NOTICE OF A MEETING

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

Microsoft Teams meeting
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Wednesday, February 3, 2021
9:00 a.m.

AGENDA

• 9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions – Cindi Fitzpatrick, Chair

• 9:03 a.m. Approval of December 2, 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 - Stephen Patchan, MORPC

• 9:20 a.m. Funding Programs
  • Attributable Funds Project Status Update - Thomas Graham, MORPC

• 9:30 a.m. Information Items
  • Ohio Public Works Commission Infrastructure & Conservation Update – Nathaniel Vogt, MORPC; Edwina Teye, MORPC
  • Air Quality Program Update – Brooke White, MORPC
  • 2020 Review – Bevan Schneck, MORPC

• 9:55 Other Business
10:00 a.m. Adjourn

PLEASE NOTIFY MELISSA SHARP AT 614-233-4180 OR EMAIL AT 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

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The next TAC Meeting is
Wednesday, March 3, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m
(Virtual)
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 November 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Chair Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Kevin Weaver moved; James Young seconded; none opposed, and the motion carried.

III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Thea Ewing, MORPC
- Thea Ewing explained that as her team is wrapping up the year, there is a focus on preparing projects for funding. She shared that they are working on MORPC Attributable Funds Scoring, OPWC project scoring and preparing the Competitive Advantage Projects list. As bills are introduced for Coronavirus response the MORPC team is reviewing funding opportunities for
transportation grants. Also, the new administration and congress will have to consider a Transportation Reauthorization in the next year. An infrastructure package may also be under consideration in the year to come.

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

- While Census counting ended a couple months ago, work continues to process the results. The statutory reporting dates for Census data are currently still in place:
  - Census apportionment data is due to the President & Congress by December 31, 2020
  - Census redistricting data is due to states by April 1, 2021 (states then share this data with local jurisdictions)

- However, there are a few issues that could impact the Census Bureau’s ability to deliver accurate data by these required dates.
  - In November, the Census Bureau announced that anomalies in the data have been identified, which rose to the level of announcing publicly. MORPC does not have details on what those anomalies are at this point, but will be looking into it and sharing details as appropriate
  - The Census Bureau is still finalizing its approach to protecting individual respondent anonymity through a process called differential privacy – this inserts “noise” into the data (adjusting totals up or down slightly) to prevent potential identification. The approach being proposed, and its potential impacts on data accuracy, have raised numerous concerns and input from those who regularly work with this data.
  - On Monday, November 30, the US Supreme Court heard arguments regarding the Trump Administration’s request to exclude undocumented residents from the Census apportionment counts. This approach would be inconsistent with every prior Census and has been rejected by both state and US district courts already.

- Each of the above issues raises concerns for the accuracy & reliability of the Census 2020 data and could potentially impact the dates that data is made available.

- **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Held its last meeting on December 1. The current 2019-2020 agenda is in the meeting packet. A small short-term working group of committee members will be working on changes and updates through March 2. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to reach to Aaron Schill (aschill@morpc.org)

**IV. Funding Programs**

- **Attributable Funds Project Status Update** – Thomas Graham (MORPC)
  - Mr. Graham pointed out several significant changes since last month’s report which are:
    - The 70-71 Phase Four – has been further delayed until State Fiscal Year 2022 with a new award of date 10/18/21. This project will no longer be appearing on the SFY 2021 reports.
Under Miscellaneous Adjustments to past encumbrances – there is a $300,000 CMAQ encumbrance for the Lazelle Road project.

- The Attributable Funds Committee will be meeting following this meeting. Please remember there is a separate Teams invite.
- [Attributable-Funds-Report](#)

- Proposed Resolution T-13-20: Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program – Thomas Graham, MORPC
  - This TIP amendment is one of our regular quarterly amendments and will be adding or modifying 18 projects with commitments totaling $450 million. Attachment 1 to this Resolution will provide detailed information regarding the full funding picture of how these projects will be programmed into the TIP. Mr. Graham then provided a high-level oversight of these projects, which included:
    - City of Columbus
    - COTA
    - Delaware County Transportation Improvement District
    - Franklin County
    - ODOT District 6
    - Whitehall
  - Resolution information is included in the meeting packet.

- Chair Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve Resolution T-13-20; Matt Peoples moved; James Young seconded; and the motion carried.

V. Resolutions
- Proposed Resolution T-14-20: Adoption of Annual Safety Performance Measures – Maria Schaper, MORPC
  - This resolution formally supports the Ohio Department of Transportation Safety Performance measures targets and keeps MORPC in compliance with the Federal Performance Management role. This relates to the USDOT Federal Performance Management Program, which requires the state to establish targets for five safety measures each year. These measures are the number of fatalities, the fatality rate, the number of serious injuries, the serious injury rates and the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. ODOT has set targets of a 2% annual reduction for each of these measures.
  - Resolution information is included in the meeting packet.

