



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

### TRANSPORTATION 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: 335 666 62#

**Wednesday, November 4, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.**

## AGENDA

- **9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions** – Cindi Fitzpatrick, Chair
- **9:03 a.m. Approval of [September 30, 2020, Meeting Minutes](#)** (enclosed)
- **9:05 a.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** (enclosed) – Thea Ewing, MORPC
  - Monthly Report – Data & Mapping – Aaron Schill, MORPC
  - Monthly Report – Planning & Sustainability – Jen Noll, MORPC
- **9:20 a.m. Funding Programs**
  - Attributable Funds Project Status Update - Thomas Graham, MORPC
- **9:30 a.m. Informational Items**
  - LinkUs Update – Kim Sharp, Senior Director-Development, COTA
  - Population Estimates – Aaron Schill, MORPC
  - Air Quality Update – Brooke White, MORPC
- **9:55 a.m. Other Business**
  - Nominating Committee – Cindi Fitzpatrick (CHAIR)
  - TAC appointment Update – Thea Ewing, MORPC
- **10:00 a.m. Adjourn**

PLEASE NOTIFY MELISSA SHARP AT 614-233-4180 OR EMAIL AT [msharp@morpc.org](mailto:msharp@morpc.org)  
TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL  
ASSISTANCE.

Attributable Funds Committee meeting will follow TAC via Teams at the link below

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[+1 614-362-3056](#) United States, Columbus (Toll)

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Phone Conference ID: 778 668 719#

**The next TAC Meeting is**  
**Wednesday, December 2, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m.**  
*111 Liberty Street, Suite 100*  
*Columbus, OH 43215*

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



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **September 2, 2020**  
Time: **9:00 a.m.**  
Location: **MORPC**

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

**Members Present**

Zakke Bashir	Cindi Fitzpatrick	Matt Peoples
Ted Beidler	Tiffany Jenkins	Scott Sanders
Greg Butcher	Morgan Kauffman	Daniel Sowry
Barb Cox	Laura MacGregor Comek	Jacolyn Thiel
Brian Davidson	Alan Moran	Kevin Weaver
Bill Ferrigno	Kim Moss	James Young

**Guests as signed in via TEAMS:**

Jen Alford	Robert James	Tim Nittle
Valerie Croasmun	Ryan Lowe	Andrew Shepler
Mike Hafner	Andy Jones	Kristan Studebaker
Dan Hoying	Veena Madineni	Anthony Turowski

**MORPC Staff Present**

Laura Cardoni	Thomas Graham	Alexander Schepflin
Jon-Paul d'Aversa	Ted Geer	Aaron Schill
Thea Ewing	Zhuojun Jiang	Melissa Sharp
MaryAnn Frantz	Dina Lopez	Nathaniel Vogt
Nick Gill	Stephen Patchan	

**Guests**

Matthew Dietrich  
Megan McClory

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

Chair Cindy Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Thea Ewing (MORPC) took roll call.

**II. Approval of August 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Chair Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Kevin Weaver moved; Anthony Turowski seconded; none opposed, and the motion carried.

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

- ODOT announced that they plan to suspend the TRAC program for this year, specially new projects. The suspension comes as a result of revenues below the expectations for this year. This is important to us because we are in the

middle of a public comment period for all the applications that were submitted. We will still be collecting those comments and sharing them with the project owners. Also, we will not be doing a TRAC prioritization this year. Those projects that were submitted this year will need to update their information and apply next year. We have not seen anything like a press release from ODOT, but MORPC is here to answer any questions you may have or assist in any way we can.

### **Data & Mapping Monthly Report – Aaron Schill, MORPC**

- Regional Data Advisory Committee met on September 1 for our third quarter meeting, and among other items, one of the primary goals centered around the regional data agenda. This is a two-year agenda that guides our work in data as an organization and identifies the broader needs in the region related to data. The committee will now focus on reviewing, updating, revising the agenda going into 2021 and then prioritizing these action items.
- Census 2020 – currently the census is set to complete enumeration at the end of September. The Census Bureau has requested an extension to the end of October; however, they have not received authorization to move the deadline; the plan is for counting to conclude 9/30/2020. This creates significant concerns for undercounting, especially in hard to count populations. MORPC, along with 130 organizations and the National Association of Regional Councils, has signed on to a letter that was sent to our congressional leadership expressing concerns about the short timeline to collect information as well as an issue called “differential privacy”, which is a new way that privacy will be protected in reporting out of results that create significant concerns about the accuracy of the data coming out of the 2020 census.
- Digital Divide Project (Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program) – MORPC is working with the Education Service Center of Central Ohio and other partners to obtain up to 10,000 computers and internet accounts to low-income households in our region. Next week, we are launching the online portal for families to sign up. This will be a soft launch and the following week will go live to the general public. Our ask to you and your communities are two things:
  - Assist in reaching out to your communities
  - Assist in sourcing of donated computers that can be refurbished and provided back out to the families.

### **Planning & Sustainability Monthly Report – Stephen Patchan, MORPC**

- Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum – September 15, 2020 - this forum is a continuation of the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan. Attendees will have ample opportunities to learn about initiatives happening in the region, reviewing the adopted plan and discussing any necessary adjustments in lieu of our current situation with COVID-19. The forum will also feature a fireside chat with William Murdock, MORPC’s Executive Director, and Keith Benjamin, Director, Department of Traffic and Transportation, City of Charleston, SC. Mr. Benjamin is a nationally recognized leader in transportation safety as well as social justice. To register: [www.morpc.org/safety](http://www.morpc.org/safety)

- [Safety-Forum-Flyer-.pdf](#)
- [Summit on Sustainability](#) – this is our annual summit. This will be a two-day (October 15-16, 2020) virtual event. Registration is now open. MORPC is partnering with the Atlanta Regional Commission to share innovations and best practices. ([www.morpc.org/summit](http://www.morpc.org/summit))
- [2020-Summit-on-Sustainability-Flyer](#)

