



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663
TTY. 1.800.750.0750
info@morpc.org

NOTICE OF A MEETING

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

+1 614-362-3056 United States, Columbus (Toll)
(888) 595-9954 United States (Toll-free)
Conference ID: 971 533 17#

Monday, August 3, 2020
5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- **5:30 p.m. Welcome & Introductions** – Catherine Girves, Chair
- **5:35 p.m. Approval of June 8, 2020, Meeting Minutes** (enclosed)
- **5:40 p.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** (enclosed) – Thea Ewing, MORPC
 - Monthly Report – Data & Mapping – Aaron Schill, MORPC
 - Monthly Report – Planning & Sustainability – Stephen Patchan, MORPC
- **5:50 p.m. Informational Items**
 - TRAC Project Introduction – Dina Lopez, MORPC
 - People who Bike Campaign – Lexi Petrella, MORPC
 - TDM Strategic Plan – Lexi Petrella, MORPC
 - Trail Updates – Melinda Vonstein, MORPC
- **6:20 p.m. Other Business**
- **6:30 pm Adjourn**

PLEASE NOTIFY MELISSA SHARP AT 614-805-2783 OR EMAIL AT msharp@morpc.org
TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL
ASSISTANCE.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Karen J. Angelou
Chair

Erik J. Janas
Vice Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Secretary

The next CAC Meeting is
August 31, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **June 8, 2020**
Time: **5:30 p.m.**
Location: **MORPC**

**NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED AS A VIRTUAL MEETING THROUGH
MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING PLATFORM**

Members Present

Dana Dorsey
Catherine Girves

Grant Huling
David Paul

Bob Roehm
Ira Weiss

MORPC Staff Present

Thea Ewing
Nick Gill
Thomas Graham

Niel Jurist
Tama Ricks
Bevan Schneck

Aaron Schill
Melissa Sharp

I. Welcome & Introductions

- Chair Catherine Girves called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. There was a quorum. This meeting was rescheduled from June 1, 2020.
- Chair Girves recognized the moment that we are living in and MORPC's primary function to address transportation-related issues, as well as the importance of people's ability to move freely and safely from one place to another. Chair Girves invited any other members to express any thoughts they may have.
- MORPC reaffirmed its commitment to dismantling systemic racism and the important work it is doing. Ms. Niel Jurist reviewed the [Statement on Racism](#) from MORPC to show a sign of solidarity with our partners (Franklin County Public Health, City of Columbus, Columbus Public Health) in declaring racism as a public health crisis. This will also be a public policy agenda item.
- Ms. Dana ned Dorsey spoke regarding the creation of the center for public health innovation, which is tasked with addressing racism as a public health issue.

II. Approval of May 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes

- Chair Catherine Girves asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Ira Weiss moved; David Paul seconded; and the motion carried.

III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Thea Ewing, MORPC

- New Employee on the Team
 - Ted Geer was announced as MORPC's Economic Development & Infrastructure Officer. Ted replaces Nathaniel Kaelin.
- MORPC / ONE Columbus USED A CARES ACT funding for infrastructure and economic recovery

- Currently, we are working with lead economic development officers in the region on this application – including Fairfield, Delaware, Union, Knox, Morrow counties and the City of Delaware. Some of those projects are revolving loan funds so the community could get federal dollars to loan to businesses for recovery and then those dollars come back and are able to revolve again and be loaned. Other projects are more infrastructure related.
- An Attributable Funds Workshop was held for MPO communities to start preparing applications for funding. There were about 30 participants. This is a good time to be talking to local engineering, planning or parks departments about your desires to seek specific projects in the region.
- TRAC application major new projects period begins on June 15 and ends on July 15. Later this fall, we will be talking to you about those priority projects, such as the Far East freeway improvement on I-70.
- FCTID Applications Submitted to ODOT Office of Jobs & Commerce on May 31.
 - Number of projects for funding between \$100,000 and \$250,000.
 - One in Dublin Area
 - Many in Rickenbacker Area
 - Each county has the ability to create its own transportation improvement district. This is a great capacity opportunity to create bonding authority in the region for projects and the share costs.
 - Potential to have Franklin County Engineer Cornell Robertson attend a future meeting to talk about what he is doing with the TID.
- MORPC / OSU collaborated to submit a USDOT BUILD Grant - \$25M
 - Cannon Drive Relocation Phase II
 - \$53M project
 - Helps with the levy that will protect the new hospital facility at OSU from a 500-year flood as well as open up land for redevelopment.
- MORPC / COTA / DCT collaborated with GREAT, Fairfield & Madison County Transit to submit an FTA AIM Grant - \$1.2M
 - Connecting small urban and rural transit providers to the COTA transit service
 - This project is focused on technologies that aggregate a data dashboard for better communication between mobility providers
 - \$1.7M project
- Hyperloop Feasibility Study released in late May and is on the MORPC website.

