COMMISSION MEETING
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
VIDEO/AUDIO CONFERENCE

Thursday, September 10, 2020
1:30 p.m.

To join by video and see any screen sharing, click on “Join Microsoft Teams Meeting” below. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams for the link to work.

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+1 614-362-3056 United States, Columbus (Toll)
(888) 596-2819 United States (Toll-free)
Conference ID: 697 415 254#

AGENDA

1:30 p.m.  1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Welcome and Introductions – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
   - Recognition of Guests and New Members – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

3. Executive Director’s Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director

4. Regional Housing Study – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Planning & Sustainability Director

5. Proposed Resolution 12-20: “Adoption of the Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and authorizing the executive director to file applications with, execute agreements with, and receive funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration” – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director and Ted Geer, MORPC Economic Development Officer
2:00 p.m.

Committees

6. **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Brad Ebersole (Delaware County), Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair

7. **Regional Policy Roundtable** – Ben Collins (Plain Township), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
   a. **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joe Garrity, MORPC Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives

8. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Jim Schimmer (Franklin County), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair

2:30 p.m.

9. **Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
   a. **Call to Order** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
   b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report**
      - Transportation & Infrastructure Development – Thea Ewing, Director
   c. **Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**
      1) Approval of [August 13, 2020 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
      2) **Proposed Resolution T-11-20**: “Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program”
      3) **Proposed Resolution T-12-20**: “Accepting the PWP Completion Report for the State Fiscal Year 2020”
   d. **COVID-19 Impact on Transportation Follow-Up** – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director
   e. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

10. **Commission Consent Agenda**
   a. Approval of [August 13, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
   b. **Proposed Resolution 13-20**: “Authorizing the executive director to participate in contracts awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Cooperative Purchasing Program”
   c. **Proposed Resolution 14-20**: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into multi-year agreements for standard administrative services”
d. **Proposed Resolution 15-20:** “MORPC commitment to become a SolSmart-designated regional organization”
e. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

11. Other Business

3:00 p.m. 12. Adjourn – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR ssaunders@morpc.org IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The next Commission Meeting is
Thursday, October 8, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
Video/Audio Conference
MORPC Monthly Agency Report
August 2020

Department Directors
Kerstin Carr kcarr@morpc.org
Thea Ewing twalsh@morpc.org
Joe Garrity jgarrity@morpc.org
Shawn Hufstedler shufstedler@morpc.org
Níel Jurist njurist@morpc.org
Aaron Schill aschill@morpc.org
Robert Williams rwilliams@morpc.org

COVID-19 Advocacy and Updates
MORPC’s Government Affairs Team is working in partnership with regional partners and our Congressional delegation to encourage new funding for state and local governments that is robust, dedicated, and flexible in the next federal COVID-19 stimulus bill. Flexibility for use of funds going forward is very important and is equally matched with the need for additional resources for the response.

Team Members coordinated bi-weekly forums and supplemental programs. The Government Affairs Team continues to provide legislative updates on the bi-weekly forums MORPC is convening in partnership with the Franklin County Township Association and the Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Association (COMMA).

Public Policy Agenda Working Group
The Public Policy Agenda Working Group met August 20. Led by Mayor David Scheffler, the Working Group is tasked with updating MORPC public policy priorities for 2021-2022. This region has its usual policy priorities to update related to regionalism, transportation, sustainability, and data & digital infrastructure. However, it must also address the impact COVID-19 will have on local governments and racial equity. The group will convene meetings in September and will present a draft agenda to the Regional Policy Roundtable in October.

Transit, Mobility & Human Services
MORPC Team Members led the first Central Ohio Mobility Management Working Group meeting to discuss next steps of the program, coordination with ODOT, and other organizations. The Working Group will meet quarterly with opportunities for information sharing, program updates, and input.

Team Members are developing a Specialized Mobility Search tool for older adults, people with disabilities, care takers, individuals with low income, and social service organizations to search for transportation options that support quality of life.

MORPC is hosting a Section 5310-Info Meeting on September 18.

Gohio
Team Members implemented a TDM campaign for August 2020 called People Who Bike to encourage Central Ohio residents to bike for transportation. The campaign focused on providing incentives and educational resources for residents new to or interested in biking to feel
encouraged and empowered to bike instead of driving a single occupancy vehicle. Graphic design materials were produced, including logo and biking passport. Purchased radio spots on Urban (Radio) One and CD 102.5 to promote the People Who Bike Campaign to reach diverse audiences in the Central Ohio region. The purpose of the campaign is to encourage individuals and families to consider biking as their preferred mode of transportation. Digital advertisements were run on Urban One online platforms and via MORPC’s platforms to reach diverse audiences.

Team Members are working with the Columbus Young Professionals to implement an online webinar on the importance of using sustainable modes of transportation and engaging vulnerable populations in the planning process. The webinar is part of Columbus Young Professionals Week 2020.

**ODOT US 33 Southeast Study**
MORPC provided initial base modeling work to ODOT District 6 for their corridor study of US 33 from approximately SR 104 to Fairfield County. The study is to look at mainline capacity issues, the interchange at I-270 and identified problems at other interchanges in the study area.

**Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI)**
MORPC participated in a meeting with the Northeast Indiana Passenger Rail Association, All Aboard Ohio, and the various communities between Gary, IN and Lima, OH to discuss the best way to advance the passenger rail environmental studies.

MORPC continues to support Jobs Ohio, the Transportation Research Center, Virgin Hyperloop, and others to advance economic development negotiations to bring a research center and certification track for hyperloop technology to Central Ohio.

**Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)**
CORPO’s Quarterly Newsletter was posted to the CORPO website. County-level subcommittee meetings will be held the first half of September. CORPO participated in MORPC’s second Mobility Management Peer Exchange on August 17. CORPO provided feedback on OHM’s draft Transit Feasibility Study and on ODOT’s US 33 Study draft.

CORPO will moderate a virtual discussion regarding Rural Transportation and Mobility on September 14. CORPO will host a breakout session at the September 19 Central Ohio Safety Forum.

CORPO is assisting MORPC on an EDA Workforce development grant to determine which CORPO members received CARES Act funding and how much.

**MORPC Attributable Funding**
Team Members provided an overview of the screening applications submitted for new funding and provided a summary of commitment update received for this round of attributable funding at the August 5 Attributable Funds Committee meeting. MORPC continues to develop feedback for applicants regarding the screening applications for new funding. This feedback and guidance for final applications will be provided to applicants by the end of August.

**Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)**
Applications for funding from OPWC programs for local infrastructure projects in District 3 (Franklin County) are due to MORPC September 30. More than $27 million in grants and loans are available for projects starting construction in the SFY beginning July 1, 2021. Team Members are available to answer prospective applicants’ questions by phone, email, and virtual
meeting. Applications for District 17 (includes Delaware, Licking and Fairfield Counties) are due November 6. Final applications for District 11 (includes Union County) are due October 5.

Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)
Application materials for the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund are available on MORPC’s website. Information will be sent to communities in OPWC. District 3 (Franklin County) is announcing the availability of $3.9 million for green space acquisition and stream corridor restoration. Preliminary screening applications are due December 11 and final applications are due March 19, 2021.

Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)
MORPC is working with Ice Miller to finalize the Innovative Funding Study activity and implement recommendations in the current CAP cycle where applicable. MORPC is preparing to solicit feedback from each county on the existing inventory of CAP projects as an initial step in the overall CAP update to be completed this fall.

Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)
MORPC issued a press release announcing the projects submitted for TRAC funding that are within MORPC’s Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) area. A total of five applications were submitted. Visit MORPC’s website to view more information on these applications. The applications submitted were presented to MORPC’s Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) on August 3 and August 5 respectively. MORPC is receiving public comments on these projects until September 11. One-page info sheets were created for each project seeking TRAC funding within the MPO area to assist in the public comment period.

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)
The RDAC met September 1 to discuss the work of the four Working Groups, the Broadband Access Pilot Program, the COVID-19 Impact Study, and other matters.
- Data Policy Needs Survey & Toolkit Working Group members continue their work on the Data Policy Needs Survey. The Working Group met August 20 and will meet for two informal work sessions in September. The Working Group will meet again after the product of the informal work sessions has been evaluated by Working Group leadership.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Working Group met August 17 to review the outcome of the July 22 RIDG user group meeting, to plan the fourth quarter RIDG user group meeting, and to discuss plans to develop a Steering Committee Charter. The Working Group meets again September 17.
- The Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) met August 12 with presentations from OGRIP, One Columbus, and OSU CURA. After presentations, attendees dispersed into breakout sessions for more in-depth discussions regarding LBRS, Data Analysis, ArcPro, and AGO. COGUG next meets November 18, National GIS Day.

Census
Data and Mapping Director Aaron Schill continues his work with Ohio Census Advocacy Coalition (OCAC) on outreach to encourage full participation in the 2020 Census, with a focus on historically “hard-to-count” populations.

Broadband Access Pilot Program
MORPC Team Members are working with ESCCO and PCs for People to meet with school superintendents from MORPC member counties and with prospective funding partners. To date, the funding partners are Chase, WCMH, Cardinal Health, and CAS.
Franklin County LBRS
Team Members met with ODOT to discuss the Franklin County LBRS and how to go about working with DDTI for data transfer. Multiple agencies dynamically edit Franklin County LBRS data, which complicates the transfer process.

Active Transportation Plan (ATP)
Team Members hosted the first of two stakeholder workshops for the ATP on July 30. More than 30 stakeholders from around the region attended to discuss their vision and goals for active transportation. The Active Transportation Plan Steering Committee met September 1.

Active Transportation Committee
The next Active Transportation Committee meeting is October 27, 10:00 am. If any communities not currently involved with the committee would like to join the meeting, contact Lauren Cardoni at lcardoni@morpc.org.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts
MORPC will conduct manual bicycle and pedestrian counts this fall with the help of volunteers. We will conduct the counts for a four-week period beginning Sunday, August 30, thru Saturday, September 26. Please contact Andrew Love at alove@morpc.org for more information.

insight2050 Technical Assistance Program (TAP)
Team Members held an internal stakeholder workshop with Jefferson Township to develop a vision for the transportation and land use planning at the Blacklick Station site area. Team Members and City of Hilliard staff conducted a follow-up survey with internal stakeholders for the City’s Cemetery Road Conceptual Development project. Team Members continued work on Columbus’ Speed Management Framework project, conducting local and national document reviews and meeting with City staff to begin developing a framework methodology.

Regional Housing Strategy
The Regional Housing Strategy was officially rolled out September 2 featuring several regional leaders highlighting their take-aways from the year-long project, along with a keynote by New York Times columnist and author Conor Dougherty. The final joint work session of the project sponsors and advisory board was held in August. Participants prioritized actions for year-one implementation. The results of this meeting as well as project sponsor and advisory board review and feedback were integrated into the final report and highlighted at the public roll-out event. MORPC Team Members are developing a Regional Housing Strategy Hub similar to the COVID-19 Hub.

Transportation Safety
MORPC is hosting its first annual Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum on Tuesday, September 15. You can find more information about the event and registration at www.morpc.org/safety, or contact Lauren Cardoni at lcardoni@morpc.org.

MORPC Team Members attended the July 31 Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meeting. Potential engineering solutions were discussed for a few of the crash locations, including signal phasing changes and sidewalks.

Sustainable2050
Members are encouraged to pursue their Tier Status designation this summer. MORPC Team Members are available to assist with this process. Monthly member emails continue to keep Sustainable2050 members apprised of sustainability related resources and funding opportunities throughout the summer. The 3rd quarter meeting is September 25.
Sustaining Scioto Board
MORPC submitted a proposal to the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) on July 31. If OWDA approves funding for the project, the project will create a Comprehensive Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Upper and Middle Scioto River. The Sustaining Scioto Board met August 24.

The Agriculture and Rural Communities Outreach Team was recently formed from the Sustaining Scioto Board to broaden the outreach and engagement with agricultural and rural communities within the watershed in order to share best practices and collaborate on common goals. A Chair and 10 members of the Team are confirmed and two more Team members who are not currently on the Board will be added.

Energy & Air Quality
Subgroup updates:
- Air Quality Sensor Subgroup: Socio-economic and health data is being compiled to perform neighborhood prioritization analysis for placement of air quality sensors.
- Solar Toolkit Subgroup: Additional resources continue to be added to the toolkit, which is available on MORPC’s website.

Local Government Energy Partnership (LGEP)
Participants in the Local Government Energy Partnership were informed that per contract, the MORPC Benchmarking Program will end December 31, 2020. Participants who are interested can continue benchmarking services with available automated utility programs, or manually via the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager. The LGEP will continue into 2021 with new opportunities for members to be announced in the coming months. The next Energy Academy session on September 9 will dive into the solar toolkit as well as energy benchmarking.

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)
The SAC met August 19. The SAC voted to recommend the Commission approve MORPC’s pursuit of Regional SolSmart designation, a national designation program that recognizes local communities and regional organizations that foster the development of solar markets. The MORPC Team also provided updates about the Summit on Sustainability and a policy report. The Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee recommended lengthening the project timeline to engage in a thoughtful and inclusive process to reflect a greater focus on equity, with the goal of completion within the first six months of 2021. There were no objections.

