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

Thursday, November 12, 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.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

To participate by phone, use the conference call information below.

+1 614-362-3056 United States, Columbus (Toll)
(888) 596-2819 United States (Toll-free)
Conference ID: 208 184 095#

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
   a. Quarterly Membership Update – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

4. Proposed Resolution 19-20: “Establishing population estimates as a basis for 2021 annual participation fees to be assessed members” – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director & Aaron Schill, MORPC Data & Mapping Director

2:00 p.m. 

Committees
5. **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

6. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Jim Schimmer (Franklin County), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
   a. **Regional Sustainability Dashboard** – Brandi Whetstone, MORPC Sustainability Officer

2:30 p.m. 7. **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 [October 8, 2020 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
   d. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

2:42 p.m. 8. **Commission Consent Agenda**
   a. Approval of [October 8, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
   b. **Proposed Resolution 20-20**: “Authorizing the executive director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District of Columbus and Central Ohio Transit Authority to support the continuation of the C-pass Transit Pass Program for employers in downtown Columbus”
   c. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

2:45 p.m. 9. **Other Business**

3:00 p.m. 10. **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, December 10, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
Video/Audio Conference
MORPC Monthly Agency Report  
October 2020

Department Directors

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

Broadband Access Pilot Program
MORPC, the Educational Services Center of Central Ohio, and PCs for People continue to meet with prospective funders, wireless vendors, school superintendents and other interested parties. Multi-media and outreach efforts for the pilot program include translating marketing materials into Spanish and Somali for distribution, radio spots on Urban One and partnering with the City of Columbus and local businesses to create PSAs featuring project sponsors.

- PSA with Mayor Andrew Ginther, Council President Shannon Hardin, Council Member Elizabeth Brown, and William Murdock
- PSA with Mayor Andrew Ginther, AEP Ohio President and COO Raja Sundararajan, CAS Vice President Michael Dennis, and William Murdock

MORPC Annual Salary & Fringe Benefit Survey
Thank you to the 36 members that participated this year:

Delaware County  Village of Galena
Fairfield County  Village of Gambier
Franklin County BOC  Village of Lockbourne
Morrow County  Village of Plain City
Union County  Village of Shawnee Hills
City of Bexley  Village of Sunbury
City of Canal Winchester  Village of West Jefferson
City of Circleville  Blendon Township
City of Columbus  Madison Township
City of Delaware  Mifflin Township
City of Dublin  Truro Township
City of Gahanna  Washington Township

The final report is available on the MORPC website at https://www.morpc.org/tool-resource/salary-survey/.

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

MORPC continues to share the RHS findings with various audiences. Presentations within the past month include: Summit on Sustainability, Gahanna City Council, Equity Now Coalition, and the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio.
Public Policy Agenda Working Group
The Regional Policy Roundtable approved the 2021-2022 Public Policy Agenda. The working group was 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, the group created a fifth goal focused racial and social justice. We will present to the Executive Committee and Commission in December.

Regional Sustainability Dashboard
MORPC and OSU’s Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) launched the Regional Sustainability Dashboard at the Summit on Sustainability. The Dashboard provides the most complete, accurate, and up-to-date representation of the region’s sustainability goals, as defined in the Regional Sustainability Agenda, and serves as the official status report for progress toward those goals. The MORPC and CURA Teams received the Collaborative Achievement Award presented at the Summit. An outreach toolkit was developed for partners to help promote the dashboard through a variety of communications platforms. More information and a link to the dashboard can be found here.

Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)
MORPC is actively working with each county that participates in CAP to update their project lists ahead of the new Congress. Team Members are also working with stakeholders to determine 'regionally significant' projects under CAP. Work is anticipated to continue into early 2021.

COVID-19 Research Briefs
Team Members are working with local partners to develop a series of data-based research briefs to prepare and inform regional policy and decision-makers on the likely mid- and long-term effects of the pandemic and shutdowns. Completion is expected in November 2020.

Transit, Mobility & Human Services
Work continues on the ODOT HSTC Region 6 Transit Coordinated Plan including:

- Developing the timeline for the process that starts in November with an estimated completion date in spring 2021.
- Drafting a public engagement plan that recognizes the Central Ohio Mobility Management Working Group as the Coordinated Plan Steering Committee and outlines all necessary public involvement initiatives, such as surveys, focus groups, and public meetings.
- Developing draft surveys for transportation users and providers that will also contribute to the provider inventory for the Gohio Commute Specialized Mobility Search tool.

Team Members presented at a statewide virtual conference to highlight the Franklin County Mobility Management Program, regional transportation coordination, and Gohio Commute program. The conference focused on encouraging transportation access and education for vulnerable populations.

Gohio
Team Members met with Fed Ex to see how they could assist with transportation to their facilities.

Team Members participated in the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) DEI taskforce to establish a Diversity and Inclusion Program for the organization. After several months of planning, the recommendations are being presented to the Act Board of Directors on November 9.

