



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

NOTICE OF A MEETING SUSTAINABLE2050 MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 111 Liberty Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

HYBRID MEETING

May 22, 2025, 9:30 am

AGENDA

Welcome and Introduction

MORPC Program Updates

Regional Sustainability Agenda

Brandi Whetstone discussed the updates to the Regional Sustainability Agenda, including new goals on climate resilience, agriculture, and sustainable business practices. The agenda is updated every four years and is set to be finalized at the August 2025 Commission Meeting.

• Regional Water Study

Edwina Teye provided an update on the transition from the Sustaining Scioto Board to the Regional Water Advisory Council, focusing on water quality, reuse, and supply. She also discussed the completion of the Central Ohio Regional Water Study and the upcoming Riverfest event.

• Energy Forums and Program Updates

Energy Competitiveness Study

Brian Filiatraut discussed the Ohio Business Roundtable's Energy Competitiveness Study and the recent passage of House Bill 15, which aims to modernize energy infrastructure and ensure resilient, affordable, and reliable power supply.

Securing Our Energy Future

Brian also announced the Securing Our Energy Future series, a four-part energy forum focusing on energy resilience, current trends, funding resources, and future technologies.

Charging Smart Program

Brian introduced the Charging Smart Program, which aims to help communities become EVready by providing guidance and support for earning bronze, silver, or gold designations.

• Government Affairs & Policy

Kyle Probert provided updates on the state operating budget, including issues related to eminent domain, H2Ohio program cuts, Brownfields Funding, and passenger rail advocacy.

Chris Amorose Groomes Chair Michelle Crandall Vice Chair **Ben Kessler** Secretary

• Transportation Innovation Forum

Brandi announced that the Forum will be held June 4, featuring speakers and a keynote from the former director of the San Francisco Metro Transit Authority. Registration is available online and tickets are still available.

Pollution Prevention Assessments for Sustainable Facilities and Operations

Rachael Dininger, Ohio EPA, presented about the Pollution Prevention Assessments, a free service that helps organizations identify energy efficiency improvements, waste reduction opportunities, and recycling initiatives.

An Introduction to the Environmental and Social Sustainability Lab at Ohio State Jeremy Brooks and Ellen Eilers, Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources, discussed the Environmental & Social Sustainability Lab, which focuses on interdisciplinary research and partnerships to address environmental and social sustainability issues.

Member Updates

- Dave Celebrezze, City of Westerville, shared updates on the Westerville Green Challenge, rain garden restoration work, and the development of an internal sustainability dashboard.
- Sean Collins, SWACO, announced job openings and the launch of the Community Waste Reduction Grant.

Adjourn

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

The next Sustainabl2050 Meeting Will be August 28, 2025, at 9:30 am Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Hybrid Meeting

Sustainable2050 Meeting

May 22, 2025

Members Present

- Layla Abraham Franklin County Public Health
- Erin Beck, City of Columbus
- Jeremy Brooks, OSU Food, Agricultural, & Environmental Sciences
- David Celebrezze, City of Westerville
- Sean Collins, Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio
- Rachael Dininger, Ohio EPA
- Ellen Eilers, OSU Food, Agricultural, & Environmental Sciences
- Elizabeth Ellman, City of Bexley
- Jennifer Fish Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
- Maggie Heiser, Power a Clean Future Ohio
- Council Member Melanie Houston, City of Grandview Heights
- Blake Jordan, City of Delaware
- Justin Milam, City of Upper Arlington
- John Moorehead, City of Worthington
- Chelsea Nichols, City of New Albany
- Lisa Roberts, City of Delaware
- Linda Rosine, City of Grove City
- Mayor Christie Ward, Village of Lockbourne

Public Present

- Isabel, Intern at Ohio EPA
- Ashley Campbell, Licking Regional Water District
- Aria Crawford, Franklin County Engineer's Office
- Scott Perry Assistant Executive Director, SWACO
- Madison Strauss, City of Upper Arlington

Staff Present

- JR Diaz-Hernandez
- Brian Filiatraut
- Lynn Kaufman
- Jessica Kuenzli
- Kyle Probert
- Edwina Teye
- Brandi Whetstone

SUSTAINABLE2050 QUARTERLY MEETING

May 22, 2025



MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA



9:30 a.m. Welcome & Introductions – Brandi Whetstone, Director of Sustainability, MORPC