- The Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Subcommittee met August 18 and reviewed a proposal for consultant services, which would include recommendations for increasing equity considerations, workshop facilitation, and toolkit creation. The group also reviewed a Sustainable2050 member survey, which had a good response rate with useful input on member priorities.

Diversity & Inclusion
The theme for the 2020 Social Equity Panel at the Summit on Sustainability is “The Pillars of Social Equity: Overcoming Racial Disparities to Build a More Sustainable Future.”

Team Members are in the process of re-convening the internal Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Applications were distributed to all employees to encourage them to apply. We are reviewing applications and plan to hold the first meeting in September.

MORPC usually participates in the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office Latino Night. This year it has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Instead, the Sheriff’s Office is in the process of creating an online resource guide for Hispanics and Latino’s. MORPC submitted Spanish brochures for Gohio, Residential Services, and Air Quality to be included.
Events
- MORPC along with our Smart Region Task Force hosted the first of a three-part web series sponsored by Verizon on August 26. The theme was Virtual Engagement. More details to come for parts two and three.
- Save the Date for the Summit on Sustainability October 15-16, 2020. MORPC is partnering with our counterpart the Atlanta Regional Commission to host the virtual conference. More details can be found at www.morpc.org/summit.

Membership Services
Membership Services continues to serve members through bi-weekly COVID-19 forums; the summer internship program, member visits, new board orientations, and coordinating multiple forums and events.

MORPC in the News
Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews.

Housing
The Franklin County Urgent Needs (FCUN) 2018 program is moving along: 22 completed projects; five projects resumed production, and one is close to final. Two projects are scheduled for contract closings and two projects are out to bid. Team Members are planning to add two additional projects to the 2018 funding round, if funding is available. This program, which was due to wrap up by June 30, has been extended through December 2020. Team Members are working on 15 projects for the 2019 FCUN program. Two 2019 projects were moved to the 2018 funding round. Team Members aim to be caught up with the 2019 funding round by late fall, even though production is about four months behind. An extension can be requested if needed.

Team Members submitted a grant application for a new program with Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB). Residential Services hopes to hear about this submission by mid-December. This project will focus on work in the Linden Area.

WarmChoice
CMHA released more letters to their property owners promoting the WarmChoice program. Team Members requested another round of letters be sent. A small influx of applications has been noted. Columbia Gas is planning a bill insert in September to promote the WarmChoice program.

There is an extraordinary amount of contractor work out for the WarmChoice program. While field work is heavy, approved applications have decreased. Intake is working to increase the approved application production. Team Members built a group of approved clients. Most of the clients have been scheduled for their initial inspections and production.

HWAP
Team Members are creating a system using alternative methods to process information since we cannot use paper files. There is still an issue beginning new jobs and closing-out jobs due to the NEAT program server error. This is a high priority issue that Team Members are working with ITS to resolve.

MORPC Annual Salary & Fringe Benefit Survey
The survey form has been sent to members to be completed by September 25, 2020. The release was intentionally delayed this year to allow member staff to avoid completing the survey during the height of COVID-19 challenges and changes at member governments. The completed report is expected to be released in late October.
Renovation Updates
Office renovations continue, with phase 1 carpeting and paint nearly completed, new furniture on order, upgraded network, evaluation of VOIP solutions, and ordering and configuring firewalls. Additionally, the ITS Team set-up a new multi-functional copier. Two new copiers have been delivered and all three units have wireless printing capabilities.

The general contractor RFP has been released, with proposals due the first half of September. Construction in phase 2 is expected to begin in late-September or October. The bid notice was e-mailed to several MBE and diverse business owners. We received positive feedback regarding the bid and a great deal of interest from vendors eager to apply.

Information Technology Updates
Phish email testing continues. The August failure rate is 3.8 percent. Users who failed the test receive mandatory training.

The ITS Team is planning to upgrade MORPC’s data center by February 2021. A majority of the servers will be migrated to the data center to improve overall performance and security at little to no additional cost.

Personnel Updates
MORPC is currently accepting applications for the following position:

- Executive Assistant to Executive Management Department

Requirements for posted positions are available for review on MORPC’s website at http://www.morpc.org/careers/.

RFP/RFQ Postings
The following RFP’s/RFQ’s were posted:

- RFP for General Contractor for Office Renovation (closes September 9)
- RFQ for HVAC Contractor for Residential Energy Program
- RFQ for Insulation Contractor for Residential Energy Program

The full RFP/RFQs are available at http://www.morpc.org/rfps-rfqs/.
Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
   Executive Committee
   Officers and Board Members

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director
   Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 12-20: “Adoption of the Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and authorizing the executive director to file applications with, execute agreements with, and receive funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration”

MORPC, its members and One Columbus have developed a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Columbus Region. The CEDS serves as a blueprint for economic development across the region. It is supported by the existing body of regional plans and economic development strategies in the Columbus Region.

By adopting the CEDS, MORPC and its members are eligible to apply for grant assistance from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). Grant funds from the U.S. EDA are for economic development, economic adjustment, infrastructure, projects and planning. Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act additional funds are being allocated by the U.S. EDA to help communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

All U.S. EDA projects anticipated or received will be included in the MORPC budget. MORPC’s first CEDS and applications for projects will be submitted in 2020. However, it is not anticipated that agreements will need to be executed, funds received, or projects commence until 2021. Should any of these activities happen in 2020 a proposed budget amendment will be submitted to the Commission for approval consideration.

It is anticipated the CEDS will be a planning document to be submitted for adoption by the Commission at least every five years. Further, with MORPC’s ongoing maintenance of the CEDS, a resolution in this same spirit will be proposed and brought forward for Commission consideration annually. This will ensure that MORPC and its members can access U.S. EDA funding and authorize the Executive Director to file applications with, execute agreements with, and receive funds from the U.S. EDA.

Attachment: Resolution 12-20
RESOLUTION 12-20

“Aoption of the Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and authorizing the executive director to file applications with, execute agreements with, and receive funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration”

WHEREAS, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (U.S. EDA) is authorized to make grants for economic development, economic adjustment and infrastructure projects and planning consistent with Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 and subsequent amendments and reauthorizations; and

WHEREAS, grant funds were provided to the U.S. EDA and also made available in The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to help communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is seeking these grant funds and assisting member communities in the Central Ohio region that are also seeking these grant funds; and

WHEREAS, grants received from U.S. EDA for eligible projects and planning must be consistent with a Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); and

WHEREAS, MORPC, its members and One Columbus have developed a CEDS for the Columbus Region; and

WHEREAS, the contracts for financial assistance with the U.S. EDA will impose certain obligations upon the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), including the provision of the local share of project costs; and

WHEREAS, grants received from U.S. EDA will be necessary to secure matching funds from other agencies and to subcontract work or make purchases for planning and projects as well as help communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, consistent with the CEDS; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That the Commission adopts the 2020 Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to file applications with and execute grant agreements on behalf of MORPC with U.S. EDA, to aid in financing economic development, economic adjustment, infrastructure, projects, planning and related activities.

Section 3. That the executive director is to include all U.S. EDA grants and associated matching funds anticipated or received in the agency budget.
Section 4. That the executive director is hereby authorized to enter into any agreements with these or other funding agencies and with any subcontractors or vendors necessary to undertake any activity consistent with the 2020 Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and accounted for in the agency budget.

Section 5. That the executive director is authorized, if required, to approve one or more extensions of time for performance of services for any of the agreements described in this resolution and to receive funds or issue change orders per the consistent financial authorization of the corresponding agreement amounts without further authorization from this Commission.

Section 6. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 7. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

Karen Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: September 10, 2020
Submitted by: Thea Ewing, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure Development
Prepared by: Transportation & Infrastructure Development Staff
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: September 10, 2020
Attachment: 2020 Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
Columbus Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Executive Summary

In recent years, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), One Columbus (formerly Columbus 2020), and hundreds of other partners across the private and public sectors have aligned around regional economic development and growth strategies for the Columbus Region. This Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) serves to lay out and focus those strategies.

MORPC is a multi-jurisdictional government entity, composed of 15 counties in the Columbus Region. MORPC’s role as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for our region also closely coordinate with and support the regional economic development and leadership activities of One Columbus.

The Columbus Region has in place a locally based, regionally driven economic development planning process that leverages involvement of public, private and non-profit sectors to create a strategic blueprint for regional collaboration.

Contents

This CEDS framework is organized by four sections as follows:

- Section 1: Summary Background
  - The Summary Background details the recent history of regional economic development strategy and success in the Columbus Region. Our region looks to build on a transformational decade of growth with a renewed focus on prosperity for all residents.

- Section 2: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis
  - The SWOT analysis is built on hundreds of meetings, conversations and forums to discuss the future of our region. This research and the conversations it sparked have exposed common priorities, challenges, and interests.
  - The four goals identified for the Columbus Region are:
    - We must sustain our economic momentum by continuing to make economic growth and prosperity a top priority.
    - We must develop, inspire and attract a talented, adaptive and diverse workforce to compete for investment.
    - We must enable the innovation capacity of business, academic and government sectors to grow dynamically.
    - We must increase global identity and connectivity to attract investment and talent from around the world.

- Section 3: Strategic Direction and Action Plan
- This section identifies the broad strategic areas and initiatives around which we must align to drive our regional goals. It also lays out specific objectives in our priority economic sectors and industries.

- Section 4: Evaluation Framework
  - The evaluation framework consists of metrics for evaluating the success of our economic development strategies.
Section 1: Summary Background

Regional Overview

The 11-county Columbus Region is a diverse and thriving metropolitan region in Central Ohio. The City of Columbus, the center of the Region, is the state capital and largest city in Ohio, and the 14th largest in the U.S. More than two million residents are spread across the 11 counties of the Columbus Region (See Appendix A for map):

- Delaware County
- Fairfield County
- Franklin County
- Knox County
- Licking County
- Logan County
- Madison County
- Marion County
- Morrow County
- Pickaway County
- Union County

MORPC also provides member services in four other regional counties (Fayette, Hocking, Perry, and Ross) that sit in existing economic development districts (EDDs) as designated by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The Columbus Region serves as a significant jobs center for these counties, and MORPC closely coordinates with each across our range of work and services.

Regional Data

Population by Age and Median Age by County

The Columbus Region is relatively young compared to the State of Ohio and U.S. averages, primarily due to the large concentration of college students and young adults in the City of Columbus.

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Source: US Census, ACS 5 year estimate 2018 B01001

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<tr>
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<td>Fairfield County</td>
<td>39.3</td>
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<td>Franklin County</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knox County</td>
<td>38.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licking County</td>
<td>39.7</td>
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Population by Race and Ethnicity

The Columbus Region is more diverse than the State of Ohio but less than the national average.

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<th>White</th>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus Region</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>13%</td>
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</table>

Source: US Census, ACS 5 year estimate 2018 DP05

Educational Attainment

The Columbus Region is better educated than the state and country. This makes the Region a highly attractive location from a talent and education perspective, offering a large and well-educated workforce.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Associate</th>
<th>Bachelor’s</th>
<th>Graduate+</th>
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Source: US Census, ACS 5 year estimate 2018 S1501
Our Regional Economic Development Story

As summer turned to fall in 2007, the Columbus Region was in the midst of a decade of stagnant job growth, diminishing per capita income figures and an undistinguished economic development profile. Columbus was considered just another metro area succumbing to the headwinds of the decline of the Midwest. In December of that year, the housing crisis and the global recession hit, washing away any gains that had been made in that decade.

Leaders around the country gathered to consider their economic future, including in Central Ohio. What would our future be and how would we claim it? How could we leverage the great companies that had been built here, the ambition of local entrepreneurs and the power of our world-renowned institutions?

A new path was created based on the dire need for economic activity and job growth that became more important as each day passed. Audacious, measurable goals were set to define the mission of the work, and the stakes were high.

The journey of the next decade included transformational project announcements, notable entrepreneurial achievements and the greatest expansion of the Columbus Region economy in its history. A decade later, the Columbus Region has not only achieved the job, investment and income goals it set, but has also earned distinction as a metro area with boundless ambition and economic potential.

The Columbus Region has emerged as a beacon of economic competitiveness and population growth equal to any in the country. Industrial growth was broadly felt across the economy, primarily focused on key sectors including retail brands, e-commerce, finance and insurance, automotive and mobility, biomedical and health services, and advanced computing.

In less than 10 years, the Columbus Region...

- Created over 150,000 net new jobs
- Secured over $8 billion in capital investment
- Sparked a 30% increase in personal per capita income

Over the last decade, the Columbus Region ranked No. 1 in the Midwest for...

