NOTICE OF A MEETING

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Scioto Conference Room

Monday, November 4, 2019
5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

I. 5:30 p.m. Welcome & Introductions – Catherine Girves, Chair

II. 5:35 p.m. Approval of September 4, Meeting Minutes (enclosed)

5:36 p.m. Approval of October 2, Meeting Minutes (enclosed)

III. 5:38 p.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report (enclosed) – Thea Walsh, MORPC

• Monthly Report: Data & Mapping – Aaron Schill, MORPC
• DCTB Update - Denny Schooley, DCTB
• COTA Update- Doug Arseneault, COTA

IV. 5:50 p.m. 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

• MTP Update – Maria Schaper, MORPC

V. 6:00 p.m. Informational Items

• Access Ohio 2045 – Maria Schaper, MORPC
• MORPC Focused Effort for the 3rd Street Mobility Innovation Test – Lexi Petrella, MORPC
• Central Ohio Water Resource Plan (208) – Stephen Patchan, Rachel Beeman, MORPC

VI. 6:35 p.m. Other Business

VII. 7:00 p.m. Adjourn
PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR EMAIL AT ssaunders@morpc.org TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The next CAC Meeting is
Monday, December 2, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215

PARKING AND TRANSIT: When parking in MORPC’s parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with a yellow “M”. Handicapped parking is available at the side of MORPC’s building. Three electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

MORPC is accessible by CBUS. The closest bus stop to MORPC is S. Front Street & W. Blenkner St. Buses that accommodate this stop are the Number 61 - Grove City, the Number 5 - West 5th Ave. /Refugee, and the Number 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons.

MEETING ROOM ACCESS: When you arrive in MORPC’s lobby, a video screen will display the day’s meetings. Each meeting will list a phone extension. Use the phone in the lobby to call the extension and someone will come escort you to the meeting.
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 4, 2019
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: MORPC

Members Present
William Curlis  LaGrieta Holloway  Grant Huling  Larry Robertson
Len Fisher  Catherine Girves  David Paul  Ira Weiss

Guests Present
Doug Arsenault  Mike Barker  Cleve Ricksecker
Mark Conte  Breanna Badanes  Roy Wentzel

I. Welcome & Introductions
Chair Catherine Girves called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

II. Approval of July 31, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Chair Girves asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Bill Curlis moved; Len Fisher seconded; and the motion carried.

III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Thea Walsh, MORPC
   • Transit Agencies Report
     • Delaware County Transit Board (DCTB)
       • The Delaware County Transit Board recently changed their name from DataBus. They are working on new software for scheduling and dispatching and City of Delaware flex routes starting at points going, North, South, East and West using this new software. They are working on fixing on-demand routes that operate on a 30-minute rotation. They are also working on expanding services into areas such as Polaris, Tanger Mall, and the City of Columbus to meet the growing population.
     • COTA Update – Doug Arseneault, COTA
       • Public comment meetings for our January service change will be held on September 12 at noon and Tuesday, September 17 at 6 p.m.
         • Both meetings will be held at the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Northside branch on North High Street, due to our lobby renovations for the new Customer Experience Center.
         • COTA is proposing the discontinuation of the Night Owl service, due to low ridership likely related to expanded service on Line 2 and the CBUS. We are looking to
repurpose those resources to improve the frequency of coverage service in low-income communities.

- COTA’s Annual Luncheon will be held Thursday, October 3 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be announced soon.

- Two new members of our Leadership Team joined COTA in recent weeks.
  - Angela Mumma started as our new Chief Financial Officer on August 26, previously serving as Finance Director for the City of Dublin.
  - Sophia Mohr joined us as our new Chief Innovation Officer yesterday, September 3. Sophia was Vice President of Owner Experience Design and Strategy for Netjets prior to joining COTA.

- COTA Plus micro transit service in Grove City is going well, providing an average of 20 daily trips. Our goal is 120 daily trips by the end of the one-year demonstration project.
  - COTA recently hosted state legislators from the House Transportation Committee for a tour of COTA Plus, with a lot of positive feedback about launching similar services in other regions locally and around the state.
  - COTA is pursuing a second COTA Plus zone, to launch this winter or in early 2020.

- Mainstream on Demand service continues to grow in popularity, with 1,850 trips provided in July.
  - Ridership is increasing on a trend of more than 300 trips each month, which we expect to peak at about 2,000 monthly this autumn.
  - COTA is in discussions with City of Columbus and a broad coalition of partners, including Yay Bikes about a second Mobility Innovation Test in the coming months.

- 3rd Street Mobility Corridor
  - MORPC recently conducted a pilot test with bicyclist, transit, and vehicle riders. COTA and the City of Columbus worked together on a survey and met with a focus group to discuss the first level of findings. There are still things to discover and another popup lane test to do.

- Clean Fuels Ohio
  - The Clean Fuels Ohio Annual Conference is scheduled for September 16th through 19th at the Marriot on the Ohio State campus.
  - Thea disclosed that she is their chairperson.