Monthly Report – Data & Mapping – Aaron Schill, MORPC

- The quarterly Regional Data Advisory Committee Meeting (RDAC) meeting was held (minutes are available online).
 - The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) work spans region, communities and different levels of data interests including transportation. Their next meeting is in July (date to be determined). They seek answers

such as how can we better use our data resources, how we can coordinate between local governments, the private sector, academics and non-profits. The July meeting is going to focus on some nuances of the 2020 Census -differential privacy. We will have someone from the Census Bureau and the Urban Institute. Mr. Schill will advise the CAC members once a date is confirmed. Please feel free to email Aaron with any questions, etc. (aschill@morpc.org)

- In the recent RDAC meeting, they were joined by representatives from Nationwide Insurance. Nationwide is working on a public/private partnership around data policy and security and have asked for MORPC's assistance.
- Call to Action – PCs for People – to coordinate low-cost device and internet distribution to income qualified households in Central Ohio. With the primary focus on K-12 households. Cost is \$20 per device/one per household. We are holding events every other week and have been able to distribute around 500 computers. The wait list is over 4000 households in Central Ohio alone. We need your help to source devices to be donated for recycling/refurbishment. Next event is June 18, location to be finalized. <https://www.pcsforpeople.org/>
- A question was raised with respect to internet access – desktops/laptops have built-in wireless receivers. There is a low-cost wireless option that goes through PCs for People. It is essentially hot spots partnered with Sprint on an individual access. It's about \$20 per month. The devices that they sell are \$40 for a refurbished hot spot and \$80 for a new hot spot (unlimited data). To address that issue beyond a one-at-a-time basis, we are talking with PCs for People and a few of our partners to negotiate bulk rates that would provide universal access to every household with a K- 12 student in certain districts.

IV. Proposed Resolution T-10-20: Adoption of the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Thomas Graham, MORPC

- Requesting your support of T-10-20 amending the State Fiscal Year 2021 to 2024 transportation improvement program.
- This amendment has one project – ODOT District 6 (widening US 40 out on the west side – around Wilson Road).
- A question was asked about if route 40 is narrower at Wilson Road than it is elsewhere. Ms. Ewing responded that as you move from more the rural environment to more of an auto-oriented, urban environment, the footprint gets narrower. This will create a wider format a little closer to town.
- The chair asked for a motion to approve; David Paul moved; Ira Weiss seconded; and the motion carried.

V. Information Items

COVID – [COVID-19 Regional Transportation System Impacts](#)

- Ms. Ewing, Ms. Lopez and Mr. Gill shared information that the Transportation and Infrastructure Team has been collecting regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the transportation system. The five areas that were covered include: Highways, Air Travel, Transit, Trails and Air Quality. Highlights include:
- Highway