- Job growth, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- GDP/GRP growth, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Population Growth, according to the U.S. Census Bureau
- Millennial migration, according to the Brookings Institution
Section 2: Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, and Threat (SWOT) Analysis

The past two years have included hundreds of meetings, conversations and forums to discuss the future of our region. MORPC joined with business leaders, public officials and civic advocates as they engaged to discuss these concerns and what success looks like for the Columbus Region. This engagement included a leadership assessment with 60 business leaders from 45 organizations representing 22 industry sectors. This engagement also included numerous stakeholder and civic group discussions with over 200 business and civic leaders and board members representing over 50 regional economic development partners.

Additionally, MORPC is continually engaged with its Board of Commissioners (see Appendix B). The Board is serving as the strategy committee for purposes of this CEDS and will be primarily responsible for carrying its recommendations forward.

As in years past, the Columbus Region focused on the hard facts. Objective, comparative research revealed where we are strong, where we need to improve and where we are lagging behind. Analysis was conducted to address how prepared the Region is to meet the challenges of the future. Rapidly changing technology, global competition and demographic shifts are sure to have an impact on the Columbus Region, and the strategies and tactics that have worked in the past will not yield the same results going forward.

Consistent themes emerged from the stakeholder meetings and research. We identified a shared ambition to broaden opportunity across industries for all residents. It became clear that in order to achieve a new ambition and meet both existing and emerging challenges, Columbus Region communities, leadership and institutions will need to focus on four imperatives to achieve success.

1. We must sustain our economic momentum by continuing to make economic growth and prosperity a top priority.
   a. Strengths
      i. The Columbus Region continues to outperform other midwestern regions. There is a strong economic base in several key sectors of the economy.
      ii. The Region has several notable institutional assets that it can leverage, including Battelle, Ohio State, EWI, and the Transportation Research Center.
      iii. The Region is positioned at the forefront of transportation, logistics and mobility, including the autonomous and connected vehicles industry.
      iv. The Ohio State University is a primary partner of the community for research in nearly every science and technology-driven industry.
      v. The Region has a strength in logistics, featuring greater access to the U.S. market within a 10-hour drive than any other major metro, multiple rail terminals, and Rickenbacker International Airport, a cargo-only international airport.
   b. Weaknesses
      i. It is difficult to retain the very best information technology talent (both students and experienced professionals).
ii. Immigration policies make it difficult to retain foreign STEM graduates for more than a few years.

iii. Past focus on traditional development metrics obscured the need to address underlying structural barriers to prosperity for all residents.

iv. The Region lacks diverse multi-modal mobility options that support industry and mitigate the financial and time burden of worker and student commutes.

c. Opportunities

i. The industries of advanced analytics and cybersecurity are growing quickly, and the Columbus Region has proven ability both areas. University and college assets can be better leveraged to spark economic development (for example, aligning R&D and corporate relationships with industry needs). This is most notable in agricultural science, neuroscience, retail technologies, analytics, and advanced materials.

ii. There is potential for significant growth in cargo capacity at Rickenbacker International Airport and in warehousing capacity and technology in the surrounding logistics hub.

iii. Ohio’s tax structure, the availability of water and wastewater capacity, and reliable, competitively priced energy are all ingredients that must continue to be leveraged to attract even greater private investments in data storage, management, cloud computing and other high-technology manufacturing.

iv. Regional leaders must regularly measure and address structural issues that have led to an equity gap with broad impacts for residents and businesses.

d. Threats

i. If economic development support of high-growth opportunities does not stay strong, new projects and programs could be threatened and result in the loss of some of the Region’s best entrepreneurial talent.

ii. The gap between communities that are thriving and those that are impoverished within the Region threatens regional prosperity.

iii. The lack of consistent, diverse mobility options across the Region is a barrier to economic opportunity.

2. We must Develop, Inspire and Attract a Talented, Adaptive and Diverse Workforce to compete for investment.

a. Strengths

i. The Columbus Region is younger and more educated than the national average, leading Ohio and the Midwest in both population and millennial growth.

ii. We boast one of the highest concentrations of higher education institutions and an in-demand, tech savvy workforce.

iii. The Columbus Region offers a large and growing workforce.

iv. The Columbus Region is home to 62 college and university campuses and a large body of young, recent graduates, as well as an adult population that is more educated than the national average.
v. The Ohio State University is one of the largest public universities in the nation, offers a wide range of programs, and graduates thousands of students each year.

b. Weaknesses
   i. There are disconnects between demographics and outcomes, and we must work to eliminate these disparities.
   ii. There is a common perception that the K-12 education system is not meeting the needs of employers (regionally and nationally).
   iii. Structural inefficiencies have made quality education unaffordable or otherwise inaccessible to some residents.
   iv. Employers are demanding a more skilled worker, a trend that is increasingly true regardless of industry or vocation.
   v. There is often a misalignment of incentives between employers, workforce programs and academic programs.
   vi. The skills and wage gaps between economically distressed and affluent areas of the Region are persistent.
   vii. The Region lacks a globally competitive transportation network beyond the single-occupancy vehicle.

c. Opportunities
   i. It will be necessary to become far more diverse, engaging across rural and urban areas and minority communities, while also attracting talent from across the world.
   ii. There is a strong proven correlation between education and earnings potential. With so many educational institutions and a well-educated population, Columbus has opportunities to drive wage growth.
   iii. Continuing to improve the local K-12 school system will advance the Region’s economic development and talent recruitment.
   iv. Improvement and promotion of vocational and skilled trade educational opportunities will improve labor market access and efficiency.
   v. Competitive affordability in Columbus helps employees stretch their dollar further than they can in many other cities, while employers can stay cost-competitive with wages.
   vi. The Region must create transportation access options on par with other leading national and global regions

d. Threats
   i. We must meet the challenges presented by automation.
   ii. A lack of skilled workers could create a competitive disadvantage for the Columbus Region as it seeks to secure additional investment and jobs from existing companies and those considering the area for new facilities.
   iii. The limited availability of graduates in science, technology, engineering and math could threaten the area’s competitiveness.
   iv. There is a need for greater regional alignment to create a globally competitive multimodal mobility system.
3. We must Enable the Innovation Capacity of business, academic and government sectors to grow dynamically.
   a. Strengths
      i. The Columbus Region is home to 15 Fortune 1000 companies, billion-dollar startups, and a strong education ecosystem.
      ii. The Columbus Region has emerged as a leading venture capital hub in the Midwest.
      iii. Corporate, academic, government, medical centers and R&D operations in our region are at the forefront of research and innovation.
      iv. Research expenditures at The Ohio State University totaled more than $850 million in 2017, ranking it among the top 25 universities in the United States.
      v. The Columbus Region and the State of Ohio have proven, well-funded programs that help to accelerate new enterprises.
      vi. The Region has a strong talent base in information technology, science and math to fuel technology-driven opportunities.
   b. Weaknesses
      i. There are gaps to uniform broadband access across the region for residents and businesses.
      ii. There is inconsistent utility supply coverage across the region, including natural gas, wastewater, and broadband access.
   c. Opportunities
      i. To grow dynamically and to diversify our economy, we must create, use and leverage technology.
      ii. The Region should continue to build on its successes in attracting data centers and other advanced data enterprises.
   d. Threats
      i. Fortune 1000 companies in the Region must adapt as innovative competitors become a threat.
      ii. The higher education system is being challenged to not only deliver a talented workforce, but also comprehensive research.
      iii. Government entities are undergoing a massive shift in technologies to serve citizens and to achieve status as smart cities.

4. We must Increase Global Identity and Connectivity to attract investment and talent from around the world.
   a. Strengths
      i. The Columbus Region has a highly diversified economy and hundreds of companies that conduct business around the world.
      ii. The Columbus Region is home to several hundred foreign-owned firms that employ thousands within the Region.
      iii. Universities and colleges in the Region have many foreign-born students.
      iv. Columbus is a well-known inland port with a large foreign trade zone and excellent connectivity to east coast port facilities via Norfolk Southern and CSX rail lines.
v. Rickenbacker International Airport is one of the world’s only cargo-dedicated airports located near a major metropolitan area with room and plans in place for continued growth.

b. Weaknesses
   i. It’s critical that we connect our communities and companies to both each other and the rest of the world via infrastructure.
   ii. The Columbus Region does not have direct flights to Europe or Asia.
   iii. There is a lack of awareness of the companies and institutional assets that the Region offers foreign employers.

c. Opportunities
   i. As the Columbus Region continues to grow economically, its air service within the U.S. and internationally will likely improve.
   ii. Increased inbound air cargo traffic creates a continued opportunity to build international supply chain linkages and brand awareness.
   iii. Consistent outreach to international companies and networking globally enhance the opportunity to attract and retain foreign investment and provide opportunities for local businesses to export to those markets.

d. Threats
   i. Shifts in key industries such as retail, warehousing, and logistics could mitigate existing regional investments.
   ii. Global economic, political, and health conditions have potential to affect existing and planned international business development.
   iii. Immigration policies limit the region’s ability to capture the value of the talented international student population within the area over the long term, especially STEM graduates.
   iv. The Region must remove barriers to international immigration and workforce attraction wherever possible.
Section 3: Strategic Direction and Action Plan

MORPC, both as a regional leader and in its role as the Columbus Region’s Metropolitan Transportation Organization (MPO), regularly produces planning documents covering surface transportation, mobility, public infrastructure, economic development, and community development priorities. These plans, program, and initiatives each involve months or years of continuing stakeholder engagement, modeling, and evaluation.

- 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan
  - Long range MPO planning document
- 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program
  - Short range MPO planning document
- Competitive Advantage Projects
  - Initiative to advance strategic infrastructure investments across the Region
- Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)
  - Partnership with seven counties in the nonmetropolitan areas of our region to provide transportation planning products and services
  - CORPO also produces long-and short-range transportation planning documents reflecting the unique transportation needs of its counties
- Regional Housing Strategy (to be released 2020)
  - MORPC, the City of Columbus, and other regional partners are coordinating a housing strategy for Central Ohio
- Insight2050 (2014-present)
  - Study of growth in region that considers demographic and development trends to bring forward strategies for future regional growth
- Rickenbacker Area Study (2018)
  - Study providing recommendations to position the Rickenbacker area as a complete community, as well as a successful international logistics hub
- Sustainable2050
  - Program to support MORPC members’ sustainability efforts through direct technical assistance, collaboration, and recognition
- Through these and countless other efforts from our community partners, we have built a shared vision for economic development in the Columbus Region.

Vision Statement: We will continue to aggressively pursue economic growth across the Region and focus on diversifying our economy while increasing and expanding our international relationships.

Economic resilience will be a guiding principle as we envision and execute regional strategies. We believe that economic resilience depends on creating prosperity for all residents. To bolster our economic resilience, we will build and enhance the entrepreneurial infrastructure across the Region and nurture new businesses to continually refresh our economy and business leadership. We will also apply energy and resources to community development to ensure we are prepared, competitive and welcoming to new and existing businesses, and that our workforce is well trained.
Foundational Strategy Goals: The fundamental principles for growing the Region’s economy are consistent: retain, attract and create jobs that drive economic growth.

- Serve existing businesses: Create the most competitive economic base in the United States
- Attract new businesses: Create the most diverse employment and tax base in the United States
- Support entrepreneurship and accelerate high-growth firms: Create a seamless continuum of services for venture-backed startups and high-growth firms to scale within the Columbus Region

Foundational Strategy Actions

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<th>Action</th>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
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<td>Coordinate with One Columbus</td>
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</table>

Key Partners: MORPC & One Columbus

Growth Accelerator Goals: To amplify and accelerate our growth, we must look outside the Region and beyond the horizon.

- Prepare communities for the future: Become the most prepared area in the United States for growth and investment
- Increase global trade and investment: Lead our peer regions in foreign investment and export growth
- Market and promote the Columbus Region globally: Become known as the most prosperous economy in the United States
- Priority Economic Sectors: To increase employment and overall payroll in each economic sector over the next decade, we will focus on these key industries:
  - Manufacturing
- Research & development
- HQ & business services
- Logistics

### Growth Accelerator Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Prioritize Supportive Infrastructure Project through Competitive Advantage Projects</td>
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<td>Create/ maintain prioritized list</td>
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<td>Seek public/ private resources</td>
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<td>Report</td>
<td>Annually</td>
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<td></td>
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Key Partners: MORPC & Lead Economic Development Officers from all communities in region
Key Industries Goals

- Retail brands and technologies: Maintain our role as a retail headquarters, services and technology leader
- E-Commerce: Increase our position as a leading logistics location by building global capabilities and diversifying our employment and facilities profile
- Finance & insurance: Increase our aggregate wages and diversify our finance and insurance industries
- Automotive & mobility: Diversify our portfolio of automotive and mobility suppliers and increase research and development services
- Bio-medical & health services: Build a sustainable bio-medical and health services industry
- Advanced computing services: Become one of the most significant advanced computing centers in the United States

Key Industries Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Develop and Maintain Workforce Resource Hub</td>
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<td>Create and Maintain online hub</td>
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<td>Regularly train LEDOs &amp; partners</td>
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Key Partners: MORPC, Lead Economic Development Officers from all communities in region & Industry Partners
**Section 4: Evaluation Framework**

**Strategic Themes and Related Metrics**

**GROWTH** - Economic and infrastructure gains:

It is imperative that the Columbus Region continue to grow and diversify its economy. There are a variety of measures including:

- Net new jobs
- Gross regional product
- Relative gains in the tax base

Economic base growth that brings new money into the Region is the primary driver of our ability to innovate and to build the needed civic infrastructure to improve the quality of life of our citizens and to build social safeguards for those with short- and long-term needs.