- Miscellaneous
  - Dr. Larry Robertson of All Aboard Ohio shared that they are going to have their autumn All Aboard meeting at MORPC’s Scioto Conference Room on September 28, 2019 at 9 a.m.
  - Speakers include Thea Walsh and Dina Lopez from MORPC.
• **Monthly Report – Data & Mapping – Cheri Mansperger, MORPC**
  - The Paving the Way initiative has completed development on the new website, and training materials. The public launch is scheduled in early October.

• **Population Forecasts & Estimates**
  - Small area population & employment forecasts to 2050 are complete
  - Mapping & tables will be available online later this month
  - Additional detailed data is available upon request

The presentation can be found by clicking here

• **Monthly Report – Planning & Sustainability – Stephen Patchan, MORPC**
  - Central Ohio was the first non-attainment region in the United States to reach attainment for the most recent national ozone air pollution standards. Less ozone pollution in the air means:
    - Better health for everyone but specially for our children and anyone with asthma or compromised lung health because they feel the effects of air pollution most.
    - Businesses will face fewer air permitting restrictions paving the way for infrastructure investment and economic development that will create jobs.
  - National short-duration trail counts on Bicycle & Pedestrian for 2019 were collected throughout August and will continue through September. Team members coordinated with partners to set up temporary count equipment at key locations throughout the region as part of MORPC’s trail monitoring program.
  - The Fall 2019 Volunteer Bicyclist and Pedestrian Counts have been scheduled for Wednesday, September 11 from 7-9am and 11-7pm. Locations and information about how to sign up for those counts has been shared with the Active Transportation Working Group and others to get volunteers.
  - Team members worked with the City of Columbus and Street Light Insight technical staff to analyze pedestrian data for a curb ramp prioritization project. Couple of events are coming, one is the America Walks on September 24, registration is out for that now. Get registered as soon as you can.

IV. **Proposed Resolutions**

• **Proposed Resolution T-13-19 – “Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program” (enclosed) – Ronni Nimps, MORPC.**
  - This resolution will add or modify seven projects on the SFY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with commitments totaling over $80 million.
  - COTA requested an addition for the 2020 electric bus purchase with funds from the Low or No Emission Vehicle Program; the addition of $10 million of 5307 funds for the rehabilitation of the Fields Avenue facility; and the reduction of $2 million of 5307 funds for the 2020 CNG bus purchase.
  - The City of Delaware requested an addition to the right-of-way phase of “the Point” project at US-36 and SR-37 from west of Foley Street and east of East Street to SR-521.
• Following the removal of MORPC-attributable funds via T-9-19, Dublin’s Tuttle Crossing Boulevard was removed from the TIP.
• ODOT District 5 requested the addition of preliminary engineering for an interchange in the vicinity of Pickerington Road on US-33.
• ODOT District 6 requested the addition of the right-of-way phase for I-70/I-71 Innerbelt, Phase 4B.

Chair Catherine Girves asked for a motion to approve; William Curlis moved; Ira Weiss seconded; and the motion carried.

• Proposed Resolution T-14-19 – “Accepting the PWP Completion Report for State Fiscal Year 2019” (enclosed) – Thea Walsh, MORPC
  • Annually, MORPC is required to submit a report to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) describing the work completed with federal planning funds to continue the metropolitan transportation planning process, as defined by the FAST Act.
  • For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019, the use of these funds was outlined in the SFY 2019 Planning Work Program (PWP) adopted by Resolution T-7-18 and amended by resolutions T-16-18 and T-1-19. The PWP serves as the scope of work, the schedule, and the budget for the federally funded planning activities.
  • A summary of the PWP activities is included as an attachment to the resolution. A full report is available upon request. Resolution T-14-19 approves the completion report and requires that it is forwarded to ODOT.

Chair Catherine Girves asked for a motion to approve; Larry Robertson moved; Ira Weiss seconded; and the motion carried.

• Proposed Resolution T-15-19 - “Establishing Priorities for Central Ohio Candidate Projects Submitted in 2019 for TRAC Funding” (enclosed) - Dina Lopez, MORPC
  • Resolution T-15-19 commits funding for Major New Capacity Program projects. Eligible projects include existing TRAC-funded projects needing funds to advance, projects that cost over $12 million, and projects that increase capacity and/or reduce congestion. TRAC also considers new projects with significant impact on regional economic and have a non-ODOT funding commitments. MPO provide ODOT a local project prioritization recommendation.
  • There were 8 projects submitted to TRAC for funding that fall within MORPC’s MPO area. MORPC staff evaluated the projects using the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) goals and objectives.
  • MORPC recommends the 2019 MPO TRAC priorities as follows:
    Priority No. 1: Far East Phases 1, 2 & 3
    Priority No. 2: Union Co. US-33/SR-161/ Post Rd. interchange
    Priority No. 3: The Delaware Point
    Priority No. 4: US-33/ Pickerington Road
    Priority No. 5: I-71/ Stringtown Road
Priority No. 6: US-23/I-270 Interchange

The presentation can be found by clicking here

CAC Chair Girves asked for a motion to approve; LaGrieta moved; Ira Weiss seconded; and the motion carried.