- ODOT maintains some permanent count locations, which collects traffic counts/speed. We reviewed the information for Central Ohio from the first week of March through present. Reviewing weekday daily traffic, AM/PM peak periods, as well as congested peak period speed reductions. The slides will be available on the MORPC website.
- A question was asked if MORPC had information about increases in speed/crashes due to reduced congestion. Ms. Ewing informed the members that MORPC does not have any data available with these statistics.
- An additional question was addressed to Mr. Schill regarding data out of OSU at it relates to increases in speed/crashes and if this information was available. Mr. Schill responded MORPC is in conversations with the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (OSU); and if any CAC members have specific questions, please email him at (aschill@morpc.org), and he will follow up with them.
- Air Travel
 - We will be doing an analysis of truck/rail counts. Suppliers are very busy – have not seen any slacking, more of a surge in demand.
 - Have worked with Columbus Regional Airport Authority, and from March 2 to April 27, the number of passengers went from 20% to 95%. However, percentages are slowly creeping back up.
 - Air cargo (enplaned + deplaned) – we included both John Glenn and Rickenbacker. January was down by 25% - and this may be due to the pandemic issues in China, Hong Kong, and Korea, which we have a significant amount of activity through. However, in the subsequent months, the percentages were not as significant.
- Transit
 - Information was provided for COTA as well as the Delaware County Transit system on how the pandemic has affected ridership.
 - A question was raised if MORPC has a report from COTA or the Delaware Transit system about any health impacts that drivers are facing as it relates to COVID-19. Ms. Ewing responded that MORPC does not have anything specific. However, anecdotally, for the COTA system, they have attempted to alter the hours for the drivers by spending fewer consecutive days in the coach and allowing passengers to enter through the back door. There were incidents that were reported in the media about drivers with COVID-19 and unacceptable behavior from passengers.
 - Ms. Ewing also confirmed that Delaware County Transit is reinstating fares in June; however, COTA has not. MORPC is working with them on a strategy in which fares can be reinstated.
 - A final question was asked about any plans to move fare boxes so that drivers can continue to be protected and/or allowing passengers to board from the front of the bus, again. Ms. Ewing responded that MORPC has not been engaged in that portion of the conversation. We are helping them with assistance for passengers that may not be able to afford fares or may be trying to get back to work as well as a potential strategy to go completely cashless at the fare box and how to assist the

at-risk population still having access to coaches without paying with cash.

- In general, transit systems are working on a strategy to minimize interactions and ensuring that people who may otherwise have no other way to pay have a way to pay under new guidelines.
- Trails
 - We do have people out doing trail counts and are compiling the report.
 - Metro Parks was up 35% in visitors.
- Air Quality
 - We are currently with ozone pollution 8% below the five-year average and running near 20-year low values.
 - One of the things that goes into play is the significant amount of precipitation we have had as well as a reduction in mobile sources of pollutants.
 - MORPC had media coverage in *The Columbus Dispatch* (April 20) “More Americans Affected by Air Pollution” as well as a special series with *This Week Community News* (the link to the article is in the monthly report packet, which you can locate on MORPC’s website)
 - We have set up stations to monitor air pollution and will report back on impacts.

VI. Other Business – None.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Girves asked for a motion to adjourn; David Paul moved; Ira Weiss second; meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.



Bevan Schneck, Secretary
Community Advisory Committee



MORPC Monthly Metropolitan Transportation Organization Summary

July/August 2020

Transportation & Infrastructure Development

Thea Ewing, Director - twalsh@morpc.org

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

- MORPC's MTP (and TIP) received conformity determination from USDOT effective July 1. This designation means that the MTP documentation demonstrates conformity for 2008 and 2015 ozone standards within the Columbus-Newark, Ohio area and conforms to the state implementation plan in accordance with EPA provisions.

Transit, Mobility & Human Services

➤ **5310 Designated Recipient**

- MORPC staff have been working on developing a transportation provider database to be used for a mobility matching tool that will help increase the independence and quality of life of older adults, people with disabilities, and people with low incomes. This database is first being developed by reviewing coordinated plans of counties in the ODOT Human Service Transportation Coordination Region 6 and will eventually be improved through provider given information.
- MORPC staff have been working with NOACA regarding the Specialized Transportation Search Tool on the Gohio Platform to be used for mobility matching for older adults, people with disabilities, and people with low incomes. The platform has been going through testing as we prepare to talk to the platform provider, RideAmigos, on how we need it to be improved for users.
- MORPC staff are coordinating a Central Ohio Mobility Management Working Group meeting as a result of the previous Mobility Management Peer Exchange. This meeting will be in August 2020 and discuss next steps and mobility program updates among mobility managers, transit agencies, planners, and other stakeholders within the ODOT Human Service Transportation Coordination Region 6.

