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

Thursday, March 11, 2021
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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Phone Conference ID: 763 036 191#

AGENDA

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

2. Welcome and Introductions – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
   - Nominating Committee Report – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Secretary
   - Recognition of Guests and New Members – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

3. One MORPC One Voice: YWCA Columbus – Christie Angel, YWCA Columbus President & CEO

4. Executive Director’s Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director
   - Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership & Public Affairs
     – Jay Johnson, Voinovich Academy for Excellence in Public Service Director
2:00 p.m. Committees

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

6. **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

7. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Jim Schimmer (Franklin County), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
   a. **Central Ohio Greenways Story Map** – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Planning & Sustainability Director
   b. **Proposed Resolution 02-21**: “Authorizing the executive director to contract with Sonoma Technology, Inc. to provide air quality forecasting services” – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Planning & Sustainability Director

2:30 p.m. 8. **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 [February 11, 2021 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
      2) **Proposed Resolution T-1-21**: “Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program”
   d. **Competitive Advantage Projects** – Ted Geer, MORPC Economic Development & Infrastructure Officer
   e. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

9. **Commission Consent Agenda**
   a. Approval of [February 11, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
b. **Proposed Resolution 01-21:** “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreement with Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. to provide professional services for state government relations services for the Central Ohio region”

c. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

10. Other Business

3:00 p.m.  

**11. 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, April 8, 2021, 1:30 p.m.  
Audio/Video Conference
Memorandum

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

FROM: Chris Amorose Groomes, Nominating Committee Chair

DATE: March 11, 2021

SUBJECT: Nomination of Executive Committee Members

Background:
In accordance with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Articles of Agreement, the Commission will be notified at least five (5) days prior to the Annual Meeting as to the nominees for MORPC’s Officers and Executive Committee members.

The Nominating Committee excerpt from the Articles is as follows:
"At least twenty (20) days prior to the annual meeting, the chair shall appoint the Nominating Committee. Said Nominating Committee having been duly appointed and confirmed shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the annual meeting of the COMMISSION, report the names of the candidates so nominated to the secretary. The secretary shall advise each member of the COMMISSION, in writing, at least five (5) days prior to the annual meeting as to the nominees so selected. At the annual meeting, the chair of the Nominating Committee shall report the names so nominated. After this report is presented, nominations from the floor shall be invited. Such nominations must be seconded. The secretary then shall prepare ballots properly identifying the nominees, said ballots shall be distributed and tallied during the annual meeting by a temporary committee appointed for that purpose."

The Nominating Committee Members:
As noted at the December 10, 2020 Commission meeting, Commission Chair Karen Angelou has appointed five members of the Nominating Committee.

- Chris Amorose Groomes, Committee Chair, City of Dublin
- Jeff Benton, Delaware County
- Mike Schadek, City of Columbus
- Franklin Christman, Village of Ashville
- Nancy White, Mifflin Township
Review of Current Members of Executive Committee:
Several Executive Committee positions do not have expiring terms this year and therefore require no action by the Nominating Committee. For information, these are listed below:

1) **Immediate Past Chair**: Rory McGuiness, (2012) City of Columbus
2) **In second year of current two-year Executive Committee Term (expires 2022)**
   a) Michelle Crandall (2020), City Manager, City of Hilliard
   b) David Scheffler (2020), Mayor, City of Lancaster
   c) Greg Lestini (2018), Bricker & Eckler LLP, Attorney, Franklin County representative
   d) Franklin Christman (2018), Administrator, Village of Ashville
   e) Chris Amorose Groomes (2018), Mayor, City of Dublin

Nominating Committee Recommendations:
The Nominating Committee convened on January 28, and made the following recommendations for Officer positions and Executive Committee positions, which will be reported at the March 11, 2021 Commission meeting and considered at the April 8, 2021 Commission meeting:

The nominees for Officers for renewed one-year Officer Terms (expires 2022)
- **Chair**: Karen Angelou, Council Member, City of Gahanna
- **Vice-Chair**: Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Franklin County
- **Secretary**: Chris Amorose Groomes, Mayor, City of Dublin

The nominees for Executive Committee are:

1) **For renewal of one-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2022)**
   a) Joe Stefanov (2008), Chair of Building Committee, City Manager, City of New Albany
   b) Karen Angelou (2014), Chair of MORPC, Council Member, City of Gahanna
   c) Kim Maggard (2015), Chair of Reserve & Investment Advisory Committee, Mayor, City of Whitehall

2) **For a new two-year Executive Committee Term (expires 2023)**
   a) None

3) **For renewal of two-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2023)**:
   a) Jennifer Gallagher (2017), Director, Department of Public Service, City of Columbus
   b) Erik Janas (2017), Deputy County Administrator, Franklin County
   c) Jeff Benton (2019), Commissioner, Delaware County
   d) Nancy White (2017), Administrator, Mifflin Township

Notes:
1) The year after each name refers to the first year of the member’s current service on the Executive Committee. For example, Joe Smith (2017) means that Joe Smith’s first term began in 2017 and he has served continuously since then.

2) Per the bylaws, Executive Committee members may serve up to three consecutive two-year terms. One-year extensions are available if serving as an officer or committee chair.
State of the Region
MORPC’s State of the Region featuring Jonathan Rose will be held virtually March 31, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Jonathan Rose is founder of Jonathan Rose Companies LLC, a multi-disciplinary real estate development, planning, project management, and investment firm. Rose will address the challenges of the 21st century. Register today.

Diversity & Inclusion (D&I)
During the month of February and in honor of Black History month, MORPC highlighted the achievements of African Americans in transportation, housing, and planning industry on our digital media platforms. MORPC hosted a Black History Lunch & Learn event for our employees. The event featured speakers to discuss the significance of Long Street cultural wall, the history of Bronzeville and a brief overview of the Near East Area Commission (NEAC).

To advance MORPC’s diversity and inclusion efforts and better help our communities, MORPC announced a new partnership with YWCA Columbus with new support and access to expertise for our local government members. This brings our members new opportunities for trainings and services on antiracism and racial equity.

Regional Housing Strategy (RHS)
Team Members presented an update to RHS stakeholders which included an introduction to the new housing metrics dashboard (https://www.morpc.org/rhs/metrics-dashboard/) and a preview of new programs to assist MORPC members with implementing the actions of the RHS.

The Regional Housing Strategy Speaker Series kicked off February 19 with “There’s Nothing Cookie Cutter About These Homes.” A panel of builders and policy experts discussed innovations and trends in residential development and what it takes to make them feasible in our communities.

Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)
ODOT will conduct an expedited TRAC round. Applications are due in April (exact date TBA). Regional hearings will be held in May. TRAC will vote on the draft list in July with the final adoption by TRAC in August. MORPC’s priority ranking will likely need to be completed during the May meeting cycle.

Federal Competitive Programs
The U.S. Department of Transportation published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for approximately $1 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 discretionary grant funding through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program. These grants are awarded on a competitive basis to projects that improve transportation networks. The minimum grant award is $25 million for large projects and $5 million for small projects. MORPC is convening discussions with ODOT and other regional partners on possible projects for submission. Applications are due March 19. The NOFO to apply for discretionary grant funding through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program is expected in the coming weeks.
Regional Mobility Plan
Team Members initiated meetings with the nine counties included in ODOT Human Service Transportation Coordination Region 6, the focus area for the Regional Mobility Plan. Conversations focused on local level mobility challenges that should be considered in the plan. Team Members developed a Webmap tool for identifying gaps in service and unmet needs. Recordings of the four virtual Regional Mobility Plan Public meetings are available at: morpc.org/mobilityplan. Marketing efforts for the meetings included a press release, graphics, social media, emails and the website. The materials also pointed people to where and how they can take a public survey, which is also available in Spanish and Somali.