**PROSPERITY** - Health, wealth and education gains:

An expanding economy is a necessary prerequisite to increase the well-being of people and the health of our communities. However, if disparities in income, wealth, education and health are to improve, our region must take action above and beyond what we’ve traditionally done. Indicators include measures such as:

- Median wages
- Racial employment and labor participation
- Community measures of housing opportunity
- Educational attainment
- Healthcare disparities
- Physical and economic mobility of the workforce

**INNOVATION** - Tech, innovation and investment gains:

The economy is driven by technology. The Columbus Region must leverage its unique position as a leading center of higher education, corporate investment and government operations to expand its economy and reduce both costs and disparities. Measures of government, business and academic innovation signal our capacity to meet the challenges of a disruptive economy. These measures include:

- Venture capital invested in our region
- Patent development
- STEAM education

**Economic Development Metrics – Next 10 Years**

In addition to all the economic, social, and technological metrics listed above, the Region must continue its success in achieving topline economic development metrics:

- We will add $3.3 billion of payroll in communities within the Columbus Region.
• We will secure 60,000 jobs in the Columbus Region. Full-time jobs with benefits remain a powerful way to change lives and build sustainable communities.
• We will attract $10 billion of capital investment to the Columbus Region from our economic base projects.
Appendix A: Map of the Columbus Region

THE COLUMBUS REGION

Legend
- Major Airports
- Interstate Freeway
- US/State Highway
- Columbus Region
- County Boundary
Appendix B: Board of Commissioners of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

MORPC’s board of commissioners determines the strategic direction of the agency. The board also serves as the CEDS strategy committee for the Columbus Region.

Our local government members appoint elected officials and staff to serve as their representatives to the commission. The number of representatives is based on population.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Angelou</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erik Janas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Amorose Grooms</td>
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<td>Franklin Soil &amp; Water Conservation District</td>
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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 13, 2020
Time: 2:46 p.m.
Location: Video/Audio Conference

Transportation Policy Committee Members
Chris Amorose Groomes  Tom Homan  Allen Rothermel
Mike Anderson       Melanie Houston  Lauren Rummel
Karen Angelou        Matt Huffman    Mike Schadem
Herb Asher           Pamela Hykes O’Grady  Jim Schimmer
Trudy Bartley        Laurie Jadwin   Elissa Schneider
Stacey Boumis        Steve Kennedy   Kim Sharp for
Susan Brobst         Ben Kessler     Joanna Pinkerton
Ron Bullard          Bill LaFayette   Sloan Spaulding
Julie Colley         Greg Lestini    Ike Stage
Ben Collins          Kim Maggard     Doug Stewart
Michelle Crandall    Glenn Marzulf   Amanda Wampler for
Karl Craven          Dana McDaniel   Sofia Fifner
Kristen Easterday    Rory McGuinness  Nancy White
Misty Froehlich      Robert Peters   Carrie Woody
Jennifer Gallagher   Bryan Rhoads    Steve Stolte
Catherine Girves     Eric Richter    Andy Ware
Matt Greeson         Cornell Robertson
Alex Heckman         Isaac Robinson

Commission Members
Joe Antram           Tim Hansley     R.C. Wise
Paul Benedetti      David Henry     Brandi Whetstone
Franklin Christman  Eric Phillips   Robert Williams
Terry Emery          David Scheffler
Bill Habig          Ben Stahler

Associate Members
Nikki Scarpitti

MORPC Staff
Kerstin Carr         Natalie Hurst    Aaron Schill
Thea Ewing           Alex Jokerst     Bevan Schneck
Mary Ann Frantz      Niel Jurist     Susan Tsen
Joe Garrity          Eileen Leuby     Brandi Whetstone
Ted Geer             Emme Mattaridi   Robert Williams
Nick Gill            William Murdock
Ralonda Hampton      Tama Ricks
Shawn Hufstedler     Shari Saunders

Guests
Adam Burris
Michelle Heritage, Community Shelter Board
Steven Koch, Dynotec
Andy Shifflette, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Carolyn Thurman
Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Emily Wheeler, City of Reynoldsburg
Becky Whittington
Meeting Called to Order
Chair Karen Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:46 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Report
- Transportation & Infrastructure Development – Thea Ewing, MORPC
  Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director
  Thea Ewing reported MORPC is seeking Regional Economic Development District (EDD) status. In recent years, MORPC, One Columbus, and hundreds of other partners across the private and public sectors have aligned around regional economic development and growth strategies for the Columbus Region. Because we have all these resources together, we are updating a Regional Community Economic Development Strategy to seek the EDD status. EDD status creates additional grant opportunities for economic development and infrastructure. MORPC is seeking public comments on the 2020 Columbus Region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) through Thursday, September 10. We will be seeking approval for the document at the next Commission meeting prior to submitting to the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

  MORPC acknowledged five TRAC applications for major new transportation projects in the region. Total requests exceed $80 million. The public comment period is open through September 11.

  The Franklin County Transportation Improvement District (TID) received a $250,000 grant from ODOT Office of Jobs & Commerce for the City of Dublin’s University Boulevard project. MORPC helped coordinate the application.

  More than $27 million is available for public works projects in Franklin County (Ohio Public Works Commission [OPWC] District 3). Contact Nathaniel Vogt, MORPC Infrastructure Development Manager, for assistance if interested in applying for funding. Completed applications are due Wednesday, September 30. Other OPWC Districts in MORPC’s region are 11, 15, 16, 17, and 18. Application deadlines for those districts are available on OPWC’s website.

  MORPC received 35 new applications for attributable funds transportation projects. The requests total $235 million; $69 million is available for this round. The Attributable Funds Committee will prioritize applications by January.

  The Brownfield Grant Program kick-offed August 3. MORPC received $600,000 from the U.S. EPA to assess potentially contaminated sites for redevelopment. An online application is available for members. Team Members have begun reviewing applications.

- Planning & Sustainability – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Planning & Sustainability Director
  Kerstin Carr presented the Planning & Sustainability Report. The Active Transportation Plan Update kicked-off July 30 with a stakeholder meeting. Around 50 people provided input on the plans, draft vision and goals, and identified challenges in building a complete active transportation network by 2050. A steering committee co-chaired by Jen Alford, City of Westerville and Scott Ulrich, City of Columbus will use the feedback from the meeting to help finalize the vision and goals, and then develop strategies and recommendations. MORPC worked with ODOT to conduct initial data collection through
the street light traffic modeling platform and found that 50 percent of regional trips are less than five miles. About 35 percent are less than three miles. There is a good chance of converting many of those trips into non-car trips (walking, biking, transit) if we can provide the infrastructure. The completion date for the plan update is next summer. The next meeting of the steering committee is September 1.

MORPC is hosting a Safety Forum September 15, focused on sharing regional safety initiatives. The keynote speaker is Keith Benjamin, Director of the Department of Traffic and Transportation for Charleston, South Carolina.

**Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**

Nancy White made a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Carrie Woody; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**
Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director
Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-11-20: “Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program”

Proposed Resolution T-11-20 will add or modify twelve projects to the SFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with commitments totaling almost $197 million. These changes are necessary to enable the projects to advance and to maintain fiscal constraint. In October, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will ask the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to amend the Statewide TIP to include these changes.

Attachment 1 to the resolution provides a description of the funding and scope of the projects, including a description of the bicycle and pedestrian components. Three projects include MORPC-attributable funding.

An explanation of the proposed changes to the TIP follows.

**COTA** - The following addition and modification to the TIP are being made for COTA projects:

- PID 112184 – Add $10,000,000 of Section 5307 funds in SFY 2021 for the Fields Avenue Renovation project.
- PID 113728 - Add $2,050,000 OTP2 award for COTA in SFY 2021

**Delaware County Transit** - The following addition to the TIP is being made for a Delaware County Transit project:

- PID 113728 - Add $848,711 OTP2 award for DCTB in SFY 2021

**Dublin** - The following addition to the TIP is being made for a Dublin project:

- PID 111158 – Add $250,000 ODOT Jobs and Commerce grant award in SFY 2021 for the University Boulevard project in the City of Dublin. This amendment additionally includes listing of the local funding commitment to the project.

**ODOT, District 6**: The following additions and modifications to the TIP are being made for ODOT projects:
Proposed Resolution T-11-20
Memo
Page 2

- PID 77372 – Add $370,000 in SFY 2021 for PE Environmental phase of the I-70/I-71 Innerbelt Phase 4A. This project includes MORPC funding in the construction phase, but there is no change to the MORPC funding.
- PID 88035 - Add $500,000 in SFY 2024 for ROW Utility Reimbursement phase of the I-70/I-71 Innerbelt Phase 5.
- PID 90200 – Add $4,200,000 in SFY 2021 for PE Detailed Design phase of the I-71 at Sunbury Parkway study.
- PID 93497 – Add $325,000 in SFY 2021 for PE Environmental phase of the I-71 from Stringtown Road to SR-315 project.
- PID 95639 – Add $1,500,000 in SFY 2021 for ROW phase of the Far East Freeway, Phase 1A
- PID 110587 – Add $15,183 in SFY 2021 for PE Environmental phase of the Cleveland Avenue at Hudson Street intersection improvements project and list this project individually in the TIP.
- PID 112768 – Add $1,000,000 in SFY 2021 for Phase 1 of the US 23 Corridor Study exploring a continuous freeway connection between Toledo and Columbus focusing on the areas between Marion and Columbus. This project includes $250,000 of MORPC funding towards this study.

**Whitehall** - The following modification to the TIP is being made to a Whitehall project:
- PID 105768 – Add $97,175 in SFY 2021 for PE Detailed Design phase of the E Broad St at S Hamilton Road intersection improvements project. This project includes MORPC funding in the construction phase, but there is no change to the MORPC funding.

NTG: TG

Attachments:
- Proposed Resolution T-11-20
RESOLUTION T-11-20

“Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program”

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Committee of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) adopted the SFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by Resolution T-7-20; and

WHEREAS, two project additions or modifications to the 2021-2024 TIP have been identified as needed for COTA projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project addition to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for Delaware County Transit projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project addition to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for Dublin projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, seven project additions or modifications to the 2021-2024 TIP have been identified as needed for Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project modification to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for Whitehall projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, the projects are consistent with the transportation policies, plans, and programs, including the most recent Metropolitan Transportation Plan adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its meeting August 31, 2020, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its meeting on September 2, 2020, recommended approval of this resolution to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That the MORPC SFY 2021-2024 TIP be amended to include the project information as shown in Attachment 1.

Section 2. That it affirms that the fiscal balance of the SFY 2021-2024 TIP is maintained.

Section 3. That the determination of conformity between the TIP and the State Implementation Plan (SIP) is hereby reaffirmed, as the projects are exempt from conformity requirements or have been included in the most recent air quality conformity approval.

Section 4. That it affirms that the amendment was developed in compliance with the transportation performance measures as described in Section 6 of the SFY 2021-2024 TIP as modified.
Section 5. That this resolution will be transmitted to ODOT and all sponsoring agencies in Attachment 1 for appropriate action.

Section 6. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

_________________________________________
Karen Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date

Prepared by: Transportation Staff

Attachment 1: Amended Project Information for the SFY 2021-2024 TIP
### Resolution T-11-20

**Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information**

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<th>Agency</th>
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<th>TIP ID</th>
<th>MTP ID</th>
<th>Co-Route-Sec</th>
<th>Project Type(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Bike Components</th>
<th>Ped Components</th>
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Funds in FYs prior to 2021 are not included in this report nor in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program. LR = Long Range (after SFY 2024, the last year of the TIP). LR funds are shown for information only and are not included in the TIP.

Monday, August 24, 2020
## Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

### Agency: Dublin
- **PID:** 111158
- **TIP ID:** 3817
- **MTP ID:** 440

**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-University Boulevard-Shier Rings Road  
**Length (mi.):**  
**Project Type(s):** New Roadway  
**Air Quality:** System Analyzed  
**Description:** University Boulevard from Shier Rings Road to Eittermann Road, New Roadway, 4 lanes, Extension of Innovation Campus Way west. $250,000 J&C funds will be contributed to the project  
**Bike Components:** Multi-use path.  
**Ped Components:** Sidewalk on 1 side, multi-use path on 1 side.