- Chair Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve Resolution T-14-20; Reynaldo Stargell moved; Bill Ferrigno seconded; and the motion carried.

VI. Informational Items
- Active Transportation Plan Update – Jen Noll, MORPC
  - Ms. Noll provided an update on the Active Transportation Plan (ATP), which will build on the current Metropolitan Transportation Plan as well as the Transportation Safety Plan. The goal is to provide a road map for Central Ohio communities to improve the safety and accessibility of our region’s roads network. And at the heart of the ATP is equity.
The need for an equitable road network is great. The Transportation Safety Plan laid out some sobering statistics regarding the safety of Central Ohio roadways.

One of the primary goals of the ATP is to make the road conditions safer and less stressful for cyclists and pedestrians. There are four levels of traffic stress:

- LTS-1 (low traffic stress bikeway) – comfortable for all users, including those who are “interested, but concerned”
- LTS-2 (moderate traffic stress bikeway) – comfortable for “somewhat confident”
- LTS-3 (high traffic stress bikeway) – comfortable for “highly confident”
- LTS-4 (extreme traffic stress) – not comfortable for most

Ms. Noll also discussed the next steps, which include designing a toolkit that will provide design guidelines for communities to utilize to move from plan to implementation.

Currently, there is a public survey that is open until December 4. The survey and more information can be found at www.morpc.org/ATP.

This presentation as well as other materials from past meetings can be found on the website.

Presentation slides included in Meeting Packet

Smart Region Task Force – Aaron Schill, MORPC

At the Executive Committee meeting on Thursday, December 3 and at Commission next week, we will be presenting a resolution of support from the Smart Region Task Force, essentially delivering the results of the Smart Region Task Force. Accompanying this resolution is a letter from our Task Force Chairs officially handing off the work of the Task Force as well as recommendations for communities to consider incorporating/implementing the work that was done.

The goal of the Task Force was to develop a shared vision for what it means to be a smart region and study smart cities, emerging technologies and best practices. And then work on a set of three deliverables to guide our work as an agency and the work of MORPC members going forward.

More information can be found at www.MORPC.org/smart-region

Regional Sustainability Dashboard – Brandi Whetstone, MORPC

- The Regional Sustainability Dashboard was launched in partnership with The Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) at OSU. This is an interactive online dashboard that provides up-to-date information on the region sustainability work and serves as the official status report for progress toward the goals of our Regional Sustainability Agenda.
- The landing page is a great place to start. There is information about the dashboard – review progress at-a-glance and learn more about the Regional Sustainability Agenda’s goals and objectives.
- There is a tutorial available to assist in walking you through the different features and the data is available for download. The five
goals of the Regional Sustainability Agenda are represented by icons on the dashboard.

- The Regional Sustainability Dashboard team was awarded the Collaborative Achievement Award in Sustainability at MORPC’s Summit on Sustainability.
- The communications toolkit can be found here.
- Please visit rsd.morpc.org
- Presentation slides included in Meeting Packet

VII. Other Business

- Nominating Committee Report – Cindi Fitzpatrick, Chair
  - Election of 2021 Officers - the following individuals have been nominated: Cindi Fitzpatrick (Chair); James Young (Vice Chair); and Thea (Walsh) Ewing (Secretary).
  - Chair Fitzpatrick entertained a motion to approve this slate of officers; Bill Ferrigno moved; Kevin Weaver seconded, none opposed; motion carried.

- 4-year Term Membership Appointment – Thea Ewing, MORPC
  - Thea Ewing announced that the nomination period for the TAC 4-year term memberships has concluded and that the Chair of the Transportation Policy Committee has appointed the following people to be on the TAC starting in 2021.
    - Kevin Weaver – City of Westerville
    - Laura Comek – Village of Lockbourne
    - Letty Schamp – City of Hilliard
    - Matthew “Matt” Huffman – Clinton Township
    - Matthew “Matt” Peoples – City of Canal Winchester

  - Letters will be sent out to these members confirming their membership.

VIII. Adjourn

- Chair Fitzpatrick entertained a motion to adjourn. Matt Peoples moved; Reynaldo Stargell seconded, none opposed, motion carried. Motion adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Thea J Ewing, Secretary
Transportation & Infrastructure Development
Thea Ewing, Director - twalsh@morpc.org

**Transit, Mobility & Human Services**

- **Transit**
  - Funding Update - FTA FFY 2021 and FFY 2021 CRRSAA formula apportionments were announced for the Columbus UZA. The typical annual apportionment is over $21 million. The CRRSAA amount is over $55 million (CARES was $53 million). MORPC will split these per the Columbus UZA FTA Formula Funding agreement with COTA/DCT and LCT.