V. 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) - Maria Schaper, MORPC

- Maria provided a brief update to the MTP, specifically the results of the interactive webmap and strategies development. A few items of note include:
  - “Like” “dislike” or “neutral” indicated: 733
  - Comments on projects: 674
  - Most comments received on one project: 44 (Minor Widening of Roberts Rd. from Alton & Darby Creek Rd. to Hilliard Rome Rd.)
    - 37 “like”
    - 2 “dislike”
    - 2 “neutral”
    - 3 did not vote
  - Most “dislike” votes (6): Hill Rd.-Lockville Rd. connector in Pickerington
- Strategy development is also underway.
- Next steps include:
  - Evaluating all candidate projects using adopted criteria
  - Developing project cost estimates and regional revenue forecast and completing the fiscal analysis
  - Developing draft list of regional transportation strategies and projects, which will be available for public comment and brought before committees later this Fall
- The MTP adoption is scheduled for May 2020.

The presentation can be found by clicking here

VI. Informational Items

- I-70/I-71 Columbus Crossroads Project Update – Breanna Badanes, ODOT
  - Breanna discussed the I-70/71 Phase 2E Upcoming Impacts. A few items of note include:
    - Alternate Routes to I-70 EAST
      - Dublin Rd. to SR 315 SB to I-70 EB
      - Spring St. to Neil Ave. to I-670 EB to I-71 SB
      - Greenlawn Ave. to I-71 NB to I-70 EB
      - Main St. to Miller Ave. to I-70 EB
      - Main St. to Alum Creek Dr. to I-70 EB
      - Livingston Ave. to Alum Creek Dr. to I-70 EB
    - Tentative Schedule
      - Both directions of I-70 on WB bridge – Sept/Oct. 2019
      - Parsons closed south of Main – Oct. 2019
      - 3rd St. ramp closes – Nov. 2019
      - 18th St. ramp closes – Nov. 2019
      - Fulton/4th intersection closure – Mid-summer 2020
• Mooberry one-way EB – Fall 2020

The presentation can be found by clicking here

• Downtown C-pass Update – Cleve Ricksecker, Capital Crossroads & Discovery SID
  • Mr. Ricksecker presented the results of the 2019 C-pass survey results. Some of the key findings are:
  • Ridership among the survey group doubled, growing from approximately 5% prior to June 1, 2018, to a current percentage falling within a range of 10% to 14% in June 2019
  • 68% report that C-pass is the reason they started using COTA while another 26% said it helped motivate them to use COTA
  • People switching are most motivated by saving money (83% agree strongly), followed by convenience (50% agree strongly)
  • 52% of surveyed companies report knowing that employees had relinquished parking because they now take the bus

The handout can be found by clicking here

• Safety Plan Update – Stephen Patchan, MORPC
  • Population growth and limited transportation options have resulted in increased driving, but an even greater increase in fatalities.
  • During the 2013-2017 time period:
    • Vehicle miles travelled increased by 5%
    • Traffic fatalities increased by 25%
    • Fatality rate increased by 19%
    • Serious injuries decreased by 4%
    • Serious injury rate decreased by 8%

The presentation can be found by clicking here

VII. Adjourn

Chair Girves asked for a motion to adjourn at 7:20p.m.; Larry Robertson moved; LaGrieta seconded; and the motion carried.

Bernice Cage, Secretary
Community Advisory Committee
Members Present
William Curlis  LaGrieta Holloway  Larry Robertson
Catherine Girves  David Paul  Ira Weiss

Guests Present
Doug Arsenault  Mike Barker
Roy Wentzel

I. Welcome & Introductions
Chair Catherine Girves called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Approval of September 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Approval was not entertained as there was not a quorum.

III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Thea Walsh, MORPC
- MORPC hosted a meeting for “All Aboard Ohio”, with participants from all over Ohio and the Midwest.
- Results for the MORPC Focused Effort for the Mobility Innovation Test on 3rd St. will be presented during the November meeting.
- ODOT staff recommendations to the TRAC Board
  - $74.5 million for Far East Freeway Phase I
  - $10 million on 71 South at Stringtown
  - $8 million at Delaware Point
  - Outside of the MPO, $3 million for a Licking County project
- Delaware County Transit Board (DCTB)
  - Parking Lot construction started September 30.
  - Data files are being sent to the software company.
  - Vehicle bids are complete and ready to be advertised for new high-top vans.
  - A website redesign is in contract.
- COTA Update – Doug Arseneault, COTA
  - The COTA Annual Luncheon will be held on October 3, 2019 at the Columbus Convention Center.
  - The keynote speaker is Lydia Mihalik, Director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and former Mayor of Findlay.
• COTA Connector, the mobile ticketing and smart card mobile application, will launch on October 3, 2019. The system will allow occasional customers to purchase one trip fares. The ability to purchase passes will launch during the next phase.