Team Members are developing a specialized mobility search tool. The implementation date is expected to be early winter.
After the Central Ohio Telework Policy Guide for businesses was discussed during MORPC’s Summit on Sustainability, Gohio Commute Team Members are pursuing a secondary document that focuses on confronting disparities caused by virtual work among diverse populations.

A Central Ohio TDM web page for the Gohio Commute Mobility Hub will feature mobility updates in Central Ohio for public viewing. This will highlight MORPC’s partnership with regional transportation partners and offer the public an opportunity to email their feedback on mobility initiatives.

Gohio Commute Team Members are partnering with Columbus Public Health and Toole Design Group to facilitate a TDM workshop with the Active Linden and Bike Friendly Franklinton Coalitions. The workshop will highlight how our regional Mode Shift Coalition can support equitable TDM initiatives for vulnerable communities. Additionally, Toole Design Group will present successful TDM programs from around the country and facilitate conversation on how we might implement their best practices to make our work more successful for Central Ohio mode shift.

Team Members collaborated with CampusParc and the Ohio State University Transportation Management team on their Comprehensive Parking Plan and future TDM partnership opportunities.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)
Team Members met with the following:
- Stakeholders in Knox County to further a proposed trail head design plan that the Village of Centerburg is currently preparing.
- LUC to discuss planning coordination between agencies as well as the Regional Coordinated plan.
- Madison County on a Thoroughfare Plan for the county.
- Union County Health Department to continue to assist with their Mobility Feasibility study.

Team Members continue to advise the ODOT US 33 Plan TAC Team members.

MORPC Attributable Funding
MORPC received 31 final applications for MORPC Attributable Funding, representing over $175 million in funding requests. MORPC Team Members will be working alongside the Attributable Funds Committee (AFC) to score the applications and develop recommendations for funding during the coming months.

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)
Applicants in Franklin County (District 3) submitted 19 applications requesting $36 million in SCIP/LTIP funding for the year beginning July 1, 2021. Approximately $30 million is available. The Team is reviewing and scoring applications. The Public Works Integrating Committee’s (PWIC) next meeting on November 20 will review the applications received and the scoring process. Applications for District 17 (includes Delaware, Licking and Fairfield Counties) are due November 6.

Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)
District 3 (Franklin County) announced the availability of $3.9 million from the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund for green space acquisition and stream corridor restoration. Preliminary screening applications are due December 11. Final applications are due March 19, 2021. Application materials are available on MORPC’s website. MORPC hosted a virtual workshop on October 6 for potential applicants. Workshop slides are available on the website.
Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)
The RDAC meets December 1 to discuss the status of the Working Groups, the Broadband Access Pilot Program, the COVID-19 Research Briefs, and the updating of the Regional Data Agenda.

- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Working Group is planning the fourth quarter RIDG User Group meeting on November 4.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group continues their work via the Fiber Network Subgroup.
- The final 2020 meeting for the Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) is December 2.

Population Estimates
Team Members collected and analyzed data for Population estimates. The 2021 dues and representation will be based on the 2020 population estimates created in late 2019 (i.e. the same basis as the 2020 dues and representation). This will be a transition year as we move to the updated methodology and incorporate 2020 Census results for 2022 dues and representation. Team Members updated the process and timeline for the future annual population estimates which will result in:

- Increased accuracy and stability of population estimates for members.
- The ability to produce and share with members a time series population trend for communities since 2010 as a new data product.
- Lengthening the timeline for building permit data collection which will result in strengthened QA/QC of those data.

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

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

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

Active Transportation Committee
The next Active Transportation Committee meeting is Tuesday, December 8. The guest speaker is Angie Schmitt, Cleveland resident and author of the new book Right of Way. The meeting will focus on pedestrian safety.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts
Manual volunteer counts were completed at the end of September and staff have been working to summarize the collected data. A final summary report will be shared before the end of the year. Team Members also completed annual short duration counts and are working to improve the annual trail count program, including data collection and processing, for next year.
insight2050 Technical Assistance Program (TAP)
Team Members engaged Franklin County staff in the Complete Streets project through a Virtual Walk Audit which began and ended at MORPC Offices. Staff were asked to evaluate the comfort of specific observation stops, such as intersections and bus stops. MORPC and Franklin County hosted a debrief meeting to discuss the Virtual Walk Audit and how it relates to Complete Streets. Results will be summarized for the final deliverable.

Team members met with City of Hilliard staff to identify a potential transportation network for the Cemetery Road site area that would support connectivity and access for all modes. MORPC continues to refine the draft network and align recommendations with proposed land use.

For the Westerville project, Team Members developed a multidisciplinary inventory of plans, policies, and ordinances relevant to the Cleveland Avenue corridor. MORPC continues to work on building an inventory of recommendations from those documents.

