



NOTICE OF A MEETING

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

AGENDA - **DRAFT**

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – CORPO Chair Commissioner Mark Forest
(Roster Enclosed)
2. **Approval of May 2020 CORPO Meeting Minutes** *(Enclosed)*
3. **Special Activities Update** – MORPC Staff / CORPO Members
 - a. Mobility Manager / Regional Coordinated Plan
 - b. US 33 Corridor Plan
 - c. Knox / Morrow Freeway Access Study
 - d. Madison County Access Management / Thoroughfare Plan
 - e. Centerburg Trail Design Prep
4. **Informational Items**
 - a. COTA Initiatives
 - i. Contiguous County Connections – Kim Sharp / Aslyne Rodriguez
 - ii. IMI Waycare Grant - Jason Yanni
 - b. Regional Housing Strategy – Jenn Knoll MORPC
 - c. Funding Program Deadlines - Nate Vogt, MORPC
5. **CORPO Member / Stakeholder Roundtable Discussion**
 - a. **Marion County**
 - b. **Madison County**
 - c. **Knox County**
 - d. **Fairfield County**
 - e. **Union County**
 - f. **Pickaway County**
 - g. **Morrow County**
6. **Other Business** – Mike Borger
 - a. Filling Vacant Secretary Position
 - b. FY 2020 Planning Work Program (PWP) Completion Report

- c. FY 2022
 - i. Draft for review in February / March
 - ii. Final in April for May adoption
- d. Next Round of County Subcommittee Meetings February / March

7. 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
May 3, 2021 2:00 – 3:30 P.M
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

CORPO Meeting Roster

11-2-2020

CORPO Officers

Mark Forest , Madison County Commissioner - CORPO Chair
Jeff Stauch, Union County Engineer - Vice Chair
Vacant - 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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Welcome & Introductions – Mark Forrest, Madison County Commissioner & CORPO Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

December 2019 Meeting Minutes – Madison County and CORPO Chair Mark Forrest asked the CORPO Committee to vote on the minutes from the previous CORPO meeting (held January 4th, 2020). Ira Weiss of Fairfield Co. moved, and Union County Commissioner Steve Stolte seconded the motion.

2021 CORPO Planning Work Program - Commissioner Forrest moved on to the next topic and Mike Borger recapped to the committee what the Planning Work Program (PWP) is. Madison Co. Engineer Bryan Dhume moved to approve the resolution and Union Co. Engineer Jeff Stauch seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Commissioner Forrest moved on to the next topic and Mike Borger recapped to the committee what the CORPO TIP is and what had been done during the TIP development. Knox County Commissioner Teresa BeMiller moved and Ira Weiss of Fairfield Co. seconded. The motion was carried.

Special Activities Update – Mike Borger of MORPC updated the committee on special activities, he reminded the Committee that the MORPC Mobility Manager Peer Exchange was taking place the next day and why it would be important for them to attend. Mike went on to explain that CORPO and other MORPC staff sit on the TAC for a US 33 plan and asked Engineer Bill Narducci of Union Co. to update the group on any developments of which there were none. Mike Borger updated the group on the Knox / Morrow Freeway Access study and stated that the group's previous proposal to ODOT was not funded, therefore stating that CORPO staff will work on the study themselves. Nick Gill of MORPC mentioned that there was a reduction in gas tax revenue and therefore ODOT was more conservative with funding. Mike Borger then went on to explain to the committee that CORPO staff will be assisting Madison Co. with their Thoroughfare Plan / Access Management study. Commissioner Forrest explained that he was happy with the coordination that has occurred on this project at this time. Mike Borger also asked the group to think about beefing up the subcommittee

CORPO Member Roundtable Discussion – Mike Borger asked the CORPO members to Provide updates:

Engineer Jeff Stauch of Union County mentioned that the county has delved into the development of the TID in Union Co. and that their BOC passed the resolution. Bill Narducci and Jeff Stauch participated with OSU seniors on a rural mobility study studio. He also mentioned that the Engineers in Central Ohio had discussed revenues and that projected a 35% reduction in revenues due to the pandemic. Commissioner Stolte mentioned that he has been working with the Union County Health Department on their Mobility Feasibility Study and asked if there had been any changes to the OTP2 funding from ODOT. Mike Borger and Nick Gill stated that there had not been any changes.

