The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a long-range planning document that brings together local governments from around Central Ohio and other local, state, and federal agencies to identify and coordinate transportation goals and policies. The MTP will identify transportation strategies and projects, and provide the basis for transportation funding to be spent to improve highways, transit, freight, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities.

Work on the 2020-2050 MTP has been underway since September 2018, when the goals of the plan were established. Measurable objectives were adopted in November 2018. The forecasted population and employment is open for public review and comment through May 24, 2019. More information on these milestones is available at www.morpc.org/mtp2050.

Forecasted Growth

Transportation and land use are interdependent. The transportation system provides a way for people and goods to move, and the development patterns determine where they go and the paths they take. Therefore, projecting future land use, and the number and location of people and jobs helps identify and prioritize where future transportation and mobility improvements are needed. MORPC develops forecasts of how future housing and employment will be distributed throughout counties in Central Ohio. By predicting where people will likely work and live in the future, MORPC can identify future transportation needs in the 2020–2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Estimating future growth starts with estimating existing locations of jobs and people. Base-year population is estimated using administrative records (births, deaths, and migration), building permits, and U.S. Census Bureau estimates of average household size and rates of housing occupancy. Jobs are estimated for the base year using data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), new development activity, and land use types.
FORECASTED GROWTH (continued)

With a clear picture of where people currently live and work in the region, the next step is to predict how that will change and grow in the future. There is greater certainty in predicting future growth of larger populations than smaller ones, therefore MORPC’s land use allocation model uses projections of future households and jobs within each county as the starting point for predicting where, specifically, growth is likely to occur. Other criteria considered that influence where growth is likely to occur in the future includes, among others:

- Future land use type (as determined by local land use authorities)
- Environmental constraints
- Access to infrastructure
- Economic development incentives

Results from the model are available on an interactive map that can be accessed at morpc.org/mtp2050. MORPC is accepting comments on the forecasted population and employment growth through May 24, 2019.

GROWTH FORECASTS FOR METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

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<tr>
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<th>HOUSEHOLDS</th>
<th>HOUSEHOLD POPULATION</th>
<th>EMPLOYMENT</th>
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