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### Agency: ODOT 6
- **PID:** 110587
- **TIP ID:** 3669
- **MTP ID:** 185

**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-003-19.38  
**Length (mi.):**  
**Project Type(s):** Intersection Modification  
**Air Quality:** Exempt  
**Description:** SR 3 (Cleveland Ave) at Hudson St, Intersection Modification, Intersection improvement to increase safety and reduce congestion at the intersection of SR 3 (Cleveland Ave) and Hudson St.  
**Bike Components:** No information provided.  
**Ped Components:** No information provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>PE-Environmental Study</td>
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<td>$15,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Construction</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Construction</td>
<td>HSIP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>$565,183</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Agency: ODOT 6
- **PID:** 112768
- **TIP ID:** 3818
- **MTP ID:** 144

**Co-Route-Sec:** DOG-US 23-  
**Length (mi.):**  
**Project Type(s):** Corridor Study  
**Air Quality:** Exempt  
**Description:** US 23, Corridor Study, This project will study the feasibility of creating a continuous freeway connection between Toledo and Columbus. Phase 1 of the study will specifically focus on the area between Marion and Columbus.  
**Bike Components:** Not applicable.  
**Ped Components:** Not applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>STBG-T</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>SPR</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>SPR-S</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2021              | Other | STBG-M | $250,000| MORPC Funds

|                   |       |        | **Total:** **$1,000,000**|

---

Funds in FYs prior to 2021 are not included in this report nor in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program.

LR = Long Range (after SFY 2024, the last year of the TIP). LR funds are shown for information only and are not included in the TIP.

Monday, August 24, 2020
### Resolution T-11-20
#### Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

**Agency:** ODOT 6  
**PID:** 77372  
**TIP ID:** 1333  
**MTP ID:** 270/189

**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-IR070-12.68 (Proj 4A)  
**Length (mi.):** 2.15

**Project Type(s):** Major Widening/Interchange Modification  
**Air Quality:** System Analyzed

**Description:** I-70/I-71 Innerbelt (Phase 4A), Major Widening & Interchange Modification, Interchange Reconfiguration Project. EB I-70 realignment from I-71/SR-315 accessing downtown Columbus. Includes work on Mound, Fulton, Front, and High. 5 bridge replacements and

**Bike Components:** Bicycle lanes. New bike lanes westbound on Fulton from High to Front and eastbound on Livingston from Front to High. 0.2 mi. added to bike network.

**Ped Components:** Modify existing facilities. Add/replace sidewalks on the block comprising Fulton, High, Livingston and Front. Ped signals and crosswalks at signalized intersections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
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<td>State</td>
<td>$370,000</td>
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<td>2023</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$4,861,949</td>
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<td>2023</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$43,757,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>STBG-M</td>
<td>$4,855,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>$1,213,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$55,059,373</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Agency:** ODOT 6  
**PID:** 88035  
**TIP ID:** 2452  
**MTP ID:** 271

**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-IR070-15.29 (Proj 5)  
**Length (mi.):** 1.26

**Project Type(s):** Major Widening/Bridge Reconstruction  
**Air Quality:** System Analyzed

**Description:** I-70/I-71 Innerbelt (Phase 5) from just east of 18th Ave to just east of Fairwood Ave, Major Widening & Bridge Reconstruction, Reconstruct I-70 including overhead structures in accordance with the Columbus Crossroads study and environmental assessment. Te

**Bike Components:** Bicycle lanes.

**Ped Components:** Modify existing facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

---

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Monday, August 24, 2020
Resolution T-11-20
Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: ODOT 6  PID: 90200  TIP ID: 2427  MTP ID: 384/325

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-IR071-07.91  Length (mi.):
Project Type(s): New Interchange/Study  Air Quality: System Analyzed
Description: I-71 at Sunbury Pkwy, New Interchange & Study, Preliminary studies and engineering for a preferred alternative concept in the vicinity of the existing I-71 and US 36/SR 37 Interchange in Delaware County to determine future interchange and road improvement

Bike Components: Multi-use path.
Ped Components: Sidewalk on 1 side, multi-use path on 1 side.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>PE-Detailed Design</td>
<td>Local</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$4,200,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agency: ODOT 6  PID: 93497  TIP ID: 2752  MTP ID: 374

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-IR071-09.74  Length (mi.): 5.24
Project Type(s): Preliminary Engineering/Major Widening  Air Quality: Exempt
Description: I-71 from Stringtown Rd to SR-315, Preliminary Engineering & Major Widening, Design only - construction under PID 104779. Add a third/fourth lane in each direction for maintenance of traffic during construction; added pavement will remain. Re-deck and re

Bike Components: Other. Plan to accommodate future shared-use paths along Frank Rd and Greenlawn Ave under I-71.
Ped Components: Other. Plan to accommodate future shared-use paths along Frank Rd and Greenlawn Ave under I-71.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>PE-Environmental Study</td>
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<td>$325,000</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$325,000</strong></td>
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</table>

Agency: ODOT 6  PID: 95639  TIP ID: 2877  MTP ID: 135

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-IR070-22.61 (FEF-1A)  Length (mi.): 3.4
Project Type(s): Interchange Modification  Air Quality: System Analyzed
Description: I-70 at I-270 (East Outerbelt), Interchange Modification, New directional ramp from SB I-270 to EB I-70, reconfigure ramps from NB I-270 to EB I-70 to Brice Road. Add collector-distributor lane EB from I-270 to Brice Road. First construction project from

Bike Components: None. Bicycles prohibited.
Ped Components: None. Pedestrians prohibited.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Construction</td>
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<td>$7,990,000</td>
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<td><strong>$81,400,000</strong></td>
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</table>

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Monday, August 24, 2020  Page 4 of 6
### Resolution T-11-20

**Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency: Whitehall</th>
<th>PID: 105768</th>
<th>TIP ID: 3253</th>
<th>MTP ID: 185</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-Route-Sec: FRA-SR016-06.87</td>
<td>Length (mi.): 0.44</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Type(s): Intersection Modification</td>
<td>Air Quality: Exempt</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description:** *E Broad St at Hamilton Rd, Intersection Modification, Proposed:*
- **EB Broad:** 2 thru, 1 LTL, 1 continuous RTL
- **WB Broad:** 1 thru, 1 LTL, 1 thru/RT lane
- **NB Hamilton:** 2 thru, 2 LTL, 1 RTL
- **SB Hamilton:** 2 thru, 2 LTL, 1 RTL

*Includes medians on all 4 approaches*

**Bike Components:** Multi-use path. 0.44 mi. added to bike network.

**Ped Components:** Modify existing facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Right-of-Way</td>
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<td>2023</td>
<td>Construction</td>
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<td>2023</td>
<td>Construction</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$8,069,646</strong></td>
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Funds in FYs prior to 2021 are not included in this report nor in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program. **LR = Long Range (after SFY 2024, the last year of the TIP). LR funds are shown for information only and are not included in the TIP.**

Monday, August 24, 2020
Summary of Funding Sources

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>CMAQ-M</td>
<td>Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement, Attributable to MORPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Labor - Internal</td>
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<td>Federal</td>
<td>Major/New Program - Federal</td>
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<td>Federal</td>
<td>Multi-Lane Major Rehab</td>
<td>$43,757,539</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSIP</td>
<td>Highway Safety Improvement Program</td>
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<td>Local</td>
<td>Local Public Agency</td>
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<td>Local-Transit</td>
<td>Local Public Transit Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec 5307</td>
<td>Transit Formula Block Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec 5339</td>
<td>Transit Bus and Bus Facilities</td>
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<td>SPR</td>
<td>State Planning and Research, Federal Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPR-S</td>
<td>State Planning and Research, State Source</td>
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<td>State</td>
<td>Labor - Internal</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Major/New Program - State</td>
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<td>State</td>
<td>Multi-Lane Major Rehab</td>
<td>$5,556,949</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>State Jobs &amp; Commerce Funds</td>
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<td>State</td>
<td>State Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Transit</td>
<td>State Transit Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>STBG-M</td>
<td>Surface Transportation Block Grant, Attributable to MORPC</td>
<td>$5,105,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STBG-T</td>
<td>Surface Transportation Block Grant, Attributable to TMACOG</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total: $196,500,913

Funds in FYs prior to 2021 are not included in this report nor in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program. LR = Long Range (after SFY 2024, the last year of the TIP). LR funds are shown for information only and are not included in the TIP.
Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Officers and Board Members
Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Thea J. Ewing, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-12-20: "ACCEPTING THE PWP COMPLETION REPORT FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2020"

Annually, MORPC is required to submit a report to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) describing the work completed with federal planning funds provided to continue the metropolitan transportation planning process, as defined by the FAST Act.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020, the use of these funds was outlined in the SFY 2020 Planning Work Program (PWP) adopted by Resolution T-4-19 and amended by resolution T-3-20. The PWP serves as the scope of work, the schedule, and the budget for the federally funded planning activities.

The PWP included such activities as preparing the SFY 21-24 TIP, continued delivery of projects using MORPC-attributable funds, follow up of the 2016-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), completion of the 2020-2050 MTP, assistance on freeway and arterial studies, support for safety and operations and management of the transportation system, and support for transit, bike and pedestrian planning. The SFY 2020 PWP also included the continuation of ridesharing/demand reduction and air quality awareness activities, including the commuter challenge to reduce single-occupancy vehicle use and launching the mobility management program at MORPC. As part of this scope of work, MORPC also maintained the Public Involvement Plan, completed the selection process for FTA Section 5310 funding, continued the Regional Data Advisory Committee, continued outreach and developed resources related to insight2050, including the technical assistance program, continued the Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative and other projects and activities that have been presented to you over the state fiscal year.

A summary of the PWP activities is included as an attachment to the resolution. A full report is available upon request. Resolution T-12-20 approves the completion report and requires that it is forwarded to ODOT.

Attachment: Resolution T-12-20
RESOLUTION T-12-20

“ACCEPTING THE PWP COMPLETION REPORT FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2020”

WHEREAS, it is the role of the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) to help encourage, facilitate and provide a forum for regional, cooperative transportation planning and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Work Program (PWP) is the document that outlines the work of the MPO, the use of regional transportation planning funds and the regional planning activities that will be done each state fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee adopted the SFY 2020 Planning Work Program (PWP) by Resolution T-4-19 and amended it by resolution T-3-20; and

WHEREAS, the activities described in the PWP have been completed or carried over into SFY 2021 and reported in the PWP Completion Report, a summary of which is attached; and

WHEREAS, major products of the PWP have been presented previously; and

WHEREAS, these products include the core work with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the continued delivery of projects using MORPC-attributable funds, as well as the freeway and arterial studies, local traffic forecasting and continuing updates to the travel demand model, maintaining data to support modeling and planning needs, support for transit planning and ODOT planning studies, ITS, ridesharing/demand reduction, bike and pedestrian planning, safety planning and air quality awareness; and

WHEREAS, ODOT requires approval of this PWP Completion Report by the Transportation Policy Committee as the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its August 31, 2020 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its September 2, 2020 meeting recommended approval to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That the Transportation Policy Committee approves the PWP Completion Report for SFY 2020.

Section 2. That this resolution and the PWP Completion Report be forwarded to the Ohio Department of Transportation for appropriate action.

Section 3. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of the committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Karen J. Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Prepared by: Transportation Staff
Attachment: Summary of Completion Report for the SFY 2020 Planning Work Program
## SUMMARY

### FISCAL YEAR 2020 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM-COMPLETION

#### I. Formula Funded Planning Program Projects

**Total Budget** $2,899,762

**Balance Remaining for SFY 2021 or later is** $1,290

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORK ELEMENT</th>
<th>REPORT SUMMARY</th>
<th>FUNDING SUMMARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60110-1000</td>
<td>Active Transportation Planning</td>
<td>MORPC continued to assist local governments with Complete Streets projects and Complete Streets policy development and reviewed transportation projects for Complete Streets compliance. MORPC also assisted local governments with their active transportation planning and projects. Team members worked with MetroParks, Columbus, and other partners to conduct its annual trail counts as well as the bi-annual non-motorized traffic counts along selected street segments. Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Board accomplished many items set out in its 5-year strategic plan, including obtaining funding for the Trails Impact Study and commencing development of the Trails Prioritization project. Team members also commenced the update of the Regional Active Transportation Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>$420,000</td>
<td>Spent 6/30 $415,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60120-3000</td>
<td>Management &amp; Operations Planning</td>
<td>Meetings of the Central Ohio ITS committee were held in July, October, January and April (virtual meeting due to Covid-19). Project updates were provided at each meeting. Smart Columbus project updates were also provided. MORPC continued to participate in several Columbus committees and work groups for the Smart Columbus projects as well as the US-33 Smart Mobility Corridor. MORPC continued to engage in the OARC freight transportation working group over FY 2020. MORPC organized several conference calls/meetings for the OARC Freight Working Group. MORPC attended events organized by the Columbus Region Logistics Council, the Mid-Ohio Development Exchange (MODE), and other Chamber of Commerce and Columbus2020 events related to freight and logistics in Central Ohio. MORPC had started planning for the Freight Conference to be held in Columbus in summer of 2020 before being cancelled due to Covid-19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>Spent 6/30 $170,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60130-1000</td>
<td>Safety Planning</td>
<td>MORPC continues to be the OARC representative on statewide and regional safety committees, such as the Transportation Records Coordination Committee, the Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan Steering Committee, and Safe Communities, including the Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review Board. The team was actively involved in local safety initiatives and assisted other departments and agencies with project evaluation based on crash data. Also see 66555-1000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>Spent 6/30 $119,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60150-3000</td>
<td>Transit and Human Services Planning</td>
<td>MORPC facilitated COTA/DCT/LCT/LCATS/MORPCTransit Coordination quartly meetings. These meetings covered communications, public information, mobility management, service and capital planning with each agency. This year MORPC added Licking County Transit Board and Licking County Area Transit Study. In cooperation with COTA, DCT &amp; LCT MORPC administered the apportionment of FFY 2020 Section 5307, 5340 and 5339 funding within the Columbus UZA Split Letter. MORPC participated in discussions with local employers and governments that have limited access to transit. MORPC worked with COTA to implent new First/Last mile service to launch in Grove City in the summer of 2019. MORPC assisted COTA on a Mainstream on Demand pilot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>Spent 6/30 $97,873</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Implementation

Five amendments to the FY 2018-2021 TIP requested by ODOT and local agencies were prepared, processed and approved. The FY-21-24 TIP was completed and adopted in May. This included first draft to ODOT in February, with final draft and public involvement in April. Due to Covid-19 public a virtual public involvement meeting was held on March 30th.