- **Mobility Management**
  - MORPC conducted steering committee meetings and scheduled virtual public meetings for the ODOT Region 6 Coordinated Plan, which is called the Regional Mobility Plan (RMP).
  - A website for the RMP has been launched and includes links to the virtual public meetings.
  - Surveys for the RMP are finalized and are being translated before marketing and paper copy distribution to various partners and social service organizations.
  - The Specialized Mobility Search Tool is nearing end of development with final bugs being identified. Preparation for user testing is underway and includes development of a recorded demonstration, help guide PDFs, and a formal process for input gathering.
  - County breakout meetings have been scheduled for each county in Region 6 for detailed conversations on local-level challenges that need to be prioritized in the RMP.

- **5310 Designated Recipient**
  - All Section 5310 subrecipient contracts have been signed. Reimbursements have begun for capital items, and vehicles are being ordered.

- **Gohio**
  - MORPC initiated planning for Regional TDM initiatives for 2021 with reference to the Central Ohio 2021-2022 TDM Plan. Initial planning for bike month is underway.
  - MORPC staff is working on developing neighborhood mobility maps to encourage sustainable transportation behavior in Central Ohio. The first two neighborhood maps will be for Franklinton and Linden in Columbus in partnership with Columbus Public Health.
MORPC staff are developing a transit educational resource for older adults to continue the development of educational tools for sustainable transportation behavior. This is the second document being developed for a series of age-specific resources.

MORPC staff participated in a podcast and PBS documentary to highlight telework and sustainable transportation for the general public. Specifically, Gohio Commute, the Central Ohio Business Telework Guide, and the Regional Mobility Plan were recognized as initiatives for advancing accessible and sustainable transportation in Central Ohio.

MORPC staff continues to help essential workers with sustainable transportation throughout the pandemic. Staff has been increasing Gohio Commute advertising on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram.

MORPC staff is working with Nationwide Children’s Hospital to create an awareness campaign around MORPC’s Emergency Ride Home program. This will be the first step to possibly having a more robust sustainability program post-Covid-19.

Transportation Planning Activities

- **Linkus**
  - Northwest Corridor Study: In early January, the consultant provided a memo summarizing the mode recommendation. The consultants recommended the mode as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). The mode recommendation was based on evaluating the BRT and light rail transit (LRT) through a high-level evaluation that included capacity needs, a cost per mile criteria, and right-of-way characteristics. Work is proceeding with a more detailed analysis of the BRT benefits for each route alternative. A virtual public meeting is scheduled for the Northwest Corridor study on February 10. For more information, please visit linkus.com.

  - East-West Corridor Study: In January, the consultant provided a memo summarizing the mode recommendation. The consultants recommended the mode as BRT over LRT, Streetcar and Commuter rail. The mode recommendation was based on evaluating the modes through a high-level evaluation that included corridor fit, capacity needs, capital and operating cost per mile criteria, and right-of-way characteristics. Work is proceeding with a more detailed analysis of the BRT benefits for each segment through the corridor. A virtual public meeting is scheduled for the East-West Corridor study on February 10. For more information, please visit linkus.com.

- **Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI)**
  - Passenger Rail: Two folios have been posted to the MORPC RSTI website: An Existing Conditions and Market Analysis summary, and a Route Alternatives Analysis summary. MORPC staff met with All Aboard Ohio, the Northeast Indiana Passenger Rail Association, and others to discuss next steps in the passenger rail project. MORPC will be working with its Indiana partners on engaging the Indiana Department of Transportation and continues to monitor opportunities to advance the project.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)

- **CORPO Update**
  - The newest edition of the CORPO newsletter has been uploaded to the CORPO website.
Work has begun to develop a working group for the Knox-Morrow Freeway Access Study and is currently gathering initial data for the project.

Draft chapters of the Madison County Thoroughfare Plan and Access Management Regulations document was provided to the county engineer for review.

Assistance continues to Union County and ODOT on the US 33 Plan as well as with transit and mobility related work.

**Infrastructure Funding**

- **MORPC Attributable Funding**
  - The preliminary draft scoring of new funding applications were presented to the AFC at their December meeting. Throughout December, staff met with applicants and members of the AFC to discuss these draft scores. Additionally, staff received written comments from applicants and members of the AFC. These discussions and comments were addressed by staff, and revised scores were provided to AFC in mid-January.
  - AFC began the process of developing draft recommendations for funding at the January 20th, 2021 meeting. This process will continue during the February 3rd, 2021 meeting of the AFC.
  - A public comment period for the AFC recommendations will be held from mid-February to mid-March.