Transportation Safety
Team Members attended the Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition meeting on October 14. Discussion in the meeting focused around Teen Driver Safety and resources available for teaching young drivers about the dangers of distracted driving. More information can be found at https://www.impactteendrivers.org. Team Members attended the Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meetings on October 1 and 15. Recommendations include more education around speed, impairment, pedestrian safety, and young driver safety.

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

Central Ohio Greenways Board (COG)
The Central Ohio Greenways Board met October 14 and reviewed Working Group projects:
- Trail Development Working Group shared a draft overview of the “Trail and Active Transportation Prioritization” results. The group is also advising on a COG Urban Greenway Design Guide, a document that will provide guidance and inspiration to partners as they plan trail projects that are co-located with existing rights-of-way and urban environments.
- The Marketing & Communications Working Group reported on the collaboration with the MORPC Mode-Shift Coalition on the People Who Bike campaign. The Working Group also shared an idea to curate virtual races and 5K routes to support local events that have gone virtual due to COVID-19.
- The Operations & Access Working Group has been supporting efforts to ensure that COG projects and campaigns are inclusive and accessible to all. The group has provided recommendations to ensure the COG Prioritization Effort carefully considered equitable access to the trail network as part of the analysis. The group recommended strategies for engaging African Americans in a recent trail survey to ensure COG received statistically significant results.
- The Partnership Working Group received funding from Columbus Realtors and The Columbus Foundation to complete an Impacts of Trail Study. In addition to identifying the impacts of the fully built-out trail network as they relate to public health, environment, the economy, and social equity, the study is recommending strategies to optimize the trail count program to ensure that accurate and complete usage data is available for the trail network.
COG is also considering new strategies to track annual progress, exploring ideas such as tracking the percentage of the population with access to the trail network annually to be able to better measure equitably expanding the trail network.

**Sustaining Scioto Board**

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

- The Agriculture and Rural Communities Outreach Team will have its first meeting November 19. The Team seeks to facilitate regional collaboration with agricultural stakeholders in the Upper Scioto watershed, share relevant data and resources, and advance practices and programs that support improvements to surface water quality. Jessica D’Ambrosio with The Nature Conservancy, Chairs the Team.

**Energy & Air Quality**

The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met September 22 and reviewed MORPC energy and air quality programming and received subcommittee updates:

- The Diversity & Environmental Justice Subcommittee Exploratory Group proposed to:
  - Conduct outreach to increase the diversity and inclusiveness of perspectives on the Energy and Air Quality Working Group prior to convening the subcommittee.
  - Develop an initial roster of Equity Subcommittee members from traditionally underserved communities.
  - Propose recommendations that internalize diversity and community inclusion in MORPC’s Energy and Air Quality activities.

- The Air Quality Sensor Subcommittee’s conversations with William Kenny, Ohio EPA, are moving forward to allow collocation of the suite of low-cost air quality monitors with an Ohio EPA maintained Federal Reference Monitor (FRM). The suitability of FRMs in the region are being considered.

- The EAQ Working Group renamed the Solar Toolkit subgroup to the Solar Subcommittee in order to pursue a SolSmart designation for MORPC as a regional organization, and to develop further recommendations and activities surrounding solar opportunities in the region. The Subcommittee met in October to review the requirements for the submission to SolSmart. It is expected that MORPC will receive a silver designation once the submission is approved.

**Local Government Energy Partnership (LGEP)**

Team Members continue to develop 2921 programming. MORPC became an ENERGY STAR partner, bringing access to ENERGY STAR’s suite of technical assistance to members through the LGEP. The fourth session of the Energy Academy is in December and is focused on the Clean Energy Acceleration Program and financing energy activities.

**Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)**

The SAC met October 21. Members whose terms expire the end of 2020 will be contacted to discuss next steps. Joe Flarida, Executive Director for Power a Clean Future Ohio, presented information about the program and opportunities for partnership. MORPC Team Members provided updates about the Summit on Sustainability, the Regional Policy Agenda, Regional Sustainability Dashboard, and the process for updating the Regional Sustainability Agenda. The next meeting is December 16.
• The Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Subcommittee reviewed a consultant proposal from Dr. Jason Reece. Proposed deliverables include reviewing the existing RSA with recommendations for social equity intersections, a presentation of those findings and recommendations, a workshop to facilitate ideas and input, and a resource document with social equity toolkits and other best practices resources. Dr. Reece reviewed the RSA goals and objectives in October and recommendations will be shared soon. Next steps are a workshop on November 18 with subcommittee members and Chairs/ Vice-Chairs of our Planning & Sustainability Committees.

Diversity & Inclusion
The Diversity and Inclusion Committee began meeting last month. Committee members are excited to participate. The committee is planning programming for the 2021 calendar year.

Team Members distributed the Link-Us Northwest Corridor Survey to diverse audiences within our region for their feedback. Also, targeting specific minority student groups at colleges and universities.