9:40 a.m. MORPC Program Updates – Brandi Whetstone

- Regional Sustainability Agenda Brandi Whetstone
- Regional Water Study Edwina Teye
- Energy Forums and Program Updates Brian Filiatraut
- Government Affairs & Policy Kyle Probert
- **10:00 a.m. Pollution Prevention Assessments for Sustainable Facilities and Operations** *T Rachael Dininger, Ohio EPA*
- **10:30 a.m. An Introduction to the Environmental and Social Sustainability Lab at Ohio State** – Jeremy Brooks and Ellen Eilers, Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources
- **10:45 a.m.** Member Updates *A*//
- 11:00 a.m. Adjourn

REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA UPDATE



MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

PROCESS



RSA Subcommittee has met six times since August 2024 -

- \checkmark Reviewed goals
- ✓ Added NEW goal centered on climate resilience
- ✓ Reviewed objectives
- ✓ Reviewed strategies
- ✓ Drafted Mission/Vision statement
- Produced draft for committee and stakeholder input



MISSION AND VISION

Mission

The Regional Sustainability Agenda unites Central Ohio and its communities around shared goals, fostering collaboration and innovation to ensure that sustainability benefits are accessible to all and drive lasting prosperity.

Vision

We envision a healthier, more resilient, and prosperous region – where public health is safeguarded, natural resources are preserved, communities are connected, and economic opportunities are sustainable. Our goal is a thriving future where both people and nature flourish, enhancing quality of life for all.







<text></text>	Goal 1: Improve air quality and reduce climate change impacts.	Objectives 1.1 Reduce per capita vehicle miles traveled. 1.2 Increase alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. 1.3 Reduce overall energy consumption and dependence on fossil fuels. 1.4 Increase local clean energy consumption	Specific Measurable Attainable Relevant Time Bound
		· · ·	
		particulate matter pollution.	



	Objectives
	2.1 Reduce the amount of solid waste disposed of in the landfill.
	2.2 Reduce water consumption.
Goal 2: Protect and restore natural	2.3 Improve water quality in Central Ohio watersheds.
resources.	2.4 Increase land area designated for conservation of biodiversity and natural resources.
	2.5 Support agricultural best management practices that enhance production and environmental quality.



	Objectives
	3.1 Improve transportation and mobility safety for all residents.
Goal 3: Advance healthy, connected, and safe communities.	3.2 Increase and enhance transportation options for all users.
	3.3 Increase access to parks, greenspace, and regional trails.
	3.4 Reduce household energy cost burden.
	3.5 Reduce the rate of elevated blood lead levels among children.
	3.6 Increase access to and knowledge about local foods and agricultural products.



	Objectives
	4.1 Increase support for businesses and
	institutions to develop and execute
	sustainability policies and practices.
Goal 4: Advance sustainable and	4.2 Prioritize sustainable development along
equitable economic growth and	existing infrastructure and encourage
development.	density.
	4.3 Increase employment in and availability
	of green jobs.
	4.4 Protect working agricultural lands.

NEW!



NEW!	Objectives	
		5.1 Increase preparedness for extreme weather events.
	Goal 5: Create communities that are aware, prepared, and resilient to climate impacts.	5.2 Increase community resilience to flooding, severe weather, and extreme temperatures.
		5.3 Create more resilient infrastructure and buildings.





WHAT ARE STRATEGIES?

Strategies are the "menu" of items that MORPC members can choose from when pursuing Sustainable2050 certification. Each objective contains several strategies that help move our region closer to achieving the overarching goal. There are 125 strategies proposed across the five goals.

Each strategy was reviewed closely to ensure it:

- 1. Addresses the goals and objectives.
- 2. Fills any gaps in the RSA.
- 3. Has ties to sustainability.
- 4. Is something local governments can implement.
- 5. Avoids repetition with other objectives or strategies.

STRATEGIES EXAMPLE



	1.1 Strategies
	a. Create development practices, policies, and incentives that
	minimize vehicle travel by promoting mixed-use and higher
Goal 1: Improve air	density development and shared or reduced parking among
quality and reduce	neighboring entities.
climate change	b. Adopt, implement, and as needed update, a Complete Streets
impacts.	Policy or Active Transportation Plan.
inipacts.	c. Encourage development in locations accessible by existing
	transit, multi-use paths, and sidewalks.
Objective 1.1:	d. Implement programs that reduce vehicle miles traveled and
Doduce ner conite	single occupant vehicle travel by focusing on sustainable modes
Reduce per capita	and mode-shift.
vehicle miles traveled.	e. Provide workplace incentives to encourage the use of
	sustainable modes of transportation including transit, biking,
	walking, and ridesharing.
	f. Create a telecommuting policy that supports both a diverse
	workplace and employee needs.

RESOURCES



- Designed to make objectives and strategies attainable.
- Draws upon resources and funding at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Features local initiatives that already exist, or successful case studies.