• COTA’s new Customer Experience Center and Mobility Lab, now known as the GO! Lab, will open in early November.

• The second Mobility Innovation Test will be announced in the coming weeks. COTA is targeting the test to take place in mid-November 2019.

• COTA is ramping up advocacy efforts on House Bill 309, which would increase the penalties for assaulting a transit operator. COTA is working closely with the bill’s authors to move the bill, which has failed to move in the past two legislative sessions.

• **Data & Mapping** – Aaron Schill, MORPC
  - The last training meetings for the new Paving Way system has taken place. We are also coordinating to make sure that we keep in touch with the different contractors and consultants. Please email pavingtheway@morpc.org with any questions. We continue to populate the system with projects.

  - Preparation for the Census is underway. Community involvement is a focus for MORPC and local governments. Communities not represented on the sub-committee should inform Aaron Schill.

  - A question was asked concerning MORPC’s involvement with the Census. Aaron explained that only Census officials collect the information. MORPC does not have a role in collecting the information.

  - The Regional Data Advisory Committee reported that the working groups are defining priorities to develop surveys on policy issues. There will be more information about this in the future.

• **Planning & Sustainability** – Stephen Patchan, MORPC
  - The Central Ohio Water Resources Planning project is complete.

  - Six applications were received for the insight 2050 Technical System project. The chosen projects are expected to be announced in December 2019.

  - MORPC, in partnership with ODOT, sponsored the America Walks Summit. There were local, regional, and national attendees.

  - The Summit on Sustainability will be held on Friday, October 11, 2019.

**IV. 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)** – Nick Gill, MORPC

• A summary was provided for the cost estimating and revenue forecasting processes.
The next steps are to evaluate candidate projects, develop cost estimates and revenue forecast, and draft list of strategies and projects.

The MTP adoption is expected in May 2020.

The presentation can be found by clicking here

V. Informational Items

- **Popular Estimates** - Aaron Schill, MORPC
  - Our annual population estimates will be presented to the Executive Committee for the resolution to go forward for approval.

  - It is estimated that the population for the region is about 2.41 million people, a little less than last year. The growth estimates from last year show a little bit of correction and a little less aggressive, but still seeing a growth.

  - At 915,000 residents, Columbus showed strong growth last year and this year.

  - The cities of Delaware and Westerville both broke 40 thousand residents. The city of Dublin, the second largest in the region, showed a growth of 50 thousand residents this year.

  - Several new counties have joined MORPC this last year. We will provide detailed estimates for those counties along with the rest on the MORPC website.

- **Complete Streets Update** - Stephen Patchan, MORPC
  - In 2004, MORPC adopted a Routine Accommodation policy to increase the number of projects that provide bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

  - In 2010, MORPC adopted the first Regional Complete Street Policy in the United States and was recognized for this initiative which served as a template for others.

  - In 2018, through the insight2050 project development, the region estimates 500k-1m more residents by 2050.

  - Complete Streets are roadways designed to safely and comfortably accommodate all users, including, but not limited to motorists, cyclists, pedestrians, transit and school bus riders, delivery and service personnel, freight haulers, and emergency responders. “All users” includes people of all ages and abilities.

  - The Complete Streets vision is to create an equitable, balanced, and effective transportation system where every roadway user can travel safely and
comfortably and where sustainable transportation options are available to everyone.

The complete presentation can be found by clicking here

- **Energy Benchmarking Program** - Jon-Paul d’Aversa, MORPC
  - October 2, 2019 is Energy Efficiency day. More information can be found at https://www.energyefficiencyday.org/
  
  - The Energy Benchmarking program has 13 members enrolled and six that are interested.
  
  - The regional dashboard is going live on or around October 14, 2019.
  
  - The Alternative Fuel Corridor program designates highways as signage-pending or signage-ready. MORPC has submitted the last two rounds of nominations.
  
  - MORPC has proposed developing a deployment plan for I-70 from West Virginia to Indiana. The proposal would develop a working group to convene stakeholders along the corridor.
  
  - Smart Columbus is now opening their Accelerator Program to local governments.

The complete presentation can be found by clicking here

- **Central Ohio Water Resources Planning** – Rachael Beeman, MORPC.
  
  - Population growth and the estimates for that growth by 2050 show the potential for a significant strain on our water resources.
  
  - In 2013 we started a project with partners in Central Ohio to look at how changes in climate and the project growth may impact our region.
  
  - Over time, it is expected that the average temperature in the region will increase significantly. In addition, it is expected that the weather patterns will change, with high intensity weather events. With these conditions, the water demand can be difficult to manage.
  
  - In 2015 we worked with this data and an advisory committee to prioritize the adaptive management options. More details can be found in the presentation.
  
  - MORPC’s strategy is to establish a formal leadership body with an approved structure and strategy and have them implemented here in Central Ohio.
  
  - An informational update will be given to the Commission in October 2019 to start moving this initiative forward.