➤ **Gohio**

- Gohio staff have partnered with Central Ohio Greenways and Move Your Way, a program out of Columbus Public Health, to develop a biking

campaign for August 2020. The campaign is called People Who Bike and aims to break down stereotypes of cyclists and encourage Central Ohio Residents of all ages to bike for transportation and recreation

- As part of the People Who Bike campaign, Gohio staff have been working with partners to plan a bike package donation to a low-income family in Columbus. The donation is complete with helmets, bike lights, and anything else the family might need to bike safely and comfortably. The family was identified through a Columbus YMCA.
- Gohio Commute Vanpool Program started a new vanpool route from Wellston, Ohio to Chillicothe, OH. This vanpool is transporting essential personal to the Chillicothe VA hospital.
- Gohio Commute will be starting a pilot Emergency Ride Home Program for the Chillicothe Area. Currently, the Gohio Commute vanpool program is supporting over all one hundred essential workers commuting to the Chillicothe VA Hospital. In an effort to provide a quicker pickup time for Emergency ride homes we will be contracting a local provider for this service. We are very excited to start this new partnership and hope to have the new pilot started by September 2020.
- Gohio Commute Staff is participating on the Association of Commuter Transportation (ACT) Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce. The role of the taskforce is to make recommendations to the ACT Board of Directors meeting on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (D, E, & I) efforts. This taskforce will lay the framework for the establishment of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. This Committee will be the first of its kind for the Association of Commuter Transportation (ACT).

Transportation Planning Studies

➤ Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI)

- Environmental Impact Study (EIS Study): Information folios summarizing the completed components of the Tier I Environmental Impact Statement for the passenger rail project are currently being prepared and will be released by end of August.
- Hyperloop Feasibility Study: The final study report was released in May, and is available on MORPC's RSTI web page.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)

➤ CORPO Update

- CORPO staff will host five CORPO subcommittee meetings scheduled for late August/early September.
- CORPO is assisting with the development of MORPC's Cares Act funding application which will allow MORPC to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for an 11 county area that includes CORPO member counties.
- The CORPO website is currently being updated to include rural-specific funding opportunities and details on how CORPO member counties may apply.

- CORPO staff assisted in the data gathering, analysis and project identification for their members' potential application for a Small Cities Grant.
- In June and July, CORPO staff participated in the MORPC led Rural One Forums that took place (virtually) in three of CORPO's member counties.

Infrastructure Funding

➤ MORPC Attributable Funding

- MORPC received commitment updates for 25 projects on which were previously awarded MORPC Attributable Funds. Additionally, 34 screening applications were received on July 17th for the upcoming round of Attributable Funds. These screening applications are currently being reviewed by MORPC staff, and both the commitment updates and screening applications will be discussed during the August 5th AFC meeting. Projects for which a screening application was received will be eligible to submit a final application for MORPC Attributable Funding by October 9th at 5pm. Over \$190 million of MORPC funding was requested on the screening applications. \$50 to \$60 million is expected to be available this round.

➤ Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)

- OPWC announced in July that it would allow districts to solicit applications for FY22 (Round 35) of the State Capital Improvements Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program (SCIP/LTIP) in anticipation of a state capital budget bill being approved in time to release project agreements on July 1, 2021. District 3 submitted its policies and criteria to OPWC for approval. An announcement that applications are available will be made once OPWC approval is received. It is anticipated that applications for SCIP/LTIP funding will be available around July 31 for local governments in Franklin County. Applications would be due approximately 60 days following the announcement.

