



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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**NOTICE OF A MEETING
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

REMOTE MEETING

August 19, 2020, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

AGENDA

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 2:30 – 2:35 pm | Welcome and Introductions – <i>Jim Schimmer, Chair</i> |
| 2:35 – 2:40 pm | MORPC Residential Services Return from COVID-19 Hiatus –
<i>Robert Williams, Residential Services Director, MORPC</i> |
| 2:40 – 2:50 pm | Summit on Sustainability –
<i>Amanda McEldowney, Brand Management Coordinator, MORPC</i> |
| 2:50 – 3:00 pm | Regional SolSmart Designation –
<i>Jon-Paul d'Aversa, Sr. Energy Planner, MORPC</i> |
| 3:00 – 3:20 pm | Policy Update – <i>Joe Garrity, Director of Government Affairs & Strategic
Initiatives, MORPC</i> |
| 3:20 – 3:55 pm | Working Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustaining Scioto Board: <i>Mike Andrako</i>• Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee: <i>Justin Milam</i>• Energy & Air Quality Working Group: <i>Dale Arnold</i>• Central Ohio Greenways Board: <i>Letty Schamp</i>• Sustainability Dashboard Working Group: <i>Justin Milam</i> |
| 3:55 – 4:00 pm | Next Steps |
| 4:00 pm | 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 Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
will be on October 21, 2020, 2:30 pm
This will be a remote meeting. Details will follow.**

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Karen J. Angelou
Chair

Erik J. Janas
Vice Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Remote Meeting

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

August 19, 2020. 2:30 pm

Members Present

Dale Arnold, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
Kate Bartter, OSU Sustainability Institute
Andy Biesterveld, COTA
Robin Duffee, Violet Township
Mayor Ben Kessler, City of Bexley
Justin Milam, City of Upper Arlington

Megan O'Callaghan, City of Dublin
Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Chair Jim Schimmer, Franklin County,
Economic Development & Planning
Dan Sowry, Ohio EPA
Eric Walli, Honda North America, Inc.

Public Present

Dan Ferdelman, M+A Architects

Mike Andrako, City of Marysville

MORPC Staff Present

Jon-Paul d'Aversa	Amanda McEldowney	Tama Ricks	Brooke White
Joe Garrity	William Murdock	Bevan Schneck	Robert Williams
Ted Geer	Jennifer Noll	Edwina Teye	
Lynn Kaufman	Stephen Patchan	Brandi Whetstone	

Called to Order at 2:31 pm.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Schimmer Recognized new Member Andy Biesterveld, Sr. Director of Capital Projects at COTA.

MORPC's COVID19 Response and Office Closure

Executive Director William Murdock reported that MORPC staff continues working remotely due to the current health crisis and due to renovations being made at the MORPC office. Agency operations will continue this way for the next several months.

COVID-19 response information may be accessed [here](#).

MORPC Residential Services Return from COVID-19 Hiatus

Director of Residential Services Robert Williams reported that Residential Services staff are back to serving residents in their homes, but with safety precautions in place. Details may be accessed [here](#).

Summit on Sustainability

Brand Management Coordinator Amanda McEldowney reported that work toward the 2020 Summit on Sustainability is on schedule, and asked that Committee Members attend if possible and that they promote the Summit among their colleagues and contacts. Details regarding the Summit may be accessed [here](#).

Regional SolSmart Designation

SolSmart is a national designation program recognizing cities, counties, and regional organizations that foster development of mature local solar markets. SolSmart will provide free technical assistance to achieve the designation in either gold, silver, or bronze. Based on MORPC's 2020 work and proposed 2021 efforts, MORPC will enter the program on a Silver level. This free technical assistance will also be available members who pursue their own designation.

SolSmart aligns with MORPC's Energy Planning program, Rickenbacker Area Study recommendations, Public Policy Agenda and the Regional Sustainability Agenda. The designation promotes national attention for regional efforts toward a welcoming solar market and demonstrates continued commitment toward sustainable region. MORPC will be one of only five MPOs in the country with a SolSmart designation.

Member Milam moved to recommend that the MORPC Commission approve the pursuit of Regional SolSmart designation; Member Arnold seconded. Motion carried.