Events
• Over 350 people attended the virtual Summit on Sustainability held in partnership with the Atlanta Regional Commission on October 15-16, 2020. Recordings from each session will be available in the coming weeks at www.morpc.org/summit2020.
• MORPC and the Smart Region Task Force hosted the second web series sponsored by Verizon on October 22. The web series focused on emerging trends in technology. The recording is available on MORPC’s YouTube channel. The final web series is December 14 and highlights infrastructure + technology.

Membership Services
Membership Services continues to serve through monthly forums for Central Ohio Local Governments, Ohio University partnership, board orientations, member visits, Return on Investment information for all members, and regional collaboration meetings.

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

Housing
Contractors are at capacity and projects are close to being completed by the end of December for the Franklin County Urgent Needs (FCUN) 2018 program. A recommendation was made to continue the extension into next year to give our contractors time to wrap up the projects. Bids are out with bid openings next week for the FCUN 2019 program. Progress is happening on several other client projects.

The COCIC home repair program is behind at this time for a December completion and we will be asking COCIC about an extension into next year.

WarmChoice
Columbia Gas put out an email blast two weeks ago that produced a bump up in applications requests the following week for the WarmChoice program. Applications are coming in steady through the IMS system. The Customer Service Staff is working to increase production on approved applications to keep up with the Inspectors’ progress.

Production on projects is proceeding normally. For September, we had 60 initial inspections and 47 completions. October first half, we had 50 initial inspections and 23 completions.
HWAP
Production is at 100% year-to-date at the end of October.

Renovation Updates
General contractor (GC) bids have been received. The contractor is expected to be selected in early November and work to begin in November. A value engineering process will commence in November as well. The majority of the GC work will last about two months, with a few items potentially delayed as a result of longer lead times during this pandemic.

The Information Technology Services (ITS) Team continues to support the office renovation through a complete configuration of network switches; deploying new firewalls; selecting Microsoft Phone Systems for the next VOIP; and continuing to gather requirements needed for audiovisual and technology design.

Information Technology Updates
ITS celebrated Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October by hosting an open discussion with regional cybersecurity experts on October 7. The Team also conducted an annual training assessment. ITS continues to perform phish email testing. The prone to phish rate is 3.7% in October. Those who don’t pass the test receive required video-based training.

Team Members converted the rest of the desktop computers to laptops in September. (All Team Members that still had desktops also had temporary laptops to remote into their desktops and the network.) ITS conducted a survey with those who received new laptops to learn from the experience for future improvement.

ITS is enhancing communication and engagement with departments through populating a guide in reviewing third party services.

Team Members worked with a contractor to replace and upgrade a 10 Gbps connection to the MORPC data center.

Personnel Updates
The following new Team Members recently started at MORPC:
- Planning & Sustainability Greenways Intern Jasmine Walker began October 13
- Residential Services Customer Service Representative Debbie Brice transitioned from temporary to permanent MORPC employee on October 13

MORPC is currently recruiting for two (1) open position:
- Data & Mapping - GIS Intern

The requirements for the posted positions are available for review on the website at http://www.morpc.org/careers/.

RFP/RFQ Postings
The following RFP’s/RFQ’s were posted:
- 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: Aaron Schill, Director
Regional Data & Mapping

DATE: November 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 19-20: "Establishing population estimates as a basis for 2021 annual participation fees to be assessed members"

Summary: MORPC staff has revised and improved its process and timeline for population estimates to be a more reliable and robust resource to MORPC’s local government members and regional partners. To allow for a transition period to the revised and improved process and to ensure incorporation of forthcoming 2020 Census information, we recommend this process becomes officially effective beginning with the next estimate in 2021. Staff recommends that the January 1, 2020 population estimates adopted by Resolution 16-19 should remain the basis for local dues assessments for 2021.

The attached Resolution 19-20 provides population estimates for the purpose of assessing 2021 participation fees from member jurisdictions. Four new members (City of Chillicothe, City of Circleville, Village of Gambier, and Village of Granville,) joined MORPC since the adoption of the 2020 population estimates in Resolution 16-19, and estimates for those communities are based on populations given to those jurisdictions at the time of their joining. The member participation fees (“dues”) are calculated using the rates adopted in Resolution 07-20. The 2021 dues will use the same population estimates used for the 2020 dues calculations.

Background: Each year, MORPC staff begin the annual population estimate process with a review of the estimates published in the previous year. New birth, death, and migration records allow for a comparison of the estimates with this new observed data to test for accuracy. While birth and death data have remained consistent and predictable, migration data for several Central Ohio counties deviated greatly in 2019 compared to the prior several years. Given the fluctuations in migration data from year to year, which are difficult to predict and are subject to economic and policy factors at the local, state, federal, and international levels, MORPC staff began looking for ways to reduce uncertainty by relying more heavily on available observed data.
Considering data availability, the recommendation is that, beginning next year and going forward, population estimates will be published for January 1 of the current year, rather than January 1 of the coming year. Correspondingly, MORPC participation fees will be based on the current year population estimate rather than the upcoming year estimate. Altering the timeline will have the following benefits:

- Estimates will rely more heavily on observed birth, death, and migration data as the components of population change, minimizing the need for predictions that could differ from actual population trends.
- The population estimates timeline revision will allow MORPC to strengthen permit data collection and quality control to improve the value of that data product in other planning work for members.
- Following this approach, MORPC population estimates can be used as a ‘time series’—it can be assumed that they represent ‘true growth’ over time, without concern that growth could be attributable to unpredictable variability in the underlying components of population change.
- Future population estimates will be completed and available to members earlier in the year.

