effort, and that the work be governed and structured by the policies and procedures developed by MORPC and the ad-hoc committee. The attached resolution has been drafted to reflect these conditions. Following MORPC Board approval, MORPC will work in collaboration with Ohio EPA to conduct a public engagement process with affected stakeholders.

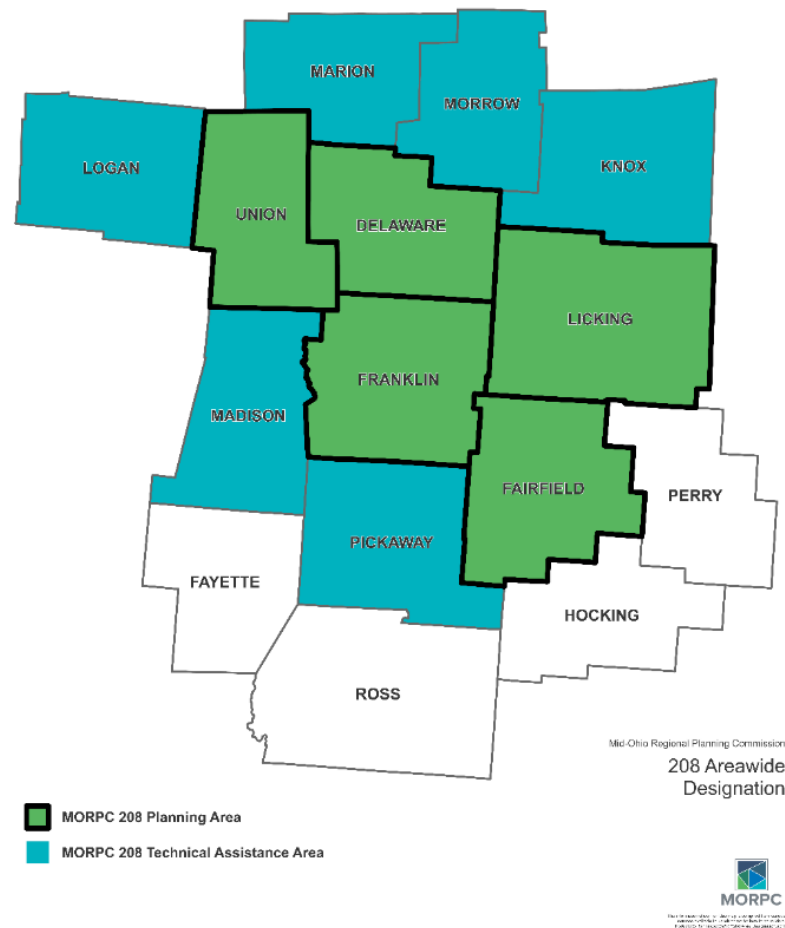


Figure 1. Proposed MORPC 208 Planning Area (green) and Technical Assistance Area (blue)

Attachment: Resolution 04-25

RESOLUTION 04-25

“Authorizing the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) the ability to pursue designation as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency”

WHEREAS, for the past ten months an ad-hoc committee of MORPC members has been convened to evaluate if MORPC shall pursue designation as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency by the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, allowing MORPC to lead this effort will ensure that the framework is constructed in a way that meets the needs of our growing region and ensures vested stakeholders have a seat at the table; and

WHEREAS, MORPC would assume this expanded role for the counties of Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, and Union; and

WHEREAS, MORPC continuing this work is contingent upon securing sufficient funding for staff capacity to support this effort; and

WHEREAS, the Areawide Planning Agency will be governed by policies and procedures developed by MORPC and the ad-hoc committee; and, the Areawide Agency’s governing body includes the ad-hoc committee’s recommended representation; now therefore

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

- Section 1. That MORPC may continue to work with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to pursue designation as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency.
- Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to enter into agreement with the State of Ohio to designate MORPC as a 208 Areawide Planning Agency.
- Section 3. 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 10, 2025
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Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
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Attachment: Draft MORPC Areawide Wastewater Facility Planning Policies



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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MORPC Areawide Wastewater Facility Planning Policies



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Purpose And Introduction

The purpose of this policy document is to present background and establish policies to guide the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC) process for review and approval of updates to Wastewater Treatment Facility Plans and or modifications to their associated Facility Planning Areas in accordance with Section 208 of the Clean Water Act and Ohio laws and regulation.

In Central Ohio, MORPC is the designated Areawide Planning Agency for Delaware, Union, Licking, Franklin and Fairfield counties. MORPC also provides 208 technical assistance services including comprehensive planning and facility planning designation support for Logan, Marion, Morrow, Knox, Madison and Pickaway counties (Fig. 1.1)

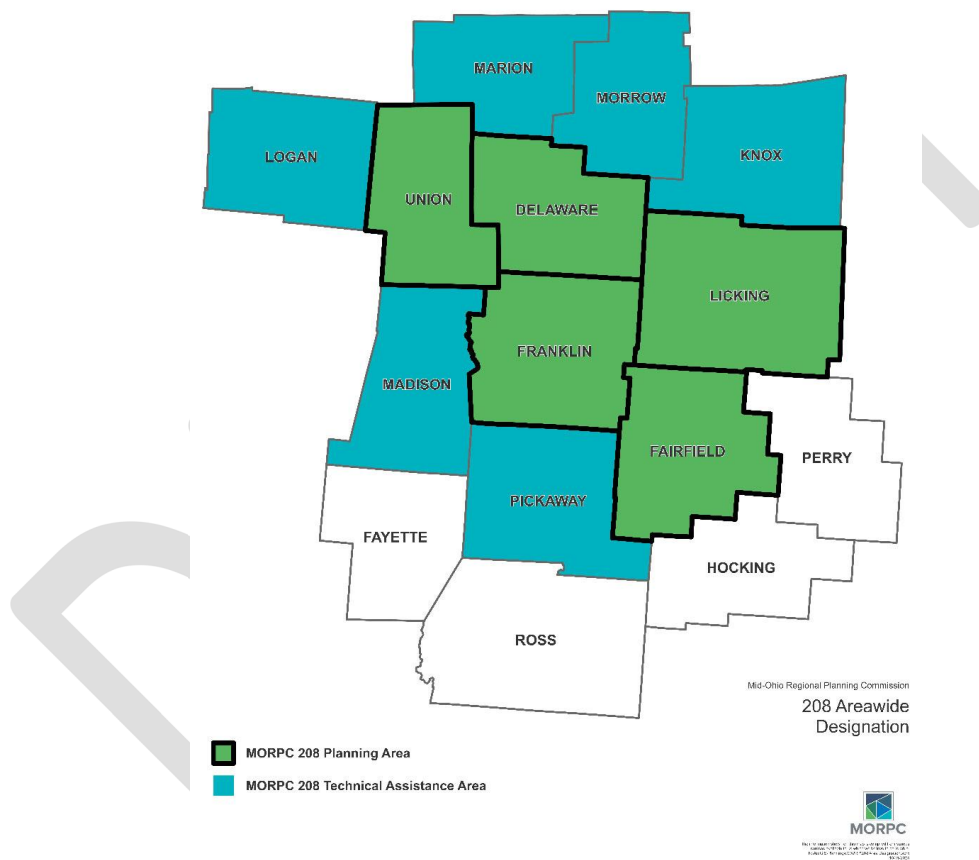


Fig. 1.1. MORPC 208 Planning Area and Technical Assistance Area

In the undesignated areas of Ohio, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) carries out the municipal wastewater planning function. Wastewater Treatment Facility Plans and their associated Facility Planning Areas are the cornerstones of MORPC's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP). The purpose of periodically updating Facility Plans and Facility Planning Areas is to ensure that wastewater treatment needs are met in ways that are comprehensive, cost-effective and protective of water resources into the future.