The complete presentation can be found by clicking here
• **Air Quality Update** – Dr. Brooke White, MORPC
  • Central Ohio is the first non-attainment area in the nation to meet the most recent federal air quality standard for ozone.

  • Subscribership to air quality alerts have increased over 50% between 2018 and 2019.

  • We plan to build high impact partnerships, one with a National Weather Service which will share our Air Quality Alerts through different platforms such as Facebook, etc.

  • We will be engaging the Energy & Air Quality working groups to help develop a program around increasing awareness and education pertaining to using low-cost air quality monitors.

  The presentation can be found by clicking here

VI. **Adjourn**
Because there was not a quorum, there was no motion presented to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Bernice Cage, Secretary
Community Advisory Committee
Transportation & Infrastructure Development
Thea Walsh, Director - twalsh@morpc.org

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
Project Evaluation
- Team Members are working to develop quantitative project level data for the purpose of applying adopted evaluation criteria. This will allow Team Members to review each candidate MTP project to determine which projects will best help advance regional goals and objectives.

Fiscal Balance
- To determine which projects are cost feasible, Team Members are developing cost estimates for each project. Expected revenues available for transportation through 2050 are also being forecasted. Project evaluation and fiscal balance analysis are key determinants in creating the draft list of projects to be included in the MTP. Team Members are working to develop the draft project list and make it available for public comment in November.

Community Outreach
- MORPC Team Members are scheduling presentations to local councils, associations, and civic groups to share the MTP process and draft strategies and project list. Presentations will be made November through February.

Transit, Mobility & Human Services
5310 Designated Recipient
- Throughout September and October MORPC Team Members have been working with 5310 subrecipients on any invoicing issues they may have had. Team Members will continue to assist these stakeholders through the reimbursement process as needed.
- In October, Team Members began updating the 5310 application for next cycle and will have it ready to be uploaded to the Transit section of MORPC’s website in early November.
- MORPC hosted the quarterly coordination meeting with COTA and DCTB on October 17.
- MORPC Team Members scheduled a December informational meeting regarding the 5310 application process and will be working with DCTB to schedule a similar meeting in Delaware County.

Gohio
- Gohio Team Members met with the CoGo Bike Share Advisory Group to discuss the bike share’s ridership and use of stations installed in the last year. The group discussed the coming electric bikes and potential locations for new stations. CoGo Bike Share and Lyft TDM campaigns were also discussed in relation to the Commuter Challenge and other partnership opportunities.
- Gohio Team Members met with the Central Ohio Mode Shift Coalition to discuss a new strategy for regional outreach and education for sustainable transportation. The concept includes experiential based programming, tactical urbanism demonstrations, and opportunities for public participation. The Gohio team is working with other internal MORPC departments
and external partners on planning the program. The group also discussed COTA’s Mobility Innovation Test and the Mobility Hubs coming late winter/early spring.

- Gohio Team Members reviewed past Commuter Challenges to understand how to improve the program for the future. This information was also reviewed by external partners. Next steps are to have a 2020 Strategizing meeting with external partners to collaborate on innovative TDM campaigns for the coming year.
- Gohio Team Members will be at the Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference to present about mobility as a service and the impact this concept has on regional planning and transportation demand management.

**Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI)**

- Environmental Impact Study (EIS Study): The consultant has completed passenger rail components of the environmental work, including the existing conditions report, passenger rail route alternatives report, and draft purpose and need statement for the passenger rail project. MORPC has completed public officials debrief meetings in Lima, Marysville, Kenton and Dublin, which took place between October 7 and October 28. Technical staff debriefs for Smart Columbus and City of Columbus staff will take place in November.
- Hyperloop Feasibility Study: MORPC, the consultant and Virgin Hyperloop One have reached an agreement on the study’s economic demand analysis methodology and incorporating revisions to the final reports. The feasibility study was included in the public officials debriefs in October, and the study’s key findings were also presented at the Ohio Transportation Engineers Conference (OTECC) on October 30.

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

**CORPO Update**

- Governor Mike DeWine officially designated CORPO as Ohio’s sixth Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) on October 9!
- CORPO and ODOT completed seven CORPO Subcommittee/ODOT Rural Consultation meetings. This is an important first step in the RTIP process.
- CORPO uploaded their third quarterly newsletter on October 22. The newsletter can be found at [http://www.morpc.org/committees/corpo/](http://www.morpc.org/committees/corpo/) under newsletters.
- CORPO staff participated in an informational meeting hosted by First Knox Bank and Knox County on October 22. This meeting, in collaboration with MORPC, updated stakeholders in Knox County on the efforts, projects, and milestones reached by Smart Columbus.

**Infrastructure Funding**

**MORPC Attributable Funding**

- The Attributable Funding Committee (AFC) is currently evaluating policy changes and improvements. The committee will consider draft text changes in November, with a goal of finalizing the policies by mid-winter. The next attributable funding round is expected to open at the end of spring 2020.

**Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)**

- Applicants in Franklin County (District 3) submitted 31 applications requesting $42.8 million in SCIP/LTIP funding for the year beginning July 1, 2019. Approximately $27 million is available. The team is reviewing and scoring applications. The Public Works Integrating Committee’s (PWIC) next meeting on November 15 will be to review and discuss the applications.
Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)
- Clean Ohio Conservation Fund application materials for communities in Franklin County (District 3) were posted on MORPC’s website. Approximately $3.8 million is available for green space acquisition and stream corridor restoration. Preliminary screening applications are due December 13, 2019 and final applications are due March 20, 2020. Awards will be announced April 23, 2020.

Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)
- In order to advance identified CAP priorities, MORPC has launched an Innovative Funding Strategies Development Activity with Ice Miller LLP. Six primary projects, along with several secondary projects, have been selected to participate in a series of workshops and develop financing strategies. The selected projects are listed below by their workshop and project type:
  - **Active Transportation**
    - Lead Project - Central Ohio Greenways Development (Regional)
  - **Water & Sewer**
    - Lead Project – Knox Lake Wastewater Improvement (Knox)
    - Secondary Project – Countywide Sanitary Sewer Expansion (Logan)
  - **Smart Tech & Telecom**
    - Lead Project – US 33 Smart Corridor Logan Extension (Logan)
  - **Site Development**
    - Lead Project – Columbus Crossroads: High/Third Street Commercial Cap (Franklin)
  - **Highways & Roads I**
    - Lead Project – Glenn Parkway (Delaware)
    - Secondary Project – Ewing Street Connector (Fairfield)
  - **Highways & Roads II**
    - Lead Project – I-70 to US 33 Connector (Fairfield)
    - Secondary Project – Rickenbacker Area Access (Franklin)

Data & Mapping
Aaron Schill, Director – aschill@morpc.org

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)
- The Regional Data User Group Working Group met October 22 to discuss the future User Group, focusing on candidates, outreach, meeting format, and a final name. The Group meets again November 21.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group met October 9 to prepare for a presentation to the Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Association (COMMA) on November 1. The Group meets again November 8.
- The Sustainability Dashboard Working Group met October 8 for a demonstration of Sustainability Dashboard, updated in preparation for the Summit on Sustainability. The Working Group also discussed metrics used in the 2018 Sustainability Report Card and meets again November 5.
**Smart Region Task Force**
- The Smart Region Task Force will meet on November 12. Team Members continue to work on the Smart Region Playbook and the Smart Region Resource Guide, the Task Force’s final two deliverables.

**Transportation**
- MORPC participated in an update call on the Transportation Energy Analytics Dashboard (TEAD). TEAD is funded through the U.S. Department of Energy and is being developed in partnership with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the University of Maryland’s Center for Advanced Transportation Technology Laboratory.
- GIS Manager Cheri Mansperger continues work on the ODOT LBRS (Location Based Response System) Steering Committee.

**Data and Mapping Outreach and Collaboration**
- After extensive data collection and analysis, the 2020 Population Estimates were presented to and approved by the Commission on October 10.
- 2020 Census Outreach:
  - The Local Government Subcommittee of the Complete Count Committee met October 2 to discuss a presentation to be made to the Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Association (COMMA) on December 6. Subcommittee members also identified talking points for local governments and the use of social media and Census materials for outreach. The Subcommittee meets again November 7.
  - Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill presented to the Gahanna City Council on October 21 regarding the 2020 Census.
  - MORPC is working with the Ohio Census Advocacy Coalition (OCAC) on outreach to encourage full participation in the 2020 Census, with a focus on historically “hard-to-count” populations.
- The Smart Columbus Operating System Charter Team and MORPC Team Members held a joint Workshop on October 3. The Workshop helped the Smart Columbus Team understand the data needs and the problems faced by local municipalities. Approximately 25 interested local government staff attended. The purpose of the two-hour workshop was to explore the uses and value of the Smart Columbus Operating System as a regional data platform for public sector agencies in Central Ohio.
- The Data & Mapping Team continues to take a lead role in data collection and analysis for the Regional Housing Study.
- On October 9, the Data & Mapping Team facilitated a presentation by ESRI of the 3-D modeling product, ESRI Urban.
- Natalie Hurst, Data Analyst and staff from OSU CURA presented at the October 11 Summit on Sustainability regarding the Sustainability Dashboard. Approximately 30 people attended the breakout session.
- Data and Mapping Team Members partnered with ULI to host a two-hour Development Dashboard Use Case Workshop on October 23. Approximately 30 local government planners and private sector staff attended the workshop. The goal of the new dashboard is to gather more timely and complete information on individual development projects, and to better understand larger development trends in the region.
- Data and Mapping Team Members are working on the Alliance for the American Dream grant from Schmidt Futures. The Alliance for the American Dream is a project designed to reduce inequality and relieve poverty in the United States. There are approximately ten organizations competing for $25,000 - $1,000,000 in grants. MORPC Team Members completed the first-round competition on October 19.
Active Transportation Planning