➤ Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)

- ODOT's TRAC is tasked with distributing funds for major capital projects that exceed \$12 million in cost, significantly reduce congestion, and support workforce access and job creation. This year's TRAC funding process was kicked off on April 22, and funding request applications were submitted from June 15 to July 15. A total of twenty applications were submitted statewide, with a total of \$275 million requested for TRAC projects across the state. Five applications are within MORPC's MPO area, requesting a total of \$81.5 million for central Ohio TRAC projects. The MORPC area projects submitted include:
 - Far East Freeway Phases 2 & 3, submitted by District 6, requesting \$48.1 million (\$1.1 million for right-of-way, \$47 million for construction)
 - Far East I-70/Taylor Road/SR-256 interchange improvements, submitted by District 5, requesting \$5 million for preliminary engineering

- I-270 & US-23 Southside interchange improvements, submitted by District 6, requesting \$14 million for construction
 - Southeast US-33/Pickerington Road/Allen Road new interchange, submitted by District 5, requesting \$11.4 million (\$1 million for preliminary engineering, \$0.4 million for detailed design, and \$10 million for right-of-way)
 - I-71 and Big Walnut new interchange, submitted by the Delaware County Engineer Office, requesting \$3 million for right-of-way
- o In early August MORPC will post one page summaries of each project and begin public comment on the projects as part of MOPRC evaluation and ranking of the submittals. The adoption of the MORPC ranking will occur in October with presentation to the TRAC on October 14th.

➤ **Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)**

- o The NRAC will meet on August 10 to approve policies and criteria for Round 15. The meeting was rescheduled from July 8. The state appropriated funds for Round 15 of the Clean Ohio Conservation program in July, so applications will be solicited as usual, with preliminary screening applications due in December.

➤ **Competitive Advantage Projects**

- o MORPC continues to work with Ice Miller on the development of Innovative Funding Strategies for a variety of Competitive Advantage Projects. Ice Miller anticipates that a final report including all the innovative funding concepts will be available in the coming months.

Data & Mapping

Aaron Schill, Director – aschill@morpc.org

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) and Working Groups

The RDAC met on June 2 to hear a presentation from Nationwide regarding Public-Private Cyber Intel and Fusion Center, to discuss the status of the Regional Housing Strategy and the work of the four Working Groups. The Committee will meeting again on September 1.

- Data Policy Needs Survey & Toolkit Working Group members continue their work on the Data Policy Needs Survey. The Working Group met formally on May 26 and then met at two informal work sessions to complete the survey. The Working Group will meet again in early August.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Working Group met on May 27, June 2, and July 16 to review the outcome of the April 22 RIDG user group meeting, to plan the third-quarter RIDG user group meeting, and to discuss the Steering Committee Transition plan. The Working Group will meet again on August 17.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group continues their work via the Fiber Network Subgroup. The Working Group met on June 16 to discuss the development of a local government survey and a non-disclosure agreement. The Working Group will meet again later in 2020.
- The final Sustainability Dashboard Working Group meeting was held on July 10. MORPC and CURA Staff are working to incorporate member suggestions and beta testing findings into the finished product.
- The Central Ohio GIS User Group will meet on August 12. Staff expects to host 40 – 50 attendees and several breakout discussions.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) user group met on July 22 with 58 attendees, and three presentations on the subjects of Census Differential Privacy and the Economic Impact of COVID-19. Staff provided three breakout sessions for attendees to engage in more in-depth discussions of these topics. The RIDG user group will meet again in November 2020.

Transportation

- Data & Mapping staff continue to assist Transportation staff with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and other Transportation mapping and data needs.
- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill is assisting Transportation staff in the final steps of the update of the Attributable Funds Online Application.

Census

- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill attended the Columbus/Franklin County Complete Count Committee as the Chair of the Local Government Subcommittee.

Data and Mapping Outreach and Collaboration

- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill is working with local partners on the Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program, which is a \$3.7M public-private program that will address immediate digital device and access needs of low-income K-12 students in Central Ohio for the 2020-2021 school year delivering refurbished PCS, hotspot devices, and broadband access beginning in August 2020.

Planning & Sustainability

- Data & Mapping Staff are collaborating with Planning & Sustainability staff to produce and analyze the Central Ohio Greenways Trail Survey, Active Transportation Plan, Trail Prioritization, and Trail Counts.