#### IV. **Funding Programs**

##### **Attributable Funds Project Status Update** – Thomas Graham (MORPC)

- Mr. Graham provided two updates:
  - Encumbered funds for the first of two annual payments to the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan on the I-270 at US 33 interchange project.
  - Majority of funds for the Worthington Project are encumbered. There are still some outstanding funds. Those are anticipated to be encumbered later this fiscal year.
  - Ongoing round for attributable funding for new funding commitments, applicants that submitted screening applications should expect to receive feedback within the next day or so, if they haven't already. Those applicants would then be eligible to submit final applications, which are due October 9.
  - [Attributable-Funds-Report-Simplified.pdf](#)

#### V. **Resolutions**

##### **Proposed Resolution T-11-20: Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program** – Thomas Graham, MORPC

- This TIP amendment includes 12 different projects. Additional information can be found in the meeting packet as well as detailed information in Attachment 1. Mr. Graham provided a brief overview of the following projects:
  - For COTA, we're including the Fields Avenue Renovation Project – the addition of \$10,000,000 in Section 5307 funding – to ensure that the project can continue move forward in fiscal year 2021. These funds were previously for state fiscal year 2020, but were not encumbered at that time.
  - OTP2 awards for both COTA and Delaware County Transit.
  - City of Dublin has a University Boulevard project. This project was recently awarded an additional \$250,000 in ODOT Jobs and Commerce funding. This was awarded through the Franklin County Transportation Improvement District. This TIP amendment is including that award.
  - ODOT District 6 provides several projects, where there are alternations being made; none of which are altering construction phases. MORPC funds are included in the later phases of construction for a couple of these projects.
    - 70-71 Innerbelt Phase 4A – includes the addition of PE environmental phase.
  - US23 corridor study – Phase One. The study is exploring a continuous freeway connection between Toledo and Columbus. Phase One

specifically focuses on the area between Marion and Columbus. Phase One anticipated to cost about \$1,000,000; \$250,000 of that will be a contribution from MORPC. The additional MORPC funding being added to the TIP as part of that project.

- Whitehall – for the detailed design phase of the E. Broad Street at S. Hamilton Road intersection improvements project. MORPC funding is included in later phases of this project.
- Chair Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve this resolution; Bill Ferrigno moved; Matt Peoples seconded; motion carried.
  
- Proposed Resolution T-12-20: Accepting the PWP Completion Report for the State Fiscal Year 2020 – Nick Gill, MORPC
  - T-11-20 is an annual resolution we do accepting the planning work program (PWP) completion report. This is the agreement with ODOT on how we are going to use the federal transportation dollars we have for planning purposes. A summary document was provided which identifies the various activities that were done over the fiscal year along with the budget dollars that were provided.
  - Chair Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve this resolution; Jacqui Thiel moved; James Young seconded; motion carried.

## VI. Information Items

- ORDC Rail Crossing Study – Megan McClory / Matt Dietrich (Guests), Ohio Rail Commission
  - The Commission has been working for about 15 months and is in response to concerns that the commission received from the public and communities about crossings that were occupied by trains. The team quickly came to the realization that there is not much in the way of quantitative data; a lot can be told about the safety of a crossing, but not necessarily about its importance to the community.
  - A two-phase project was conducted. The first phase was to look at the current conditions and current research. The second phase identified two pilot areas (Butler & Lorain Counties).
  - Ms. McClory reviewed the Adaptive Capacity Score (ACS) Methodology, - combines components into a single adaptive capacity score, then is used to assess the relative importance of a crossing and the impact that crossing has on the community. The assessment tool provides an output that is a score on a scale of 1 to 5 for each of the four components and combines into an overall motorized or non-motorized ACS score. For analysis purposes, those weights can be modified.
  - A final stakeholder workshop will be conducted later this month. By the end of September, final report, final evaluation tool and user manual are expected for both current use and how/when they can update evaluation tool and keep it current.
  - [Ohio Rail Grade Crossing Study](#)
  
- Solar Toolkit for Local Governments –Jon-Paul d’Aversa, MORPC

- The Energy and Air Quality Working Group created a subcommittee to build the solar toolkit our members. The subcommittee was comprised primarily of Energy and Air Quality staff as well as legal representation from Bricker & Eckler, Smart Columbus Energy, Energility, and NREGC. The toolkit familiarizes users with the process of solar development, what is needed and what is expected. Additionally, we compiled Central Ohio specific resources for those looking to tackle specific issues.
- A question was proposed regarding the purpose of the toolkit for government buildings or more towards development standards for projects. Mr. d'Aversa explained that it is “nuts and bolts” for everything you might want to do.
- [Solar-Toolkit-.pdf](#)
- Covid-19 Transportation Related Information – Thea Ewing, MORPC, Nick Gill, MORPC
  - The presentation was an update on information that was provided to the committee in June on how the pandemic is impacting travel throughout our region covering highway, air travel, transit, air quality and trails.
  - Mr. Gill reviewed the maps for the weekly traffic, both AM and PM as well as congestion during peak periods both Franklin County and the 15-county area.
  - Ms. Ewing reviewed air travel, air cargo and COTA/Delaware County transit.
  - Air quality and trails will be updated at a later date.
  - [COVID-19-transportation-impacts-September-2020.pdf](#)

**VII. Other Business - None**

**VIII. Adjourn**

- Chair Fitzpatrick entertained a motion to adjourn. Morgan Kauffman moved; Kevin Weaver seconded, none opposed, motion carried. Motion adjourned at 10:08 a.m.