* If your organization provides a service or has a template, case study, or other resource that may be relevant to the Regional Sustainability Agenda, please let us know.



GOHIO COMMUTE: A ROBUST COMMUTING PLATFORM

Your commute to work can be so much more than fighting traffic. Gohio Commute, a program of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) will help you rethink your ride. Our platform equips

Trip Explorer

TIMELINE





RSA SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS



- Mike Shelton, OSU Sustainability Institute Chair
- Erin Beck, City of Columbus
- Elizabeth Ellman, City of Bexley
- Emily Goliver, City of Dublin
- Kristy Hawthorne, Licking Soil and Water Conservation District
- Scott Perry, SWACO
- Quentin Platt, City of Mount Vernon
- Connor Robb, Franklin County Emergency Management



REGIONAL WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE



MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

REGIONAL WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL (RWAC)





Central Ohio Watersheds

- Provide strategic leadership on water resources planning and management, addressing areas such as water supply, water reuse, and water quality in Central Ohio.
- Serving as an implementation body on regional projects including water quality, source water protection, etc.
- Comprised of members and stakeholders from the 15-county region.

CENTRAL OHIO REGIONAL WATER STUDY





Key Findings

- Current water volumes in the 15-county region are generally sufficient to meet current and anticipated drinking water demands.
- Projected residential and economic growth may require additional infrastructure investments in water and wastewater facilities and/or the advancement of water recycling strategies.



Scan the code to access the Central Ohio Regional Water Projection Dashboard

SAVE THE DATE RIVERFEST 2025





Join us at the Columbus Arts Festival for Riverfest! Enjoy free kayaking, paddle boarding, and canoeing for the entire family on a first come, first served basis. Safety vests will be provided.

Where: Bicentennial Park, Columbus, OH

When: June 7-8, 2025

Time: 11am – 4 p.m.









EDWINA TEYE, Ph.D.

Sr. Water & Natural Resources Prg. Mgr. **Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**

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ENERGY UPDATES

JUNE 5 ENERGY FORUM EVENT & CHARGING SMART GRANT AWARD

Sustainable2050 Meeting May 22, 2025

ENERGY COMPETITIVENESS STUDY MORPC Ohio Business Roundtable (OBRT) **6 OBRT Study Recommendations** All in HB 15 (sans #2) Gov. **1.** Implement Permitting and Siting Reform **DeWine signed into** law on 5/15, 2. Establish an Office of Energy Resilience 3. Establish Priority Investment Areas 4. Enhance and Clarify Frameworks for Behind-the-Meter Generation 2025 5. Reduce Regulatory Lag Energy Competitiveness 6. Promote the Deployment of Grid-Enhancing Technologies

JOIN US SECURING OUR ENERGY FUTURE

Informational and Workshop Forum Series

WHAT – A series of **informational webinars and workshops** featuring energy, regulatory, and economic development experts in Central Ohio.

WHO – These sessions will help **local government and community leaders** plan for a more secure, resilient, and affordable energy future for their communities.

▲ MAY 15 | Landscape of Energy Planning Focus: Big-Picture Challenges and Opportunities in Central Ohio

▲ JUNE 5 | Planning Energy Resilience for a High-Demand Future Focus: How to Set the Table and Open Your Community to Energy and Economic Opportunities

▲ JULY 10 | Funding and Resource Opportunities to Build Your Energy Stack Focus: What Is Available Now to Help with Energy Planning and Energy Projects?

▲ **AUGUST 27** | Emerging Energy Technologies and Future-Proofing the Region Focus: What's on the Energy Horizon?

REGISTER TODAY



For more information, contact Brian Filiatraut, <u>bfiliatraut@morpc.org</u>.



June 5, 9AM – 1PM

Securing Our Energy Future: Planning Energy Resilience for a High-Demand Future

KEY TOPICS

- Impacts of large-scale energy users (data centers, industrial parks)
- How energy production/consumption intersects with land use
- Ohio's HB 15 industrial microgrid framework
- Strategies to align energy resilience with economic opportunity
- Tools to integrate energy planning







SOLSMART IN MORPC COMMUNITIES



A national, **no-cost** technical assistance & designation program designed to recognize local governments for spurring solar market growth by increasing transparency and access.



For more info, visit the <u>solsmart.org/</u>.

Community	Designation
City of Bexley	Gold
City of Columbus	Gold
City of Delaware	Bronze
City of Dublin	Silver
City of Hilliard	Bronze
City of Lancaster	Gold
City of Upper Arlington	Gold
Franklin County	Bronze
MORPC	Silver
Village of Somerset	Bronze

CHARGING SMART

Charging Smart provides **free** technical assistance and national recognition to local governments to facilitate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging for their community.