Regional Housing Strategy

- Data & Mapping staff continue to take a lead role in data collection and analysis for the Regional Housing Study.
- Data & Mapping staff and Planning & Sustainability staff are working to design a Regional Housing Strategy Hub similar to the COVID-19 Hub.
- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill has completed his course with Leadership Columbus.
- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill participated in a NARC Webinar titled: Economic Development – Data & Mapping Response for COVID-19
- Data & Mapping staff participated in the PCs for People Computer Distribution events on 6/4 and 6/18, distributing 300+ personal computers to Central Ohio residents.
- Data & Mapping staff continue to host a series of monthly stakeholder discussions: Regional Trends and Policy Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill spoke on a panel regarding the 2020 Census and COVID-19: Implications for Communities, hosted by OSU.

Planning & Sustainability

Kerstin Carr, Director - kcarr@morpc.org

Active Transportation Planning

Active Transportation Plan: Team members officially kicked off the 2020 update to the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) on June 16 with the ATP Working Group. This group consists of key regional stakeholders who will guide staff in updating the ATP. MORPC will host the first of two stakeholder workshops for the ATP virtually on Thursday, July 30, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. All regional stakeholders interested in the ATP are invited to attend! Please contact Jennifer Noll at jnoll@morpc.org for more information. The next ATP Working Group meeting is September 1.

Active Transportation Committee: Team members hosted the third quarter Active Transportation Committee meeting on July 7. This was the first meeting since the Active Transportation Working Group was formalized as a subcommittee to the Transportation Advisory Committee. A guest speaker, Stefanie Brodie from Toole Design Group, presented to the Committee on the topic of Equity in Active Transportation and initiated discussion amongst the members on how the region can better address the inequities present in the existing transportation system.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts: Team members have been coordinating with regional partners to conduct annual short duration counts for the Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Trail Monitoring Area. These counts will be conducted throughout the region on key segments of the COG network to track trends in trail use over time. Staff have also been working to analyze the increase in trail use during Ohio's Covid-19 stay-at-home order.

insight2050

Technical Assistance Program (TAP): Team members held an internal stakeholder workshop for the City of Hilliard to develop a vision for the Cemetery Road site area land use and transportation infrastructure on July 16. Team members began identifying spatial data to develop the City of Columbus Speed Management Framework project. Team members continued to work on the best practices report for the Cemetery Road (Hilliard) project and the Blacklick Station (Jefferson Township) project.

Regional Housing Strategy

The project team led a number of workshops for community leaders, housing lenders, and local governments. Each workshop invited participants to identify opportunities to leverage the resources of their unique sector (business, non-profit, housing finance, local government) toward implementing the strategies that have been vetted by the project stakeholders. The outcomes of these engagements will be detailed in a summary report. Work continues among the project team to complete summaries of the technical analyses that will also be available as part of the final project.

Transportation Safety

Safety Forum: MORPC staff are working to launch the first annual Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum. The Forum will be an opportunity for central Ohio stakeholders to learn about regional projects as well as guide MORPC in implementing the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan. Additional details including a keynote speaker announcement are expected to be available by mid-August. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Cardoni, lcardon@morpc.org.

Committee Meetings:

Team members participated in numerous meetings throughout the month of June to help guide the update to the Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). ODOT must complete the update before the end of this year for the state to continue receiving federal safety funds.

Team members participated in the quarterly SHSP Steering Committee meeting on July 1. As of that date, no budget cuts had yet been assessed to the ODOT safety program due to COVID-19. While traffic fatalities dipped throughout the months of March and April due to fewer vehicles being on the roadways, fatalities increased in May and June, bringing the state back up to within 2% of the fatalities reported at this time last year. As of July 1, 485 fatalities had been reported for the state.

Team members assisted our partners at Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) in hosting the quarterly Ohio Association of Regional Councils' (OARC) Safety Working Group meeting on June 2. Guest speakers for the meeting included:

- Jinhyung Lee, Adam Porr, and Harvey Miller from the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) at OSU, who shared information about their recent study on speeding during Ohio's COVID-19 stay-at-home order.
- Jeremy Thompson (ODOT), presented information about the Highway Safety Improvement Program.
- Cait Harley (ODOT) spoke to the group about Walk.Bike.Ohio and how the plan recommendations regarding pedestrian and bicyclist safety will be incorporated into the SHSP update.
- Michelle May (ODOT) presented on Senate Bill 285, "Hands-Free Ohio."