Policy Update

Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives Joe Garrity reported on House Bill 6, the State's Fiscal Year 20/21 Budget, and other items. The August 2020 Legislative Update Report is attached.

Working Group Updates

Sustaining Scioto Board

Mike Andrako, Vice-Chair of the Board, filled in to provide the update. At its second meeting on June 24, the Board reviewed and adopted its Board By-Laws. The group also discussed the formation of the Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team and a plan for MORPC staff to submit a project proposal to the Ohio Water Development Authority's Research and Development funding program for the creation of a Collaborative Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Upper and Middle Scioto Watershed.

Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee

The June 25 Subcommittee meeting focused on moving forward with updates to the Agenda using the input received at the previous SAC meeting encouraging more equitable engagement. Staff is assembling a list of interested groups to gather more diverse ideas. We have approached Dr. Reece with The Ohio State University for a proposal to facilitate the creation of goals and objectives that incorporate equity considerations. The Subcommittee will revise their timeline to facilitate the outreach and diversity items.

Subcommittee member Alex Slaymaker has agreed to serve as Vice-Chair.

Energy & Air Quality Working Group

The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met on July 28 to discuss increasing inclusivity and promoting equity in the community. Three potential actions for the Working Group were proposed:

- Create a Subcommittee to form a Working Group equity strategy and implementing actions.
- Create environmental justice policy language to elevate to MORPC's Sustainability Advisory Committee and Regional Policy Roundtable to promote MORPC's stance on environmental issues.
- Perform intentional outreach to increase the Working Group's diversity.

Central Ohio Greenways Board

The COG Board met on July 15 and discussed and reviewed each of the four working groups' projects.

Trail Development Working Group

The Working Group is on track to complete the Trail & Active Transportation Prioritization Project to link existing trails by this Fall. The Working Group is also developing the COG Urban Greenway Design Guide, a document that will provide guidance and inspiration to partners as they plan trail projects.

The remaining COG Working Group reports were not discussed but are attached.

Sustainability Dashboard Working Group

The Working Group has completed the second round of user testing, and changes have been finalized. The plan is to launch the dashboard sometime after Labor Day. The MORPC and CURA team are also working together to develop a session for the Summit on Sustainability introducing the Dashboard.

Written Board, Subcommittee and Working Group reports are attached.

Next Steps

Chair Schimmer urged Members to attend and promote the upcoming Summit on Sustainability.

Adjourned at 3:42 pm.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Remote Meeting

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

June 17, 2020. 2:30 pm

Members Present

Kristen Atha, AECOM
Dale Arnold, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
Kate Bartter, OSU Sustainability Institute
Robin Duffee, Violet Township
Justin Milam, City of Upper Arlington
Kyle O'Keefe, SWACO
Megan O'Callaghan, City of Dublin

Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Chair Jim Schimmer, Franklin County,
Economic Development & Planning
Alana Shockey, City of Columbus, Public
Utilities
Dan Sowry, Ohio EPA
Eric Walli, Honda North America, Inc.

MORPC Staff Present

Kerstin Carr	Lynn Kaufman	Tama Ricks	Brandi Whetstone
Jon-Paul d'Aversa	William Murdock	Bevan Schneck	Brooke White
Joe Garrity	Stephen Patchan	Melinda Vonstein	

Called to Order at 2:34 pm.

[Opening Words from William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director](#)

Regional Sustainability Agenda Vision and Principles

Staff presented the Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Vision and Principles to the Members for their approval. This statement was developed with the input of the Regional Sustainability Agenda Sub-committee as well as MORPC leadership. It also takes into account the priorities that the SAC identified in previous meetings to emphasize resiliency and equity.

RSA VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Purpose The MORPC Regional Sustainability Agenda serves as the region's guidance to help position Central Ohio and its local communities as **national leaders in sustainability through creative partnerships, enabling innovative solutions and flexible processes** and aligns MORPC's services to bring value, best practices, and collaboration to local government members.

Goals The agenda's main goals are for the region to protect and enhance its **natural resources**, promote **efficient energy usage** and **clean energy sources**, advance **prosperity**, and create **sustainable neighborhoods** for all.

Guiding Principles Each goal and objective will be **data-driven** and guided by underlying principles related to **resiliency, equity and diversity, public health and well-being, and collaboration**, ensuring sustainable impacts reach all communities within our region, providing prosperity for all.