i. Areawide Water Quality Management Committee Structure

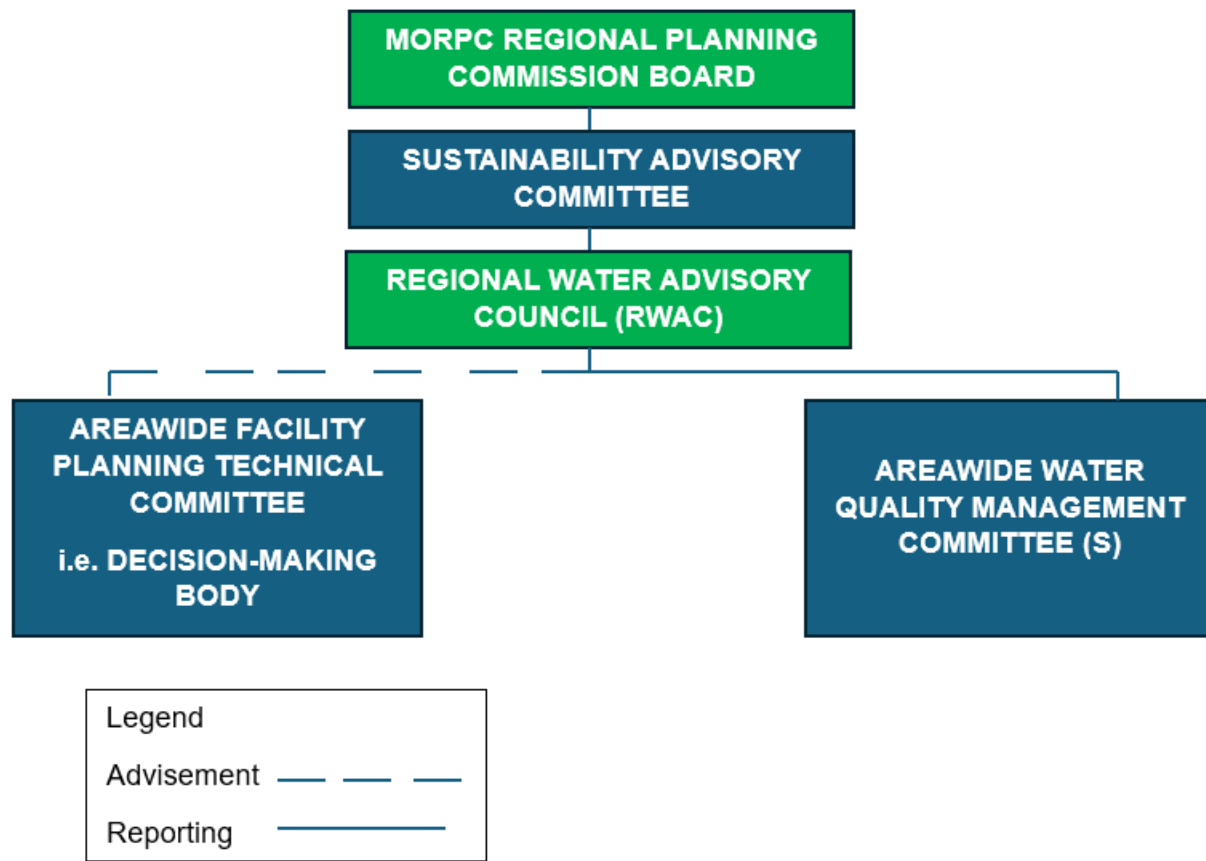



Fig. 1.2. Areawide Water Quality Management Committee Structure

The Areawide Facility Planning Technical Committee (the “Technical Committee”) is the final decision-making body in the Facility Planning Modification Process and will only advise the RWAC on decisions made.

Composition of Areawide Facility Planning Technical Committee

The Areawide Facility Planning Technical Committee (the “Technical Committee”) serves as the final authority for reviewing and approving updates to Wastewater Treatment Facility Plans and modifications to their associated Facility Planning Areas. To ensure its independence, the Technical Committee evaluates 208 Plan establishment and modification independently from the MORPC Regional Planning Commission Board.



Consequently, the Technical Committee advises the Regional Water Advisory Council, the Sustainability Advisory Committee, and the MORPC Regional Planning Commission Board. This reporting structure is illustrated by the dotted lines in the chart above. Tenure of entities and additional operational rules that govern the Technical Committee are found in the By-laws.

The Technical Committee consists of 12 seats, two of which are non-voting and comprising of the following:

- **5 Permanent Seat** - Sanitary engineer or substantial equivalent from the Planning Area with municipal wastewater treatment and/or NPS pollution management responsibilities or major regional wastewater provider.
 - 1 City of Columbus Department of Public Utilities**
 - 1 City of Marysville**
 - 1 Fairfield County Sanitary Engineer**
 - 1 Licking County Representative**
 - 1 Delaware County Regional Sewer District**
- **5 representatives from Designated Management Agencies** (DMAs) in the Planning Area. The quota for seat allocation is based on the average design flow of the DMAs in the planning areas in Appendix 1.
- **2 State Agency Representatives** - Ohio EPA Division Chief, Surface Water and Ohio Department of Natural Resources i.e. Chief of Water Resources who shall be a non-voting members.



ii. History Of Clean Water Act and Water Quality Management Plans

Water Quality Management Plans, also commonly referred to as 208 Plans, describe and promote efficient and comprehensive programs for controlling water pollution from point and nonpoint sources in a defined geographic area. The Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972 (as amended) sets forth the legislative basis and water quality planning requirements under sections 205(j), 208 and 303 of the Act.

Section 208 of the Act describes the requirements for Areawide plans, and Section 303(e) describes the state requirements. The state of Ohio's WQMP incorporates all Areawide plans.

Section 208 of the CWA further establishes integrated and coordinated facility planning for municipal and industrial wastewater management. Subsequently, the section allows for the designation of an organization capable of developing effective areawide waste treatment management plans. These are also known as Areawide Planning Agencies and in urban areas where competition for service areas is expected to be a concern, the Clean Water Act also calls for Areawide Planning Agencies to assist in the resolution of such conflicts as they might arise.

Historically, six Areawides were designated by Ohio's Governor in the 1970s to act as lead planning agencies in urban regions. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission is the seventh agency to be designated as the lead planning agency for the Central Ohio region in 2024. MORPC through the Technical Committee and additional committees focused on the plan development establishes the areawide water quality management plan for its counties. This single document is incorporated into the State's WQMP after which the Governor certifies the entire 208 Plan via submission to U.S. EPA for its approval.

iii. Definitions

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency: Ohio EPA oversees the State Water Quality Management (WQM) Plan. The State WQM Plan is a requirement of Section 303 of the Clean Water Act and must include nine (9) discrete elements below:

Total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).

Effluent limits.

Municipal and industrial waste treatment. This is identification of anticipated municipal and industrial waste treatment works, including combined sewer overflows.

Nonpoint source management and control.

Management agencies. This is the identification of agencies necessary to carry out the plan and provision for adequate authority for intergovernmental cooperation. Management agencies must demonstrate the legal, institutional, managerial and financial capability and specific activities necessary to carry out their responsibilities.

Implementation measures. This is the identification of implementation measures necessary to carry out the plan.

Dredge and fill program. This is identification and development of programs for the control of dredge or fill material.


Basin plans. This is Identification of any relationship to applicable basin plans developed under section 209 of the Act.

Ground water. This is Identification and development of programs for control of groundwater pollution

Areawide Planning Agency: The 208 plans, or areawide waste management treatment plans, can only be prepared by the State of Ohio or one of the seven areawide planning agencies. Each areawide planning agency maintains a single 208 plan covering the counties in its jurisdiction.

Management Agency (MA): A single local management agency for each area where sewers are in place or planned. MAs include municipalities, counties, and sanitary sewer districts authorized under Ohio law to perform these functions.

Wastewater Designated Management Agency (DMA): Owners and operators of wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs, also known as Publicly Owned Treatment Works or POTWs) are identified in these policies as the Wastewater Designated Management Agencies. Each DMA is responsible for developing and maintaining a Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan (FP) that identifies and prescribes wastewater management options in a surrounding Facility Planning Area.



Primary Wastewater Designated Management Agency (Primary DMA): An entity with legal authority, managerial capacity, and financial resources to plan wastewater conveyance and treatment for its Facility Planning Area. A Primary DMA typically owns and operates the POTW within its designated FPA(s).

Secondary Wastewater Designated Management Agency (Secondary DMA): An entity with legal authority, managerial capacity, and financial resources to plan for wastewater conveyance, but that has sewer service agreements with a Primary DMA(s) to treat its wastewater, or where a county or regional sewer district exists under ORC 6117 and 6119, respectively. Secondary DMAs are responsible for planning, building, operating and maintaining sewers under their jurisdiction, subject to a sanitary sewer agreement(s). There may be multiple Secondary DMAs within each FPA.

Facility Planning Area (FPA): The FPA serves as the geographic area for which each primary DMA shall develop and maintain a Facility Plan to provide adequate wastewater treatment within the FPA over a 20-year time frame. Each facility plan shall include prescriptions that describe how and by whom wastewater will be managed within that FPA, as well as allocations for projected growth within that FMA.

Columbus Metropolitan Facility Planning Area: A large contiguous area of Columbus and the surrounding vicinity that has, or is likely to need, central sewers and presently is, or could be in the future, served by City of Columbus wastewater treatment facilities.

The area is comprised of all of Franklin County, portions of Fairfield County in Violet, Bloom and Greenfield townships, portions of Licking County in Etna, Jersey and Monroe townships, portions of Delaware County in Harlem, Orange, Concord and Genoa townships and portions of Union County in Jerome Township. All the villages, municipalities and unincorporated areas within this boundary are included.

Community-level FPAs: A land area within the Metro Columbus RFPA where an entity other than the City of Columbus is the management agency for wastewater treatment.

Satellite Community: A community that owns and operates a sanitary sewerage system, as defined in ORC §6111.01, but does not own or operate a wastewater treatment plant.

Communal Systems: Treatment works that collect sanitary waste flow from more than one building or property and convey that flow to a treatment system that may be located on or off site of the property or properties served. Communal systems may be privately or publicly owned. They may serve residential, commercial, or industrial uses. They may discharge treated waste either to a permitted receiving stream, or the discharge may be constrained to a designated area where it is allowed to infiltrate the ground or evaporate into the air. Examples of communal systems include, but are not limited to, package wastewater treatment systems and spray irrigation systems.

Sanitary Sewer Service Area: A discrete geographic area within which a specific DMA or other entity has authority and major infrastructure needs in place (e.g., trunk sewer lines, lift stations, interceptors, treatment capacity) to provide for the collection and treatment of sewage. The collection and/or treatment of sewage may be provided through legally executed contracts for such services, or other forms of intergovernmental agreements deemed acceptable to the parties involved.



General Legal Authority

Powers of the County Commissioners

Pursuant to [ORC 6117.01\(B\)\(1\)](#), a board of county commissioners may lay out, establish, consolidate, or otherwise modify the boundaries of, and maintain, one or more sewer districts within the county and outside municipal corporations. Pursuant to ORC 6117.05, when a board of county commissioners has established one or more county sewer districts and any portion of a sewer district is incorporated as, or annexed to, a municipal corporation, the area so incorporated or annexed shall remain under the jurisdiction of the board of county commissioners until all planned improvements are completed or until the board has abandoned the improvements. Therefore, the county sewer district shall be the Primary DMA and its boundaries shall be the primary FPA, except as the board of county commissioners having jurisdiction over the county sewer district may otherwise agree in writing. Consequently, in the event of a modification request affecting an area under the jurisdiction of a county, the Technical Committee shall defer to all county legislation and agreements which are both effective and established consistent with the Central Ohio 208 Plan in effect as of the date of this policy.