To provide a transition to the new estimate process, timeline, and historical time series and to better reflect populations in the region, MORPC will estimate population figures using this approach in 2021 after publication of the 2020 Decennial Census.

Attachment: Resolution 19-20
RESOLUTION 19-20

“Establishing population estimates as a basis for 2021 annual participation fees to be assessed members”

WHEREAS, MORPC staff has revised and improved its process and timeline for population estimates to be effective beginning with the next estimate in 2021 after the results of the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, during the transition to the revised and improved process the January 1, 2020 population estimates adopted by Resolution 16-19 will remain the basis for local dues assessments for 2021, as per the Articles of Agreement; and

WHEREAS, four new members, the Cities of Chillicothe and Circleville and the Villages of Gambier and Granville, have joined MORPC since the January 1, 2020 population estimates were adopted by Resolution 16-19, and the population estimates provided to those jurisdictions at the time of their joining will be used as the basis for dues assessments for 2021; and

WHEREAS, 2021 participation fees are assessed at a rate of $0.575 per capita for members within the federally declared Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Study Area boundaries of MORPC, $0.48 per capita for members within the Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) boundaries, and $0.38 for members not located within the MPO or CORPO areas, in accordance with Resolution 07-20; and

WHEREAS, $0.07 per capita is earmarked exclusively for the MORPC building/reserve, in accordance with Resolution 07-20; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 health crisis and its effects on local governments, Resolution 07-20 delays the rate increase per the five-year plan presented in Resolution 10-19 for one year, thus maintaining the 2021 rates at the same level as the 2020 rates; now therefore

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

Section 1. That the January 1, 2020 population estimates, as adopted by Resolution 16-19 and otherwise provided to new members, are hereby adopted for the purpose of assessing 2021 participation fees.

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: November 12, 2020
Submitted by: Aaron Schill, Director, Data & Mapping
Prepared by: Aaron Schill, Director, Data & Mapping
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: November 12, 2020
## Transportation Policy Committee Members

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## Commission Members

- **Paul Benedetti**
- **Jason Booth for Thom Collier and Bill Pursel**
- **Ben Carpenter**
- **Franklin Christman**
- **Terry Emery**
- **Bill Habig**
- **Tim Hansley**
- **David Henry**
- **Eric Phillips**
- **David Scheffler**
- **Steve Stolte**
- **Andy Ware**
- **R.C. Wise**

## MORPC Staff

- **Kerstin Carr**
- **Thea Ewing**
- **Mary Ann Frantz**
- **Joe Garrity**
- **Ted Geer**
- **Nick Gill**
- **Ralonda Hampton**
- **Shawn Hufstedler**
- **Natalie Hurst**
- **Alex Jokerst**
- **Niel Jurist**
- **Eileen Leuby**
- **William Murdock**
- **Stephen Patchan**
- **Shari Saunders**
- **Aaron Schill**
- **Bevan Schneck**
- **Kyle Sohner**
- **Susan Tsen**
- **Robert Williams**

## Guests

- Charlie Bonham, City of Columbus
- Robert Bramlish, VETS
- Barb Cox, FCEO
- Mark Forrest, CORPO Chair
- Thomas Johnson
- Andrew Shepler, ODOT
- Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

## Meeting Called to Order

Chair Karen Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 1:53 p.m.
Metropolitan Planning Organization Report

- **Transportation & Infrastructure Development – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director**
  Thea Ewing reported that the President signed legislation to prevent a government shutdown by continuing to fund federal programs at current levels through December 11. The Continuing Resolution Appropriations Act also extends the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for one year and ensures the federal transportation funding (including the Highway Trust Fund) will remain solvent during the next Federal Fiscal Year.

MORPC recently released the [Central Ohio Employer Telework Policy Guide](#). The guide was developed in partnership with Smart Columbus and Columbus GreenSpot to support an employer’s consideration of the long-term transition to telework. Exploring full-time, part-time, and flexible telework scenarios, the guide is intended to help employers understand the benefits and challenges of various schedules of telework and find what makes sense for their organization.