- **Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)**
  - Below is the preferred slate of awards for infrastructure projects approved on December 18 by the Public Works Integrating Committee (PWIC) for OPWC District 3, comprising Franklin County. The funds were available as grants and loans in SFY 2022 (Round 35) from the State Capital Improvements Program (SCIP) and the Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
<th>ESTIMATED COST</th>
<th>TOTAL AWARD</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bexley</td>
<td>Stanbery Avenue &amp; Chelsea Avenue Comprehensive Improvements</td>
<td>$5,178,342</td>
<td>$4,914,246</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>ADA Curb Ramps - Citywide Curb Ramps</td>
<td>$2,399,198</td>
<td>$1,214,645</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Hocking Street and Hanover Street - Signal Installation</td>
<td>$1,480,287</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>SR161 - I-71 to Cleveland Avenue Phase I - Arterial Street Rehabilitation</td>
<td>$11,581,645</td>
<td>$5,012,845</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Co. Engineer</td>
<td>Morse Road at Babbitt Road Roundabout</td>
<td>$3,656,868</td>
<td>$1,257,750</td>
<td>LTIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Co. Engineer</td>
<td>SR 317 at Lockbourne Road Improvements</td>
<td>$2,545,452</td>
<td>$92,613</td>
<td>LTIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Co. Engineer</td>
<td>Winchester Pike 0.87 over Georges Creek Bridge Replacement</td>
<td>$1,478,978</td>
<td>$216,478</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Co. Sanitary Eng.</td>
<td>Ferris Road Sanitary Sewer Collections System</td>
<td>$1,998,495</td>
<td>$1,097,173</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Co. Sanitary Eng.</td>
<td>N Hague Avenue Sanitary Sewer Collections System</td>
<td>$4,078,800</td>
<td>$2,239,260</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove City</td>
<td>Demorest Road Improvements Phase 1</td>
<td>$5,802,056</td>
<td>$3,663,952</td>
<td>LTIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reynoldsburg</td>
<td>East Main Street Improvements - Phase 2</td>
<td>$2,904,579</td>
<td>$1,999,999</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitehall</td>
<td>Broad Street and Hamilton Road Intersection Improvement</td>
<td>$10,923,278</td>
<td>$1,417,303</td>
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<td>Whitehall</td>
<td>Woodcliff Drive Realignment</td>
<td>$4,244,963</td>
<td>$3,179,477</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
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</table>

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Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)

- The NRAC received 10 preliminary screener applications from six agencies intending to apply for Round 15 of Clean Ohio Conservation funding. The total amount requested is $5.7 million, and there is currently $5.4 million available. These applicants presented their proposals to the NRAC on January 6. Pre-applications are not required to be eligible to submit final applications, which are due by March 19.

Federal Competitive Programs

- The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) is expected to announce the FY2021 rounds of the Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) and the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant programs in the near future. These programs fund major investments in transportation infrastructure and are a key tool to drive federal investment in the Columbus Region.

Competitive Advantage Projects

- The 2020-2021 Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP) program update is near-complete, with a final project list expected in mid-February. Counties are updating their projects through locally preferred channels ahead of MORPC engagement with federal and state lawmakers.
Data & Mapping
Aaron Schill, Director – aschill@morpc.org

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)

The RDAC met on December 1 to discuss, among other matters, the MORPC and City of Columbus Broadband Programs, COVID-19 Research Briefs, the Smart Region Task Force, and the updating of the Regional Data Agenda.

Working Groups
- The Regional Data Agenda Working Group will have its initial meeting on January 28 to review and update the current Regional Data Agenda. This Working Group is expected to convene for only a few months, with the updated Regional Data Agenda being adopted in the first half of 2021.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Working Group’s final meeting was on December 15. The Group has now transitioned to the RIDG Steering Committee, who will meet quarterly to plan the quarterly RIDG user meetings.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Steering Committee met on January 13 to discuss formats for future RIDG user group meetings, as well as presentations and surveys for the February 3 meeting.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group continues their work via the Fiber Network Subgroup. The Working Group will meet again in the near future.

User Groups
- 38 members of the Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) met on December 2 with presentations from ODOT, ESRI and an introduction to the COGUG Miro Board. Members broke into four groups to discuss LBRS, Data, ArcPro, and AGO. The next meeting will be on February 10.
- The Regional Information & Data Group will meet on February 3 for presentations on the Regional Housing Strategy and other topics.

Transportation
- GIS Manager Cheri Mansperger is working with ODOT Technical Services to help them consume Franklin County LBRS data.
- MORPC GIS Staff continue in their work to support CORPO with mapping projects.

Data and Mapping Outreach and Collaboration

Central Oho 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.
- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill is serving on Steering Committee of the Community Response and Collaboration Working Group, to develop a digital equity framework. This project will align with MORPC’s strategic framework.
COVID-19 Research Briefs
Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill and staff are continuing their efforts with the vendor and 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.