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Thea J Ewing, Secretary  
**Transportation Advisory Committee**



## MORPC Monthly Metropolitan Transportation Organization Summary

November 2020

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# Transportation & Infrastructure Development

Thea Walsh, Director - [twalsh@morpc.org](mailto:twalsh@morpc.org)

## **Transit, Mobility & Human Services**

### ➤ **Mobility Management**

- Work has continued on several aspects of the ODOT HSTC Region 6 Transit Coordinated Plan. These include:
  - The timeline that has the process starting in November with an estimated completion date in spring 2021.
  - A draft public engagement plan that recognizes the Central Ohio Mobility Management Working Group as the Coordinated Plan Steering Committee and outlines all necessary public involvement initiatives, such as surveys, focus groups, and public meetings.
  - Development of draft surveys for transportation users and providers to which will also contribute to the provider inventory for the Gohio Commute Specialized Mobility Search tool.
- MORPC staff have presented at a statewide virtual conference to highlight the Franklin County Mobility Management Program, regional transportation coordination, and Gohio Commute program. The conference focused on encouraging transportation access and education for vulnerable populations.

### ➤ **Gohio**

- Gohio Commute staff met with Fed Ex to see how they could assist with Transportation to all their facilities. Employee data is currently being analyzed to see how we can assist them with our vanpooling program.
- Gohio Commute Staff participated in the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) DEI taskforce to establish a Diversity and Inclusion Program for the organization. After several months of planning, the recommendations are being presented to the Act Board of Directors on November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Gohio Commute staff are moving forward with development of the specialized mobility search tool. There have been multiple meetings with the OARC RS AQ Subcommittee, ODOT, and Rideamigos to work out challenges with site integration and user-friendly design. The implementation date is still to be determined but is expected to be in early Winter for MORPC.
- A Central Ohio Telework Policy Guide for businesses. The telework guide was discussed during MORPC's Summit on Sustainability along with other related topics among the panelists. As a result of this panel, Gohio Commute Staff feel encouraged

- to pursue a secondary document that focuses on confronting disparities caused by virtual work among diverse populations. Planning for this document are underway.
- A Central Ohio TDM web page for the Gohio Commute Mobility Hub. This page will feature mobility updates in Central Ohio for public viewing. This will highlight MORPC's partnership with regional transportation partners and offer the public an opportunity to email in their feedback on mobility initiatives.
  - Gohio Commute staff are partnering with Columbus Public Health and Toole Design Group to facilitate a TDM workshop with the Active Linden and Bike Friendly Franklinton Coalitions. This workshop will highlight how our regional Mode Shift Coalition can support equitable TDM initiatives for vulnerable communities. Additionally, Toole Design Group will present successful TDM programs from around the country and facilitate conversation on how we might implement their best practices to make our work more successful for Central Ohio mode shift. This will be an important learning experience focused on equity, transportation behavior change, and TDM data collection.
  - Gohio Commute staff have reinforced and strengthened partnerships with CampusParc and the Ohio State University Transportation Management team to collaborate on their Comprehensive Parking Plan and future TDM partnership opportunities.

## **Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)**

### ➤ **CORPO Update**

- CORPO staff met with stakeholders in Knox County on October 6<sup>th</sup> to further a proposed trail head design plan that the Village of Centerburg is currently preparing. CORPO / MORPC staff provided a scope of work, data and meeting facilitation.
- CORPO met with staff at LUC on October 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss planning coordination between agencies as well as the Regional Coordinated plan.
- CORPO staff continued to meet / work with members in Madison County on a Thoroughfare Plan for the county.
- CORPO staff continues to advise the ODOT US 33 Plan TAC, provide data and planning assistance when necessary.
- CORPO staff continues to assist the Union County Health Department with their Mobility Feasibility study and last met with the steering committee for that project on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **Infrastructure Funding**

### ➤ **MORPC Attributable Funding**

- MORPC received 31 final applications for MORPC Attributable Funding, representing over \$175 million in funding requests. MORPC staff will be working alongside the Attributable Funds Committee (AFC) to score the applications and develop recommendations for funding during the coming months. The next AFC meeting is November 4<sup>th</sup>.

### ➤ **Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)**

- Applicants in Franklin County (District 3) submitted 19 applications requesting \$36 million in SCIP/LTIP funding for the year beginning July 1, 2021. Approximately \$30 million is available. The team is reviewing and scoring applications. The Public

Works Integrating Committee's (PWIC) next meeting on November 20 will be to review the applications received and the scoring process.

- Applications for District 17 (includes Delaware, Licking and Fairfield counties) are due on November 6, 2020.

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

- District 3 (Franklin County) announced the availability of \$3.9 million from the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund for green space acquisition and stream corridor restoration. Preliminary screening applications are due on December 11, 2020, and final applications are due on March 19, 2021. Application materials are available on MORPC's website.
- MORPC hosted virtual workshop on October 6 for potential applicants. Workshop slides have been posted on the website.

➤ **Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)**

- MORPC is actively working with each county that participates in CAP to update their project lists ahead of the new Congress. Each county is now moving through locally preferred channels to update their projects. Staff is also working with stakeholders to determine 'regionally significant' projects under CAP (e.g broadband access). CAP update work is anticipated to continue into early 2021.

# Data & Mapping

Aaron Schill, Director – [aschill@morpc.org](mailto:aschill@morpc.org)

## **Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)**

The RDAC will meet on December 1 to discuss, among other matters, the status of the Working Groups, the Broadband Access Pilot Program, the COVID-19 Research Briefs, and the updating of the Regional Data Agenda.

- Data Policy Needs Survey & Toolkit Working Group members met October 20 to continue their work on the Data Policy Needs Survey. The Working Group plans to meet again in mid-November.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Working Group is planning the fourth-quarter RIDG User Group meeting, scheduled for November 4. The Working Group will meet again on November 16.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group continues their work via the Fiber Network Subgroup. The Working Group will meet again later in 2020.
- The Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) will have their final 2020 meeting on December 2.

## **Transportation**

- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill continues to assist Transportation staff with the final steps of the update of the Attributable Funds Online Application.
- GIS Manager Cheri Mansperger is working with ODOT Technical Services to help them consume Franklin County LBRS data.
- Data & Mapping staff continued creating watershed maps and maps for Hyperloop,

## **Data and Mapping Outreach and Collaboration**

### Population Estimates

- Data & Mapping staff collected and analyzed data for the 2021 Population estimates, with draft estimates being distributed to Members on October 12. Finalized population estimates will be presented to Commission on November 12.
- Data & Mapping staff and leadership updated the timeline for the annual population estimates, which will result in:
  - Increased accuracy and stability of population estimates for Members.
  - The ability to produce and share with Members a time series population trend for communities since 2010 as a new data product.
  - Lengthening the timeline for building permit data collection which will result in strengthened QA/QC of those data.

### Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program

- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill, ESCCO staff, and PCs for People staff continue to meet with prospective funders, wireless vendors, school superintendents and other interested parties.
- The GIS Team is geocoding the distribution of the equipment.

### COVID-19 Research Briefs

- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill and staff are working with local partners to develop a series of data-based research briefs to prepare and inform regional policy and decision-makers

on the likely mid- and long-term effects of the pandemic and shutdowns. Completion of this projected is expected in November 2020.

#### 211 Dashboard

- The Data Team created a 211 Calls Dashboard for Lutheran Social Services data, and will work with Lutheran Social Services toward the final product.

#### Planning & Sustainability

- Data & Mapping staff are collaborating with Planning & Sustainability staff to produce and analyze the Central Ohio Greenways Trail Survey, the Active Transportation Plan, Trail Counts, and the Central Ohio Greenways Prioritization Project.
- Data & Mapping staff assisted Planning & Sustainability staff with the City of Columbus TAP Speed Management Tool.
- Data Manager Liz Whelan continues her collaboration with MORPC's Planning & Sustainability staff on the Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee.
- Data Analyst Natalie Hurst, Sustainability Officer Brandi Whetstone, and OSU's Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) launched the Regional Sustainability Dashboard on October 16 at the Summit on Sustainability. The MORPC/CURA Team received the Collaborative Achievement Award presented at the Summit. More information and a link to the dashboard can be found [here](#).

#### Regional Housing Strategy

- Data Manager Liz Whelan gave a presentation Regarding the Regional Housing Strategy to the Equity Now Coalition on September 24, and at the Summit on Sustainability on October 15.

# Planning & Sustainability

Kerstin Carr, Director - [kcarr@morpc.org](mailto:kcarr@morpc.org)

## **Active Transportation Planning**

**Active Transportation Plan:** Team members have completed several analyses for the Active Transportation Plan (ATP). Notably, the level of traffic stress map will be updated and expanded to include the entire MPO area. Preliminary findings on the level of traffic stress were vetted with the ATP Steering Committee at its November 10 meeting, where members reviewed and discussed the draft map's results related to bike/pedestrian comfort and safety. Committee members also heard an update on the ATP outreach plan and public survey.

**Complete Streets:** The MORPC Complete Streets Committee reviewed Stage 1 documents for Cassady Avenue and Stage 2 documents for Winchester Pike over Georges Creek. Recommendations were made on both projects to make minor improvements for non-motorized users.

**Active Transportation Committee:** The fourth quarter Active Transportation Committee meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, December 8 from 2-4pm. Angie Schmitt, Cleveland resident and author of the new book Right of Way will be the guest speaker. The meeting will focus on pedestrian safety.

**Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts:** Manual volunteer counts were completed at the end of September and staff have been working to summarize all the data that was collected. A final summary report will be shared before the end of the year. Staff also completed annual short duration counts and are working to improve the annual trail count program, including data collection and processing, for next year.

## **insight2050**

### **Technical Assistance Program (TAP):**

- Team members engaged Franklin County staff in the Complete Streets project through a Virtual Walk Audit which began and ended at MORPC Offices. Staff were asked to evaluate the comfort of specific observation stops, such as intersections and bus stops. MORPC and Franklin County hosted a debrief meeting to discuss the Virtual Walk Audit and how it relates to Complete Streets. Results will be summarized for the final deliverable.
- Team members met with City of Hilliard staff to identify a potential transportation network for the Cemetery Road site area that would support connectivity and access for all modes. MORPC team continues to refine the draft network and align recommendations with proposed land use.
- For the Westerville project, MORPC team members developed a multidisciplinary inventory of plans, policies, and ordinances relevant to the Cleveland Avenue corridor. MORPC team continues to work on building an inventory of recommendations from those documents.

## **Regional Housing Strategy (RHS)**

Team members continue to meet with RHS project sponsors to debrief the project. MORPC is interested in hearing how its members are approaching next steps and whether/how MORPC can be a resource to them as they move forward with implementing the actions of the RHS.

MORPC continues to share the RHS findings with various audiences. Presentations within the past month include: Summit on Sustainability, Gahanna City Council, and the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio.

## **Transportation Safety**

### Committee Meetings:

- Staff attended the Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition meeting on October 14, 2020. Discussion in the meeting focused around Teen Driver Safety and resources available for teaching young drivers about the dangers of distracted driving. More information can be found at <https://www.impactteendrivers.org>.
- Staff attended the Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meetings on October 1, 2020 and October 15, 2020. A second meeting was held this month to make up for meetings not held due to COVID-19 earlier this year. Recommendations from the coalition included more education around speed, impairment, pedestrian safety, and young driver safety.

## **Sustainable2050**

Member Engagement: Sustainable2050 was represented at the 2020 Summit on Sustainability with a presentation on community recognition programs. Our thanks to Bexley Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair Elizabeth Ellman for doing a fantastic job highlighting the city's commitment to sustainability along with its role as a Platinum member of Sustainable2050. Thanks, too, to Ohio EPA's Bill Narotski and alumna Terrie TerMeer, who also participated in the session.

## **Greenways & Water Resources Program**

### Central Ohio Greenways Board (COG):

*Next meeting January 20, 2021*

The Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Board met on October 14, 2020 and reviewed each of the Working Groups' projects.