MORPC's Data & Mapping staff will be involved with the process to ensure that the objectives are measurable. Staff plans to make regular progress reports to the SAC.

Members discussed how equitable engagement could be built into the process. Staff is still looking for ideas, and members agreed to contact staff with any new ideas.

Member Arnold moved to accept the RSA Vision and Guiding Principles, Member Schamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Updated Trail Vision

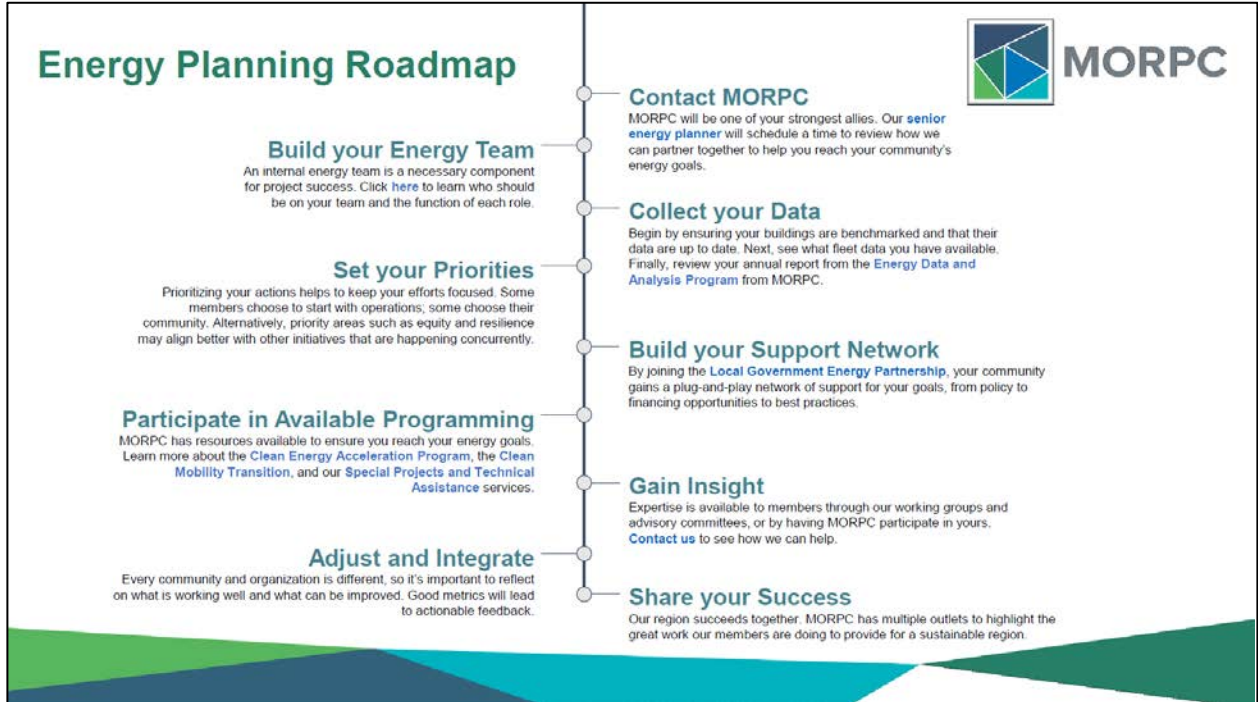
In 2018 COG sought to add 230 miles to the regional trail network, also known as Trails of Regional Significance. Connector trails are not currently supported in the Trail Vision. COG is suggesting the Trails be updated annually. The COG board met in January to review the Vision, and recommended adding three new Trails to the Vision: a trail in Dublin connecting the Scioto Trail to Glacier Ridge Metro Park, a small trail connecting the Alum Creek Trail to the Big Walnut Trail in northeast Franklin County, and the Linden Green Line, which runs along an abandoned rail line in northeast Columbus.

Member Schamp moved to accept the 2020 COG Vision and the COG Definitions as written in the meeting packet; Member O'Callaghan seconded. Motion carried.

Energy Planning in Central Ohio

When energy planning was new to Ohio and the Midwest in 2017, MORPC took an approach meant to gain a foundational understanding of how energy planning would fit into existing planning infrastructures. The Energy Planning program has many achievements, including the ongoing Energy Academy, the Local government energy partnership, and the [Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments](#).