Planning & Sustainability
- Data & Mapping staff are collaborating with Planning & Sustainability staff to produce and analyze the Active Transportation Plan, Trail Counts, Central Ohio Greenways Prioritization Project, the Technical Assistance Plans, and the Regional Housing Strategy.
- Data & Mapping Staff are also supporting Planning & Sustainability Staff with Alternative Fuel Corridor, Future Land Use, Bike Ohio, and Complete Streets mapping.
- Data Manager Liz Whelan continues her collaboration with MORPC’s Planning & Sustainability staff on the Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee.
- Data & Mapping Staff are working to gather data for use with the new ESRI ArcGIS Urban program being rolled out.
- Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill and Data Manager Liz Whelan attended a Robert J. Woods Foundation Webinar: Asset-Based Framing: Applying Asset-Framing to Achieve Equity Goals, related to the grant received in 2020.
- Data & Mapping staff are excited to welcome GIS Intern Lacey Stevens to the Team on January 25. Data Analyst Natalie Hurst has moved on to an exciting position with The Ohio State University -- Best Wishes to Natalie! MORPC is currently recruiting for a new Data Analyst to fill the open position.
Active Transportation Planning

- **Active Transportation Plan (ATP):** As part of the ATP’s continued outreach and engagement strategy, MORPC team members will host five focus groups to discuss unique active transportation issues with historically underrepresented groups within our region. Focus group meetings will be held in February and will include discussions around Economic Development, Children/Youth, Minority Health, Older Adults and People with Disabilities.

- **Complete Streets:** Team members finished Complete Streets reviews on the following projects: SR161 at Parkville/Spring Run, Olentangy Trail from Clinton Como to Northmoor, and Hamilton Road at Broad Street. MORPC staff plan to re-start meetings with the Complete Streets Steering Committee early this year to finish the update to the Regional Complete Streets Policy in line with the regional Active Transportation Plan update.

- **Active Transportation Committee:** Team members hosted the fourth quarter Active Transportation Committee (ATC) meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. Angie Schmitt, author of *Right of Way: Race, Class and the Silent Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths in America*, joined us for a discussion on Pedestrian Safety. The first quarter ATC meeting for 2021 was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. A recording of these meetings can be shared upon request.

- **Data Collection Program:** Team members coordinated with Central Ohio Greenways partners to submit a grant application to the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy at the end of December. The intent is to purchase new data collection equipment to enhance the regional non-motorized data collection program. Grant awardees will be notified early this year.

- **Outreach:** Team members plan to test a virtual “watch party” for the February APBP Webinar. This will be on Wednesday, February 17 at 3:00pm. The webinar topic is “Making Intersection Crossings Safe and Efficient: A Summary of the NCHRP 3-133 Report.” Please contact Lauren Cardoni, lcardoni@morpc.org for more information. MORPC staff are also coordinating with the FHWA to host a workshop on how to use the FHWA Bikeway Selection Guide in early March. Please contact Lauren Cardoni lcardoni@morpc.org for more information, or if you have staff interested in participating.

insight2050

**Technical Assistance Program (TAP):**

- Team members continued work on an inventory of plans, goals, recommendations, and design standards for the Westerville Cleveland Avenue Recommendations Inventory project. Team members are working on organizing and tagging the inventory to highlight aspects, such as sustainability, land use development, economic development, transportation, as well as specific locations along the corridor.

- Team members continued work on the Franklin County Complete Streets project deliverables by coordinating with FCEO staff to determine the appropriate decision-making data and map format.

- Team members continued work on a methodology for Columbus’ Speed Management Framework project. The methodology will include considerations for data that identifies areas with a need for speed management and/or safety improvements.

- Team members held meetings with staff from Jefferson Township and Hilliard respectively to finalize the proposed land use and transportation recommendations maps. Team members will begin working on the final reports.
**Regional Housing Strategy (RHS)**

The MORPC team is pleased to announce the Regional Housing Strategy Speaker Series, which will kick off February 19 with a goal to bring together national thought-leaders in a discussion of innovative housing programs and policies. MORPC will host a webinar on January 29 to update RHS participants and MORPC members on the progress that has been made since the RHS was released last fall.

If your community is interested in getting a presentation about the RHS, please contact Jennifer Noll at [jnoll@morpc.org](mailto:jnoll@morpc.org).

**Transportation Safety**

- **Committee Meetings:** MORPC staff participated in the OARC Transportation Safety Subcommittee meeting on Tuesday, December 1. As part of the ODOT Highway Safety Improvement Program update, there will not be a Spring 2021 funding round, but ODOT is revising the program to accept funding applications on a quarterly basis going forward. The eligible application types and application deadlines for CY2021 are summarized in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Type</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviated/Systemic</td>
<td>July 1, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviated/Formal (Spot)</td>
<td>September 30, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviated/Systemic</td>
<td>January 30, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviated/Formal (Spot)</td>
<td>April 30, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  Additionally, the new [Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan](https://www.ohiostatehighway.org/shsp) was approved by FHWA in December.

  MORPC staff attended the SHSP Steering Committee meeting on Monday, December 7. According to ODOT, there were 1,128 fatalities throughout the state as of 11/29, which is higher than for the same period in 2019.

  MORPC staff attended the Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meetings on December 11, 2020 and January 7, 2021. Four of the fourteen crashes reviewed included motorcycles, and four others involved pedestrians. Two of the pedestrian-involved crashes were hit/skip crashes that are currently unsolved. Most of the remaining crashes involved speeding, reckless driving, and/or alcohol/drugs.