- Active Transportation Working Group (ATWG): Team Members secured an Active Transportation Academy workshop through the Ohio Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) that will be hosted at MORPC on December 10. The workshop will cover the topic of “Creating a Vision Zero Action Plan” and is free and open to anyone who wants to attend. Interested participants must register in advance through this link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/77032764071.
- The final Active Transportation Working Group meeting for 2019 was October 24. Team Members provided updates to the working group on upcoming training opportunities, the Regional Complete Streets Policy update, the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan, and the current status of the MTP – all as they relate to active transportation and how the group can be engaged. The City of Worthington also presented to the group on the development of their recently adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts: Short duration counts for the trail count monitoring program were completed at the end of September/early October. The data collected from the short duration counts will be used to factor into the annual trail usage data for 2019.
- Complete Streets: Team Members reviewed initial design documents for the Agler Rd bridge project and the feasibility report and proposed alternatives for the Cassady Avenue widening project. Recommendations were made for consideration of minor improvements that would enhance the complete streets elements of each project.
- A steering committee is being established for an update to the Regional Complete Streets Policy and the first meeting is November 13.
- Outreach: MORPC Team Members hosted the APBP Webinar: “If We Build it, Will They Come?” on Wednesday, October 16 and held a discussion with attendees immediately after the webinar about demand for bicycling in the region.
- External Meetings: Team Members attended an Active Transportation Academy workshop hosted by Ohio LTAP about Active Transportation and Traffic Calming on October 8. MORPC Team Members will use the information learned at the workshop to provide enhanced member assistance related to active transportation and traffic calming.

insight2050

- Corridor Concepts: Team Members presented the results of Corridor Concepts to about 40 attendees of the October WTS luncheon.
- Academy: The fall insight2050 academy has been postponed to spring 2020 and will coincide with the roll-out of the Regional Housing Strategy. In the meantime, a half-day housing and insight2050 workshop will take place on Tuesday, December 10. More details and a link to register will be provided in early November.
- Technical Assistance Program (TA Program): The TA Program received six applications from five MORPC member communities. MORPC Team Members held an informational meeting for an evaluation committee of nine regional stakeholders from ODOT, OSU, COTA, ODH, and MORPC, where they were presented with the application scoring criteria. The evaluation committee will complete their review next month. MORPC Team Members continue to prepare for TA Program projects to begin in January by coordinating with interdepartmental staff to create report and map templates.
- Regional Housing Strategy: Earlier this month MORPC released a community housing survey designed to gain insights from residents and service providers to help inform the regional
landscape scan of existing housing conditions. The survey will remain open through November 8.

- Project sponsors received a progress report and preview of the next in-person meeting taking place in November. The progress report was shared via a webinar and conference call on October 23. The timeline for this project has been modified; a report roll-out originally slated for April will now occur in June, allowing for a more comprehensive review of the local and national housing landscape and more time for input from and engagement with project sponsors, advisors, and the community. The modified timeline will also allow us to expand on a comprehensive process for local housing action agendas.

**Transportation Safety**

- Regional Safety Plan: Team Members met with partners, including the Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition and the MORPC Active Transportation Working Group, to discuss and get feedback on the implementation of the safety plan. The MORPC Team is working to initiate key action items identified in the plan for short-term implementation.
- The City of Gahanna passed a resolution recognizing September as Safe Driving Awareness month. This action is in line with the initiative promoted by MORPC encouraging other communities to adopt similar resolutions, as well as local ordinances prohibiting distracted driving.
- Data Analysis/Reporting: Team Members are working to update relevant MORPC crash maps with 2018 ODOT crash data and are exploring methods to improve our regional safety analysis and prioritization.
- Team Members have been coordinating with Data and Mapping and Transportation and Infrastructure Development departments to improve the methodology for evaluating the safety benefits of MTP project candidates as part of the overall project evaluation process.
- External Meetings: Team Members attended the October 3 Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meeting. All the fatalities reviewed during the meeting were a result of crashes involving alcohol or drug impairment. Recommendations from the meeting included more messaging around the dangers of driving, walking, and bicycling while impaired.
- Team Members attended the October 9 Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition meeting to present findings from the Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan. MORPC Team Members plan to continue collaborating with partners through the Safe Communities Coalition to implement MORPC’s Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan.

**Greenways & Water Resources Program**

- Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Board: The Central Ohio Greenways Board met October 23rd to review and advise on Greenways working group activites including:
  - COG Trail Development Working Group: The trail development working group has finalized the Greenway Prioritization project scope. The Greenway Prioritization project will rank trail and trail access projects across Franklin County. The project’s primary funding partners will be City of Columbus Public Service and Franklin County Engineers, and the project will officially kick off in early November. The group is also collaborating with Metro Parks, City of Westerville, City of Worthington, and City of Columbus to submit an application to JP Morgan Chase’s Advancing Cities Grant Program to fund a trail project near the Chase campus on Sancus Rd.
  - COG Partnership Working Group: The partnership group is working to acquire funding for an “Impacts of Trails” study to look at the benefits of trails on the economy, health, equity, and environment. The group also began work on a Trail Funding Resource Guide to help local governments identify appropriate funding strategies for their trail efforts.
COG Marketing Working Group: The marketing group is developing a “Taste of the Trails” event strategy aimed to activate trail heads along trails and invite people of all backgrounds to experience the trails. The group is also beginning to develop a scope of service for a “Trails2Health” initiative aimed at partnering with the four major health networks in Central Ohio to encourage more use of trails to promote wellness.

