



## NOTICE OF A MEETING

**CORPO COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Hosted by: **THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Virtual Meeting – MS Teams**  
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**May 4th, 2020**  
**2:00 – 3:30 P.M.**

### AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – CORPO Chair Commissioner Mark Forest  
*(Roster Enclosed)*
2. **Approval of Jan 2020 CORPO Meeting Minutes** *(Enclosed)*
3. **Resolution 1-20 Adoption of the 2021 CORPO Planning Work Program”** *(Enclosed)* – Mike Borger, MORPC
4. **Resolution 2-20 Adoption of the 2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)**  
*(Enclosed) Mike Borger, MORPC*
5. **Special Activities Update** – MORPC Staff / CORPO Members
  - a. Mobility Manager Peer Exchange
  - b. US 33 Corridor Plan
  - c. Knox / Morrow Freeway Access Study
  - d. Madison County Access Management / Thoroughfare Plan
6. **CORPO Member Roundtable Discussion**
  - a. **Union County**
  - b. **Pickaway County**
  - c. **Morrow County**
  - d. **Marion County**
  - e. **Madison County**
  - f. **Knox County**
  - g. **Fairfield County**
7. **Other Business** – Mike Borger
  - a. Agency Updates (MORPC)
  - b. Comments / Questions

**8. Adjourn**

**PLEASE NOTIFY MIKE BORGER AT 614-233-4155 OR MBORGER@morpc.org TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.**

**The next CORPO Committee Meeting is  
November 2, 2020 2:00 – 3:30 P.M  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

## **CORPO Meeting Roster**

**5-4-2020**

### **CORPO Officers**

Mark Forest , Madison County Commissioner - CORPO Chair  
Jeff Stauch, Union County Engineer - Vice Chair  
Loudan Klein, Executive Director Fairfield County Regional Planning - Secretary

### **Confirmed CORPO Committee Members**

Terry Emery, City of Marysville City Manager  
Jeff Stauch, Union County Engineer  
Teresa Bemiller, Knox County Commissioner  
Cameron Keaton, Knox County Engineer  
Brian Ball, City of Mount Vernon Engineer  
Bryan Dhume, Madison County Engineer  
Mark Forest, Madison County Commissioner  
Joe Mosier, Madison County Safety Service Director  
Chris Mullins, Pickaway County Engineer  
Andy Ware, Morrow County Development Director  
Bart Dennison, Morrow County Engineer  
Tom Whiston, Morrow County Commissioner  
Steve Davis, Fairfield County Commissioner  
Dave Levacy, Fairfield County Commissioner  
Ira Weiss, Fairfield Heritage Trail Association and Fairfield County  
Planning Commission  
Brad Irons, Marion County Engineer  
Scott Schertzer, Mayor, City of Marion  
Jim Bishoff, Director, Marion County Public Works

### **Identified Alternates**

Bill Narducci, Union County Assistant Engineer  
Roger Reed, Knox County Commissioner  
Pat Closser, Mayor, City of London  
Jay Wippel, Pickaway County Commissioner  
Anthony Neff, Pickaway County Deputy County Engineer  
Phil Wright, Marion County Deputy Engineer  
Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic Development Director

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**Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)  
Committee Meeting  
January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
Meeting Summary**

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215

**Attendance**

Mark Forrest, Madison Co.  
Loudan Klein, Fairfield Co.  
Steve Stolte, Union Co.  
Bryan Dhume, Madison Co.  
Andy Ware, Morrow Co.  
Brian Ball, Knox Co.  
Megan Matrka, West Erie Realty

Tom Whiston, Morrow Co.  
Ira Weiss, FCRPC  
Rick Szabrak, Fairfield Co.  
Teresa Bemiller, Knox Co.  
Jeff Stauch, Union Co.

**MORPC Staff**

Mike Borger  
Nick Gill

Maria Schaper

Welcome & Introductions – Mark Forrest, Madison County Commissioner & CORPO Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Andy Ware of Morrow County conference called into the meeting.

