



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)

**NOTICE OF A MEETING**  
**DATA FOR ACCESS & OPPORTUNITY WORKING GROUP**  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**111 Liberty Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215**

***IN-PERSON MEETING***  
**May 21, 2025, 10:00 am**

**AGENDA**

**Welcome & Introductions**

**MORPC Updates**

- **Securing our Energy Future**  
Dave Dixon shared that this ongoing series, led by the Sustainability Team, addresses future energy demands, especially from heavy manufacturing and data centers. The series explores behind-the-meter solutions, grid security, and coordination opportunities. The next session is scheduled for June 5.
- **Transportation Innovation Forum**  
Scheduled for June 4, this forum will feature regional and national experts discussing transportation trends and innovations. It is a collaboration between MORPC and Smart Columbus.
- **Economic Development Academy**  
Launching in August, this Academy targets local decision-makers and non-economic development professionals. It offers both individual sessions and a cumulative learning experience.
- **Insights Platform Launch**  
MORPC has consolidated its data and mapping resources into a single web portal. The platform allows users to access regional data, download charts, and compare geographies. It was developed with support from The Columbus Foundation and is intended to be a long-term, collaborative resource.

**Member & Sector Updates**

Member Masood shared updates about The Columbus Foundation's internal data initiatives, including transitioning to SharePoint and OneDrive, and developing internal metrics and scorecards. The transition has involved significant change management due to varying levels of tech familiarity among staff.

Member Miller discussed a project in collaboration between CURA and the New America Foundation and OSU's Justice Tech Program. The initiative focuses on eviction data infrastructure, aiming to map eviction trends, outcomes, and interventions. The CURA Team is

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Chris Amorose Groomes**  
Chair

**Michelle Crandall**  
Vice Chair

**Ben Kessler**  
Secretary

exploring correlations with other datasets like 311 requests and unsheltered homelessness counts.

### **VR Ghost Neighborhoods Project Demonstration**

Member Miller and Jordan Swaim-Fox presented the “Ghost Neighborhoods of Columbus” project, which reconstructs historically Black neighborhoods impacted by highways and urban renewal using Sanborn fire insurance maps, machine learning, and 3D modeling. The project includes detailed reconstructions of Hanford Village (1961) – Highlighting homes lost to I-70 construction, Poindexter Village (1940) – A public housing community with preserved buildings now being turned into a museum, and Mount Vernon Avenue (1951) – A vibrant commercial corridor before urban renewal.

Member Miller and Jordan demonstrated VR experiences that allow users to explore these neighborhoods immersively. Attendees tried VR headsets and shared emotional reactions, especially to Poindexter Village.

Future plans include enhancing automation to reduce modeling time, adding animated elements and silhouettes based on historical photos, integrating oral histories and resident quotes into the VR experience, and exploring AR applications for on-site historical overlays.

### **Connect Project Update**

Due to time constraints, the Connect Project update was deferred to the next meeting. Dave noted that the Group would have opportunities to engage with the project in the near future.

### **Adjourn**

**Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or [LKaufman@morpc.org](mailto:LKaufman@morpc.org) to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.**

**The next Data for Access & Opportunity Working Group Meeting  
Will be June 18, 2025, 10:00 am  
This Meeting will be held remotely; details to follow.**

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
*Remote Meeting*

Data for Access & Opportunity Working Group Meeting

May 21, 2025

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Members Present

Hena Masood, The Columbus Foundation  
Harvey Miller, OSU CURA

Staff Present

Dave Dixon  
Jessica Kuenzli  
Adam Porr

Public Present

Jordan Swaim Fox, OSU CURA