The Technical Committee shall defer to all existing county sewer district legislation and agreements during a modification request within an area under jurisdiction of the county sewer district and shall require any entity to have the written approval of the board of county commissioners having jurisdiction over the county sewer district as part of any modification request/dispute resolution process.

Policies

Policy A Facility Planning Area (FPA) – Boundary Creation, Overlaps & Modification Process

MORPC shall maintain master maps of each DMA's FPA boundaries. The FPA serves as the geographic area for which each primary DMA shall develop and maintain a Facility Plan to provide adequate wastewater treatment within the FPA over a 20-year time frame. Each facility plan shall include prescriptions that describe how and by whom wastewater will be managed within that DMA, as well as allocations for projected growth within that DMA.

Policy A-1 Creation of a New FPA: [Table 9-1](#) of the 2006 State WQMP Plan (main text) provides facility planning guidelines. Entities performing wastewater facility planning should consider the following guidelines to assist the State with information that can be included in the updates to the State 208 plan.

Steps	Materials Submitted in Facility Plan
1. Delineate current service area	Provide up to date maps of the current sewer service area with all trunk lines and pump stations shown. If possible, these maps should be in a standard GIS format, or a CAD format transferable to GIS software.
2. Evaluate sewer system conditions	Identify needed improvements; provide cost estimates.
3. Evaluate need for additional sewer service area	Define a study area (FPA); delineate the geographic area that was evaluated relative to growth/development and the need for central sewers (provide on map).
4. Delineate projected service area	Forecast and map new areas expected to be sewered in the next 20 years (projected service area); provide cost estimates
5. Develop prescriptions for wastewater treatment in areas without sewers	Evaluate options and select interim prescriptions for areas expected to be sewered within 20 years; Evaluate options and select permanent prescriptions for areas not expected to have sewers.
6. Evaluate wastewater treatment capacity	Itemize improvements, if any, to meet current needs (population now served) and provide cost estimates.
7. Determine future capacity need for treatment	Forecasts of population growth and other demands used assess the treatment capacity needed in next 20 years
8. Evaluate future wastewater treatment capacity options	Identify feasible alternatives, select most likely option(s); Itemize improvements to meet future needs and provide cost estimates.
9. Develop general plan to implement improvements	Provide a capital improvement plan to finance necessary sewer and treatment upgrades;

	Include a schedule for improvements (sewers and treatment plant); Provide an operation and maintenance plan.
10. Qualify as Management Agency	Agree to provide services indicated in 208 plan; Obtain written agreements with other governmental jurisdictions if service involves more than one jurisdiction

Policy A-2 Facility Planning Area Boundary Modification

Who Can Submit an FPA Modification Request?

A Primary or Secondary DMA listed in Tables (will be updated with data) can request an FPA modification. MORPC staff may also initiate FPA modifications to keep FPA information and maps current.

A DMA may request a redefinition of its boundaries (i.e. expansion or reduction of its service area) through the FPA Modification Procedures below. The modification procedures require the DMA requesting the modification to solicit support from all affected jurisdictions, including any other Primary or Secondary DMAs potentially affected by the redefinition.

All modifications to FPA boundaries, as well as the establishment of new FPAs, require approval from the Technical Committee. These changes take effect once approved by the Technical Committee and will be included in the next update of the Areawide Water Quality Planning Committee submitted for certification.

MORPC's Technical Committee favors FPA boundary modification requests that are backed by local, regional, or watershed planning efforts. Examples of such plans include, but are not limited to, sewer master plans, watershed action plans, balanced growth plans, and community master plans. If an FPA boundary modification request contradicts any relevant and current planning efforts, the requesting DMA should explicitly address this issue in its application to the Technical Committee.

Additionally, DMAs should reach out to MORPC staff at the beginning of any potential 208 Plan modification for help and guidance. Changes to FPA boundaries or Prescriptions involve additional steps and time before the Technical Committee approval process.

FPA Modification Request Packet and Guidelines

The FPA Modification Request Packet and Guidelines (found in Appendix 2) outline the information MORPC requires from DMAs for FPA modification requests. MORPC staff might ask for additional information after the initial submission.

Facility Planning Area (FPA) Modification Process

Steps in a typical FPA Modification Request submitted to MORPC follow the process in Appendix 2. A DMA must provide justification for the following criteria in order to maintain sewer responsibilities within an existing FPA during a modification request.

Minor & Major Modification Process

What constitutes a major and minor modification will be determined on a case-by-case scenario and relative to a system's capacity.

For minor modifications, the following is adhered to:

- I. Small changes require demonstration of adequate capacity to handle additional wastewater
- II. No public notice is required.

For major modifications, the following is adhered to:

- I. Facility Plans for the affected area must be completed
- II. Public notice is required.

The type of modification will follow the process in Appendix 2a or 2b


Policy A-3 Criteria for the Existing Designated Management Agency (DMA) to Maintain Sewer Planning Responsibilities within an Existing Facility Planning Area (FPA)

In all cases of challenge, the responsibility of sewer planning will remain with the existing DMA in each established FPA when the existing Primary or Secondary DMA (except as noted) can demonstrate any of the following:

- a. The proposal is not cost-effective.
- b. The requested change would significantly and negatively impact the existing DMA's sewerage system affordability.
- c. The requested change would compromise the existing Primary DMA's sewerage system efficiency or integrity, defined as the ability to meet its NPDES permit limitations.
- d. The requested change would result in a violation of a condition of a Section 201 Facilities Construction Grant received through the USEPA or a provision of a state revolving fund loan administered by the Ohio EPA.
- e. The existing Primary or Secondary DMA can show that it will suffer undue harm that will not be offset by a net positive impact from the proposed FPA change.
- f. The existing Primary or Secondary DMA has constructed components of their sewerage system (WWTP or collection system) to serve the area of the requested FPA boundary change and has not received compensation for these capital expenditures from the applicant for change or affected jurisdiction(s) proposed to be removed from the existing FPA.

The current Primary or Secondary DMA is responsible for providing the Technical Committee with documentation demonstrating how it meets the relevant criteria to retain its sewer planning authority. The Technical Committee will be guided by the interpretation below:

Cost-Effective Guidance: The overall resource costs for the proposed FPA modification would be considerably greater than if the area stayed within the existing FPA. These costs encompass financial



expenses, environmental and social impacts, and other non-monetary factors assessed over the project's anticipated duration.

System Affordability Guidance: The existing DMA retains the right to provide sewer service for a proposed modification area if it can demonstrate that the request would significantly affect the affordability of the current or future sewer system. An assessment of system affordability should consider the following factors, based on guidelines from the US EPA [Clean Water Act Financial Capability Assessment Guidance](#). Additional guidelines can be accessed at [Water Environment Federation \(WEF\)](#):

- The impact on households served by the system, particularly those in the lowest 20th percentile of household income (Lowest Quintile Income, LQI).
- The percentage of households within the system that are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- The financial capability of the current utility and affected communities, including metrics such as sewer rates, number of customers, consumption per account, operation and maintenance expenses, existing debt, and capital expenditure forecasts.


Existing DMAs may provide additional affordability matrices, which will be reviewed by the Technical Committee and relevant committees for relevance. DMAs may also contact the Ohio EPA Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA) for assistance with questions related to system affordability, subject to availability of time and resources. MORPC staff will collaborate with Ohio EPA DEFA as needed to address system affordability concerns.

System Efficiency and Integrity Guidance: Concerns about system efficiency and integrity involve expectations that a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) may fail to comply with its NPDES or similar discharge permit limits. MORPC staff may seek assistance from Ohio EPA to evaluate system efficiency and integrity issues raised by Primary DMAs.

Construction Grant or State Revolving Fund Guidance: The USEPA or Ohio EPA must certify cases where Facilities Grant or state revolving fund loan conditions prevent a requested change in FPA boundaries. The DMA holding the grant or loan must provide certification to MORPC from USEPA or Ohio EPA.

Undue Harm: The existing DMA can document additional impacts to its sewer system that would result from the Technical Committee approving the proposed FPA modification(s). The Technical Committee will assess any undue harm in relation to the probable net benefits of the FPA modification request, as well as consider the financial and social equity aspects. For instance, the Technical Committee can evaluate whether the benefits of the modification outweigh the potential drawbacks.

Compensation for Existing Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure: The approval of a FPA modification request hinges on whether the existing Designated Management Agency (DMA) is compensated by the applicant for any changes or for affected jurisdictions proposed to be removed from the FPA. This compensation should cover any prorated capital expenses related to wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) or sewer collection systems that have been incurred to provide current or future sewer services to the modification area. The Technical Committee will decide if such compensation is necessary as a condition for approving the FPA modification request.



Sanitary Sewer Service Agreements: The Technical Committee will review any existing and legally binding sanitary sewer service agreements or similar wastewater agreements that might override some of the criteria outlined in FPA Policies A – 3 or A – 4. However, FPA Policies A – 3(c) and (d) are exceptions to this review. The proposed FPA modification must not impair the ability of the existing Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) to comply with its NPDES permit conditions or breach any existing USEPA or Ohio EPA wastewater grant or loan conditions.

Ohio EPA Director's Final Findings and Orders: When sanitary sewer infrastructure is required to comply with [Ohio EPA Director's Final Findings and Orders \(Orders\)](#), the sewer planning status of the existing DMA is contingent upon its readiness and willingness to undertake necessary sewer extensions and capacity upgrades. If an existing DMA is determined by the Ohio EPA to be unprepared or unable to proceed in a timely manner, another DMA may request a modification of the FPA boundary to take over sewer planning responsibilities for the area, even if one or more criteria in Policy A-3 apply to the existing DMA.

Conditions of FPA Policy A-3

FPA Policy A-3 outlines six criteria that the existing DMA may use to justify retaining sewer planning responsibilities. If the existing DMA asserts that any of these criteria apply to a proposed FPA modification, the applicant can present evidence to refute these claims. The Technical Committee will evaluate the validity of the information provided by all DMAs.