December 2019 Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Forrest asked the CORPO Committee to vote on the minutes from the previous CORPO meeting (held May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019). Madison Co. Commissioner Mark Forrest moved, and Ira Weiss seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Nick Gill of MORPC gave a detailed description of the TIP process and how the TIP could look for CORPO. He shared a proposed timeline of the work that will need to be done to complete the TIP. Nick Gill explained that the TIP is how to implement the CORPO long-range transportation plan (CTP) completed by CORPO and explained that it is the next step in CORPO's planning process and expected by ODOT. Nick asked if there were any questions after his explanation of the TIP. Union County Commissioner Steve Stolte stated that he appreciates that the CORPO TIP will encompass entire CORPO counties and not carve out the areas within the MPO.

2021 CORPO Planning Work Program - Commissioner Forrest moved on to the next topic and Nick Gill went on to explain what the Planning Work Program (PWP) is and referenced a memo that was included in the pre-meeting packet. The memo was intended to generate a conversation among CORPO members regarding the PWP. Mike Borger brought up the PWP initiation letter from ODOT as well as the previous PWP to help guide the discussion. Nick Gill stated that the PWP is essentially CORPO's scope of work and that he would like for the committee discuss potential work that can be done by CORPO staff to better meet the needs of CORPO members, as well as CORPO's contract with ODOT.

Nick broke down and walked through the work elements within the previous CORPO PWP and it was used as a guide for the conversation. Mike Borger stated that we have hit the metrics we needed to

hit for CORPO at this point but that other projects have been born out of CORPO's previous work and that he would like to ensure that CORPO members are getting a return on their investment in CORPO. Nick felt that some of the work elements were too general and that members may want more specific work to be completed and that these items could be incorporated into the PWP. Mike Borger asked if the work elements could remain general and more high level if need be and Nick Gill stated that they could remain that way.

Loudan Klein stated that he would like to see more active transportation planning in Fairfield County and he referenced previous work that MORPC had done with Fairfield County. Nick Gill suggested that CORPO members consider a complete streets policy and to think about those needs. CORPO Chair Mark Forrest suggested that areas around SR 142 along I-70 and SR 42 would be areas to consider. Nick Gill thinks that we could get more specific on work activities when it comes to data and mapping. Commissioner Stolte said that he feels like safety and active transportation planning, specifically 42 and 161 corridor studies would be important and finally a need to transit or mobility options. He continued to discuss the importance of trails in southern Union County. Madison County Engineer Bryan Dume expressed the difficulty he faces trying to understand the planning specifics because he focuses so much on maintenance. He stated that he could use some guidance with identifying funding sources for other projects. But he did reiterate that it is hard for him to focus on anything other than maintenance and the pressures of growth, specifically intersection safety issues. Nick Gill said that he thinks that maintenance issues could be part of the PWP conversation but that it would be helpful if specifics were identified.

CORPO Chair Commissioner Mark Forrest suggested that CORPO members take their time after the meetings and get suggestions back to Mike Borger in two weeks. Mike Borger mentioned that every time he is with ODOT or other RTPOs the topic of maintenance comes up and have the same concerns and suggested that maintenance be a topic at subcommittee meetings and innovative ways to address maintenance problems. Union County Commissioner stated that we are all part of Central Ohio and the fastest growing part of the Mid-West. Mike Borger also brought up the issue of broadband and that could be a PWP topic.

Special Activities Update – Mike Borger updated the committee on special activities that have occurred since CORPO started. He reminded the Committee that CORPO he and other MORPC staff sit on the Transportation Advisory Committee for a US 33 Corridor plan. He mentioned that the first draft of the US 33 plan is out. Mike then went on to explain to the committee that he had assisted the Union County Health Department to get a larger than requested grant award. Additionally, he mentioned that another RTPO asked MORPC for data related to a trail study in Northern Knox county. Finally, Mike updated the Committee on the status of a technical assistance program proposal previously submitted to ODOT. Because ODOT had asked that CORPO resubmit the proposal with specifics, CORPO will resubmitted the Knox / Morrow Freeway Access study portion of the proposal only, on January 6<sup>th</sup> 2020. . Mike stated that he will update the Committee after he received word on the status.

CORPO Admirative Items – Mike Borger let the Committee know that CORPO Vice Chair, Jeff Harris was leaving his role in Knox County and therefore the Vice chair seat would need to be filled. CORPO Chair Mark Forrest suggested that the replacement not be someone from Madison County since he is currently the chair. Union County Engineer Jeff Stauch said that he would be willing to take Jeff's place as Vice Chair. Madison County Engineer Bryan Dume moved and Ira Weiss seconded the motion and it was approved by CORPO Chair Mark Forrest approved the motion with no opposition.

CORPO Member Roundtable Discussion – Mike Borger asked that the CORPO Committee adopt a recurring meeting cycle and Nick Gill shared that due to certain document deadlines he felt that May and November would be the best times for the CORPO to meet. The first Monday of May and November were suggested. The motion was seconded by Knox County Commissioner Teresa BeMiller and adopted with no opposition.

Mike Borger shared with the Committee that he would like to have the group look further into adding new members to their subcommittees. Nick Gill seconded this and asked that members look at this as well. Nick Gill brought up his concern that counties were not providing us feedback and wanted us to hear more from our members about what is going on in their regions.

Rick Szabrak of Fairfield County stated that there has been some manufacturing growth in Fairfield and that a company will be bringing 375 jobs and opening in March. Fairfield is opening a workforce center, partnered with OU and Hocking College to get into skilled trades as an alternative to Career tech centers. Loudan Klein brought up the TID in Fairfield and said that they've recently completed a corridor study with MORPC to connect I-70 to US 33.

Union County Engineer Jeff Stauch announced the near completion of a FedEx Dist. and that Amazon was looking to build a new data center somewhere on the US 33 Corridor. He mentioned that rapid growth continues to be an issue in the county. The gas tax is giving Union County another 1.5 Million in revenues and they recently added a permissive fee bump of just under one million dollars. Engineer Stauch said that housing numbers are up 550 (400 SFH units and 2000 in the pipeline around Marysville) in 2018 in the county and that many of those are multi family. All of the CORPO counties mentioned that there are barriers to expanding natural gas in our region. Jeff Stauch mentioned that recently he has seen an increase in solar farm proposals.

CORPO Chair Mark Forrest mentioned the 161 / 33 corridor in Plain City and expecting 500+ homes in that area. West Jefferson area there are new warehouses popping up there and that transportation issues will arise from that. Madison Engineer Bryan Dhume of Madison's said their growth has been because of annexation but that they are also working on a water distribution system that should change that alone 42 and if they can get the gas situation taken care of this could help the county grow. Madison is working with Ice Miller consulting to put in broadband conduit. Engineer Dhume said that he has seen good grant awards with OPWC and federal grants for projects as well as additional gas tax funding. They also added a \$5 permissive fee two years ago that had generated \$250,000. He also hypothetically asked what this increase in fees will do to the cost of materials. Madison County is currently seeing the development of solar farms in their area which will produce over one million dollars in tax revenue from these.

Knox County Commissioner Teresa BeMiller said that growth has not been an issue as much in Knox County but that workforce related issues exist. Knox County funded a career navigator position to work with kids in schools to encourage them to go into trades if they don't want to go to college. She mentioned that Knox received funds to connect trails with Delaware and are overall looking at trails in general. They are also working with Ice Miller on Knox Lake wastewater project, more to come on that. Knox is working on capital projects, an old school, with a local foundation they will renovate the building and use it for their Board of Elections. Knox County has a need for housing and because of this they have additional workforce and Knox is still reeling from the loss of Siemens and the county is trying to figure out what to do with that building. Commissioner BeMiller is hoping that the former Siemens building could be used for Knox Area Transit but due to lease obligations it is not available at this time.

Morrow County Commissioner Tom Whiston discussed the new Dollar Tree distribution center and that half the employees for it will come from Morrow County but that the issues with mobility still remain. He also mentioned that the intersection where the center is located is now is experiencing growth issues. A developer is looking to put in 600 units of housing near the center and currently the permit is approved. The new levy that passed in Morrow and because of this, 300 miles of road will be repaved. Funding has improved but the Commissioner is dealing with the loss of the MCO tax. As former Mayor, Whiston was a

proponent of rails to trails projects and that MORPC should look into a comprehensive bike plan.