Sustainable2050

Member Engagement: The Q2 member meeting took place on June 26. Participants heard from recently certified members: City of Bexley, City of Delaware, and MORPC. Team members presented an overview of the process currently underway to update the Regional Sustainability Agenda. Sustainable2050 members are encouraged to provide feedback on the process via a survey.

Greenways & Water Resources Program

Central Ohio Greenways Board: 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.

Sustaining Scioto Board:

The Sustaining Scioto Board met on June 24, approved Board by-laws, and reviewed a plan to apply to the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) for funding to support implementation of water quality monitoring strategies that will support climate change adaptation to maintain and improve water quality in the Upper Scioto watershed. Subsequent to this meeting, MORPC staff held a stakeholder input meeting regarding the planned funding application and distributed a written survey to gather input. MORPC staff will submit the OWDA grant application by July 31.

- Agriculture & Rural Communities Outreach Team: Jessica d'Ambrosio accepted the Team Chair nomination. A Vice-Chair will be identified in a future meeting. The Team will meet for the first time after the August Sustaining Scioto Board meeting.

Energy & Air Quality

Energy & Air Quality Working Group: The Energy and Air Quality Working Group convened on Tuesday, July 28. The Working Group discussed how to use equity as a lens for considering future projects, policies to elevate to the Sustainability Advisory Committee, and future member recruitment.

- Air Quality Sensor Subgroup: The Subgroup met June 19 and prioritized metrics for identifying vulnerable neighborhoods to target for air quality sensor siting.
- Solar Toolkit Subgroup: The Solar Toolkit is available on MORPC's website. The September 9 session of the Energy Academy will feature an in-depth review of the toolkit.

Local Government Energy Partnership: Team members are developing programming for the Local Government Energy Partnership as it streamlines in order to prepare for

new opportunities in 2021. The Local Government Energy Partnership's current funding ends at the end of this year.

Sustainability Advisory Committee

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC): The Sustainability Advisory Committee met on June 17 and approved the Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Vision and Principles, which was developed with the input of the Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee and MORPC leadership. The SAC also approved an updated Trail Vision proposed by the COG Board.

- Regional Sustainability Dashboard Working Group: The Working Group met on July 10 to provide input on communications tools for launch and on final steps toward project completion. MORPC and the CURA team implemented a user testing survey in June and presented the prioritization of changes identified from the survey at its July meeting. Working Group members provided guidance to finalize next steps for project completion. Next steps for MORPC and CURA are to complete the technical changes, continue data acquisition work, finalize the narrative, and coordinate with the Communications & Engagement team for its anticipated launch around Labor Day.
- Outreach: Staff met with a Sustainable2050 member from Blendon Township to provide information about LEED for Cities and Communities, and facilitated a follow-up meeting with Shaker Heights, Ohio to discuss their experience working through the LEED for Cities and Communities certification process.
- Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Subcommittee: The Subcommittee met on May 19 to provide input into the Guiding Vision and Principles, which was then adopted by the SAC on June 17. The June 25 Subcommittee meeting focused on how to move forward with updating the RSA using the input received at the SAC meeting encouraging more equitable engagement. Staff presented on sustainability topics that align with the quality of life priorities that have been identified in local community planning projects, and suggested potential stakeholder groups for input. Members and staff plan to develop a stakeholder engagement strategy, propose changes to the RSA with an equity lens, and solicit additional input from Sustainable2050 members via survey. Member Alex Slaymaker has agreed to serve as Vice-Chair.

