

CORPO QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Jeff Stauch, Chair | Brian Ball, Vice Chair

CORPO addresses the unique transportation planning needs of each member county and facilitates regional coordination. This newsletter outlines products, services, news, and events that CORPO provides its member counties.

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CORPO Contact: Mary Turner, Senior Planner 614.233.4138 <u>mtuner@morpc.org</u>

CORPO DEDICATED FUNDS SFY 2026 - 2027

The State Fiscal Years 2026 - 2027 CORPO Dedicated Funds program makes available approximately \$2.4 million of funding during the two-year cycle for member-selected, eligible projects within the CORPO member counties. See the timeline for soliciting funds below.



Applications for funding will open on **July 7** and are due by **August 8**. An online application form will be available on the <u>CORPO Dedicated Funds webpage</u>. A virtual workshop on the application and selection process will be held on **Wednesday**, **July 9 from 2:30 to 3:30 PM**. A <u>link to join the workshop</u> at the time of the event is also available on the CORPO Dedicated Funds webpage. Following the workshop, a recording and the presentation slides will be available on the website.

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION REVIEW

ODOT is reviewing the Functional Classification system for the entire state of Ohio. This statewide review is performed every 10 years following each decennial census. ODOT has been coordinating the review with assistance from CORPO. Find out more on <u>ODOT's webpage here</u> and <u>story map here</u>. CORPO has been meeting with each county to review any proposed changes and capture them in our <u>online comment map here</u>. CORPO will continue to coordinate with each county and ODOT to complete the review before the end of August.

<u>www.morpc.org/corpo</u> Fairfield, Knox, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway & Union Counties



IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Securing Our Energy Future: Funding and Resource Opportunities to Build Your Energy Stack is on July 10. As part of a four-part energy forum series, MORPC is bringing together Central Ohio's top energy, regulatory, and economic development experts to help local governments and community leaders navigate the region's evolving energy landscape. This session will guide local leaders through the diverse funding tools and incentives available to accelerate energy planning, programs, and projects. Register here.
- The next <u>Rural Forum: Local Economic Vitality</u> is July 23 at the AMIC in Marysville. This forum will focus on how communities can stimulate local economic vitality to bring about desired amenities and create a strong tax base to support critical assets and services.
- The <u>2025 Social Media Summit</u> is August 5 at MORPC. It brings together communications professionals from local governments and public agencies for a day of collaborative discussion focused on helping communities build more effective and engaging social media strategies. This year's theme is *Talk of the Town: Bold Strategies for Local Voices.*
- Save the date for MORPC's <u>2025 Summit on Sustainability</u> on September 30. This conference brings together community leaders together to share sustainable ideas and solutions. This year's theme is *Local Roots. Local Impacts.*
- CORPO County Subcommittee meetings will be held in September at each of the 7 counties.
- The next CORPO Board meeting is November 3 at 2:00 p.m. and will be held at MORPC.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

CORPO Staff are available to assist with funding applications and technical assistance

- Municipal Bridge, ODOT- Provides federal funds for preliminary engineering and construction to municipal corporations, metroparks, and Regional Transit Authorities for bridge replacement, bridge rehabilitation, or bridge demolition projects. A funding limit of \$2.5 million per project is set. Application window closes August 15.
- HSIP Formal Safety Application, ODOT-Complex safety improvements and is meant to address locations with a history of fatal or injury crashes. Funding priority is given to locations with state or regional safety priority or a completed local road safety plan. A minimum of 3 crashes per year and 30% injury crashes are required to apply. The application window closes August 31.
- Local Major Bridge, ODOT- Provides Federal funds to counties and municipalities for bridge replacement, bridge rehabilitation, bridge demolition, and major bridge preventative maintenance projects. A Local Major Bridge is defined as a moveable bridge or a bridge having a deck area greater than 15,000 square feet. Application window opens September 1.
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), ODOT-TAP provides funding for transportation alternatives projects, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; and safe routes to school projects. *Application window opens October 1.*

FEDERAL GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

MORPC and CORPO coordinated to submit 2 federal grant applications last week- one to the Safe Streets and Roads for All program to form a multi-year \$6 million dollar public private partnership to enhance roadway safety for all road users across the region and one to the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Demonstration program for an initiative focused establishing a process through which trails of regional significance and related trail-oriented development can be expedited through alternative financing and project bundling.

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