Staff has developed an Energy Planning Roadmap for local governments:



Working Group Updates

Sustainability Dashboard Working Group:

The working group is developing communication and engagement strategies using MORPC's user personas; the second round of beta testing is being launched.

Energy & Air Quality Working Group:

Heard a presentation on 5/26 from John Seryak regarding impact of COVID-19 on the sustainable energy industry.

Central Ohio Greenways Board:

Member Schamp thanked the Committee for their assistance, and added that the work of the Board's Working Groups should make significant headway in terms of equity and access.

Sustaining Scioto Board:

The Board met for the first time on April 29, and identified priorities for 2020. The next meeting is set for June 24.

Policy Update

Joe Garrity, MORPC

Adjourned at 3:55 pm.



Central Ohio Greenways Board (Chair: Letty Schamp)

Next meeting Oct 14, 2020, 2pm

The COG Board met on July 15 and discussed and reviewed each of the working groups' projects.

Trail Development Working Group: The Working Group is on track to complete the Trail & Active Transportation Prioritization Project by this Fall. The group also shared an initial draft of a COG Urban Greenway Design Guide, a document that will provide guidance and inspiration to partners as they plan trail projects that are co-located with existing rights of way and urban environments.

Marketing & Communications Working Group: The Working Group is collaborating with the MORPC Mode-Shift Coalition on the People Who Bike campaign. The campaign, which will run in August, will focus on the diverse people who bike and the reasons they enjoy biking. The campaign will include educational resources, donation events, and educational opportunities.

Operations & Access Working Group: The Working Group will be exploring an opportunity to collaborate on trail and multi-use path wayfinding with COG partners.

Partnership Working Group: The Working Group is on track to complete the Environmental & Health Impacts of Trails Study this fall and was recently awarded funding from the Columbus Foundation to conduct a second phase of the study that will look at economic and social equity impacts of trails.



Energy & Air Quality Working Group (Chair: Dale Arnold)

Next meeting: September 22, 2020, 2pm

The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met on July 28th. The meeting focused on ways that the Working Group can be more inclusive and how we, as a group, can promote equity in the community. Three potential actions for the Working Group were proposed:

1. Convene a subcommittee to provide support in forming a Working Group equity strategy and implementing actions
2. Create environmental justice policy language to elevate to MORPC's Sustainability Advisory Committee and Regional Policy Roundtable (Please see committee diagram below) to inform MORPC's stance on environmental issues. This policy may apply to work in all MORPC's sustainability Working Groups and Boards.
3. Perform intentional outreach to increase the diversity of the Energy and Air Quality Working Group.

The Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments is available on MORPC's website. A walkthrough of the toolkit will occur at the September session of Energy Academy. Additional marketing opportunities are being pursued. Please contact Jon-Paul d'Aversa at jpdaversa@morpc.org for information.

The Air Quality Monitor subgroup convened in June. Lessons learned from the initial pilot deployment of monitors was discussed. The group members also ranked metrics for prioritizing neighborhoods for future monitor siting.



Sustainable2050

Next meeting: Friday, September 25, 2020, 10:00 am

The Sustainable2050 membership held its Q2 meeting on June 26. Highlights included a return of the Member Spotlight, featuring presentations from Bexley, Delaware and MORPC – all members who earned the Platinum Tier Status designation earlier this year. MORPC team members led a robust discussion on recent legislative impacts in response to COVID-19 in addition to a progress report on the Regional Sustainability Agenda updates. The Q3 member meeting will take place on Friday, September 25.

As a reminder, MORPC aims to certify the Tier Status of all Sustainable2050 members – and grow the membership – in 2020. If your community or agency is interested in participating in Sustainable2050 or earning its Tier Status, please contact Jennifer Noll, Principal Planner, for assistance at jnoll@morpc.org.

Sustaining Scioto Board

Next Meeting: August 26, 2020, 2:30pm

The recently formed Sustaining Scioto Board is meeting virtually on a bimonthly basis the last Wednesday of the month. The Board held its second meeting on June 24th. The Board reviewed and voted to approve Board By-Laws. The group also discussed the formation of an Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team and a plan for MORPC staff to submit a project proposal to the Ohio Water Development Authority's Research and Development funding program for the creation of a Collaborative Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Upper and Middle Scioto.