Broadband
MORPC provided proponent testimony on Senate Bill 8 and House Bill 2. Both bills will create the Residential Broadband Expansion Program. MORPC will continue to work with legislators and stakeholders on a cohesive broadband strategy to meet the needs of our region.

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 to further the success of the program. MORPC Team Members are geocoding recipient addresses to make donation data usable.

Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill is serving as Co-Chair of the Franklin County Digital Equity Coalition Steering Committee, and as Chair of their Device Access Working Group.

Congressional Meetings
MORPC Team Members and Executive Committee Officers met with Representatives Balderson, Beatty and Stivers to discuss the public policy agenda, CEDS and infrastructure and transportation needs of our region. For more information on the agenda and MORPC’s government affairs work, please visit morpc.org/govaffairs. Team Members attended the National Association of Regional Councils.

Meetings with State Legislators
MORPC Team Members are promoting the newly adopted Public Policy Agenda and advocating on behalf of MORPC’s local government members. Team Members have met with the following members of the Ohio General Assembly:

- Sen. Peterson
- Senate President Matt Huffman
- Sen. Kunze
- Rep. Carfagna
- Rep. Crawley
- Rep. Fraizer
- Rep. Ginter
- Rep. Johnson
- Rep. West

State Transportation Budget
MORPC provided interested party testimony on House Bill 74, the State’s 2022-2023 transportation budget, to the Ohio House Finance Committee and made four recommendations in alignment with the 2021-2022 Public Policy Agenda:

- Increasing funding for transit
- Making roadways safer for everyone
- Investing in rural Ohio
- Funding trails

These key areas of interest provide solutions to increase equity and will help all of Ohio’s rural, suburban, and urban communities in our expanding region.

Central Ohio Defense Group
As MORPC continues to elevate the work of the Central Ohio Defense Group with our local government members, MORPC and lead partners at Kegler have laid out a plan and will meet over the next year to identify defense contracts and strengthen our unique defense assets in the region. Additionally, MORPC completed an application to join the Association of Defense Communities to strategically align our region with other communities across the country.

Columbus Region Coalition
MORPC as its role as a regional convenor facilitates the Columbus Region Coalition (CRC). The coalition represents local governments, the business community, and educational and community stakeholders
across fifteen counties in Central Ohio. With the start of a new administration and congress the coalition will convene a virtual congressional event March 15-16 to share our regional priorities with officials in the Administration and Congress.

Regional Policy Roundtable
The Regional Policy Roundtable met February 23 to discuss legislative updates, transit funding and hear a member update from Kyle Strickland from The Ohio State University Kirwan Institute and the Roosevelt Institute. Aslyne Rodriguez shared in the transit funding update ongoing advocacy efforts and information was disseminated to members.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan
Team Members began developing a general timeline of tasks and milestones for the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Columbus area, which must be adopted by May 2024. Team Members began to brainstorm ideas for the 2021 MTP Report Card which is the first report card for the recently adopted 2020-2050 MTP. MORPC staff sent documentation to ODOT in compliance with the federal performance management program safety targets.

Transit
Team Members continue working with OARC Rideshare and Air Quality subcommittee members, ODOT Office of Transit, and platform provider Ride Amigos to finalize changes to the specialized mobility search tool (now called Gohio Mobility). This includes working with partners to prepare the website for expansion to counties that did not previously have access to Gohio Commute.

LinkUS
MORPC Team Members continue to work with LinkUS partners COTA and City of Columbus to advance the Northwest and East-West corridor studies. Activities include participating in project meetings, technical working groups, stakeholders and public input meetings; reviewing technical documentation provided by consultant teams; and working with the project team on data and methodology quality. MORPC assisted in the creation and review of a story map on the Mobility Initiative to help with its public input process. Team Members continue to promote opportunities for engagement and public information through our various communication channels.