MORPC recently began the process of updating the Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP) list for 2021-2022. CAP is a joint program with One Columbus that assembles a list of priority regional infrastructure projects. The projects reflect local priorities in each county that will drive economic development and expansion. MORPC works to elevate the projects with our congressional delegation and other key stakeholders. We also identify strategic funding streams and provide technical assistance related to CAP projects. Conversations have started with the ten existing CAP counties (Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Hocking, Knox, Licking, Logan, Madison, Perry, and Union). We anticipate Pickaway County joining the program this year.

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) honored one of their longest serving members that is retiring in October. Ted Biedler from the Franklin County Engineer’s Office will be missed on several MORPC committees. He is committed to active transportation development and safety and hopes to stay engaged in this area.

TAC is seeking nominations for four-year term voting members. Prospective representatives are nominated by the chief executive officer of an eligible local government in the MPO area that does not already have permanent representation. Members are selected by the Chair of the Transportation Policy Committee. The selections are staggered so at least five representatives are appointed every other year. Seats up for appointment are currently occupied by:

- Kevin Weaver (Westerville)
- Jacolyn Thiel (Upper Arlington)
- Matt Peoples (Canal Winchester)
- Laura Comek (Lockbourne)
- Formerly occupied by Greg Butcher but is currently vacant (Violet Township)

- **Data & Mapping – Aaron Schill, MORPC Data & Mapping Director**
  Aaron Schill presented a change in timing for [MORPC’s Population Estimates](#). The population estimates for Central Ohio communities have generally been presented in October. Using the new methodology implemented in 2018, we see a great deal of fluctuation in migration from year to year. The new methodology allows us to see where potential errors may occur and to figure out how to control them in order to develop more
accurate estimates. Based on that, MORPC is recommending a change to the time period for which we apply the estimates. In the past, the estimates we bring forward in October are for January 1 of the upcoming year. Rather than producing estimates we would produce final projections for January 1 of the current year. Starting in 2021, estimates will be produced in August for the current year. Rather than predicting for 18 months, we are only predicting for six months, reducing the potential for error.

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

COVID-19 Impact on Transportation Follow-Up – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director
Thea Ewing presented the COVID-19 Regional Transportation System Impact. MORPC has been tracking the impact of COVID on transportation systems in Ohio and will continue to update the information. The maps are available at https://www.morpc.org/covid19-impacts/. Ms. Ewing will look into hotel occupancy rates.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.
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## Transportation Policy Committee Members

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## Meeting Called to Order – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

Chair Karen Angelou called the Commission meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.
Chair Angelou shared a writing of Nelson Mandela, “No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”

Chair Angelou asked for thoughts and prayers for former MORPC Communications Director Teri Flora and her family. Ms. Flora is in the hospital after a medical emergency. Ms. Flora’s impact can be felt far and wide in our community. She is the Board Chair for Choices for Victims of Domestic Violence Shelter. Today is the Annual Fundraiser for this cause. The virtual event will be broadcast on Channel 10 at 7 p.m. The link to the donation page was provided in the chat feature.

**Recognition of Guests – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer**

Eileen Leuby welcomed guest Charlie Bonham who is an intern with the City of Columbus working with Rory McGuiness.

**Executive Director’s Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

William Murdock reported MORPC Team Members continue to move major projects forward as they work remotely. The work includes competitive advantage projects, population forecast information, water resources work with Ohio EPA, and work in transportation and infrastructure development. Residential services work is still in the field and going strong helping our most vulnerable families.

The Summit on Sustainability is next week. The two-day virtual event looks at sustainability through the lens of local government.

MORPC continues to work on next steps for the Housing Strategy by having conversations with local governments. Asking what you need from us to help you move forward. Send us ideas, things on your wish list, etc.

MORPC is continuing to work on addressing racism, whether it's through our diversity and inclusion plan or our web resource for you with all the different things going on in communities around Central Ohio. Let us know if you need help connecting to resources.

As the health crisis continues, MORPC is trying to make sure you are getting the latest information on CARES Act funding. The advisory put out by Auditor Faber regarding how to spend CARES dollars is an interesting read that includes organizational charts on how you might set up a structure.

As MORPC continues to work remotely, our meetings will continue to be remote. This will happen through at least the end of the year. Our building renovations are progressing but taking a little longer due to the pandemic.

MORPC continues to work with the Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Association and the Township Association as we host monthly sessions on what local governments are doing when it comes to CARES Act dollars, health guidelines, etc. We continue to share daily or weekly updates from our partners.
Through the Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program, MORPC and our partners are trying to connect 10,000 computers and broadband access points to low income families around Central Ohio. MORPC needs your help in getting the information to your residents, companies and institutions. Visit morpc.org/broadband/ for information. Thousands of devices have already been delivered. Mr. Murdock thanked MORPC Project Lead Aaron Schill.

The Clean Ohio Conservation Fund is for acquisition of green space and protection and/or enhancement of river and stream corridors. Screening applications are due December 11 and final applications are due March 19. Nathaniel Vogt is the MORPC Team Lead.