- **Technical Assistance:** MORPC staff provided technical assistance to Grove City to apply to ODOT’s Local Safety Assistance Program (LSAP) at the end of December. If awarded, ODOT will provide consultant assistance to the City to conduct a safety study along US 62 from Southwest Blvd to I-270.

**Sustainable2050**

**Member Engagement:** Our thanks to Sustainable2050 members for providing feedback on proposed updates to the Regional Sustainability Agenda, which serves as the foundation of the Sustainable2050 program. MORPC looks forward to continuing to support its members in working toward the goals and objectives of this document.

**Greenways & Water Resources Program**

Central Ohio Greenways Board (COG):
The COG Board met on January 20th and welcomed two new members — Autumn Glover and Bertie Fields. The Board voted to increase the number of Board members from 22 to up to 25 members. COG and MORPC staff will work to fill the additional seats in 2021. The Board also
voted to update the Regional Trail Vision to accommodate four route modifications stemmed from new feasibility understandings.

- Trail Development Working Group: The group has finalized the trail prioritization effort, which will be released publicly in the coming weeks. The group will begin strategizing ways to encourage collaborative funding of trail projects. MORPC also submitted a grant to support the trail count program. Awards will be identified in February.

- Marketing & Communications Working Group: The marketing working group is focused on identifying curated trail routes to encourage people to check out trails for independent 5k, other races, and fun opportunities. The City of Dublin is developing a model for these loops. The group is also working with RTC on a Trail Moments campaign aimed to collect stories about people who use trails.


- Partnership Working Group: The partnership working group is advising an Impact of Trails report. An RFP will be released in the coming weeks to hire support in better understanding the return on investment of building out the Regional Trail Vision.

**Sustaining Scioto Board:**
The Sustaining Scioto Board met on December 9. The Board reviewed achievements from 2020 and discussed priorities for 2021 including:
- Potential National Science Foundation funding for pursuing water quality monitoring objectives.
- A regional forum on resources and best practices for updated precipitation data for water infrastructure planning.
- Continuation of the Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team.
- Establishing a Communications and Educational Team.

The next meeting of the Board is Wednesday February 24.

- Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team: The Ag & Rural Communities Outreach Team met on Thursday, January 21, 2021. In line with its funders’ expectations, the Working Team is developing an outreach agenda involving interviewing key informants in the Scioto watershed and identified SWCD supervisors, county commissioners, and township trustees as local decision makers or thought leaders that might signal insights to barriers of adoption and attitudes about specific policies and practices. The goal of this exercise is to help inform the next step of developing a targeted engagement outreach to the agricultural and rural community.

**Energy & Air Quality**

- **Energy & Air Quality Working Group**
The Energy & Air Quality Working Group met on November 24. Achievements from 2020 were reviewed and 2021 priorities were discussed including:
  - Solar Subcommittee
    - Achieving Sol Smart designation
  - Air Quality Monitoring Subcommittee
    - Performing collocation
    - Subsequent siting of monitors in neighborhoods
    - Collecting data
    - Presentations to community, creation of webpage
    - Creation of educational module using the local data
  - Diversity Subcommittee
    - Developing diversity group roster
    - Developing work plan
• **Air Quality Monitoring Subcommittee**: The subcommittee is moving forward with the assignment of an air quality scientist to the project through the Thriving Earth Exchange program. The subcommittee is also reviewing a ranking of the vulnerability of populations in Franklin County zip codes to air pollution exposure based on sociodemographic and health data. This ranking will be used to choose sites for installing air quality monitors.

• **Solar Subcommittee**: The Solar Subcommittee is collecting documentation for the SolSmart Designation application. Submittal is expected to be in February of 2021.

• **Diversity and Environmental Justice Subcommittee**: The Diversity and Environmental Justice Subcommittee is seeking members and working to achieve the 2021 priorities of developing the group roster and a work plan.

• **Local Government Energy Partnership**: In response to the growing demand for utility-scale solar, MORPC through the Local Government Energy Partnership, has developed Solar Week. Solar Week will present seminars on a range of pressing topics throughout the first week of February. Speakers include representatives from the Ohio Power Siting Board, Ohio Farm Bureau, ODSA, Bricker and Eckler, the City of Columbus, and Smart Columbus Energy.

**Sustainability Advisory Committee**

• **Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)**: Member appointments have been confirmed for the 2021 Sustainability Advisory Committee and a new member orientation is planned for February 9. The first meeting of the year will be held on February 17 at 2:30 pm, featuring updates on the Regional Sustainability Agenda, an overview of 2020 accomplishments, and a look ahead at 2021.

• **Regional Sustainability Dashboard**: MORPC and CURA have continued to promote the dashboard through online newsletters and social media posts. In December, both agencies partnered on a holiday-themed social media campaign to highlight ways to save money and be more sustainable, featuring a topic each day with a link back to the Sustainability Dashboard. The Team is planning to host a webinar in the spring to feature the Dashboard and how to make the most of this resource.