For more info, visit the energy-ready.org/charging-smart.



6 Action Categories



EVS + EV INFRASTRUCTURE Interesting Nexus of Where Energy Planning Is Going



1. Grid Flexibility & Load Management

2. Emissions Offset & Decarbonization

3. Smart Infrastructure Synergies / Co-location

4. Economic & Workforce Benefits

5. Innovation & Clean Tech Ecosystem

THANK YOU

BRIAN FILIATRAUT



Senior Program Manager, Energy and Sustainability Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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2025 | Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission





GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & POLICY UPDATE

Kyle Probert Public Policy Coordinator, MORPC



Wednesday, June 4



Transportation Innovation Forum: Smart Moves. Efficient Solutions.

Join MORPC and partners for the 2025 Transportation Innovation Forum where we will hear from experts in transportation.



Date and time

Wednesday, June 4 · 12 - 4:30pm EDT

Location

9

Vitria on the Square

14 East 15th Avenue #2nd Floor Columbus, OH 43201 Show map ↓

Refund Policy

Refunds up to 10 days before event

About this event

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Event lasts 4 hours 30 minutes

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and partners will host the Transportation Innovation Forum: Smart Moves. Efficient Solutions. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm at The Ohio State University, Vitria on the Square.

The forum will provide a platform for an engaging conversation on innovative transportation systems. The forum will consists of two plenary sessions and three breakout sessions focused on innovation in the public sector, multi-modal transportation, and supply chain and freight management.

Agenda:

12:00 p.m. - Lunch & Networking

1:00 p.m. - Opening Plenary Session with keynote Jeff Tumlin

2.00 n m - Break

From \$28.52

4:30 p.m. - Reception

For addiitonal information or to sponsor the Transportation Innovation Forum, please contact Amanda McEldowney at amceldowney@morpc.org.

Invoicing: To select to pay by invoic, click "Show other payment options" beneath the green "Order Now" button and then click "Pay Offline". Payment is due within 30 days after receiving the invoice.

Please make checks payale to: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and mail to: MORPC 111 Liberty St. Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43215.

Cancellation and Refund Policy: No Refunds will be processed after May 23, 2025 at 5:00 pm. After this time, ticket purchases are not refundable, but you may designate a substitute guest by contacting Amanda McEldowney at amceldowney@morpc.org. Tags



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Pollution Prevention Assessments for Sustainable Facilities and Operations

Rachael Dininger, Environmental Specialist III Ohio EPA



Pollution Prevention (P2)

P2 means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal.



Pollution Prevention (P2)



- Preferred waste reduction option
- Fewer impacts to human health and environment
- Cost effective
- Relevant to most industries,



P2 Examples









Reducing water use

Using less toxic cleaners, degreasers, etc. Reducing process

waste



Reusing items instead of disposing of them



Pollution Prevention Services



On-Site Assessments:

- Free, non-regulatory site visits
- Identify improvements for energy efficiency, waste reduction, water use reduction, recycling opportunities, and more
- No obligation to implement solutions
- Extensive written report of findings
- Continued support from OEPA staff



Pollution Prevention Past Examples



- Organizations we have assisted:
 - Pharmaceutical manufacturer
 - Automotive manufacturer
 - Ice cream shop
 - Private university
 - Aerospace research facility
 - Potato chip manufacturer
 - Local watershed conservancy district
 - MORPC!!



Example Recommendations

- Waste assessments and improvements
 - Improved recycling
 - Adding composting or organics recycling
 - Finding a by-product synergy
 - Improved waste stations/signage
- Employee engagement
- Promotion and dissemination of efforts
- Renewable energy opportunities





Continued...

- Energy Efficiency Improvements
 - Benchmarking
 - LED retrofit
 - Daylighting and lighting controls
 - HVAC controls and setbacks
 - Compressed air leak detection and BMPs
 - Behavior modifications





Continued...