Extension of Service by the Existing DMA: The existing DMA's ability to retain its responsibilities is contingent upon its readiness and willingness to proceed with sewer extensions and, if needed, capacity upgrades in the affected area. If the existing DMA is not prepared or unable to act in a timely manner, the applicant may request a modification of the FPA boundary. The Technical Committee will assess the existing DMA's capability, willingness, and timeliness in extending sanitary sewer service based on the submitted information.

Unacceptable Sewer Service Conditions: Applicants must provide detailed information regarding any claims of unacceptable sewer service conditions by the existing DMA. Common issues cited may include excessive tap-in fees, required annexation, high sewer rates, and delays in sewer extension. The Technical Committee will evaluate whether the existing DMA's sewer service conditions are deemed unacceptable based on all relevant information submitted.

Alternative Sewer Plan: To request a modification of an existing FPA boundary and transfer sewer planning responsibilities to a new DMA, the applicant must present viable wastewater treatment alternatives. It must be demonstrated that this reassignment will not impair the current Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)'s ability to serve the affected area while meeting its NPDES permit requirements. The alternative sewer plan must also estimate the impact on the existing POTW's rate structure and ensure that it does not create a gap or discontinuity in the existing FPA that could hinder the existing DMA's ability to extend sanitary sewer services within its FPA. The Technical Committee and staff may consult with the Ohio EPA or other appropriate entities to assess the technical, environmental, and financial aspects of the proposed alternative sewer plan.

Concerns of Affected Local Governments: According to the FPA, DMA, and Prescription Modification Process, the applicant must notify and seek support from all affected jurisdictions (including DMAs, cities, villages,



townships, and counties) within the challenged area. For FPA Policy B – 2(c), "affected local government(s)" specifically refers to the entities with political and administrative authority, not just sewer planning authority.

The Technical Committee encourages the applicant to address concerns from all affected jurisdictions. However, the applicant must specifically address concerns from the affected local government(s) regarding the proposed FPA modification. These concerns must be resolved before the Technical Committee will consider the modification.

In addition to addressing FPA Policies A-3 and A-4 (outlined below), the applicant should also address other relevant information raised by the affected local government(s). The Technical Committee will determine if the applicant has adequately addressed the concerns of the affected local government(s).

Sanitary Sewer Service Agreements: The Technical Committee will consider any existing and legally enforceable sanitary sewer service agreements or similar wastewater agreements that might override one or more criteria listed under FPA Policies A-3 or A-4, with the exceptions of FPA Policies A-3(c) and (d). The proposed FPA modification must not compromise the existing Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)'s ability to comply with its NPDES permit conditions or violate any terms of existing USEPA or Ohio EPA wastewater grants or loans.

Legal Authority: The applicant must possess the legal authority under current Ohio and federal law to provide sanitary sewer service to the area affected by the FPA modification. This includes any sewer service established by existing and legally enforceable agreements.

Policy A-4 Criteria for the Transfer of Sewer Planning Responsibilities within an Existing Facility Planning Area (FPA) to a New Designated Management Agency (DMA) or New Facility Planning Area (FPA)

FPA Policy A-4 outlines the criteria that a Primary or Secondary DMA can use to take over sewer planning responsibilities from an existing DMA for a specific area within an existing FPA. This shift in responsibilities usually involves modifying the FPA boundary to include the affected area in an existing or newly established FPA. The applicant must provide documentation to the Technical Committee to address these criteria.

In all cases of challenge, the responsibility of sewer planning within an established FPA can be transferred to a new DMA or new FPA when the DMA applicant for change (applicant) can demonstrate all the following:

- a. None of the conditions established by FPA Policy A-3 apply.
- b. The existing DMA is unprepared or is unwilling to extend service to the challenged area, or that they have conditions unacceptable to the applicant community.
- c. An alternative sewerage plan exists that protects the environment, and the alternative plan is technically achievable, economically justifiable, and all relevant concerns by the affected local government(s) with jurisdiction over the challenged area have been addressed.
- d. The proposed DMA has legal authority to act.

The Technical Committee will review all pertinent information submitted to determine if the applicant meets the requirements of FPA Policy A-4. Additionally, they may consider concerns from affected jurisdictions and assess the overall fairness of the proposed FPA modification request.

Overlapping FPAs: In the 2006 state WQMP, it was recommended that regional wastewater and water quality planning was necessary in Central Ohio and in addition to the recommendation below:

“The next 208 Plan update will consider the outcome of any locally negotiated sewer service agreements, possible delineation of facility planning area boundaries, and, dependent upon the threats to water quality, a possible a moratorium on sewer line extensions...”

Following from this, the overlap of multiple FPAs will not be permitted in the Facility Plan and FPA updates. The Facility Planning process is designed to offer a structured and efficient approach to wastewater treatment planning. Allowing the overlap of FPAs can lead to confusion and conflicts, as well as potentially result in duplicated efforts, unnecessary public spending on redundant infrastructure, and excessive plant capacities.

In areas where historic overlaps exist, DMAs may consider establishing a Primary-Secondary relationship to resolve boundary issues.

FPA Boundary Conflicts: Conflicts between DMAs may arise and may take various forms including:

- a. One DMA desires to assume facility planning responsibility over a portion of an adjacent FPA, where that FPA's Primary DMA has not provided desired wastewater planning **OR**
- b. Two or more DMA's desire to assume facility planning responsibilities in an area not within any FPA.


Applicants involved in any of the conflict scenarios identified must strive to find a solution that satisfies all parties involved. Upon request, the Areawide Facility Planning Technical Committee, also known as the Technical Committee, may suggest alternatives to the parties involved. Alternatives may be solicited from the expertise of the Areawide Facility Planning Technical Committee or an ad hoc committee. For the Technical Committee to approve boundary requests to be incorporated into the State WQMP, applicants involved in a conflict may consider a Primary-Secondary agreement as a possible solution.

Policy B Designated Management Agencies

Policy B-1 Nomination of New Designated Management Agencies (DMAs) and New Facility Planning Areas (FPAs)

Entities interested in becoming new DMAs for providing sanitary sewer service in newly established FPAs must obtain approval from the Ohio EPA for their facility plans. Additionally, MORPC requires an amendment to integrate these new facility plans into the 208 Plan.

Entities that are not currently DMAs must apply for DMA status before Ohio EPA will process their permit application. To be designated as a DMA, the applicant must have sufficient legal authority under Ohio and federal law, clearly define the geographical scope of the proposed FPA and sewer service area and show evidence of consulting with and obtaining support from all affected local governments with sewer planning authority (including municipalities, counties, and regional sewer districts). Any disputes regarding FPA boundaries must be resolved with the existing DMA(s) or appealed to the Technical Committee, in accordance with FPA Policies A-3 and A-4.



Applicants may propose an FPA area that is larger than the current or proposed sewer service area if it benefits future sewer planning. Once the Ohio EPA reviews and approves the FPA designation request, MORPC's Technical Committee will adopt a resolution formalizing the designation.

Policy C Community-level Facility Planning Areas

Policy C-1 Boundary Changes, Community-level FPAs

[Under 25-P3a](#), of the State WQM adjustments to the boundaries of any of the Community-level FPAs may be requested at any time. All petitions for adjustments, i.e. minor or major boundary adjustments must include written endorsements of support from each affected management agency, each affected satellite suburban community, and any other political jurisdiction or private entity that has authority to provide wastewater collection and treatment for the area in question.

Facility Plans for the affected area must be completed as part of the modification request.

For minor modifications, the following is adhered to:

- I. Small changes require a demonstration of adequate capacity to handle added wastewater.

For major modifications, the following is adhered to:

- II. The Director of Ohio EPA shall require appropriately detailed updated facility planning documentation. Boundary adjustments, if granted, will be part of the State of Ohio 208 Plan upon review and approval by Ohio. EPA.


Policy D Wastewater Prescriptions

Policy D-1 Modifications to Prescriptions

The Technical Committee must approve all changes to Prescriptions. [Appendix 9-1](#) of the State WQM details the generic prescriptions for wastewater.

Below are the generic prescriptions for wastewater treatment:

1. All discharging systems shall meet effluent limits designed to attain the more stringent of:
 - a. all applicable water quality standards, including antidegradation requirements; and
 - b. where applicable, best available demonstrated control technology for new sources discharging sanitary wastewater, best available technology, or secondary treatment.
2. All municipal management agencies with home rule powers are responsible for sewage collection and treatment within their respective corporate boundaries. Such service may be provided by the management agency or through contracting for such services. Sewer service may be extended to annexed land, and to areas beyond the corporate boundaries, provided the management agency has the capacity to adequately collect and treat all wastewater under the terms of its NPDES permit.




When the proposed extension is beyond the corporate boundaries and within a sewer district established under ORC 6119 or 6117, and the land is not annexed, the extension of sewer service will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

3. The construction of new, or the replacement of existing, sewage treatment systems or non-discharging on-lot sewage treatment systems for semi-public, private, or industrial entities shall not be permitted where a public sewer is available. Such facilities may be permitted where sewers are not available, on the condition that they will be required to tap in when public sewers become available.
4. New or replacement home sewage treatment systems (HSTS) shall not be permitted where a public sewer is available. Where sewers are not available new or replacement HSTS may be permitted if applicable sanitary codes administered by the County health department or local health department are followed, on the condition that the HSTS will be required to tap in when public sewers become available.
5. The County Commissioners (or a sewer district under ORC 6119) are responsible for sewage collection and treatment in unincorporated communities. Where sewers are not available, approval of individual home sewage treatment systems (HSTS) is the responsibility of the County health department or local health department and shall follow applicable sanitary codes.
6. Where sewers are not available, on-lot sewage treatment systems for semi-public, private, or industrial entities may be installed if permitted by Ohio EPA or, if the board of health of a city, county, or general health district has permitting authority for small systems (less than 1,000 gallons per day), permitted by the county health department. General health district means a health district of the combined townships and villages in each county.
7. The County Commissioners under ORC 6117 have authority for central sewers and sewage treatment in all unincorporated areas; when unsanitary conditions exist Ohio State WQM Plan - Appendix 9-1 Final 2006 Pg 4 EPA may require that the County Commissioners fix the problem.
8. Where a sewer district has been organized under ORC 6119, Ohio EPA may require said sewer district to eliminate unsanitary conditions.
9. Ohio EPA will only approve the installation of new wastewater collection and treatment systems to serve a new or existing housing developments provided the applicant has submitted an acceptable plan documenting how the system will be managed, maintained and operated. An acceptable plan could include the choice to turn management, maintenance and operation over to an existing management agency listed in this 208 Plan, or the choice of contracting with a competent private professional wastewater services company. An unacceptable plan might include the choice to have an inexperienced or poorly qualified entity, individual, or homeowners' association assume sole responsibility for system management, maintenance and operation.

Primary DMAs should regularly maintain/update Prescriptions within their FPAs in consultation with the Secondary DMA(s) and affected local jurisdictions. Prescriptions must comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act. To the extent that a Prescription involves the enlargement of an existing POTW, the construction of a new POTW, or the extension of sewers, that option must conform to consistency requirements in Policy E.

The development of a Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan or Plan Update involves the identification of viable local wastewater management options or prescriptions. To accomplish this each FPA shall be subdivided according to the type of wastewater treatment in existence, proposed, and/or predicted. The following categories generally occur:



Category	Description
1	Areas currently served with sanitary sewers
2	Areas expected to be served with sanitary sewers connected to an existing POTW during the next twenty years
3	Areas expected to be served with sanitary sewers connected to a new POTW in the next twenty years
4	Areas expected to remain on individual on-lot systems or semipublic systems, and where local officials are oriented to maintaining an unsewered status for the foreseeable future
5	Areas currently unsewered where local officials are oriented to accepting sewers if feasible and if found to be consistent with the AWQMP
6	Areas for which no wastewater management options have been declared

Table 2. Wastewater Prescription Categories

All proposed prescription modifications must follow the FPA, DMA Process outlined in Policy A-3 and A-4 and F. Applicant must demonstrate consultation with communities in its FPA to ascertain community preferences for sanitary sewer service.

Policy E Consistency Review

Policy E-1 Consistency Review

MORPC staff will conduct a Consistency Review for submitted FPA modification requests based on the following criteria:

- A. The proposed FPA boundaries versus those in **State WQMP**
- B. The population projections versus those in collated by MORPC
- C. The proposed Prescriptions versus those in **State WQMP**
- D. Adherence to Policy A-3 and A-4 for contested FPA modification requests
- E. Completion of the affected jurisdictions' comment period to ensure adequate notification and opportunity to comment on the proposed FPA modification


Consistency Review will determine if the FPA modification request can proceed to the Technical Committee or if additional information is necessary. Once a request is ready to proceed, staff will prepare a recommendation and present the FPA modification request to the Technical Committee for consideration.

Policy F Packaged Plants

While Central Ohio includes several small wastewater treatment “package” plants that are owned and managed by commercial enterprises or mobile home parks, this 208 Planning Policy is focused on publicly owned wastewater treatment works.

Appendix 1: Designated Management Agencies and Seat Allocation

Designated Management Agency	Permitted Capacity (MGD)	Group	Members
City of Columbus	182	County Sanitary Engineer or City Equivalent	5 Permanent Members
Delaware County	16.4		
City of Marysville	8		
Fairfield County Utilities	4.6		
**Licking County			
Lancaster (2 facilities)	14	Large (> 3.0 – 5.0 MGD)	1 Member on rotation and self-selected
Delaware City	10		
Newark	8		
Licking Regional Water District	4.5		
Pickerington	3.2		
Canal Winchester	2.48	Medium (>1.01 – 3.0 MGD)	2 Members on rotation and self-selected
Heath	2.25		
Buckeye Lake	2		
Hebron	1.5		
Johnstown	1.2		
Sunbury	1.125		
Pataskala	1.1		
Baltimore	1.01		
Granville	0.911	Small (0.1 – 1.0 MGD)	2 Members on rotation and self-selecting
Galena	0.5		
Franklin County (Darbydale)	0.45		
Utica	0.423		
Walnut Creek Sewer District (Pleasantville & Thurston)	0.4		



Richwood	0.38		
Bremen	0.336		
Millersport	0.302		
Ashley	0.19		
Hanover	0.16		
Stoutsville/Tarlton	0.125		
Union County (2 facilities)	0.125		
Kirkersville	0.1		
**Aqua Ohio	2.73	Smaller & Private Entities (< 0.1)	
Ostrander	0.09		
Alexandria	0.08		
Sugar Grove	0.07		
Hartford	0.06		

** Licking County stakeholders will determine the entity that will represent the County in the 5 permanent seat category. The selected entity will not be eligible for selection in the other categories.

**DMAs with ADF below 0.1 are ineligible for representation on the Technical Committee but will be engaged in additional DMA meetings.


**PUCO regulated entities while included in the list of DMAs are ineligible to participate in the Technical Committee but will be engaged in additional DMA meetings.



Appendix 2: Facility Planning Area (FPA) Modification Request Packet and Guidelines

The Designated Management Agency (DMA) must submit the following applicable information to propose an FPA modification:


- A. Applicant Information – DMA Name, Contact Person's Name, Telephone Number, Email Address and Mailing Address
- B. Proposed FPA Modification Description
 - a. Location
 - b. Current FPA and DMAs

- 
- c. Proposed FPA and DMAs
 - d. Current Prescriptions for Wastewater Treatment (Prescriptions)
 - e. Proposed Prescriptions
 - f. Map(s) of proposed change(s)
 - g. List of all parcels by number, wholly or partially, within the modification area
 - h. Total acres within the modification area
- C. Why is an FPA Modification Needed? Address the following questions (when applicable):
- a. Is the current DMA unable or unwilling to extend service to the amendment area?
 - b. Does the current DMA have conditions to extend service that are unacceptable?
 - c. Does an alternative sewerage plan exist that:
 - i. Protects the environment?
 - ii. Is technically achievable?
 - iii. Is economically justifiable?
 - iv. Has the support of the affected local governments?
 - d. Is there conveyance and treatment capacity within the existing sewerage system to accept the wastewater flow from the modification request area?
 - e. Does the FPA modification request conform to sanitary sewer agreements or similar wastewater treatment agreements for the area?
- D. Development Impacts
- a. Is the modification request primarily for new construction (residential or commercial)?
 - b. Is the modification request area within a U.S. Census Bureau urban area?
 - c. Estimate of the number of new homes or structures proposed for construction
 - d. Estimate the amount of new sanitary sewer infrastructure to serve the requested modification area (e.g. linear feet of gravity sewers, linear feet of force main sewers, number of pump stations, etc.).
 - e. Is the proposed sanitary sewer infrastructure expansion part of an asset management plan?
 - f. Estimate the projected capacity impacts to the transportation system that may result from the proposed developments.
- E. Notification Efforts
- a. List of all affected jurisdictions within the proposed modification area, including other DMAs, cities, villages and townships.
 - b. Summary of the affected jurisdictions comment period, including any comment letters (see the template below) received or relevant information on the date of contact.
- F. Miscellaneous
- a. Historical Information
 - b. Previous FPA modification requests for the area
 - c. Other pertinent information
- G. Submittal
- a. Applicants should mail the FPA modification request packet to MORPC's Executive Director.
 - b. Applicants should also submit an electronic version to MORPC Water & Natural Resources staff.

DRAFT

Appendix 2a: Facility Planning Area (FPA) Minor Modification Process



- a. A DMA notifies MORPC staff of its desire to modify an FPA.
- b. MORPC staff inform the DMA of its FPA modification process, required documentation, affected jurisdictions, and other pertinent information detailed in the FPA Modification Request Packet and Guidelines (Appendix 2).

- 
- c. The DMA submits an FPA Modification Request Packet and Guidelines to MORPC.
 - d. MORPC staff conduct Consistency Review of the DMA's request (see Policy E).
 - e. *MORPC staff prepare a minor FPA modification summary and decision, and forwards said summary and recommendation to the Chief Regional Planning Officer of the Agency for approval.
 - f. Minor modifications will be included as agenda items to be reported on to the Technical Committee.