• **Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee**: A solid draft is in place for Regional Sustainability Agenda goals and objectives, which was reviewed at the December Subcommittee meeting. The draft framework was also presented at the Sustainability Advisory Committee and Sustainable2050 December meetings for member discussion and input. Next, the Subcommittee will be vetting the proposed strategies to support the goals and objectives, many of which align with existing Sustainable2050 priorities and MORPC plans. New strategies have been developed to encourage more equitable outcomes to increase the benefits to communities, and an equity resource document is under development to supplement the agenda. In February, the group will be seeking additional stakeholder input to include organizations and partners addressing poverty, racial justice, rural priorities, environmental sustainability, and private sector business.

• **Outreach**: Plans are underway to host a virtual meeting to bring together the resident-based sustainability advisory groups focused on supporting/advising local government sustainability efforts. The Chairs from the Bexley Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee are taking the lead to bring everyone together with the goal of sharing updates and information on priorities, challenges, or potential areas for collaboration across communities. The meeting date is targeted for February.
Communications & Engagement
Niel Jurist, Director – njurist@morpc.com

With the launch of the Regional Mobility Plan, a webpage on the plan was created with plan updates and includes information on a public survey and public meetings. A press release was also distributed announcing the plan and opportunities for public involvement.

The biking and walking survey for the Active Transportation Plan was advertised on Facebook in both English and Spanish.

MORPC assisted the Licking County Area Transportation Study by responding to an inquiry on advisory groups and public involvement.

The Gohio Commute team was assisted by Communicates & Engagement with edits and distributions of an e-mail to users, social media, newsletter content, and website edits.

**News Releases**

- Downtown C-pass Program Renewed Through 2025
- Hebron Joins the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- Work Begins on Regional Mobility Plan for Older Adults, Those with Disabilities

**MORPC In The News**

- COTA C-Pass program renewed through 2025
- Columbus C-Pass renewed to give workers free travel until 2025 Connectivity creates
- COTA, Capital Crossroads SID, MORPC renew C-pass program through 2025
- Signal system to be upgraded
- Fairfield County eyes upgrades to four Refugee Road intersections in Violet Township
- New traffic management system aims to reduce travel times, improve safety in 13 counties
- COTA deploys AI for real-time traffic info to shorten commutes
- Waycare and COTA Announce $1.7 Million Federal Grant and Implementation
- MORPC Matters: 2020 didn't stop central Ohio from moving ahead
- Thea Ewing on All Sides with Ann Fisher
- MORPC Matters: Central Ohio communities look forward through public-policy efforts
- Olentangy Trail: Meeting set, input sought on design options to close gap
- Central Ohio adds cloud-based traffic management solution from Waycare

**Digital Content**

Social media and website content for the month included:

Downtown C-pass, LinkUS, Native American Heritage Month, Seatbelt Safety, Broadband Access Program, Regional Housing Strategy, Natural Resources Assistance Council, Transportation Improvement Program amendments, COTA Plus South Side Service, ODOT holiday travel safety, Drive Sober, Transportation Safety Plan, Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mid-Ohio Open Data Site, Gohio Commute, Save Public Transit, Regional Mobility Plan, Smart Region Task Force, Vision Zero, Central Ohio Greenways, News Years Eve Safety, Rails to Trails Trail Moments, ODOT Walk/Bike Plan, and Complete Streets.
Ohio Public Works Commission Programs Update

February 2021

OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC)

• Infrastructure
  • State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP)
    • Small Government Program
    • Emergency Program
  • Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP)

• Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

• District 3 – Franklin County
  • Infrastructure: Public Works Integrating Committee (PWIC)
  • Conservation: Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)
  • MORPC administrative support
INTEGRATING COMMITTEE

• Policies & selection criteria
• Funding recommendations
• Appointment authorities for District 3 per ORC:
  • Franklin County Commissioners: 2
  • Mayor of Columbus: 2
  • Other Municipal CEOs: 2
  • Boards of Township Trustees: 2
  • Majority of Above Appointees: 1 (private industry representative)
  • May appoint an alternate for each member

• 3-year terms
• 7 affirmative votes for action
**STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (SCIP)**

- **Source:** Voter-approved bonds
- **Allocations:**
  - $17 million
  - + Revolving Loan Program ($3-$4 million, varies)
- **Applicants:**
  - Counties
  - Cities
  - Villages
  - Townships
  - Water & Sewer Districts
- **Infrastructure Types:**
  - Roads
  - Bridges/Culverts
  - Stormwater
  - Water Supply
  - Wastewater
  - Solid Waste
- **Award Types:**
  - Grants (90% repair/replacement, 50% new/expansion)
  - Loans (100%)
  - Loan Assistance

**LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LTIP)**

- **Source:** 1¢/gallon motor vehicle fuel tax
- **Allocations:**
  - $6.5 million
  - + Revolving Loan Program ($3-$4 million, varies)
- **Applicants:**
  - Counties
  - Cities
  - Villages
  - Townships
  - Water & Sewer Districts
- **Infrastructure Types:**
  - Roads
  - Bridges/Culverts
  - Stormwater
  - Water Supply
  - Wastewater
  - Solid Waste
- **Award Types:**
  - Grants (100%)
  - Loans (100%)
  - Loan Assistance
INFRASTRUCTURE: FY22 (ROUND 35)

• $27 million grants & loans available in 2021-2022
• 20 project applications / 13 selected for funding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Selected</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Road</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge/Culvert</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Supply</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormwater</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

• Requested $36 million
• Total project costs nearly $71 million

INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEDULE – FY23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1 (approximately)</td>
<td>Applications Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>Applications Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November (TBD)</td>
<td>Scoring Review Session with Applicants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 19</td>
<td>PWIC Scoring Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 3</td>
<td>PWIC Working Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 17</td>
<td>PWIC Final Action Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2022 – June 2023</td>
<td>Begin Construction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND

- Land acquisition to preserve:
  - Passive parks
  - Forests
  - Wetlands
  - Endangered species
  - Connecting corridors

- Public access enhancements to acquisitions:
  - Trails, observation decks, signs, benches, trash receptacles

- Stream corridor protection & restoration:
  - Establish riparian buffers
  - Improving public access

NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL

- Policies & selection criteria
- Approve funding awards
- 1 appointed to represent the District Integrating Committee
- 1 appointed by the local Soil & Water Conservation District
- 9 members selected from five groups:
  - Group 1  Local Governments
  - Group 2  Environmental Groups
  - Group 3  Park System
  - Group 4  Agriculture & Forestry
  - Group 5  Business, Realtors & Planning
- 3-year terms
CONSERVATION FUNDS AVAILABLE – DISTRICT 3
• Annual allocation: $3.1 million

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Applications Available</th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Funded</th>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>$5.4 million</td>
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CONSERVATION SCHEDULE – ROUND 15
• Preliminary screener
  • Confirm eligibility
  • NRAC members ask questions and offer suggestions
  • Strongly encouraged but not required
• Final application
  • Scored by NRAC members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 11, 2020</td>
<td>Preliminary Screenings Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 6, 2021</td>
<td>Applicant Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>Final Applications Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>Site Visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Application Scoring Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Final Action – Award Funds</td>
</tr>
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Air Quality
End of Season Report
February, 2021
Interannual Trend
Ozone Exceedances per Year

Weather Conditions
### Pandemic Impacts

#### Central Ohio Monthly Ozone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2015-2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>85</td>
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#### Central Ohio Monthly PM$_{2.5}$

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<th>2015-2019</th>
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<td>10</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brooke White, PhD
Senior Air Quality Specialist
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
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2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
• 10 Meetings, with eight of them being remote as a result of COVID-19
• 15 Transportation-related Resolutions Adopted
• Established Active Transportation Committee as a TAC Subcommittee
• Certification of the MORPC Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (PWP)
• Amendments to FY 2020 Planning Work Program
• Acceptance of FY 2020 Completion Report
• Adoption of FY 2021 Planning Work Program

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP)
• 2020-2050 Draft Strategies & Projects
• Adoption of 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

TRANSIT
• Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA Updates)
• Delaware County Transit Board Updates
• Downtown C-pass Renewal & Update

AIR QUALITY
• Air Quality Updates
• Air Quality Marketing & Awareness
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (CONTINUED)

ACTIVE & ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION / SAFETY

• Active Transportation Plan Overview & Updates
• Bike/Pedestrian Counts
• People Who Bike Campaign (August)
• Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum (held remotely)
• Columbus Vision Zero
• Central Ohio Greenways Updates
• Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan
• Central Ohio Employer Telework Policy Guide
• Regional Mobility Plan (Coordinated Plan) Overview
• Support for ODOT Safety Performance Measures’ Targets
• Adoption of Annual Safety Performance Measures

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FUNDING & COORDINATION

MORPC-ATTRIBUTABLE FUNDING

• Adoption of Policies for Managing MORPC-attributable funds
• Project Status Updates

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

• Amendments to 2018-2021 TIP
• Adoption of 2021-2024 TIP
• Amendments to 2021-2024 TIP

FUNDING PROGRAMS

• ODOT Transportation Review Advisory Council Projects (TRAC round later suspended)

PROJECT COORDINATION

• Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative
  o Hyperloop Feasibility Study
  o Environmental Impact Statement Components Study
• Paving the Way System Update
• LinkUS Mobility Initiative
• Smart Region Task Force

OTHER PROJECTS, INITIATIVES & EVENTS

• Insight2050 Technical Assistance Program
• COVID-19 Transportation System Impacts & Updates
• Ohio Rail Development Commission - Rail Crossing Study
• Population Estimates
• Census 2020
• Regional Housing Strategy
• Summit on Sustainability
• Regional Sustainability Dashboard
• Sustaining Scioto
• Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments