



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 111  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)

## NOTICE OF A MEETING

### **CENTRAL OHIO BLUEWAYS USER EXPERIENCE WORKING GROUP**

#### **MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION HYBRID MEETING**

**September 26, 2024, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM**

## AGENDA

### **Welcome & Purpose**

- To review the SMART goals that were formed using the comments from the working group
- To understand how these SMART goals align with the other working group's SMART goals
- To identify the next steps

### **SMART Goal Review**

- The SMART goals were formed using a combination of the responses to the Microsoft Forms.
- The Goals are in chronological order based on the projected timelines starting with the Hazard Removal Consortium. This can also give some context into how this work ties in with the work of the other Blueways Working Groups.
- Hazard Removal Consortium
  - The group can try and have something in place – or at least well on its way – by the start of paddling season (May 2025).
  - It may also be a benefit to have something in place earlier on, so the option of joining the consortium is available for any communities who may be a part of Water Trail Partnerships to consider at the same time they're reviewing the possibility of designation.
- Signage Package
  - This goal has a completion timeline in October of 2025 so it could potentially be a part of the Water Trail Designation Partnership Agreements.
  - The Water Trail Partnership Working Group is planning to begin conversations with communities along the Big Walnut beginning in August, so the results of those

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Executive Director

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Chair

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Vice Chair

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Secretary

discussions – pertaining to signage – can be taken into account with this Group. If completed by October, staff should have language in the agreements related to signage and wayfinding. From a timing perspective, that's how these groups will overlap.

- Access Point Sponsor Program
  - This goal fell later in the timeline based on it being relatively unattached to other goals.
  - The Group could try and work out sponsorship program details by the end of 2025, so that it's in place for the 2026 paddling season.


### **Next Steps**

- Identify Hazard Removal Consortium Stakeholders
  - Members will send staff recommendations on who the main stakeholders are – or would be – for a Hazard Removal Consortium? Stakeholders would be potential groups who engage in hazard removal, environmental advocacy groups, operators/managers of access points, and any community abutting a waterway. Even though the Big Walnut is first for consideration of Water Trail Designation, the Consortium doesn't have to be limited to those stakeholders exclusively.

### **Adjourn**

*Please notify Karina Peggau at [kpeggau@morpc.org](mailto:kpeggau@morpc.org) to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance. The next User Experience Working Group Meeting is October 31, 2024 from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM.*

*This Meeting will be hybrid; details to follow.*



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
*Remote Meeting*

User Experience Working Group Meeting

September 26, 2024

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Members Present

- Elizabeth Ellman, City of Bexley
- Jon Tolbert, Experience Columbus

Staff Present

- Jonathan Miller
- Karina Peggau

Public Present

- Catherine Eichel, City of Gahanna



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## CENTRAL OHIO BLUEWAYS WATER TRAIL DESIGNATION WORKING GROUP

### SMART GOAL REVIEW

#### 1. Create a Signage Package

<i>SPECIFIC</i>	<i>Develop a signage package for use by communities that unifies the blueways system and strengthens the blueways brand.</i>
<i>MEASURABLE</i>	<i>Approval from community, nonprofit, and advocacy groups for inclusion in partnership agreements related to water trail designation.</i>
<i>ATTAINABLE</i>	
<i>RELEVANT</i>	<i>Will provide clear and safe access that enhances the trail experience</i>
<i>TIME-BOUND</i>	<i>August 2025</i>
<b>TOGETHER</b>	<b>By December of 2025, successfully complete a signage plan/package that has the support of community, nonprofit, and advocacy group stakeholders which communities can use to unify and strengthen the Central Ohio Blueway system and brand by promoting clear and safe access and enhances the trail experience.</b>

#### 2. Form a Hazard Removal Consortium

<i>SPECIFIC</i>	<i>Form a consortium of governmental agencies and community partners akin to a collective bargaining group to address and remove hazards from water trails</i>
<i>MEASURABLE</i>	<i>10 organizations with the capacity to financially contribute sign on to the consortium through MOUs and hazard removal contractors contacts in place.</i>
<i>ATTAINABLE</i>	

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<i>RELEVANT</i>	<i>Improving reliable safety and usage along waterways</i>
<i>TIME-BOUND</i>	<i>May 2025</i>
<b>TOGETHER</b>	<b>By May of 2025, create a hazard removal consortium which includes a minimum of ten (10) members from governmental agencies, nonprofits, or advocacy groups with the capacity to contribute financially to the identification and removal of waterway hazards in order to improve reliable safety and usage of Central Ohio's waterways.</b>

### 3. Create an Access Point Sponsorship Program

<i>SPECIFIC</i>	<i>Draft the programmatic details of an access point sponsorship program for new and existing access points to generate funding, ease maintenance responsibilities of communities, and increase the number of visitors</i>
<i>MEASURABLE</i>	<i>Obtain 10 sponsorship commitments and increased visitor within six months of program completion</i>
<i>ATTAINABLE</i>	
<i>RELEVANT</i>	<i>Increased funding, stewardship, and usage of the waterways aligns with the mission of Central Ohio Blueways</i>
<i>TIME-BOUND</i>	<i>December 2025</i>
<b>TOGETHER</b>	<b>By December of 2025, draft programmatic details and obtain ten (10) sponsorship commitments for an Access Point Sponsorship Program applicable to both new and existing access points in order to generate additional funding, ease the maintenance burdens of access point owners/operators, and increase the usage and awareness of waterway access points in Central Ohio</b>