MORPC approved Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds following several meetings of the Attributable Funds Committee and a formal public comment period. MORPC solicited applications for funding in late May with a virtual workshop held on June 3rd. Updated previous commitments are due July 10th and applications for new funding on July 17th.

Federally funded projects were coordinated with local agencies, ODOT and the Ohio Public Works Commission. ODOT District staff scheduled quarterly meetings with local sponsoring agencies, their consultants, and MORPC staff. Monthly reports on the status of the MORPC- attributable projects were provided to the TAC. MORPC, COTA, DATABus and ODOT Transit met quarterly to stay on top of transit-specific TIP issues.

For SFY 2020, approximately $44 million of attributable funds were encumbered for use on transportation projects and programs in the region.

TRAC - MORPC successfully completed another round of the TRAC project prioritization in fall of 2019. A total of 8 applications were submitted for funding within MORPC's metropolitan transportation area. ODOT announced in May 2020 that TRAC would be taking applications for funding in 2019. The application period ended in mid June.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>60200-3000</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Spent 6/30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$275,000</td>
<td>$280,084</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MORPC updates base GIS files and other transportation and planning datasets from state, federal, and local sources on a quarterly, annual, or as needed basis. MORPC maintains an open data site (accessible at www.morpc.org/data) to make GIS and other data files available for download. To make data accessible to nontechnical audiences and those without GIS capabilities, much of MORPC’s data is also available for viewing through interactive maps on the open data site.

During FY 2020, MORPC completed work on the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Within the larger planning documents is included a summary of existing and projected population, employment, and land use, and forecasts of socio-economic factors that influence commuting patterns. Also included in the MTP is an appendix that details the methodology used to produce these forecasts, much of which was newly developed for this version of the MTP.

Throughout FY2020, MORPC continued making improvements to the quality and accessibility of key datasets such as local land use data and building permits from local jurisdictions. Many new datasets were also collected or created in support of new planning work undertaken over the course of the past fiscal year. Most notably, MORPC is leading a Regional Housing Strategy (RHS), which looks comprehensively at the supply, demand, and affordability of housing in the region, as well as the proximity of affordable housing to employment and other key destinations. MORPC is creating a new online resource, which will make the data and analyses produced during the RHS readily available and usable for a range of audiences, from technical data users to policymakers to interested residents.

During the last quarter of FY2020, significant attention shifted to collecting and sharing data related to COVID-19 and the associated impacts. MORPC developed a COVID-19 resource hub with data and links specific to Central Ohio and targeted primarily toward the needs of local governments.

MORPC’s Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) continues to meet on a quarterly basis, and advises staff and Commission on MORPC’s role as a leader in regional data efforts. In FY2020, RDAC working groups continued work on four previously prioritized efforts from the Regional Data Agenda:
1. Creation of a Regional Data Users Group - launched in fall of 2019 as the Regional Information and Data Group (RIDG)
2. Partnership with the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis at Ohio State to develop a sustainability dashboard - in beta testing and scheduled for launch in fall 2020
3. Survey and toolkit to address local government data policy needs - survey under development
4. Mapping and development of a strategy for a regional municipal fiber-optic network - ongoing coordination among participating communities

In addition to launching RIDG, MORPC continues to host two data- and mapping-focused user groups. The Central Ohio GIS User Group consists of public sector GIS officials from throughout Central Ohio, while COSMOS consists of IT directors from several Central Ohio jurisdictions.

MORPC continues to monitor and maintain the Franklin County LBRS. Road centerlines, address points, bikeways and sidewalk mapping files are structured so local communities can jointly edit a common GIS file.

MORPC’s work on the 2020 Census continued through FY2020 as well. This included finalizing census tract and block group updates through the Census Participant Statistical Areas Program, and chairing the Local Government Subcommittee of the Columbus/Franklin County Complete Count Committee.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2020
60520-2000  Data Analytics and Research for Transportation Projects and Programs

In FY2020, MORPC completed all data analyses necessary for the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This included finalizing the new methods for projecting population, employment, and development for the region. Significant effort was also made to document these processes to allow for replication and refinement in the future. The methodology is outlined in the MTP, as well as in a series of data visualizations and key takeaways that are intended to help various audiences understand and interpret the data.

For the Gohio Commute program, MORPC performs cluster and hotspot analyses to identify potential mode shift opportunities for employers considering participation in the program.

As part of the Regional Housing Strategy that MORPC is leading, several new Census tract-level data analyses were developed to inform that project. A housing submarket typology analysis groups tracts across the region by similar housing characteristics, and a displacement risk analysis identifies areas of changing market conditions and demographics, which are prone to gentrification and displacement.

60550-3000  Transportation Systems Analysis Techniques and Applications

The newly developed 3C regional travel demand model has been adopted and applied for various studies and planning activities. Air quality analysis was conducted for projects requesting CMAQ eligibility. Staff continued using travel time data from INRIX/NPMRDS to produce measures for various studies. The origin-destination (O-D) data available from ODOT’s subscription to Streetlight Insight and produce meaningful measures for several studies. The 3C model was used to develop evaluation data for all of the candidate projects for the 2020-2050 MTP.

Staff continued working closely with the consultant, ODOT and other MPOs on the improvements of the 3C regional travel demand model. Staff continued conducting test runs of the 3C model on MORPC’s server and worked diligently with the consultant to refine/improve the 3C model. Staff continued working with ODOT and the consultants to support the Marysville CAV Simulation project by running the 3C models.

Air quality conformity analysis and environmental justice analysis was completed for the FY 2020-2050 MTP and the 21-24 TIP.

61010-3000  Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Planning

Identification of candidate projects for the 2020-2050 MTP concluded in summer of 2019. More than 1,000 candidate projects, collected from local plans and through public input, were evaluated for inclusion in the MTP. Additionally, strategies were drafted, projects selected, and the full plan document was developed. Approximately 60 presentations were given to local jurisdictions and community groups throughout the region. An open house was held in February. The MTP was adopted in May 2020 with approval of the conformity determination received from FHWA in June.

Staff followed and participated in various ODOT planning activities, including progress on the innerbelt projects, I-70 east freeway activities, the Union County US 33 study, the US 33 and Pickerington Road area interchange, US 33 southeast study, and Toledo to Columbus freeway study. MORPC continued discussions including regular conference calls with communities along the Columbus to Chicago passenger rail corridor in conjunction with the Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI) work elements.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2020
### Transportation Public Involvement

- **Budget**: $119,762
- **Spent 6/30**: $121,201

Nine meetings of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and 10 meetings of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) took place. All transportation-related topics included elsewhere in the PWP report were presented. The committees reviewed and passed 15 transportation-related resolutions over the year.

Printed materials, press releases, and digital content (social media and electronic newsletters) were regularly used to solicit public participation and involvement on transportation-related activities. Topics included were: Metropolitan Transportation Plan; Transportation Improvement Program; MORPC-attributable Funding; Central Ohio Transit Authority/Delaware County Transit Updates; Air Quality; TRAC Projects and Prioritization; Gohio Commute; Mobility Innovation Tests; Commuter Challenge; 2020 PWP Completion Report; 2021 PWP; Downtown C-pass; Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan; Population Estimates, Complete Streets; Smart Streets Policy; Section 5310 Funding; Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (hyperloop and passenger rail); insight2050 Corridor Concepts; insight2050 Technical Assistance Program, MORPC-attributable Funding; Safety; Bike & Pedestrian Counts; and Paving the Way.

### Planning Coordination and Support

- **Budget**: $200,000
- **Spent 6/30**: $200,078

MORPC met regularly with its member communities to receive planning updates and to provide assistance and coordination for some of their projects. Four times a year, MORPC held regional collaboration meetings, and at least monthly, MORPC provided educational transportation workshops and forums.

### Program Administration

- **Budget**: $105,000
- **Spent 6/30**: $105,734

Ten meetings of the MPO transportation committees (CAC, TAC & Policy) were conducted. The 2019 PWP completion report was prepared as well as the 2021 PWP. Work continued on updating MPO member agreements.

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^ *Project continues beyond SFY 2020*
II. Special Studies

Total Budget $1,906,299

Balance Remaining for SFY 2021 or later is $238,597

WORK ELEMENT REPORT SUMMARY

FUNDING SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>66528-3000</td>
<td>Rapid-Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI) – Environmental Components</td>
<td>$536,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>66538-3000</td>
<td>Rapid-Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI) - Feasibility</td>
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<td>66540-0400</td>
<td>Paving The Way SFY20</td>
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<tr>
<td>66558-1000</td>
<td>Technical Assistance Program</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
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Rapid-Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI) – Environmental Components

The Tier I EIS Components study was completed by the consultant, WSP, in late 2019. Public meetings were held over the months of October and November to share the preliminary findings of this study, as well as the Hyperloop Feasibility Study. The final deliverables included four documents:

1. Existing conditions report - which includes the analysis of several different transportation data sets to demonstrate, with metrics, how people mobilize between key communities within the Chicago-Columbus-Pittsburgh corridor.
2. Route alternatives analysis report - which includes a screening analysis of all potential rail routes across the corridor. This includes assessing data on current freight train volumes, speeds, and track conditions. The report identified the top alternatives for a future passenger rail route.
3. Draft Purpose & Need Statement for Passenger Rail - This is a document that will guide and be informed by the entire Tier I EIS approval process.
4. Draft Purpose & Need Statement for Hyperloop - Intended to assist in developing a federal environmental approval process as a regulatory framework for hyperloop is developed.

Rapid-Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI) - Feasibility

The Chicago-Columbus-Pittsburgh "Midwest Connect" Hyperloop Feasibility Study was completed by the consultant AECOM in late 2019. The final documentation of the study is available on MORPC's RSTI website. The study found that a hyperloop route is technically feasible between the three cities at average speeds greater than 500 miles per hour. The study also estimated that direct transportation benefits (emissions savings, time savings, etc) resulting from the project would be in the vicinity of $19 billion, with broader economic benefits estimated at $300 billion across the entire corridor.

Paving The Way SFY20

Development of the upgraded Paving the Way system was completed and the system launched publicly during FY2020. It is currently in use by communities throughout Central Ohio, which represents a significant expansion beyond the prior system. MORPC hosted several training sessions for local government staff, as well as their consultants and contractors, all of whom are now able to maintain project information directly in the system. MORPC continues to function as the site administrator and provide support for users.

Technical Assistance Program

Staff initiated Technical Assistance Program projects in the cities of Columbus, Hilliard, and Westerville as well as for Franklin County and Jefferson Township. All projects are anticipated to be completed by Q12021.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2020
66560-3000
Supplemental Planning SFY20
1) See 60210-3000 for activities related to the TIP and project expedition.
2) MORPC's traffic count consultant collected counts throughout the region. These traffic counts and others collected by various entities were processed into the MORPC online database system.
3) As described in 60510-2000, MORPC maintains an open data portal in order to provide direct access to a wide range of datasets that MORPC creates or maintains. The data and tools provided through the site are continually updated and improved-upon.
4) MORPC Data & Mapping staff responded to 126 tickets submitted for data & mapping support services on behalf of members during FY2020. Additionally, MORPC staff responds to numerous ad-hoc requests and supports member governments on larger planning projects.
5) Traffic forecasts for improved routes between US 33 and I-70 were completed in a technical memo.
6) See 66538-3000
7) Staff continued to work with the Sustainability Advisory Committee to ensure its goals were and goal updates are incorporated in the MTP.

67410-3000
5310 Designated Recipient-2020
See 67419-3000 for 5310 designated recipient activities.

67419-3000
5310 Designated Recipient-2019
MORPC administered contracts after execution in TrAMS with subrecipients receiving 5310 funding from past apportionments to the Columbus, Ohio UZA according to MORPC’s Program Management Plan (PMP). The following FTA Grant Agreements were administered:

MORPC administered a cycle of FTA Section 5310 funding using FFY 2019 and 2020 funds.