Other Business – Mike Borger asked the committee for newsletter content if counties have things to share with each other to please submit them to him and he will add it to the newsletter. Additionally, he updated the committee on the following items and will share them with the group with the post-meeting packet. Some of these items that had a quicker deadline were sent to the CORPO Committee via email directly after the meeting:

- There is a new map gallery through City of Columbus provided for the region.
- The Ohio EPA has opportunities to retrofit diesel vehicles. The Ohio EPA opened their request for these funds.
- MORPC Webinar.
- Mike Borger let the Committee know that 5310 and 5307 cycles are opening.
- There is a MORPC housing study that will include some of the CORPO counties.
- Pickaway County talked about starting a TID and MORPC has begun talking to Pickaway about the next steps in developing a TID and the deadline for funding is April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ODOT's Your Move was introduced and Mike Borger provided information on how to implement this program.

Nick Gill mentioned to the Committee that MORPC has helped other counties set up TID and could help with this process if need be.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 4th 2020.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

Michael Borger  
CORPO Committee





## Memorandum

**TO:** Central Ohio Rural Transportation Planning Organization  
CORPO Committee

**FROM:** Mike Borger, Principal Planner  
Transportation & Infrastructure Development

**DATE:** 4/27/2020

**SUBJECT:** SFY 2021 Planning Work Program (PWP)

Planning Work Programs (PWP) document the RTPOs' SFY transportation planning programs, products, and budgets. Final SFY 2021 Planning Work Programs (PWP) for RTPOs are due to ODOT by May 1<sup>st</sup>. In a December 10<sup>th</sup> memo initiating the development of the SFY21 PWP, ODOT identified implementation of Access Ohio 2045 (AO45) as an emphasis area for the SFY21 PWP.

ODOT suggested SFY 2021 AO45 implementation work efforts may include:

- Alignment of AO45 strategies with RTPO Transportation Plan development
- Safety initiatives collaboration
- Establishing new and expanding existing transportation partnerships
- Transportation data sharing
- Multi-modal corridor studies and collaboration

Additionally, ODOT included other potential work efforts in their PWP memo. The memo is attached.

After a period of review it has been determined by members that CORPO's planned work will address the needs and goals of our members as well as ODOT's, we have included a resolution to adopt the FY 2021 PWP for CORPO in this packet and would like to do so during our May 4<sup>th</sup>, CORPO meeting. Thanks to those members who provided feedback during the comment period.

*Attachment: SFY20 PWP, ODOT RTPO SFY 2021 PWP Memo*



## Memorandum

**TO:** Central Ohio Rural Transportation Planning Organization  
CORPO Committee

**FROM:** Mike Borger, Principal Planner  
Transportation & Infrastructure Development

**DATE:** 4/27/2020

**SUBJECT:** FY 2021-2024 CORPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Transportation Improvement Program or TIP is the four year program of projects and strategies implementing the near-term priorities in the CORPO Long-Range Transportation Plan (CTP).

The TIP is intended to do the following:

- Document local government and ODOT consensus on regional priorities
- Be a comprehensive listing of transportation projects
  - All federally funded projects
  - All other regionally significant projects
  - Highway, transit, bikeway, and pedestrian modes
- Summarize project scopes, schedules, and costs
- Communicate this information to diverse parties
- Exist for a 4 Year Duration, Adopted Biennially
- Gain approval from MPO / RTPO, Governor, and U.S. DOT

The final bullet point is what we would like to see happen at our May 4<sup>th</sup> CORPO Committee meeting. CORPO members and the general public have had a chance to review the CORPO TIP drafts and staff recommends that the committee move to adopt the TIP. A resolution to adopt the 2021 – 2024 CORPO TIP is included in the packet.

Thank you for your participation in the TIP process and to those who provided feedback during the comment period.

*Attachment: Resolution to adopt the 2021-2024 TIP*