COG Operations and Access Working Group: The operations group asked for guidance from the board on developing a tactical urbanism program that tests urban greenway trail infrastructure. The board was supportive of developing the concept further.

Water Resources Program: Team Members presented on the Sustaining Scioto program at the 15th annual Olentangy Watershed Forum on October 15. This forum is hosted by the Olentangy Watershed Alliance in partnership with City of Delaware, Del-Co Water Company, and Ohio Wesleyan University. Team Members also attended the October EPN Breakfast titled ‘Controlling Nutrient Runoff and Protecting Water Quality in Ohio’, where the Directors of Ohio Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency spoke on agency priorities, the Governor’s H2Ohio initiative, and long-term water quality improvement initiatives.

Sustainable2050

Member Engagement: MORPC Team Members continue to meet with Sustainable2050 members to work through the Tier Status certification process. A modified Tier Status workbook, which facilitates the certification process for non-government members, was provided to associate members.

Energy & Air Quality

Air Quality Marketing and Outreach: Air Quality Team Members are working with marketing consultants to finish the Green Giveaway incentive campaign to award the contest prize. Team Members worked with Smart Columbus to help develop their program concept beyond 2020, after the current round of funding.

Energy & Air Quality Working Group: To support the low cost air quality monitoring subcommittee, Air Quality Team Members are preparing documentation of low cost air quality monitoring program strategies and best practices based on successful programs in other regions.

Local Government Energy Partnership: The team is currently preparing for the December 3 Benchmarking Participant Workshop taking place from 10 a.m.-noon at MORPC. This workshop will include additional training as well as one-on-one assistance between the utilities and members.

Energy Planning: The LGEP Progress Report was submitted to AEP Ohio. All deliverables have been met. Program delivery continues through 2020.

Team Members met with funders and project partners on the Transportation Energy Analytics Dashboard. The project is on schedule and the dashboard should be ready for MORPC testing in the first quarter of 2020.

Special Projects: The Federal Highway Administration AFC Deployment Plan proposal did not receive funding. There will be an attempt to secure alternative funding for this project.

Team Members worked with Smart Columbus to help develop their program concept beyond 2020, after the current round of funding.

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

Team Members began the process for MORPC to work toward Sustainable2050 tier status certification and invited members of the SAC to provide additional verification to demonstrate that we are following a process consistent with the other certified members. The goal is to
document relevant activities and submit the tier status workbook for consideration at the December 18 Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting.

- Regional Sustainability Dashboard: The MORPC Team worked with CURA at OSU to develop a Summit breakout session focused on the value of data and measuring progress toward sustainability goals. The sustainability dashboard was also featured as an example of regional efforts to provide better access to information. The Sustainability Dashboard Working Group, made up of members from the Sustainability Advisory Committee and the Regional Data Advisory Committee, continues to meet on a monthly basis to inform the development of the dashboard. While CURA has been working on the dashboard development and user interface, MORPC has been working to identify the appropriate metrics and data sources.

Communications & Engagement
Niel Jurist, Director – njurist@morpc1.onmicrosoft.com

Presentations & Outreach
Presentations on the RSTI studies have been scheduled for Kenton, October 28 at 7:00 p.m. and Upper Arlington Rotary Club, February 4, 2020.

Presentations on the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan continue to be scheduled for mid-November through February 2020.

News Releases and Social Media
Press releases distributed to the media:
- MORPC to present findings of the RSTI studies to Central Ohio
- Notice of October meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Franklin County Transportation Improvement District, Franklin County, Ohio
- Weatherization Showcase
- MORPC Recognizes City of Worthington’s Efforts on Sustainability
- MORPC Partners with Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security to Provide Air Quality Alerts
- MORPC Recognizes Outstanding Leaders in Sustainability

Social media and eSource digital content over the month included the Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative, Smart Streets Policy, ODOT Access 2045 Public Meeting, Federal Air Quality Attainment, Air Quality/Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security Partnership, Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan, Safe Driving Awareness Month, and Competitive Advantage Projects.

MORPC in the News
MORPC was mentioned in the news approximately 94 times. The press release announcing the RSTI findings generated 85 percent of the mentions in the media with a reach of more than 16 million.

- The Columbus Dispatch interviewed William Murdock on housing.
- Thea Walsh was interviewed on RSTI studies, hyperloop and passenger rail by the following media:
  o Business First
  o Columbus Underground
  o In Fort Wayne