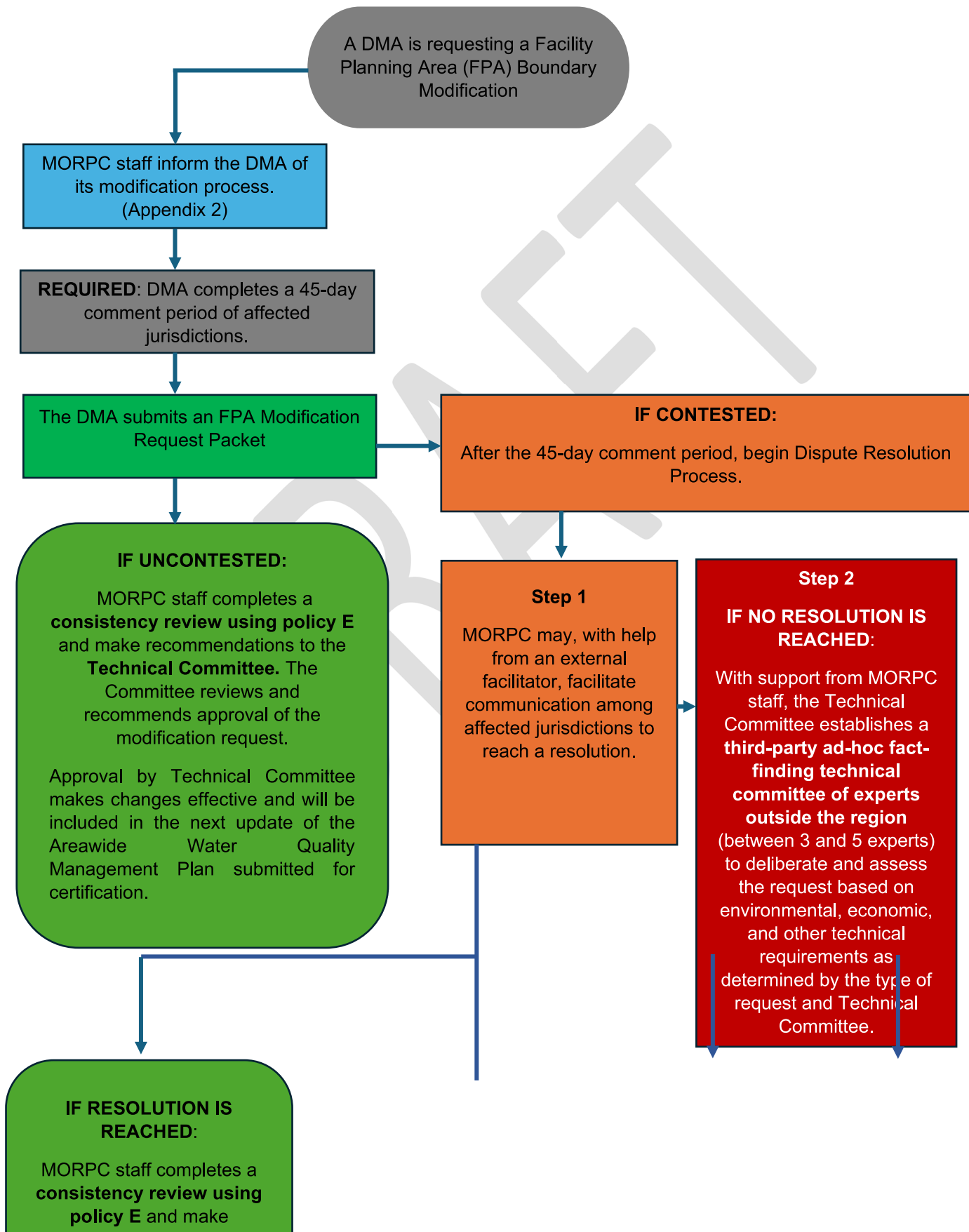
DRAFT

Appendix 2b: Facility Planning Area (FPA) Major Modification Process

- a. A DMA notifies MORPC staff of its desire to modify an FPA.
- b. MORPC staff inform the DMA of its FPA modification process, required documentation, affected jurisdictions, and other pertinent information detailed in the FPA Modification Request Packet and Guidelines (Appendix 2).

- 
- c. The DMA initiates and completes the maximum 45 calendar-day comment period for affected jurisdictions.
 - d. The DMA submits an FPA Modification Request Packet and Guidelines to MORPC.
 - e. MORPC staff conduct Consistency Review of the DMA's request (see Policy E).
 - f. If there is no agreement among the affected jurisdictions, MORPC will attempt to organize a meeting(s) with the jurisdictions to reach consensus.
 - g. MORPC staff prepare an FPA modification summary and staff recommendation to the MORPC Technical Committee to begin the review and approval process. The process follows the steps in Appendix 3 below.
- 

Appendix 3: Flowchart showing the process(es) when a major FPA Boundary modification is requested



Recommendations from third-party ad-hoc fact-finding technical committee will be relayed to the affected jurisdictions, **and if a consensus is reached,**

MORPC staff completes a **consistency review using policy E** and make recommendations to the **Technical Committee.**

The Committee reviews and recommends approval of the modification request.

Approval by Technical Committee makes changes effective and will be included in the next update of the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan submitted for certification.

Recommendations from the third-party ad-hoc fact-finding technical committee will be relayed to the affected jurisdictions and **if a consensus is not reached,** the Technical Committee will be notified.

The Technical Committee may recommend renegotiations or recommend legal recourse at the expense of the affected jurisdictions.



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: Jessica Kuenzli
Chief Regional Planning Officer & Sr. Director of Planning

DATE: March 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 05-25: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) to become a Regional Engagement Partner for the Charging Smart program”**

In March, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) submitted an application to the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) to become a Regional Engagement Partner for the Charging Smart program. As a Regional Engagement Partner, MORPC would support local governments in Central Ohio to adopt best practices related to electric vehicle charging and help them achieve Charging Smart designation of either bronze, silver or gold. Focus areas covered by the program include planning, regulation, government operations, education and incentives, utility engagement, and shared mobility. As a Regional Engagement Partner, MORPC staff would work with IREC to lead a cohort of communities through the program. If selected, MORPC would receive funding of up to \$50,000 to cover personnel and administrative costs.

Notice of selection is anticipated to occur mid-April, with work beginning in May. The program period is anticipated to last approximately ten months through February of 2026. Given the timing, this resolution is being submitted pre-emptively in order to enter into contract with IREC, if selected.

Attachment: Resolution 05-25

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Interim Chair

Michelle Crandall
Interim Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Interim Secretary

RESOLUTION 05-25

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) to become a Regional Engagement Partner for the Charging Smart program”

WHEREAS, if selected, the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) seeks to contract with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to act as a Regional Engagement Partner to support local governments in the region to adopt electric vehicle charging best practices and achieve Charging Smart designation; now therefore

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

- Section 1. That the executive director is authorized to enter into an agreement with IREC for up to twelve months to serve as a Regional Engagement Partner of the Charging Smart program with grant funds totaling up to \$50,000.
- 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 10, 2025
Submitted by: Jessica Kuenzli, Chief Regional Planning Officer
Prepared by: Jessica Kuenzli, Chief Regional Planning Officer
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: April 10, 2025



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: March 13, 2025
Time: 2:26 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

LaGrieta Acheampong	Pam Hykes O'Grady	Mike Schadek
Chris Amorose Groomes	James Jewell	Kim Sharp
Michelle Crandall	Emily Keeler	Sloan Spalding
David Efland	Ben Kessler	Joe Steager
Shane Farnsworth	Bill LaFayette	Christie Ward
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Holly Mattei	Andrew Williams
Adam Fowler	Steve Mazer	
Dave Gulden	Rory McGuinness	

Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

Barry Adler	Daryl Hennessy	Elissa Schneider
Michael Bivens	Rebecca Hermann	Alana Shockey
Lee Bodnar	Christine Houk	Chloe Siens-Núñez
Paul Brake	Laurie Jadwin	Cindy Wengerter
Greg Butcher	Jamie Leeseberg	Tim Wilson
Ben Collins	Dave Medley	Kenneth Wright
Jennifer Fening	Erin Prosser	
Jeremiah Gracia	Eric Richter	

Commission Members Present in Person

Joe Antram	Greg Fitzpatrick	RC Wise
Jamie Brucker	Haley Lupton	

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Joe Allen	Jeff Hall	Eric Phillips
Chase Bennett	Drenda Keese	Nick Shultz
Chasilyn Carter	Mark Mauter	Matt Starr
Terry Emery	Tom McCarthy	Hannah Wynne
Bill Habig	Bill Narducci	

Associate Members Present in Person

Joe Lombardi

Associate Members Attending Remotely

Kristin Sutton

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Parag Agrawal	Aubrey Hauter	Kyle Probert
Steve Armstrong	Shawn Hufstedler	Raj Roy
Todd Bradley	Jessica Keunzli	Padmini Roy-Dixon
Dave Dixon	Eileen Leuby	Shari Saunders
Preston Frick	Yan Liu	Maria Schaper
Matika Fields	Kelsey Matson	Edwina Teye
Joe Garrity	Amanda McEldowney	Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Tom Graham	Shelby Oldroyd	Karina Peggau
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Guests Present in Person

Dan Brinkman, City of Mount Vernon

Grace Byler, Morrow County

Anna Defendiefer, OSU CRP
Ben Kepple, City of Westerville
Matt McCollister, One Columbus

Cornell Robertson, The Mannik & Smith Group
Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Guests Attending Remotely

Mike Anderson, AECOM
Andrew Beare, City of Delaware
Caitlin Bowman, Village of Hebron
Daniel Johnson, FHWA

Thomas Merritt, Dynotec Engineering
Jim Oliver, GLCAP
Brent Welch, FCEO

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

Chair Chris Amorose Grooms called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:26 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Development Officer

Parag Agrawal presented the [Metropolitan Planning Organization Report](#) noting two items on the consent agenda. Resolution T-2-25 is the quarterly amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The resolution adds or modifies six transit projects in the 2024-2027 TIP. Resolution T-3-25 adopts MORPC's Attributable Funds commitment of \$52 million in new commitments for seven projects and \$23 million additional funds for outstanding commitments in Central Ohio. Mr. Agrawal thanked members of the Attributable Funds Committee and MORPC Team Members Tom Graham and Shelby Oldroyd for their work on the proposed recommendation.

In the fall, the Transportation Policy Committee approved recommendations to present to the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC). On February 26, ODOT shared draft TRAC recommendations. Of the five projects MORPC requested funding for, two are being recommended for funding.

MORPC's Technical Assistance Programs offers technical assistance to member communities to enhance bike and pedestrian infrastructure. MORPC Team Members created a [dashboard](#) to showcase the projects funded by the program. The dashboard features an interactive map that can sort projects by project type, community type, etc.

MORPC Team Members created a focused Gohio Commute return to work campaign to encourage the 50,000 workers in Franklin County to consider alternative modes of transportation when they return to the office this spring and summer. The campaign promotes carpooling, vanpooling, riding transit, and biking to work. The campaign runs May 1-June 30.

MORPC is launching a Regional Economic Development Academy this summer. Mr. Agrawal asked members to take the survey provided at the back of the room to determine what courses and what frequency members would like to see in the academy. The survey will be sent to members tomorrow.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundary Expansion – Maria Schaper, MORPC Transportation Study Director

Maria Schaper gave a presentation on [Adopting the MORPC MPO Boundary](#) that proposes expanding the MPO boundary to include the Village of Plain City and the City of Johnstown, effective July 1. The expansion incorporates the communities into the metropolitan planning process.

LaGrieta Acheampong made a motion to approve Resolution T-4-25, second by Mike Schadek; motion passed.

Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda

Emily Keeler made a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by James Jewell; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Ben Kessler, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: March 13, 2025
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Commission Members Present in Person

LaGrieta Acheampong	Adam Fowler	Rory McGuinness
Chris Amorose Grooms	Dave Gulden	Mike Schadek
Joe Antram	Pam Hykes O'Grady	Sloan Spalding
Jamie Brucker	James Jewell	Joe Steager
Michelle Crandall	Emily Keeler	Christie Ward
David Efland	Ben Kessler	Andrew Williams
Shane Farnsworth	Bill LaFayette	RC Wise
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Haley Lupton	
Greg Fitzpatrick	Steve Mazer	

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Barry Adler	Bill Habig	Eric Phillips
Joe Allen	Jeff Hall	Erin Prosser
Chase Bennett	Daryl Hennessy	Eric Richter
Michael Bivens	Rebecca Hermann	Elissa Schneider
Lee Bodnar	Christine Houk	Alana Shockey
Paul Brake	Laurie Jadwin	Nick Shultz
Greg Butcher	Drenda Keesee	Chloe Siens-Núñez
Chasilyn Carter	Jamie Leeseberg	Matt Starr
Ben Collins	Mark Mauter	Tim Wilson
Terry Emery	Tom McCarthy	Kenneth Wright
Jennifer Fening	Dave Medley	Hannah Wynne
Jeremiah Gracia	Bill Narducci	

Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending In Person

Holly Mattei	Kim Sharp
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Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

Cindy Wengerter

Associate Members Present in Person

Joe Lombardi

Associate Members Attending Remotely

Kristin Sutton

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Parag Agrawal	Aubrey Hauter	Kyle Probert
Steve Armstrong	Shawn Hufstedler	Raj Roy
Todd Bradley	Jessica Keunzli	Padmini Roy-Dixon
Dave Dixon	Eileen Leuby	Shari Saunders
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Matika Fields	Kelsey Matson	Edwina Teye
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Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	Robert Williams

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Tom Graham	Shelby Oldroyd	Karina Peggau
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Guests Present in Person

Dan Brinkman, City of Mount Vernon
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Cornell Robertson, The Mannik & Smith Group

Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Guests Attending Remotely

Mike Anderson, AECOM
Andrew Beare, City of Delaware
Caitlin Bowman, Village of Hebron
Daniel Johnson, FHWA

Thomas Merritt, Dynotec Engineering
Jim Oliver, GLCAP
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 Anna Defendiefer from OSU CRP and Dan Brinkman, Auditor for the City of Mount Vernon.

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

William Murdock gave the [Executive's Director Report](#) and shared he is grateful for several things today: to the Logan County Commissioners for sharing their story following last year's tragedy; for today's presentation on a major economic development; that his mentee is here today viewing her first Commission meeting; and for Joe Garrity who is at the Statehouse testifying on behalf of the region.

Mr. Murdock emphasized the ongoing efforts of the Regional Housing Coalition, highlighting that MORPC has worked on housing issues for many years. Robert Williams and the Residential Services Team stabilized over 2,000 homes in the last five years and achieved two state policy wins resulting in millions of dollars for housing assistance. The Coalition continues to support housing efforts across the region.

The Midwest Connect passenger rail study continues to advance. Step 1 was submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration, and stakeholders anticipate starting Step 2 in the summer. State support is critical for the project's progress. Several communities have committed match funding.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee will share lots of work going on in water and sewer. The 208 Process Review Committee made a recommendation today. Mr. Murdock is grateful for the leadership of Tom Homan, Edwina Teye, and Brandi Whetstone.

The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) is transitioning to become an independent regional agency, working with the City of Columbus and MORPC on a transition committee. The change is necessitated by updates to Ohio Medicaid. The COAAA serves eight counties (Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, and Union) and aims to elevate services for older residents across the region. COAAA Director Katie White used to be at MORPC when we worked on the Age-Friendly Columbus initiative.

Mr. Murdock noted the importance of monitoring federal funds and shared that MORPC is tracking over 30 federal programs for changes, grant applications, and funding commitments. The electric vehicle charging repair grant is moving forward, benefiting several communities.

MORPC is applying to lead a cohort of local governments through the Charging Smart Designation Program, aimed at building out the EV charging network for our region. If awarded, MORPC will

provide free technical assistance to communities including implementing policies and best practices, cutting deployment costs, and streamlining processes. Brian Filiatraut is the MORPC project lead.

Mr. Murdock introduced a new feature, the Map of the Month, to showcase some of MORPC's most interesting data and mapping resources. This month's interactive map, the [Roundabouts Dashboard](#), shows where all existing and future roundabouts are located.

The Grant of the Month is Ohio's Urban Forestry Grant Program investing in long-term growth and development of local urban and community forestry programs.

The Member Benefit of the Month is the Rural Forum Series which engage in different topics important to our rural and outlying communities. Mr. Murdock thanked the communities hosting the upcoming forums.

Mr. Murdock noted the Events Card at each table for you to take with you.

MORPC Team Members are attending several state of the city, state of the county, state of the township, and other regional meetings. If your community is not on the list, let us know so we can attend.

The March 21 State of the Region is sold out with close to 1,000 people registered and record sponsorship. The keynote speaker is Bruce Katz, author of *The New Localism*. We are excited that member attendance is well over 50 percent. Mr. Murdock applauded Amanda McEldowney and the MORPC Team for their work on the event.

Logan County Storm Recovery – Joe Antram, Logan County Commissioner and Greg Fitzpatrick, Logan County Commissioner

Logan County Commissioners Joe Antram and Greg Fitzpatrick presented an update on the [Logan County Storm Recovery](#). Commissioner Antram described the immediate response to the tornado, emphasizing the critical role of local leaders and the importance of having an EMA group with a pre-established plan. Commissioner Fitzpatrick highlighted the significant volunteer support received. The community also received numerous physical donations requiring careful management and distribution. Long term recovery efforts include the formation of all volunteer committees to address various rebuilding aspects. The recovery process is ongoing, with some areas still vacant and in need of planning and development. Commissioners Antram and Fitzpatrick expressed gratitude for the support received from neighboring communities, the state, the nation, and even internationally. They are optimistic about the future, planning to rebuild stronger and better.

Bylaws Committee – Haley Lupton (Village of Plain City), Bylaws Committee Chair

Haley Lupton provided an update on the Bylaws Committee. The first committee meeting was February 13 and included orientation to the governance structure and the intention to change only the Bylaws, not the Articles of Agreement. The next meeting on March 25 focuses on committee updates and later meetings focus on administrative updates.

Sustainability Advisory Committee – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), MORPC Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair

Ben Kessler presented the [Sustainability Advisory Committee Report](#). The Central Ohio Water Study Workshop is coming in May, following the completion of the study in February. Deliverables, including an interactive dashboard, tutorials on how to use the dashboard, 15-county summary findings, individual county report-out videos, PowerPoints, and pdfs along with a gap analysis and proposed projects to fill potential gaps, will be available online by the end of March.

The Sustaining Scioto Board is expanding its scope to the 15-county region and will be renamed the Regional Water Advisory Council (RWAC). The RWAC will provide leadership in planning, management, and stewardship of regional water sources. New members are being sought for the council.

Upcoming Sustainability Advisory Committee Meetings are March 19 at Grandview Heights Park and Recreation and June 18 at Del-Co Water.

- **Annual Air Quality Report – Brandi Whetstone, MORPC Director of Sustainability**
Brandi Whetstone presented the [Air Quality Program Update](#). MORPC released the annual [Central Ohio Air Quality End of Season Report](#) which summarized air quality in the Columbus region from October 2023-November 2024, focusing on ground-level ozone and particulate matter (PM) pollution. The region experienced three air quality alerts last year, down from the previous year. The majority of days were in the “good” air quality category. U.S. EPA adopted a stricter PM standard effective May 6, 2024. Central Ohio is currently in attainment with federal standards and is expected to remain so even with the stricter standard. The report highlights the importance of ongoing monitoring and community action to maintain and improve the region’s air quality.
- **Proposed Resolution 01-25: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) regarding recently awarded Pedestrian/Bike Special Solicitation Grant Program funding and enter into related subcontracts” – Jessica Kuenzli, MORPC Chief Regional Planning Officer**
Jessica Kuenzli presented information on [Proposed Resolution 01-25](#) regarding the \$325,000 grant awarded by ODOT enabling MORPC to update the regional bikeways map. The project includes a bike level stress map, a 15-county trail map, and a website template for communities participating in the trail towns program. The grant also funds a safety analysis using AI technology. The technology will assess video imagery to identify potential hazards.

Emily Keeler made a motion to approve Resolution 01-25, second by Ben Kessler; motion passed.

Regional Policy Roundtable – Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations

Joe Garrity presented the [Regional Policy Roundtable Update](#). The Roundtable met February 18 and heard an update on homelessness from YWCA’s Liz Brown and Lutheran Social Service’s Rachel Lustig. James Coyne, State Director for Senator Bernie Moreno, focused on how the senator wants to partner with local governments to bring investment back to the region and state. The next meeting is May 20.

- **Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations**
Joe Garrity and Steve Tugend gave the legislative update highlighting the following:
 - Federal budget deadline and continuing resolution
 - Operating budget testimony
 - Transportation budget – RTPD and passenger rail funding
 - Short-term rental bills
 - Municipal bond tax exemptions
 - Transportation Improvement Districts
 - Central Ohio Defense Group – concerned about layoffs in the defense industry

Transportation Policy Committee – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair

Chair Amorose Groomes called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:26 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:44 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Commission Consent Agenda

Joe Antram made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Shawn Farnsworth; motion passed.

Regional Development Update: Anduril – Matt McCollister, One Columbus Executive Vice President

Matt McCollister gave the [Regional Development Update](#) discussing recent large-scale projects, including the Anduril project, which is bringing 4,000 jobs and \$900 million in capital investment to the region. Mr. McCollister highlighted the growth of the life sciences sector and the region's pipeline of active projects.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Ben Kessler, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Memorandum

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

FROM: Parag Agrawal, AICP
Chief Mobility and Development Officer

DATE: March 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 02-25: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with and receive funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) through the recently awarded Pedestrian/Bike Special Solicitation Grant Program”**

In February 2025, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) applied for and was awarded \$136,400 in funding through the Ohio Department of Transportation’s (ODOT) Pedestrian/Bike Special Solicitation Grant Program.

This funding will be used to develop an active transportation plan for the U.S. 23 corridor to complement the concepts identified in the Route 23 Connect Preliminary Feasibility Study. This plan is intended to inform future evaluation of those concepts as implementation progresses. The MORPC team is collaborating with ODOT District 6 staff to complete this planning process.

The Rt-23 Active Transportation Plan will accomplish the following:

- Outline the regional vision, goals, and strategies needed to support safe, convenient, and accessible active transportation options.
- Document the current state of walking and biking within a 1.5-mile radius of the U.S. 23 corridor between I-270 and Waldo (see study area map).
- Identify programs, policies, and infrastructure improvements to meet the needs of people walking and biking along and across the U.S. 23 corridor.

It is anticipated that the plan will be completed by December of 2025.

Attachment: Resolution 02-25

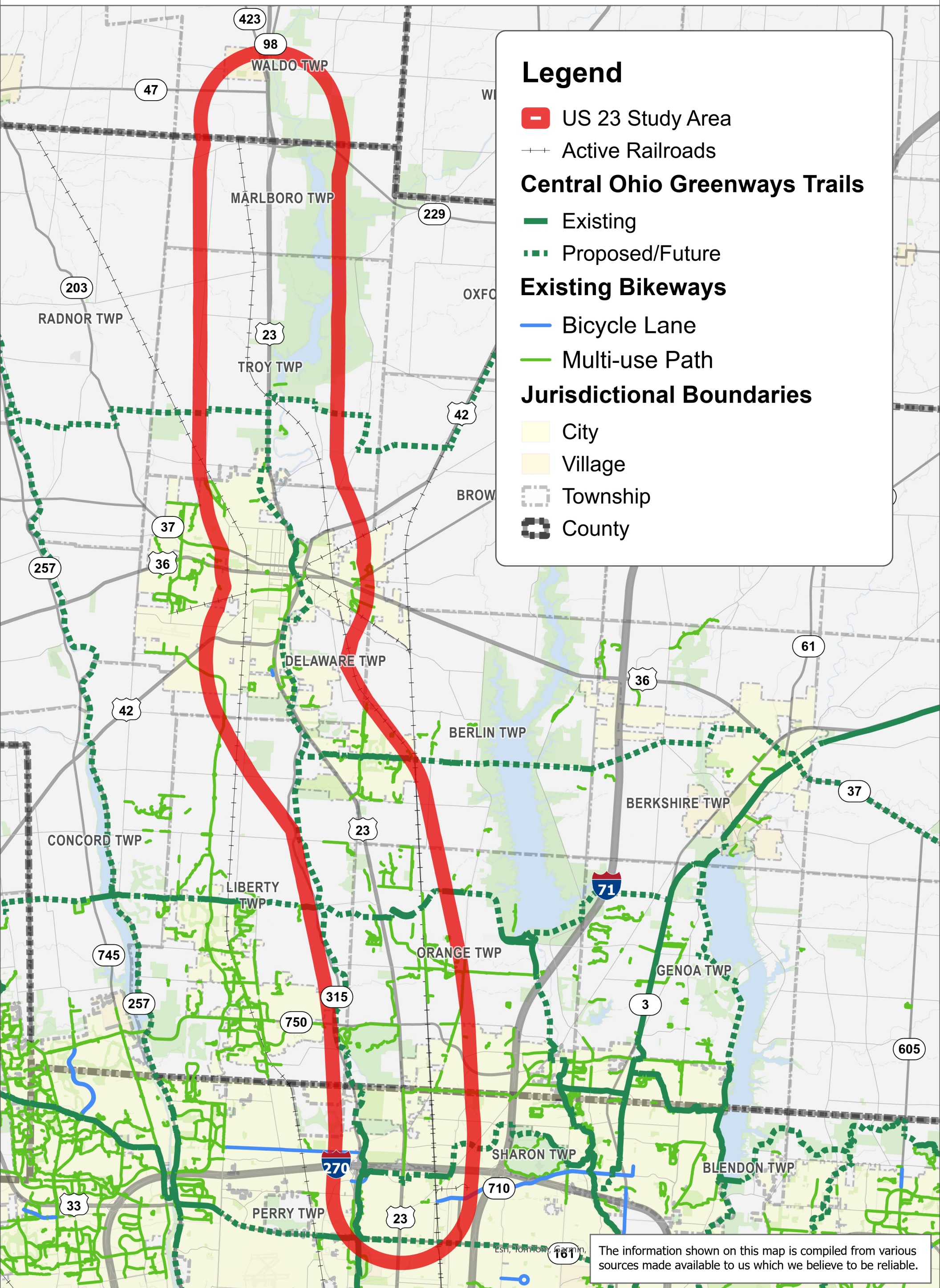
William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

US 23 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION STUDY AREA



RESOLUTION 02-25

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with and receive funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) through the recently awarded Pedestrian/Bike Special Solicitation Grant Program”

WHEREAS, ODOT seeks to contract with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to develop a plan for active transportation facilities along and adjacent to the U.S. 23 corridor that will complement the concepts identified in Rt-23 Connect Draft Preliminary Feasibility Study; and

WHEREAS, the MORPC Metropolitan Planning Organization State Fiscal Year 2025 Planning Work Program (PWP) will be amended to include the US-23 Active Transportation Study; and

WHEREAS, the services performed pursuant to this contract will be conducted by MORPC staff in collaboration with ODOT District 6 and local stakeholders; now therefore

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

- Section 1. That the executive director is authorized to enter into an agreement with ODOT and accept ODOT Pedestrian/Bike Special Solicitation grant funds for up to \$136,400.
- 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 10, 2025
Submitted by: Parag Agrawal, Chief Mobility and Development Officer
Prepared by: Lauren Cardoni, Active Transportation and Safety Program Manager
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: April 10, 2025



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Memorandum

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

FROM: Joseph Garrity
Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations

DATE: March 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 03-25: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the City of Columbus regarding the coordination and development of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging’s new Regional Council of Governments and enter into related subcontracts”**

The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA), currently hosted by the City of Columbus, provides services to older adults and people with disabilities across the Central Ohio region. COAAA is transitioning to a regional model and asked MORPC for assistance to set up the transition committee and process. MORPC will assist in the coordination and development of the new Regional Council of Governments (R-COG) by 2026.

Through an evaluation of COAAA’s operations and governance structure, barriers to COAAA’s capacity to support consumers, staff, providers, and partners from within the current governance structure were uncovered. Through conversations with City leadership, the regionalization of COAAA has been identified as the path forward to ensure the agency effectively represents the interests of the eight-county region and the older adults and people with disabilities the agency serves. In order to facilitate this transition, COAAA seeks to enter into a partnership with MORPC to develop a new entity with the capacity to maintain COAAA operations without interruption, provide competitive benefits to staff, and position the organization for the future.

MORPC would provide support to COAAA such as:

- Create an Ad Hoc committee to focus on the creation of an R-COG with a focus on gaining input and guidance from key stakeholders
- Assist with the development of a plan of action to establish the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging R-COG by October 1, 2025
- Lead engagement with stakeholders at the County and State level
- Engage Bricker Graydon, LLP to provide legal and technical support for R-COG development

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

- Coordinate with regional stakeholders to conduct in-person/virtual meetings
- Meet with COAAA leadership regularly to coordinate and plan Ad Hoc meetings and R-COG development
- Provide technical support

MORPC has the capacity to assist and has identified current team members to provide primary support for this engagement.

Attachment: Resolution 03-25

RESOLUTION 03-25

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the City of Columbus regarding the coordination and development of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging’s new Regional Council of Governments and enter into related subcontracts”

WHEREAS, the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) provides services to older adults and people with disabilities across the Central Ohio region; and

WHEREAS, COAAA is transitioning operating within the City of Columbus to a stand-alone regional governance model by 2026; and

WHEREAS, COAAA asked MORPC for assistance to set up the transition committee and process; and

WHEREAS, MORPC will assist in the coordination and development of the new Regional Council of Governments that will assume the roles and responsibilities currently held by COAAA for the Central Ohio region; now therefore

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

- Section 1. That the executive director is authorized to enter into an agreement with the City of Columbus regarding the creation of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging Regional Council of Governments for up to \$150,370 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 10, 2025
Submitted by: Shawn Hufstedler, Chief Operating Officer
Prepared by: Shawn Hufstedler, Chief Operating Officer
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: April 10, 2025