Staff has monitored and participated in efforts to address goals and strategies of the 2018-2021 Coordinated Plan

67420-3000
Mobility Management 2020
This work element added was added late in the fiscal year and no money was expended during FY20.

90103-9004
America Walks Conference
Team Members coordinated a one day national conference that presented best practices and innovative infrastructure and policy in relation to pedestrian travel. The conference hosted approximately 50 attendees from around the State of Ohio.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2020
### III. Ridesharing and Air Quality Projects

**Total Budget $1,365,000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORK ELEMENT</th>
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<td><strong>SUMMARY</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>66710-3000</td>
<td>Transportation Services (Ridesharing) SFY20</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gohio Commute continued to promote vanpool and carpool services in addition to other modes such as biking, walking and riding transit. The program sponsors and develops program services based on the needs of the individual commuter, employer, job-ready/training programs, colleges/universities, non-profits and communities throughout the region. MORPC is leveraging relationships with other TDM partners to encourage modal shift, generating more of a streamlined and coordinated message to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips. MORPC prepared the 2020-2021 Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan and monitored initiatives in the 2018-2019 plan with an emphasis on shifting cultural SOV preferences, performance based programing, collaborative champions, and TDM policy integration. Related to MORPC’s TDM Strategic Plan, MORPC and other Ohio rideshare agencies are using an interactive ridesharing platform that can be used by each rideshare agency in the state. OARC is using RideAmigos to provide rideshare, TDM and air quality platform with consistent brand (Gohio Commute) for ridesharing across the state. Gohio Commute has been in use since May 2017. Due to COVID-19 MORPC’s Air Quality and Gohio Commute did not hold a Central Ohio Commuter Challenge campaign.</td>
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<tr>
<td>66730-1000</td>
<td>Air Quality Awareness</td>
<td>$565,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MORPC maintained its daily air quality forecasting program and coordinated digitally focused marketing to educate the public about air quality. The team continued to partner with Gohio to encourage changes in commuter behavior. MORPC engaged local mobility partners in planning for Air Quality Awareness Week through the Central Ohio Mode Shift Coalition to create marketing content celebrating the role of smart mobility choices in improving air quality. MORPC convened bi-monthly Energy and Air Quality Working Group meetings to share best practices and formed subcommittees focused on low-cost air quality monitoring strategies and the creation of the Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments. During the COVID-19 shut down, MORPC deployed five agile air quality monitors strategically placed within and surrounding the downtown area, and provided analysis of air quality and greenhouse gas emissions impacted by reduced traffic volumes. Staff implemented the Local Government Energy Partnership with at least 11 local governments enrolled. As of the end of 2019, 77% of buildings enrolled in the program showed an improvement in energy consumption. MORPC also participated in planning efforts to shape the future direction of the Smart Columbus program, and provided technical assistance to its members for projects around EV infrastructure and greenhouse gas emissions.</td>
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^Project continues beyond SFY 2020
IV. Projects Undertaken By Other Entities

Total Budget $0

WORK ELEMENT  REPORT SUMMARY
FUNDING SUMMARY

**66505-3000**

**Ongoing Local Planning**

MORPC regularly monitors local planning activities. A current library of new plans is maintained on the website under the Studies and Plans section. MORPC staff regularly participates in planning efforts of local communities.

The CAP initiative is a partnership between MORPC and One Columbus, to advance strategic infrastructure projects across Central Ohio by developing a vetted list of regional infrastructure project priorities. During the past fiscal year, MORPC continued to advocate and assist in finding funding for CAP projects. A CAP Innovative Funding Strategies Development Activity was mostly completed to help advance CAP projects by developing new, innovative, and/or private funding strategies for project development.

The Franklin County Transportation Improvements District (TID), a potential tool for advancing transportation projects, continued with a few projects receiving ODOT funding as a result.

**67401-3000**

**Ongoing COTA Activities**

COTA generally makes service changes three times a year - the first Monday of every January, May and September. Public information, review and comment take place before each service change. However, beginning in March 2020, COTA made significant changes to their service in response to Covid-19 including charging no fares. COTA updated their service on a near weekly occurrence throughout the remainder of FY 20.

The 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program was maintained as needed, including public involvement requirements for FTA Section 5307. COTA submitted grant requests to FTA. MORPC worked with COTA to develop the 2021-2024 TIP.

MORPC, COTA, GREAT and New Albany SmartRide continue to work together to promote, track ridership and adjust routes for the first and last mile shuttle. MORPC joined COTA in conversations with employers and local governments working on Mobility Plans. COTA worked with Dublin and Share for workforce development transportation and Grove City and Westerville on an on demand microtransit first mile last mile service for connections to jobs and health care. COTA continues Mainstream on Demand Pilot to provide non-ADA trips to eligible Mainstream paratransit riders.

Continued to partner with COTA and the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District (SID) to maintain the member management system, for the Downtown C-pass pilot.

**67402-3000**

**Ongoing DCT Activities**

DCT continues to evolve from the 2010 Columbus UZA boundary change. Topics included the FTA funding transition from rural Section 5311 to urban Section 5307, state funding changes and local match needs for capital and operating and other FTA funding sources.

The 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program was amended as needed, including public involvement requirements for FTA Section 5307. MORPC worked with DCT to develop the 2021-2024 TIP.

Beginning in March 2020, DCT made significant changes to their service in response to Covid-19.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2020
Commission Members
Chris Amorose Grooms  Tim Hansley  Cornell Robertson
Mike Anderson  Alex Heckman  Allen Rothermel
Karen Angelou  David Henry  Lauren Rummel
Joe Antram  Tom Homan  Mike Schadek
Herb Asher  Melanie Houston  David Scheffler
Trudy Bartley  Matt Huffman  Jim Schimmer
Paul Benedetti  Pamela Hykes O’Grady  Elissa Schneider
Stacey Boumis  Laurie Jadwin  Sloan Spaulding
Susan Brobst  Steve Kennedy  Ike Stage
Ron Bullard  Ben Kessler  Ben Stahler
Franklin Christman  Bill LaFayette  Doug Stewart
Julie Colley  Greg Lestini  Steve Stolte
Ben Collins  Kim Maggard  Amanda Wampler for
Michelle Crandall  Glenn Marzluf  Sofia Fifner
Karl Craven  Dana McDaniel  Christie Ward
Terry Emery  Rory McGuiness  Andy Ware
Misty Froehlich  Robert Peters  Nancy White
Jennifer Gallagher  Eric Phillips  R.C. Wise
Matt Greeson  Bryan Rhoads
Bill Habig  Eric Richter

Transportation Policy Committee Members
Kristen Easterday  Kim Sharp for  Carrie Woody
Catherine Girves  Joanna Pinkerton
Isaac Robinson  Thom Slack

Associate Members
Nikki Scarpitti

MORPC Staff
Kerstin Carr  Shawn Hufstedder  Tama Ricks
Thea Ewing  Natalie Hurst  Shari Saunders
Mary Ann Frantz  Alex Jokerst  Aaron Schill
Joe Garrity  Niel Jurist  Bevan Schneck
Ted Geer  Eileen Leuby  Susan Tsen
Nick Gill  Emme Mattaridi  Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton  William Murdock  Robert Williams

Guests Present
Adam Burris  Carolyn Thurman
Michelle Heritage, Community Shelter Board  Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Steven Koch, Dynotec  Emily Wheeler, City of Reynoldsburg
Andy Shifflette, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter  Becky Whittington
Meeting Called to Order – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
Chair Karen Angelou called the Commission meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Angelou welcomed members and thanked the MORPC Staff.

Recognition of Guests – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
Eileen Leuby welcomed new Board Member for the City of Delaware Misty Froehlich and welcomed guests Adam Burris and Amanda Wampler.

One MORPC One Voice – Impact of COVID-19 on the Community Shelter Board – Michelle Heritage, Community Shelter Board Executive Director
Michelle Heritage gave an update on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Community Shelter Board. The Community Shelter Board (CSB) was challenged keeping the homeless safe and alive and making sure hospitals were not overwhelmed.

CSB serves Franklin County and focuses on preventing and responding to homelessness in the community. It has 16 partner agencies. Last year the network served more than 15,000 households. Before COVID-19, the shelters were structured to put the maximum amount of people in them.

Once the pandemic hit, it was a sprint to get ahead of the wave using a two-pronged approach: 1) Prevention by creating social distancing in facilities and daily screening of residents and staff. Testing if a person is displaying symptoms and sampling testing for asymptomatic people. 2) Isolation and Quarantine by opening two medical facilities providing care for the homeless with COVID-19.

CSB is taking the same two-pronged approach for the long-term by keeping the social distancing in facilities and keeping the medical facilities open for the next 12 to 24 months. They are also working on a Comprehensive Community Wide Plan to help other congregate settings where people are not able to return home. Many of the organizations that provide these services do not have the ability to isolate and quarantine. CSB has taken them into their system.

There are serious economic impacts due to the significant increase in unemployment. More than 2,100 evictions were filed in Franklin County. Eviction is a direct cause of homelessness. Homelessness is predicted to increase by 45 percent due to the rise in unemployment.

Ms. Heritage was asked if the shelters are at capacity. In the family system, which is lower than usual but has been over capacity for five years, families are put in motels when the shelters go over capacity. Single adult is almost at capacity – 22 slots still available. Ms. Heritage is concerned about what will happen when it gets cold and people start coming inside.

Ms. Heritage was asked how Central Ohioans can help. Get involved. Donating material goods, donating to organizations working with the homeless, work on re-employment, continue to build affordable housing. Lack of affordable housing is a major cause of homelessness.

There has been a lot of work around the eviction court. It has moved from efficiently evicting to focusing on resolution of eviction in order to prevent eviction. There is movement on not being able to evict people en masse using one affidavit. Ms. Heritage would like to see more around code violations – landlords cannot evict if they have any outstanding code violations.
Executive Director's Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director

William Murdock expressed pride in the MORPC Team for continuing to deliver high level services. From planning innovation to bringing together new ideas and resources for our members. From the interns to the people on this call, the Team is working hard for Central Ohio.

MORPC would have normally sent its Annual Salary & Fringe Benefits Survey by now. The Team paused a few months to get a better handle on the year. The survey will be going out late summer/early fall in time for your budget meetings. More information will be sent to members' human resources directors soon.

MORPC created a web page that highlights examples of the different measures local governments in Central Ohio are taking to combat racism. The page is continually updated. MORPC is happy to update it with any information you want to share.

MORPC continues to communicate COVID-19 information with communities through phone calls and the resource hub. Due to an abundance of caution and the building renovation, MORPC office employees continue to work remotely and all meetings will be remote through the end of October. MORPC Team Members continue to provide full-time service. The Team is finalizing our reopening strategy, a protocol to keep employees and the public safe.

Mr. Murdock directed members attention to Resolution 10-20 on the consent agenda. The resolution allows MORPC, in consultation with the officers, to apply for emergency resources if needed. We are optimistic that we won't need it, but it gives MORPC the ability to move quickly on any resource.

Mr. Murdock announced the community impact conference calls are moving from weekly to monthly calls.

MORPC’s Residential Services Team is navigating the health crisis like champions. When they were not allowed to go into client’s homes, many worked at home to keep the client list up to date. Others worked on the building renovation. The Team was allowed to return to working in homes mid-July and for the first half of the month they completed 74 units. Normal completion rate for an entire month is 120 units. Our Team is safely working in the field. Mr. Murdock asked for help getting the word out. Mr. Murdock is proud of Robert Williams and his Team.

MORPC helped develop the Broadband Access Pilot with the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO) and other partners. The program’s goal is to get up to 10,000 computers and broadband access point plans to low income families throughout Central Ohio. The City of Columbus and Franklin County provided significant funding for the program for students in Columbus and Franklin County. With additional resources, the program is designed to make sure all school districts in MORPC’s area may have access. Reach out to Aaron Schill for more information. Mr. Murdock is proud of Mr. Shill’s efforts on the program.

Mr. Murdock shared 2020 budget updates following-up on our June discussion. MORPC continues to take a frugal and cautious approach with the budget and spending in 2020 but feels very confident. MORPC is stable and good for 2021. Mr. Murdock shared the following decisions/changes for 2020.

- No January merit/COLA increase
- Reduced administrative support staff
- Suspended the budgeted mid-year COLA
- Suspended travel and in-person conferences
- Reduced planned building improvements by approximately 30 percent
- Suspended MORPC Leadership Academy
- Rebidding agency insurance plans and health insurance
- Each department reduced/suspended planned expenses
- Numerous full-time positions held vacant, delayed, or filled with part-time interns
- Residential Services reorganized late 2019 including reduction in force
- Residential Services eliminated full-time AEP CAP position, postponed filling other positions
- Purchased vehicles to reduce lease cost
- New funding resources including Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Ohio EPA
- Increased funding sources including Columbia Gas, Paycheck Protection Program, CARES Act
- Pending applications for funding include Federal Home Loan Bank, OWDA, USDOT/FA, Columbus & Franklin County Resilience Initiative

Although these are difficult and impactful budget decisions, our team will be working to ensure MORPC can continue to provide a high level of service to MORPC members and Central Ohio communities.