Communications & Engagement

Niel Jurist, Director – njurist@morpc1.onmicrosoft.com

➤ **Press Releases and Social Media**

News Releases

- [MORPC Looks at the Effect of COVID-19 on Transportation and Sustainability](#)
- [Franklin County Transportation Improvement District Applies for Grants from ODOT](#)
- [MORPC Announces Economic Development & Infrastructure Officer](#)
- [City of Columbus, COTA and MORPC Launch LinkUs Central Ohio](#)

MORPC In The News

- [Traffic And COTA Ridership Decreased During Pandemic, While Park Visits Increased](#)
- [Study: How much would a hyperloop ticket cost in Pittsburgh?](#)
- [Midwest Hyperloop Route Could Lead To \\$300 Billion In Economic Benefits](#)
- [AECOM submits feasibility study report of Midwest Hyperloop project](#)
- [Proving ground: Finish hyperloop tech before promising its impact](#)
- [Study finds Midwest Hyperloop is feasible, would create \\$300B in economic benefits](#)
- [Proposed Hyperloop route connecting Pittsburgh, Columbus and Chicago could create \\$300 billion in economic benefits](#)
- [Midwest HyperLoop pod could go from Chicago to Pittsburgh in an hour for under \\$100](#)
- [High temperatures, pollution levels trigger air-quality alert for central Ohio](#)
- [Another air quality alert issued for Monday in central Ohio](#)
- [Air Quality Alert issued for Sunday, July 5th in Central Ohio](#)
- [Air Quality Alert extended to July 6 in Central Ohio](#)
- [Air Quality alert issued for much of central Ohio Sunday](#)
- [Air Quality alert for central Ohio extended into Monday](#)
- [Fewer cars on the road during shutdown means cleaner air](#)
- [COVID-19's effect on transportation, sustainability](#)
- [MORPC Wins Federal Grant To Clean Up Westland Mall Site](#)
- [Flood danger in Columbus: More homes at risk, new data show](#)
- [Study: Hyperloop could mean \\$300B economic jolt](#)
- [Midwest Hyperloop Study Completed](#)
- [Columbus-area initiative seeks development that won't bring more cars](#)
- [City Leaders Introduce LinkUS Mobility Corridors Initiative](#)
- [New look at Columbus transportation coming, leaders say it could heal economic divides](#)
- [Work on Northwest Corridor Plan Advances, East and West Corridors to be Next](#)
- [Here's Columbus' next step to prepare for surging population growth](#)
- [MORPC Matters: Planning underway for future of central Ohio transportation](#)
- [Sawmill Parkway project to begin June 22](#)
- [How to Get Involved in Transit Advocacy](#)
- [Air quality alerts issued for Wednesday and Thursday](#)
- [Air Quality Alert issued for July 8th & 9th in Central Ohio](#)

- [Air Quality Alert In Effect Today](#)
- [Regional Air Quality Alert Remains In Effect](#)
- [Heat wave nears record length](#)
- [Mark Wahlberg adds to his Columbus auto operations as West Side redevelopment plans continue](#)
- [Urban Planning in Columbus Ohio](#)
- [City of Columbus, COTA, MORPC launch LinkUS Central Ohio](#)
- [LinkUS mobility implementation programme launched in Ohio](#)
- [Columbus, OH to bridge mobility silos through LinkUS initiative](#)
- [MORPC Matters: Data identifies trends, disparities in central Ohio](#)
- [Heat rolls on in a scorching summer, but it was even hotter in the 1930s Dust Bowl era](#)
- [The Year 2050 — What Will Columbus Look Like?](#)
- [Eye on the Environment: MORPC programs can aid Hilliard residents](#)

Digital Content

Social media and web/e-newsletter content included: Brownfields Grants; Active Transportation Plan, Central Ohio Greenways Survey; COVID-19 Effects on Transportation; MORPC Matters on the Future of Transportation; John Glenn Columbus Passenger Pulse Survey; ODOT Distracted Driving Corridor; Gohio Commute and itsTelework Survey; Paving the Way; Various Roadway Safety Messages; Columbus Vision Zero; Central Ohio Greenways and its survey; Dump the Pump Day; Franklin County Transportation Improvement District Grant Applications, Air Quality Alerts; Mid-Ohio Open Data Site; LinkUS; Smart Columbus Remote Work Survey; Central OhioTransportation Safety Plan; and ODOT Access Ohio 2045 Plan.