- Trail Development Working Group:
  - A draft overview of the "Trail and Active Transportation Prioritization" results were shared with the Board. The results reveal that if the Regional Trail Vision is complete and high stress roads within one mile of the trail network are improved, nearly 60% of Franklin County residents will have safe and comfortable access to the trail network within one mile of their home. The results also indicate that projects including the Hudson Greenway and a Camp Chase gap that are already underway are ranking high in the prioritization. Other high-ranking projects include: a trail in the Linden neighborhood that would provide much-needed access to a neighborhood mostly unserved by trails; and a trail downtown that would fill a trail gap in a highly populated, employment-centric area.
  - The group is also advising on 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 collaborated with the MORPC Mode-Shift Coalition on the People Who Bike campaign. The campaign ended in September and focused on the diverse people who bike and the reasons they enjoy biking. The campaign included educational resources, an interview series, and a passport contest. Engagement on social media was significantly higher than normal, and the passport contest was well received. The Working Group also shared an idea to curate virtual races and 5K routes to support local events that have gone virtual due to COVID-19.
- Operations & Access Working Group: The Working Group has been supporting efforts to ensure that COG projects and campaigns are inclusive and accessible to all. The group has provided recommendations to ensure the COG Prioritization Effort carefully considered

equitable access to the trail network as part of the analysis. The group recommended strategies for engaging African Americans in a recent trail survey to ensure COG received statistically significant results.

- **Partnership Working Group:** The Working Group received funding from Columbus Realtors and The Columbus Foundation to complete an Impacts of Trail Study. In addition to identifying the impacts of the fully built-out trail network as they relate to public health, environment, the economy, and social equity, the study is recommending strategies to optimize the trail count program to ensure that accurate and complete usage data is available for the trail network.

COG is also considering new strategies to track annual progress, exploring ideas such as tracking the percentage of the population with access to the trail network annually to be able to better measure equitably expanding the trail network.

#### **Sustaining Scioto Board:**

The Board will meet on October 28. Chris Nietch of the U.S. EPA will present on the Little Miami East Fork Watershed Collaborative, a model water quality monitoring and modeling program. The Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team Chair, Jessica d'Ambrosio, will announce the first meeting of the Team. The Board will discuss the need for a new Vice Chair due to Mike Andrako, previous Vice Chair, assuming a new role with Franklin County Engineer's Office. MORPC staff will update the Board on the status of a funding application to the Ohio Water Development Authority to support creation of a collaborative water quality monitoring plan for the Upper Scioto.

- **Agriculture and Rural Communities Outreach Team:** The Team will have its first meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 10:00am-11:30am. The Working Team seeks to facilitate regional collaboration with agricultural stakeholders in the Upper Scioto watershed, share relevant data and resources, and advance practices and programs that support improvements to surface water quality. Jessica D'Ambrosio with The Nature Conservancy is the Chair of this Team.

### **Energy & Air Quality**

**Energy & Air Quality Working Group:** The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and reviewed MORPC energy and air quality programming as well as updates from the subcommittees.

- The Diversity & Environmental Justice Subcommittee Exploratory Group proposed to:
  - Conduct outreach to increase the diversity and inclusiveness of perspectives on the Energy and Air Quality Working Group prior to convening the subcommittee.
  - Develop an initial roster of Equity Subcommittee members from traditionally underserved communities.
  - Propose recommendations that internalize diversity and community inclusion in MORPC's Energy and Air Quality activities.
- **Air Quality Sensor Subgroup:** Conversations with William Kenny, Ohio EPA representative to the Subgroup, are moving forward to allow collocation of the suite of low-cost air quality monitors with an Ohio EPA maintained Federal Reference Monitor (FRM). The suitability of FRMs in the region are being considered.
- **Solar Subcommittee:** The EAQ Working Group renamed the Solar Toolkit subgroup to the Solar Subcommittee in order to pursue a SolSmart designation for MORPC as a regional organization, and to develop further recommendations and activities surrounding solar opportunities in the region. The Subcommittee met in October to review the requirements for the submission to SolSmart. It is expected that MORPC will receive a silver designation once the submission is approved, likely in Q1 of 2021.
- **Local Government Energy Partnership (LGEP):** Staff continues to develop programming for 2021. MORPC has become an ENERGY STAR partner, bringing access to ENERGY STAR's suite of technical assistance to members through the LGEP. The fourth session of the Energy Academy will be held in December and is focused on the Clean Energy Acceleration Program and financing energy activities.

## **Sustainability Advisory Committee**

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC): The SAC met on October 21, 2020. Some members' terms will expire at the end of 2020 and they will be contacted to discuss next steps. Joe Florida, Executive Director for Power a Clean Future Ohio, was invited to present information about this program as well as opportunities for partnership. MORPC staff provided updates to the committee about the Summit on Sustainability, the Regional Policy Agenda, Regional Sustainability Dashboard, and the process for updating the Regional Sustainability Agenda. The next meeting will be December 16 from 2:30-4:00pm.

- Regional Sustainability Dashboard: MORPC worked in partnership with OSU's Center of Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) to launch the Regional Sustainability Dashboard on October 16 at the Summit on Sustainability. The Dashboard provides the most complete, accurate, and up-to-date representation of the region's sustainability goals, as defined in the Regional Sustainability Agenda, and serves as the official status report for progress toward those goals. MORPC and CURA teams also received the Collaborative Achievement Award presented at the Summit. An outreach toolkit was developed for partners to help promote the dashboard through a variety of communications platforms. A new page was added to MORPC's website with more information and a link to the dashboard at <https://www.morpc.org/tool-resource/regional-sustainability-dashboard/>
- Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Subcommittee: Last month, MORPC staff and the leadership from this subcommittee reviewed a consultant proposal from Dr. Jason Reece and presented it to the subcommittee for input. Proposed deliverables include a review the existing RSA with recommendations for social equity intersections, a presentation of those findings and recommendations, a workshop to facilitate ideas and input, and a resource document with social equity toolkits and other best practices resources. The team also met with Dr. Reece to create a schedule of deliverables for the consultant work. A review of the RSA goals and objectives was conducted by Dr. Reece in October and recommendations will be shared soon. Next steps are to plan for a workshop on November 18<sup>th</sup> which will include the subcommittee members as well as the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of our Planning & Sustainability committees.