The Regional Housing Strategy is nearing completion and will be released September 2, 10-11:30 a.m. Conor Dougherty, author of “Golden Gates” and New York Times reporter, is the keynote speaker. There is a member discount and a slight cost for those who didn’t sponsor the report. The cost is so we can provide you a copy of Conor Dougherty’s book and help defray the expenses for the event. The report addresses different submarkets and makes recommendations for each of them.

MORPC’s office renovation, which we’ve talked about and saved for many years, is underway. Carpentry is going down, and painting is happening. The furniture has been ordered. By the time we can meet again in person, MORPC’s space will be more functional for members and staff. MORPC logo colors are woven throughout the design.

Chair Angelou announced she appointed Joe Stefanov as Chair of the Building Committee.

- **Quarterly Membership Report** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
  Eileen Leuby presented the Membership Services Quarterly Update highlighting:
  - Events and accomplishments through June
  - Resources for members
  - Summer Intern program 2020
  - Regional Collaboration Southwest
  - Member benefits [webpage](#)
  - Return on Investment statements for members
Committees

Sustainability Advisory Committee – Jim Schimmer (Franklin County), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
Jim Schimmer presented the Sustainability Advisory Committee Report. Mr. Schimmer reported the Central Ohio Solar Toolkit is a resource guide to assist members with installing solar on local government facilities. The September 9 Energy Academy will cover the solar toolkit and energy benchmarking.

At the June Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC), the SAC approved the purpose statements, goals and guiding principles for the Regional Sustainability Agenda. They recognize the unique challenges faced this year and are re-evaluating the Regional Sustainability Agenda with a stronger equity lens.

The Regional Trail Vision adopted in 2018 guides MORPC and local governments on trail planning and implementation. Earlier this year, Central Ohio Greenways representatives reached out to local communities and partners for trail vision updates. Updates identified, included in this revised version, and approved by SAC include adding an existing trail that connects the Bridge Street District in Dublin to Glacier Ridge Metro Park; adding a proposed trail along an abandoned railroad connecting the Linden neighborhood to the northern part of Franklin County and Downtown Columbus; as well as a few small changes resulting from new feasibility studies.

Regional Policy Roundtable – Ben Collins (Plain Township), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair

- Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joe Garrity, MORPC Director of Government Affairs
  Steve Tugend and Joe Garrity gave the legislative update highlighting the following:
  o Federal relief dollars
  o HB 481 – includes distribution of $350 million of CARES relief dollars for local governments
  o Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill
  o New Ohio House Speaker Robert Cupp
  o HB 6 – possible repeal and replace – time is largest impediment
  o HB 197 – allowing local governments to meet virtually – expires December 31 – growing consensus that provisions need to extend partially into next year

See the August 2020 Monthly Legislative Update for other legislative news.
Regional Data Advisory Committee – Aaron Schill, MORPC Data & Mapping Director
Aaron Schill reported that members should have received an email with a PowerPoint presentation and a link to the recording of the kick-off meeting for the Broadband Access Pilot. Mr. Murdock shared earlier.

MORPC received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to develop a series of policy briefs related to the medium- and long-term impacts of COVID-19. MORPC is working with a number of partners (One Columbus, The Columbus Foundation, Regionomics, City of Columbus, Franklin County, United Way) on the project that will look at the social, economic, and demographic impacts of the pandemic. Work begins later this month.

The Census Bureau is being asked to wrap up enumerations by the end of September. Field operations, going to the homes of those that didn’t respond to the questionnaire, began this month. Many of our counties and the state are a few percentage points behind where we were in 2010. At the neighborhood level there are some tracks for the hard-to-count populations in Central Ohio where the response rate is in the low 30 percentile. This includes new Americans, low-income, non-white, and households that have children under the age of five. We are still working on outreach to engage communities. The 100 Days...100 Ways of Census Recommendations flyer will be included in the meeting minutes.

The Regional Information Data Group met July 22 and heard from the Census Bureau and the Urban Institute on data coming out of the 2020 Census and some of the ways the data will be modeled.

The Central Ohio Users Group met August 12. Several of the other working groups have not formally gone on hold, but some of the less pressing work that didn’t have deadlines has been pushed back. However, the working groups continue to meet.

The next Regional Data Advisory Committee meeting is September 1.

Transportation Policy Committee – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
Chair Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:46 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:57 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Commission Consent Agenda
Steve Stolte made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Bill LaFayette; motion passed. Greg Lestini abstained.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.
Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
   Executive Committee
   Officers and Board Members

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director
       Transportation Infrastructure & Development

DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 13-20: “Authorizing the executive director to participate in contracts awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Cooperative Purchasing Program”

This resolution authorizes the executive director to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Purchasing Services Cooperative Purchasing Program.

The ODOT Director may permit any political subdivision as defined in Section 5513.01 (B) of the Ohio Revised Code to participate in contracts into which the director has entered for purchases.

ODOT maintains competitively bid contracts for items that are bought throughout the year. Purchasing off the ODOT program is similar but separate from the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Office of State Purchasing.

This resolution will be submitted to ODOT Purchasing Services for authorization. After ODOT’s authorization, MORPC will place orders and pay invoices directly with the vendor.

Attachment: Resolution 13-20
RESOLUTION 13-20

“Authorizing the executive director to participate in contracts awarded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Cooperative Purchasing Program”

WHEREAS, Section 5513.01 (B) of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides eligible political subdivisions to participate in contracts of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Purchasing Services Cooperative Purchasing Program for purchases; and

WHEREAS, purchases will include various lift equipped light transit, modified mini vans or accessible vehicles; and

WHEREAS, according to the definition of political subdivision in Section 5513.01 (B) of the ORC, a regional planning commission is eligible to purchase off ODOT’s Completive Purchasing Program contracts; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That the executive director hereby requests authority in the name of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) contracts for the purchase of items which the department has entered into pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 5513.01 (B).

Section 2. That the executive director is hereby authorized to agree in the name of MORPC to be bound by all terms and conditions as the ODOT, Director of Transportation prescribes.

Section 3. That the executive director is hereby authorized to agree in the name of MORPC to directly pay vendors, under such contract of the ODOT, which MORPC participates, for it received pursuant to the contract.

Section 4. That MORPC agrees to be responsible for resolving all claims or disputes arising out of its participation in the cooperative purchasing program under Section 5513.01 (B) of the ORC. MORPC agrees to waive any claims, actions, expenses, or other damages arising out of its participation in the cooperative purchasing program which MORPC may have or claim to have against ODOT or its employees, unless such liability is the result of negligence on the part of ODOT or its employees.

Section 5. That the executive director is authorized to approve change orders for amounts up to the financial authorization levels in the MORPC bylaws without further authorization from this Commission.

Section 6. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 7. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.
Karen J. Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: September 10, 2020
Submitted by: Thea Ewing, Director, Transportation Infrastructure & Development
Prepared by: Transportation Infrastructure & Development Staff
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: September 10, 2020
Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
    Executive Committee
    Officers and Board Members

FROM: Shawn Hufstedler
      Chief of Staff & Director of Operations

DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 14-20: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into multi-year agreements for standard administrative services”

MORPC contracts for standard administrative services such as internet, phone, audit, etc. Many times these contracts are multi-year contracts. These contracts are generally in only the current year budget since MORPC budgets on an annual basis. This resolution authorizes the executive director to enter into multi-year agreements without having to present a resolution to Commission for each individual contract. MORPC will continue to follow the procurement policy adopted by Resolution EC-01-20 on March 5, 2020.

Attachment: Resolution 14-20
RESOLUTION 14-20

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into multi-year agreements for standard administrative services”

WHEREAS, MORPC contracts for standard administrative services such as internet, phone, audit, etc.; and

WHEREAS, many times these contracts are multi-year contracts; and

WHEREAS, MORPC budgets for one year at a time; and

WHEREAS, MORPC will follow the procurement policy currently adopted by Resolution EC-01-20 on March 5, 2020; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That the executive director, in accordance with MORPC’s Procurement Policy, shall have the authority to enter into multi-year agreements for standard administrative services.

Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 3. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

____________________________________
Karen Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: September 10, 2020
Submitted by: Shawn Hufstedler, Chief of Staff & Director of Operations
Prepared by: Shawn Hufstedler, Chief of Staff & Director of Operations
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: September 10, 2020
Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
    Executive Committee
    Officers and Board Members

FROM: Brandi Whetstone, Sustainability Officer
      Planning & Environment

DATE: September 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 15-20: “MORPC commitment to become a SolSmart-designated regional organization”

This memo supports the resolution for MORPC’s commitment to become a SolSmart-designated regional organization. SolSmart is a national designation program recognizing communities and regional organizations that foster development of local solar markets, offering no-cost technical assistance to achieve designation in either gold, silver, or bronze.

A SolSmart designation aligns with MORPC’s energy planning activities and builds upon recommendations outlined in the Franklin County Energy Study and Rickenbacker Area Plan. MORPC can leverage SolSmart to accelerate the Local Government Energy Partnership and Sustainable2050 programming and enhance the value of the Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments.

In partnership with SolSmart, MORPC’s Team Members will work to improve solar market conditions, making it faster, easier, and more affordable for residents and businesses to install solar energy systems. These efforts demonstrate that MORPC is committed to supporting our regional move towards a welcoming solar market and, in the process of doing so, assists us in achieving organizational priorities outlined in MORPC’s Public Policy Agenda, Regional Sustainability Agenda, and associated sustainability work.

Attachment: Resolution 15-20
RESOLUTION 15-20

“MORPC commitment to become a SolSmart-designated regional organization”

WHEREAS, MORPC is committed to supporting a regional move towards a welcoming solar market that will make it faster, easier, and more affordable to install solar energy systems; and

WHEREAS, SolSmart is a national designation program recognizing communities and regional organizations that foster development of local solar markets, offering no-cost technical assistance to achieve designation in either gold, silver, or bronze; and

WHEREAS, a SolSmart designation aligns with MORPC’s energy planning activities and builds upon recommendations of the Franklin County Energy Study and Rickenbacker Area Plan; and

WHEREAS, achieving SolSmart designation demonstrates that MORPC is committed to improving solar market conditions and assists us in achieving our organizational priorities as outlined in the Public Policy Agenda and Regional Sustainability Agenda; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Section 1. That the Commission approves MORPC’s commitment to become a SolSmart-Designated Regional Organization.

Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 3. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

______________________________
Karen Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Effective date: September 10, 2020
Submitted by: Kerstin Carr, Director, Planning & Sustainability
Prepared by: Brandi Whetstone, Sustainability Officer, Planning & Sustainability
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: September 10, 2020
Attachment(s): SolSmart Commitment Letter
September 15, 2020

The Solar Foundation  
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Ste. 930  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Solar Statement for SolSmart Designation

Dear Scott Annis and Theresa Perry:

On behalf of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), I am proud to announce our commitment to become a SolSmart-designated regional organization. In partnership with the SolSmart team, MORPC’s dedicated staff members will work to improve solar market conditions, making it faster, easier, and more affordable for the residents and businesses in Central Ohio to install solar energy systems. These efforts will also increase the efficiency of regional processes related to solar development, saving our local government members both time and money.

A SolSmart designation aligns with MORPC’s energy planning activities in pursuit of a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous Central Ohio. The designation builds upon recommendations outlined in the Franklin County Energy Study and the Rickenbacker Area Plan, which notes the regional benefits of locally-produced, cost-effective, and emission-free electricity. It enhances the value of our Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments. Furthermore, nearly half of MORPC’s 74 member governments participate in the Local Government Energy Partnership and Sustainable2050. The designation of MORPC as a SolSmart regional organization encourages participants in these programs to continuously pursue improvements in their operations and within their communities.

MORPC will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following goals in the Regional Sustainability Agenda:

- (1.6) Reduce per capita energy consumption across all sectors
- (1.7) Increase the number of local renewable energy projects and generating capacity
- (2.1) Reduce emissions to meet federal air quality standards
- (5.2) Increase number of local governments committed to sustainability

MORPC will also leverage SolSmart to accelerate the following activities and programs:

- Assist Franklin County in the completion of the solar-relevant Franklin County Energy Study Recommendations
- Encourage new and streamline existing financial mechanisms for solar development
- Enhance the member-value of the Central Ohio Solar Toolkit for Local Governments, the Local Government Energy Partnership, the Clean Energy Acceleration Program, and Sustainable2050
- Capitalize on the economic and employment opportunities that solar development can bring to the region
- Highlight MORPC members’ continued commitment to a sustainable region
These efforts demonstrate that MORPC is committed to supporting our regional move towards a welcoming solar market and, in the process of doing so, assists us in achieving our organizational priorities as outlined in MORPC’s Public Policy Agenda, Regional Sustainability Agenda, and associated works.

Inquiries related to MORPC’s participation in SolSmart can be directed to Jon-Paul d’Aversa, senior energy planner at jpdaversa@morpc.org or (614) 233-4137.

Kind regards,

William Murdock
Executive Director