- Renovation improvements
- Green building
- Stormwater management
- Native plantings
- Wildlife habitats
- Employee education





Case Study: Frito - Lay

Recommendation Categories

- Facility energy reductions
- Water efficiency
- Cafeteria composting
- Employee engagement





Case Study: Hikma Pharmaceuticals

Recommendation Categories

- Facility waste reduction
- Facility energy reductions and efficiencies
- Outdoor sustainability improvements
- Integrating EHS programs with future ESG activities





Case Study: Ford LEP

Recommendation Categories

- Employee engagement
- Restroom renovation efficiencies
- Energy efficiency opportunities
- Waste diversion and reduction
- Natural plantings and bee apiaries

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	md)



Case Study: NASA GRC

Recommendation Categories

- Employee engagement
- Energy efficiency and sourcing
- Waste diversion and reduction





Case Study: Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District

Recommendation Categories

- Waste diversion and reduction
- Landscape planning
- Preferred purchasing plans
- Water reduction opportunities
- Anti-idling policy
- Greening marinas
- Lighting audits
- Promotion and involvement
- Sustainability goal setting and data tracking





Case Study: Ohio Expo Center

Recommendation Categories

- Waste diversion and reduction
- Vendor and subcontractor engagement
- Energy efficiency





Case Study: MORPC!

Recommendation Categories

- Optimizing waste diversion
- Increasing engagement
- Energy efficiency
- Funding resources





Accessing Our P2 Services



https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/environmentalinnovation/oei-programs/pollution-prevention



Contact me!

Rachael Dininger, Environmental Specialist III Rachael.Dininger@epa.ohio.gov (614) 644 - 2012





Jeremy Brooks brooks.719@osu.edu

Ellen Eilers eilers.14@osu.edu

School of Environment and Natural Resources Sustainability Institute Environmental and Social Sustainability Lab

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES SCHOOL of ENVIRONMENT and NATURAL RESOURCES



Environmental & Social Sustainability Lab



Our mission

We are a community of scholars working to build scientific understanding of environmental and social sustainability in an interdisciplinary context.

We collaborate to describe, analyze, and communicate environmental problems and potential solutions.



What we provide

We provide research services to industry, government, non-governmental and organizations to address questions, such as:

- » How do experiences across home, » school, and informal spaces support environmental interest?
- » How can we harness public support for individual and collective climate » action?
- » What leads to the adoption and use of sustainable innovations (e.g., electric cars)?
- How do policy actors (individuals and organizations) interact with each other when they face environmental problems? Why and when are conservation behaviors and sustainable
- consumption patterns adopted by individuals?





Methods

Our work is tailored specifically to each partnership and can take various forms based on the partner's needs.

All projects can inform communication, marketing, and outreach efforts. Some examples of the methods we employ include:







Example topics





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Expertise

- Kerry Ard Environmental & Resource Sociology
- Ramiro Berardo Environmental & Natural Resources Policy
- Jeremy Brooks Environmental Social Science
- Jeremy Bruskotter Human Dimensions of Wildlife
- Alia Dietsch Parks, Protected Areas,
- Natural Resources Management
- Marijke Hecht Environmental Education Robyn N Shoshanah Inwood – Community, Food, and Science

Economic Development

Douglas Jackson-Smith – Rural Sociology and Water Security Jeffrey Jacquet – Rural and Natural **Resource Sociology** Kristi Lekies – Environmental Education **Sayeed Mehmood** – Natural Resource Economics Jeff Sharp – Community Sociology **Nicole Sintov** – Behavior, Decision-Making, and Sustainability **Robyn Wilson** – Risk Analysis and Decision





Current work

The ESSL will deliver an Assessment and Implementation Plan to DPU/Sustainable Columbus including:

- ✓ A summary and assessment of current GreenSpot program areas
- An assessment of the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of current pledge-based program in changing individual and small business behaviors and recommendations from a literature review.
- ✓ A summary of the analysis of preliminary member surveys and other data collection efforts.
- A plan for follow up surveys and workshops to build on preliminary analyses to more fully develop recommendations for integrating best practices related to behavior change science into GreenSpot programming in future work.
- ✓ Specific research proposal and to develop interventions and implementation measures for the next four years (2026-2030) to achieve the outlined goals.



Interests & perspectives

- Transformative change / adaptation
- Evolution of sustainable social ecological - technological systems
- Pro-environmental / sustainable behaviors
- Community and social dynamics for sustainability



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Interests & perspectives





Cleaner streams. Stronger neighborhoods.





Transdisciplinary research



Understanding context and goals

Urban profiles and goals Change and decision drivers Barriers and enablers

Outcomes for research

Underpinning urban knowledge insights, models and frameworks

Dissemination to research communities Reflection on process and content

Framing and knowledge priorities

Gaps between intent and practice Priority strategic urban issues Synergies and trade offs Knowledge framework and gaps (see Fig 2)

Developing knowledge and solutions

Comparative case studies Emerging integrated solutions Transformation and experimentation Learning, transferability, scaling up Sharing and collaboration Outcomes for policy & practice Practical guidance for policy/decision makers and society Dissemination/integration into policy/practice communities Reflection on process and content



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Thank you!

Brandi Whetstone, LEED Green Associate

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