# Communications & Engagement

Niel Jurist, Director – [njurist@morpc.org](mailto:njurist@morpc.org)

Graphic design projects included the development of information materials for the Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative and an image for the promotion of Gohio Commute through Spectrum Reach's support local campaign.

## **News Releases**

- [Central Ohio Remains on Track to Reach 3 Million People by 2050](#)
- [Region's Advances in Sustainability Highlighted at MORPC Summit](#)

## **MORPC In The News**

- [City commits to 'Complete Streets'](#)
- [Moonshot Idea: Designing a more equitable region](#)
- [Crane Watch: New Central Ohio development hotspots emerged in September](#)
- [The New Suburban Infill Proposals: How They Compare, and the One Thing They're All Missing](#)
- [A Hopeful Vision for the Future of Columbus and Some of Its Most Historic Neighborhoods](#)
- [West Virginia wins \\$500 million hyperloop certification facility](#)
- [Central Ohio agency continues to see strong population growth in coming decades](#)
- [Despite Pandemic, Columbus MSA on Track to Reach Population of 3 Million by 2050](#)
- [East Side, Bexley residents tired of dangerous speeders along East Livingston Avenue](#)
- [Livingston Ave.: Efforts underway to increase safety in area](#)
- [Eye on the Environment: Sustainability should be a road more traveled](#)

## **Digital Content**

Social media and website content for the month included:

U.S. Census, Car Free Day, LinkUs: Northwest Corridor Survey, Central Ohio Biking & Walking Survey, Regional Housing Strategy, Safety, National Seat Check Saturday, Walk to School Day, Pedestrian Safety Month, National Teen Driver Safety Week, Regional Sustainability Dashboard, Bus Safety Week, Gohio Ride to Vote and COTA Ride to Vote, Gohio Commute, Energy Awareness Month, Smart Columbus Connected Vehicle Environment, Trick or Treat Safety, Transportation Demand Management Strategy and Telework Policy Guide, Population Forecast, and Delaware County Transit Service Public Hearing.



# POPULATION ESTIMATES

## 2021 MEMBER DUES



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

1

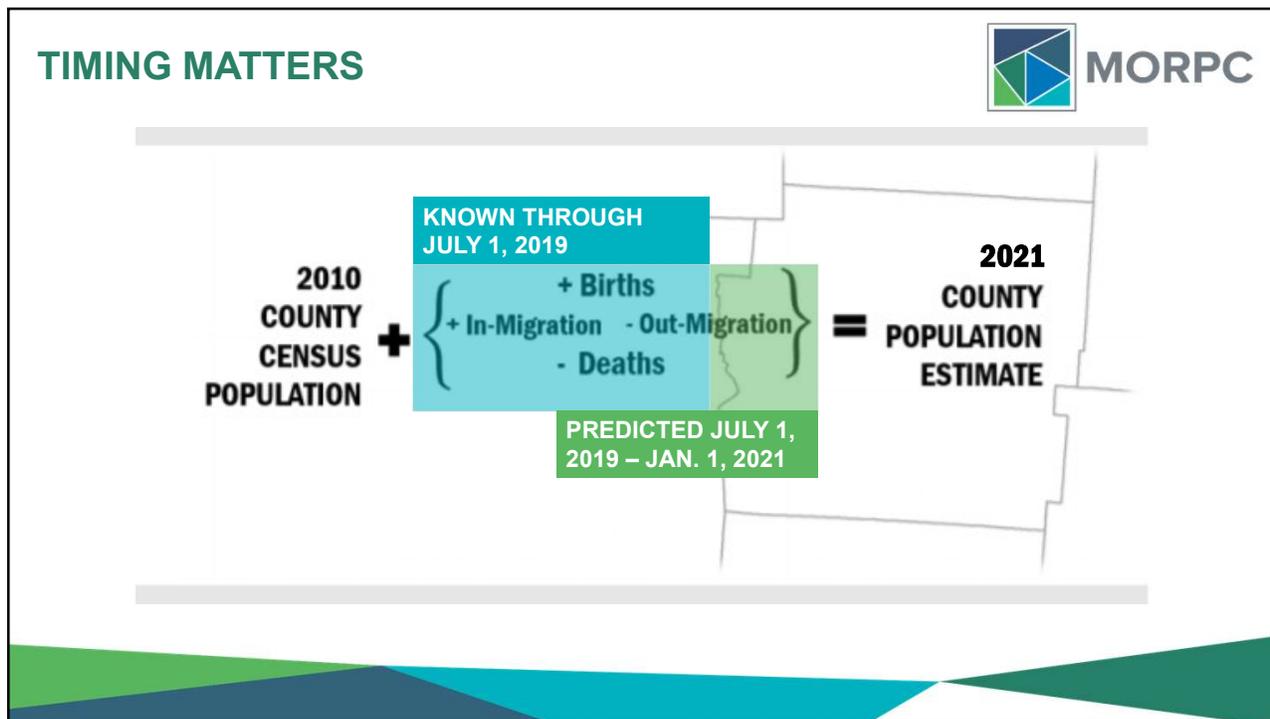
## METHODOLOGY REFRESHER



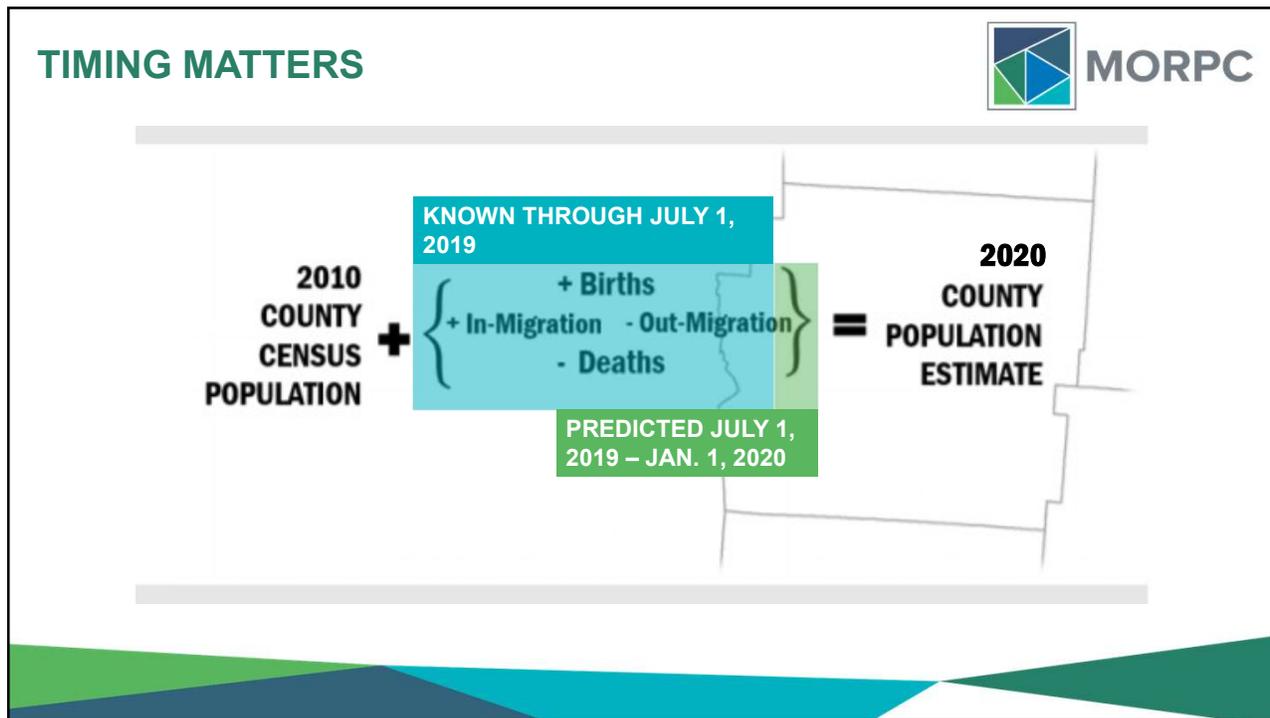
MORPC

- County population estimate inputs
  - Births & Deaths (Ohio Department of Health)
  - Net Migration (U.S. Census Bureau)
- Community population estimate inputs
  - Building permits (MORPC)
  - Occupancy rates & Household size (U.S. Census Bureau)

2



3



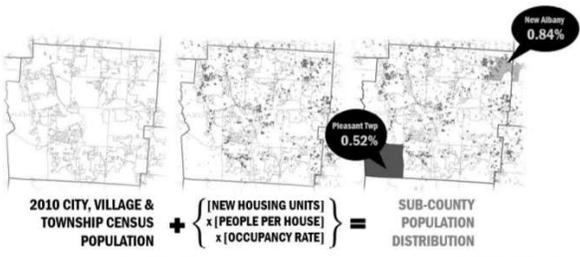
4

## THE REST OF THE METHOD STAYS THE SAME



**STEP 2**

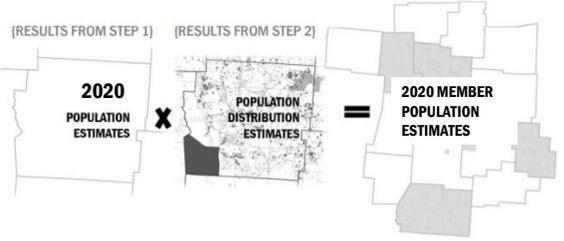
Calculate Population Distribution



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**STEP 3**

Calculate Member Estimates



5

## NEXT STEPS





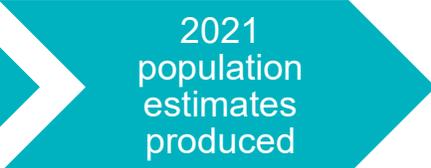
**Community review**

Feedback requested by October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020



**Member population & dues estimates to Commission**

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Commission Meeting



**2021 population estimates produced**

August 2021

6

**AARON SCHILL**

*Director, Data & Mapping*  
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

T: 614.233.4154

[aschill@morpc.org](mailto:aschill@morpc.org)

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION



# Air Quality Program

November, 2020



1

## Air Quality Educational Marketing

# Social Ads

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)** Sponsored

Poor air quality leads to increased COVID-19 risk.



Take a Deep Breath:  
The Connection between  
Air Quality & COVID-19

WWW.MORPC.ORG  
**Signup For Air Quality Alerts**  
Protect Your Health

Like Comment Share

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)** Sponsored

Harvard University study links COVID-19 deaths to air quality.



Take a Deep Breath:  
Air Quality & COVID-19

WWW.MORPC.ORG  
**Signup For Air Quality Alerts**  
Protect Your Health

Like Comment Share

2

## Air Quality Educational Marketing

# Landing Page

https://mailchi.mp/5a5067b3ccdda/morpc-air-covid



**Take a Deep  
Breath: The  
Connection  
Between Air  
Quality &  
COVID-19.**

Being air aware is critical, especially for those with breathing related illnesses. According to a Harvard nationwide study\*, short term exposure to moderate to hazardous air quality increases the death rate in COVID-19 patients by at least 8%.

Reduce your risk of developing serious complications and sign up for daily air quality alerts today.

\*Exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 mortality in the United States. Xiao Wu, Rachel C. Anthony, Benjamin M. Sabath, Daniela Braun, Francesco Dominici. medRxiv 2020.04.05.20084632. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.04.05.20084632>



**TAKE ACTION**

Share this page with your friends and family to help grow our community of Air Advocates.

🔗 Share 🐦 Tweet

Protect Your Health

Sign up for Air Quality Alerts

Email Address

First Name

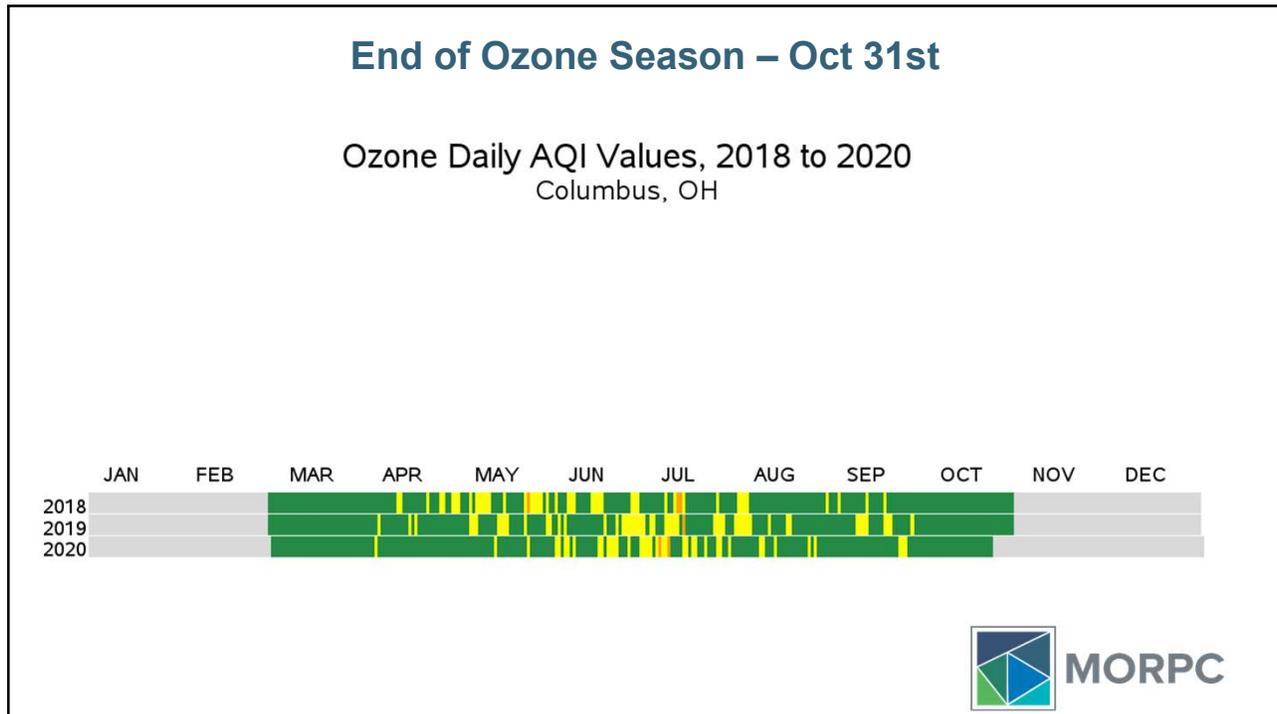
Last Name

Phone Number

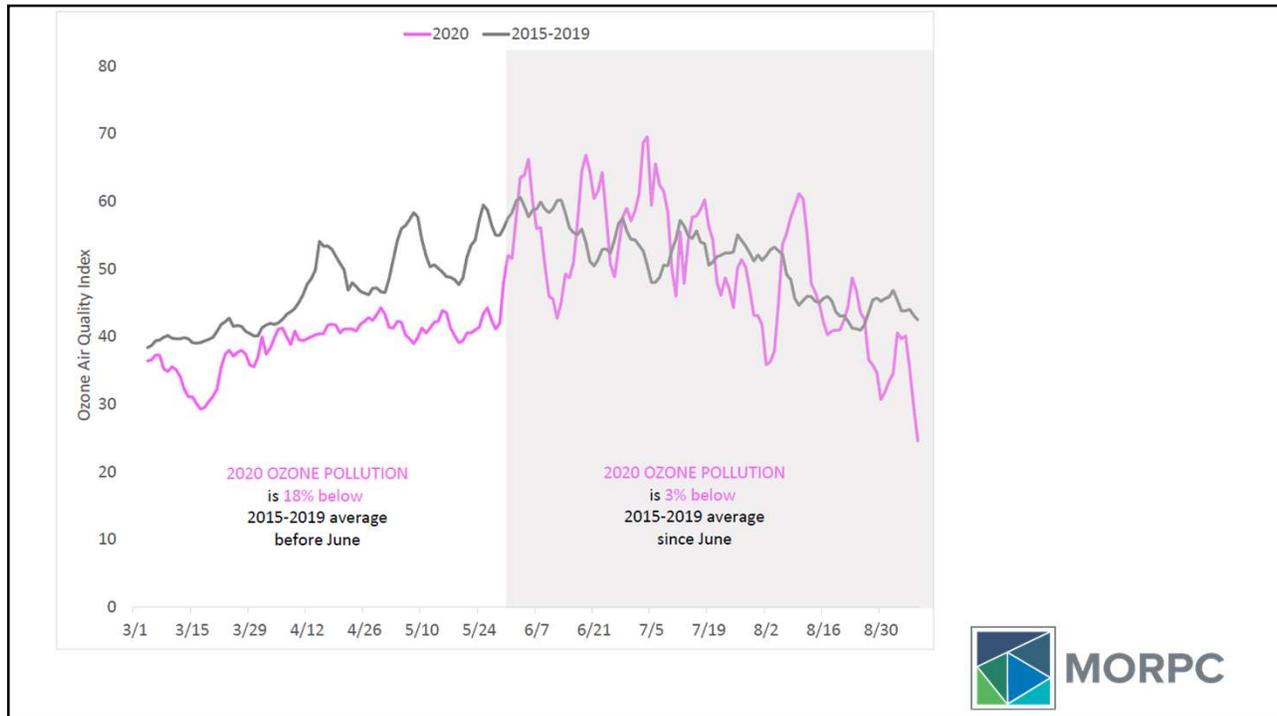
Zip Code

SUBMIT

3



4



5

**Brooke White, PhD**  
*Senior Air Quality Specialist*  
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

T: 614.233.4168  
[bwhite@morpc.org](mailto:bwhite@morpc.org)  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215

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