(A representative from Pickaway County was not present and therefore did not give an update.)

Morrow County Commissioner Tom Whiston stated that his biggest concern was the covid outbreak in their jail. He said that he is helping to ensuring that people get their stimulus / SBA loan funds. He stated that those in Morrow County are trying to come to a consensus on how to best handle the covid crisis in terms of businesses opening safely. He also mentioned that the reduction in the gas tax will reduce their engineer's chip and seal program. Economic developments folks are coming in to look at expanding capacity in the county. He also mentioned that county services are open.

(A representative from Marion County was not present and therefore did not give an update.)

Madison County Commissioner Mark Forrest mentioned that a staff member in their office tested positive for Covid they had to make adjustments based on that. He also mentioned that revenues from businesses in the county is down and that economic development plans had slowed temporarily due to the crisis. Engineer Bryan Dhume expressed similar concerns as other engineers in Central Ohio and that they have had to cut their chip and seal program down by half. He was concerned about payroll and keeping his staff healthy. Commissioner Forrest mentioned that surprisingly, Madison Co. has seen a nearly 60% increase in sales tax revenue which was unexpected.

Knox County Commissioner Teresa Bemiller acknowledged that Knox County is also trying to deal with the pandemic and that so far their cases have been low. She stated that small and local businesses are very concerned about when they will be able to open. Knox County Commissioners are participating in a small revolving loan with their local businesses to help keep them open during the crisis. Kathy Youkas and Jeff Gottke, of Knox County economic development stated that five small businesses had already applied for the loan Commissioner Bemiller spoke of. Jeff Gottke said that they have not seen a drop off in economic development plans underway in the county. Knox County Engineer Cameron Keaton shared with group that the county is reducing some chip and seal and other locally funded plans due to the pandemic. He also stated that a large OPWC project and that he had not been getting word from the state on how to move forward with projects that are on hold because of the pandemic. Both Engineer Bryan Dhume and Cameron Keaton mentioned that they may have to pull projects if the financial outlook doesn't change. Bryan Dhume asked that those with contacts to please reach out to legislators to stress the importance of OPWC related project funding.

Rick Szabrak of Fairfield County shared with the committee that there isn't anything new on the transportation front and that they did not have to make cuts in transportation.....yet. He also stated that Fairfield County has seen an increase in sales tax revenue but not at the level that Madison County has seen. Rick stated that Fairfield County has a revolving loan fund and some local businesses have been refinancing previous loans. He stated that some businesses are in a "wait and see" mode because they didn't feel comfortable taking out a loan at this time. He suggested that other committee members should look into *Shared Work Ohio*, a Jobs and Family Services program that allows businesses to cut employee hours and that unemployment picks up the rest of the employee's pay. It could be a way to keep people on payroll, pay them their regular wages and possibly avoid layoffs. He said that governments are eligible for this but half of the unemployment amounts need to be paid back. Rick Szabrak said that offices are closed and Fairfield's covid numbers are still low.

Nick Gill asked Joe Garrity of MORPC to respond to Bryan Dhume about OPWC and the passing of a capitol bill. Bryan was curious about the bill passing round 34 of OPWC. Joe Garrity shared that he thinks the capitol re-appropriations bill is likely to be reintroduced in the coming weeks. MORPC has been convening calls with regional governments to discuss the bill moving forward and that Lt. Gov. Husted joined on of the call to say he felt good about the bill. However, Community project list portion of the bill is completely up in the air and that it may happen in the lame duck session. Joe mentioned that most of our advocacy is currently at the federal level.

Knox County Engineer Cameron Keaton asked if something was difference between the re-appropriations bill and a new appropriations bill. Joe mentioned that he would have to look further into it but that he believes that the funds are intended to fund previous cycles.

Other Business – Mike Borger mentioned that MORPC will be closed for some time. Eileen Leuby of MORPC shared MORPC's upcoming calendar of virtual events with the committee. Union County

Commissioner Steve Stolte told Eileen when the Commissioners calls are and asked about a specific MORPC event time. Nick Gill brought up TRAC and shared that this year's TRAC application cycle will open on June 15 and close on July 15, 2020. Mike Borger shared information on the AIM grant and that the due date is May 18, 2020 and that there would be a meeting on the topic in the following week.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2020.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by:

Michael Borger
CORPO Committee

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