MORPC Team Members just finished the Annual Salary & Fringe Benefit Survey. A record number of MORPC communities participated (over 30). Mr. Murdock thanked members for sending their information. The final survey will be published and distributed soon. The survey is available for any community.

The Mid-Ohio Finance Administrators (MOFA), a group of local government finance directors and professionals, is meeting October 20 to discuss how to spend CARES Act dollars. Two people from the state level are speaking.

Emerging Trends in Technology, the next session in MORPC’s three-part web series focusing on technology with Verizon, is October 22.

Mr. Murdock announced that despite the great effort from Central Ohio partners, Central Ohio was not selected for the Hyperloop Certification Center. The good news is our relationship with Hyperloop is still strong and we anticipate many further announcements on the corridor work.

Proposed Resolution 18-20 – “Authorizing the executive director to file applications with, execute agreements with, and receive funds from the partners in support of the Central Ohio Broadband Access Pilot Program” – Aaron Schill, MORPC Data & Mapping Director

Three partner organizations administer the Broadband Access Pilot Program. MORPC is predominately in the program management role. The Educational Services Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO) is the central contracting agency. Most of the funding goes through ESCCO and they hold most of the contracts with vendors. PC’s for People is the non-profit providing computers and online access. Some funding partners felt more comfortable making their grants through MORPC. All money goes to the same program.

Bill LaFayette made a motion to approve Resolution 18-20, second by Alex Heckman; motion passed.

Committees

Transportation Policy Committee – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
Chair Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 1:53 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:29 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization – Mark Forrest (Madison County), Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Chair
Mark Forrest reported all CORPO County Subcommittees met in September. The groups discussed how to increase the number of stakeholders at the meetings to ensure better outreach and to ensure CORPO is meeting the needs of its member counties.
CORPO Team Members are working on multiple special projects:

- Mt. Vernon safety project
- Madison County Thoroughfare plan
- Knox County (Centerburg) trails project
- Morrow County Freeway Access Study
- Union County/ODOT U.S. 33 Plan
- Union County Health Department mobility feasibility study

The funding section of the CORPO website has been updated to reflect available funding options in the region and includes an eligibility matrix that details the options available to municipalities.

MORPC recently met with ODOT to discuss CORPO’s previous and future planning work programs and areas where ODOT and CORPO may better align in the future regarding stakeholder engagement.

**Regional Policy Roundtable** – David Scheffler (City of Lancaster), Regional Policy Roundtable Vice Chair

David Scheffler presented the Regional Policy Roundtable Update. MORPC hosted the 2020 Election and Voting Update featuring Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose and Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter. The program highlighted important deadlines to register for absentee voting, the need for poll workers, competitive elections, the impact of COVID-19 on the election, and much more.

Work continues on updating the Public Policy Agenda for 2021-2022. The next Regional Policy Roundtable meeting is October 20. Maureen Stapleton, Executive Director of Celebrate One, will provide an update.

**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:

- HB 614 – CARES Relief
- SB 358 – Permissive Remote Meeting Authority
- HB 242 – Local Authority Plastic Bags
- HB 6 - Repeal
- Federal appropriations
- How to spend CARES Act dollars by Auditor Faber

See the October 2020 Monthly Legislative Update for other legislative news.

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

Jim Schimmer presented the Sustainability Advisory Committee Report. Mr. Schimmer reported the Ohio EPA asked MORPC to develop and update water resources plans for Morrow, Champaign, and Logan Counties. Water Quality Management (or 208) plans essentially describe the surface water quality of the watersheds in the project area based on data available from federal, state, and local sources. They show projected growth patterns and development trends and their implications on water quality and wastewater treatment needs. The plans also identify information about both publicly owned wastewater facilities as well as home-sewage systems and what current and future boundaries of the service areas will be. MORPC will not be designated as an official Areawide Agency as we will not provide dispute resolution between our members. The consent agenda
includes the resolution authorizing MORPC to enter into a contract with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for this work.

The Energy & Air Quality Working Group formed the Solar Subcommittee to move forward toward achieving the SolSmart Regional Designation.

MORPC’s Virtual Summit on Sustainability is October 15-16 in partnership with the Atlanta Regional Commission to showcase sustainability initiatives between the two regions. Virtual Breakout Session topics include air and water quality, energy, mobility, development, and the current political environment. Pecha Kucha presentations are featured as part of the opening plenary on October 14. The keynote presenter is Dr. Katharine Hayhoe. Dr. Hayhoe is an atmospheric scientist who studies climate change. She’s been named to several lists including Time Magazine’s 100 Most Influential People, Foreign Policy’s 100 Leading Thinkers, and FORTUNE magazine’s World’s Greatest Leaders. The Regional Sustainability Award winners will be announced during the Summit.

**Commission Consent Agenda**

*Proposed Resolution 17-20 – “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements for November 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners for urgent home repair” was removed from the Commission Consent Agenda and was voted on separately.*

Mike Schadek made a motion to approve Resolution 17-20, second by Rory McGuiness; motion passed. The following abstained: Erik Janas, Jim Schimmer, Greg Lestin, Lauren Rummel, Keena Smith, and Herb Asher.