Sustainability Dashboard Working Group (Co-chair: Justin Milam/Rick Stein)

The MORPC and CURA team implemented a user testing survey in June and presented the prioritization of changes identified from the survey at the final working group meeting on July 10. Working Group members provided guidance to finalize next steps toward project completion. Next steps for MORPC and CURA are to complete the technical changes, continue data acquisition, finalize the dashboard narrative, and coordinate with OSU and MORPC's Communications & Engagement team for the anticipated launch after Labor Day. The MORPC and CURA team are also working together to develop a session for the Summit on Sustainability.

Regional Sustainability Agenda Sub-committee (Chair: Justin Milam)

Next meeting: August 18, 2020, 2:30pm

The June 25 Subcommittee meeting focused on the process for moving forward with updates to the RSA using the input received at the previous SAC meeting encouraging more equitable engagement. MORPC staff identified sustainability topics that align with the quality of life priorities that have been identified in local community planning projects, with examples from the Linden and Hilltop community plans, and suggested potential stakeholder groups for gathering diverse input. MORPC staff also sent a survey to Sustainable2050 members for additional input following an update at their previous meeting. MORPC is also seeking consultant services for review of the current Regional Sustainability Agenda with an equity and social justice lens, and for support with facilitation and engagement. Member Alex Slaymaker has agreed to serve as Vice-Chair.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 19, 2020



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA



- 2:30 Welcome and Introductions – Jim Schimmer
- 2:35 MORPC Residential Services Return from COVID-19 Hiatus – Robert Williams, MORPC
- 2:40 Summit on Sustainability – Amanda McEldowney, MORPC
- 2:50 Regional SolSmart Designation (Action Item) – Jon-Paul d'Aversa, MORPC
- 3:00 Policy Update – Joe Garrity, MORPC
- 3:20 Working Group Updates
 - Sustaining Scioto Board – Mike Andrako
 - Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee - Justin Milam
 - Energy & Air Quality Working Group – Dale Arnold
 - Central Ohio Greenways Board – Letty Schamp
 - Sustainability Dashboard Working Group – Justin Milam
- 3:55 Next Steps
- 4:00 Adjourn



RESILIENT. ADAPTABLE. BOLD.

2020 SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABILITY

SAVE THE DATE:



2020 SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABILITY

Virtual Conference:

October 15th 12:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

October 16th 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The summit is MORPC's signature environmental conference, bringing together hundreds of community leaders to explore and share sustainable ideas and solutions. We are excited to announce MORPC is partnering with Atlanta Regional Commission to showcase sustainability initiatives between the two regions.

For more details visit www.morpc.org/summit.



SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS:



2020 REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS
Nominations will close on August 24, 2020

- **LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABILITY AWARD**
- **COLLABORTATIVE ACHIEVEMENT IN SUSTAINABILITY AWARD**
- **LEADERSHIP IN MOBILITY AWARD**

For more details visit www.morpc.org/summit.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:



MORPC



KATHARINE HAYHOE, Ph.D.

*PROFESSOR, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTOR, CLIMATE SCIENCE CENTER
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY*

AGENDA



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- 3:55 Next Steps
- 4:00 Adjourn

REGIONAL SOLSMART DESIGNATION



- National designation program recognizing cities, counties, and regional organizations that foster development of mature local solar markets.
- No-cost technical assistance to achieve designation in either gold, silver, or bronze.
- Aligns with MORPC's Energy Planning program, Rickenbacker Area Study recommendations, Public Policy Agenda and Regional Sustainability Agenda.
- Achieves national attention for regional efforts toward a welcoming solar market, and demonstrates continued commitment toward sustainable region.

Action item: SAC to recommend that Commission approves the pursuit of Regional SolSmart designation.

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POLICY UPDATE



MORPC



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission *Monthly Legislative Update*

August 2020



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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Joseph Garrity
Director of Government Affairs
+ Strategic Initiatives
(614) 233-4127
jgarrity@morpc.org

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Jim Schimmer

Chair

Sustainability Advisory Committee

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Vice-Chair

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