David Scheffler made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda after the removal of Proposed Resolution 17-20, second by Erik Janas; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

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Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**
Memorandum

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

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: November 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 20-20: "Authorizing the executive director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District of Columbus and Central Ohio Transit Authority to support the continuation of the C-pass Transit Pass Program for employers in downtown Columbus"

The proposed resolution is to authorize the executive director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District (Capital Crossroads SID) of Columbus and the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) to support the continuation of the successful C-pass Program for employers in downtown Columbus from January 1, 2021 until December 31, 2025.

This MOU memorializes MORPC’s continued support of the C-pass Program. Under the current MOU the C-pass Program began in June 2018 and will conclude December 31, 2020 via provision of planning, funding, and technical support.

Specific financial terms include:

- The annual cost of the C-pass Transit Pass Program is $1,822,250. Only during 2021 a discount of 50% will be applied because of the anticipated impact on ridership during 2021 resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The total cost of the program for five years will be $8.2 million.

- The Capital Crossroads SID through Special Assessments is expected to generate a total of approximately $3.2 million, and through additional employer payments and grants is expected to generate up to $1.6 million toward the C-pass Transit Pass Program. Total anticipated revenue from these sources is expected to exceed $4.8 million.

- MORPC will provide up to a total of $3.4 million, or the difference, to COTA over the term of the C-pass Transit Pass Program, through the Attributable Funding Program, or other resources for projects that COTA applies for through the end of the program.
Specific administrative terms include:

- To the extent COTA receives any payments from the Capital Crossroads SID over program expenses it will reimburse MORPC.

- The Capital Crossroads SID and MORPC will continue to cooperate to create and maintain a database of Eligible Persons.
  - The database will contain, at a minimum, information necessary for COTA to issue each Eligible Person a Transit Pass.
  - MORPC will host the database through its Gohio Commute system or successive system.
  - MORPC will use the Eligible Persons database and other information available to it to track and document information relevant to the C-pass Transit Pass Program such as:
    - the reduction of single-occupant vehicle trips
    - the reduction in vehicle emissions
    - the change in transit ridership
    - the C-pass cost-effectiveness

In the MOU it is anticipated that COTA, Capital Crossroads SID and MORPC services will be executed as required. However, should transit routes be altered, passenger demand change, financial means fluctuate, or other circumstances that significantly impact the terms of the MOU an amendment can be entertained. As necessary, all parties will negotiate in good faith appropriate changes to the MOU. Amendments that are not anticipated in the annual MORPC budget will be brought forward for board approval.

TJE: mamf

Attachment: Resolution 20-20
RESOLUTION 20-20

“Authorizing the executive director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District of Columbus and Central Ohio Transit Authority to support the continuation of the C-pass Transit Pass Program for employers in downtown Columbus”

WHEREAS, the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District of Columbus (the Capital Crossroads SID), the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) (all known as Parties) are continuing the first-of-its-kind transit pass program for the downtown Columbus SID (C-Pass); and

WHEREAS, the Capital Crossroads SID through Special Assessments is expected to generate a total of approximately $3.2 million, and through additional employer payments and grants is expected to generate up to $1.6 million toward the Transit Pass Program through Per Capita Payments, employer contributions, or other sources; and

WHEREAS, if the total amount of the Special Assessments, the Per Capita Payments, or other sources available to the Capital Crossroads SID is insufficient to pay the total costs of the Transit Pass Program due to COTA, MORPC will provide up to a total $3.4 million, or the difference to COTA over the term of the Transit Pass Program through funding programs MORPC administers, for which COTA will make application to, for projects; and

WHEREAS, to the extent COTA receives any payments from the Capital Crossroads SID over program expenses it will reimburse MORPC up to MORPC’s total investment; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Crossroads SID and MORPC will cooperate to create and maintain a database of Eligible Persons. The database will contain, at a minimum, information necessary for COTA to issue each Eligible Person a Transit Pass. MORPC will host the database through the Gohio Commute system or successive system; and

WHEREAS, in addition to hosting the Eligible Persons database, MORPC will use the Eligible Persons database and other information available to it to track and document information relevant to the C-pass Transit Pass Program; and

WHEREAS, the parties have created a Memorandum of Understanding to memorialize their understanding of their relationships, roles, and responsibilities in implementing a transit pass program; now therefore

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

Section 1. To authorize the executive director to execute the Memorandum of Understanding with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District of Columbus and Central Ohio Transit Authority to support the continuation of the C-pass Transit Pass Program for employers in downtown Columbus.

Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to approve one or more extensions for performance of services under the foregoing agreements and change orders for amounts up to the financial authorization levels in the MORPC bylaws without further authorization from this Commission.
Section 3. 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 4. 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: November 12, 2020
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