Gohio
MORPC is partnering with Columbus City Schools, COTA and Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District to enable Columbus City School students to use the C-pass to ride a COTA bus to school, free of charge.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)
CORPO staff continues to support Union County, ODOT and consultants with the US 33 Corridor Plan. The final draft plan will be shared in April. CORPO will determine the best way to incorporate the plan into their planning documents. Draft chapters of the Madison County Thoroughfare Plan have been developed and are under review by Madison County officials. CORPO Team Members are working with Knox and Morrow Counties on a Freeway Access Study intended to identify mobility needs to connect to regional freeways. CORPO is currently developing a working group of local stakeholders to guide the progress of the study.

Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)
The CAP program update started last fall was completed this month. The final CAP prioritized infrastructure project list includes approximately 50 locally identified projects across the region with potential to drive economic development. The full list will be released in the coming weeks.

MORPC Attributable Funding
The Attributable Funds Committee met February 3 and 24 to develop draft recommendations for new funding commitments. The draft recommendations are available for public comment through late March.

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)
The Public Works Integrating Committee (PWIC) for OPWC District 3 will meet March 12 for a working session on the policies and criteria for FY23 funding.
Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)
Final applications for Round 15 of Clean Ohio Conservation funding are due March 19. There is approximately $5.4 million available.

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)
The RDAC met March 2 to review the updated Regional Data Agenda and to discuss Broadband Access and the COVID-19 Research Briefs.
- The Regional Data Agenda Working Group met January 28 and February 17 to review and update the current Regional Data Agenda. The intention is to bring a final updated Regional Data Agenda to the RDAC and then to Commission the first half of 2021.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group continues their work via the Fiber Network Subgroup.

RDAC User Groups
The Central Ohio GIS User Group met February 10 with presentations from the City of Dublin, COTA, and MORPC Staff. Members discussed the OEPA PFAS Action Plan website and then broke into four groups to discuss LBRS, Data, ArcPro, and Web Apps.

The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) met February 3 for presentations from Frank Kohstall, InnovateOhio, on Data.ohio.gov, and from MORPC Staff on the Regional Data Agenda and the Regional Housing Strategy Metrics Dashboard.

COVID-19 Research Briefs
Team Members continue working with New Reach Community Consulting and 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.

Active Transportation Plan (ATP)
Team Members held a series of focus groups with populations traditionally underrepresented in active transportation planning. The outcome of these discussions, together with complete survey results, will be instrumental to ensuring the strategies and recommendations of the ATP prioritize the needs of the workforce, children, older adults, individuals with disabilities, and people of color. A Regional Stakeholder Workshop will be held Tuesday, April 13, 9-11 a.m. to review and discuss the tools and recommendations that have been developed thus far.

Complete Streets
Work to update the Regional Complete Streets policy continues this year. Meetings were put on hold last year to kick off the ATP update so the Plan and Policy could be developed in a coordinated manner. The regional Complete Streets policy is expected to be updated by the end of 2021.

Data Collection Program
Team Members are coordinating with FHWA and the Volpe Center to host a national peer exchange/workshop focused on non-motorized data collection and information management. This workshop will provide an opportunity for MORPC staff to learn from peer agencies regarding non-motorized data collection and management and improve our regional programming and services related to this topic area.

Active Transportation Outreach
Team Members coordinated with the FHWA to host a March 5 workshop on FHWA Bikeway Selection Guide. Local agency staff were invited to participate and learn more about bikeway policy and planning, bikeway types, facility selection tools, assessing and evaluating feasibility, and bikeway selection.

insight2050 Technical Assistance Program (TAP)
Team Members met with Franklin County Engineer’s Office staff to discuss spatial data and mapping needs for the Complete Streets Policy Implementation Toolkit. Team Members continued work on the Toolkit, determining key data for decision-making. Team Members continue to refine land use and transportation recommendations for Jefferson Township’s Blacklick Station project and Hilliard’s Cemetery Road project and began working on final reports. Staff continued adding and tagging recommendations for Westerville’s
Cleveland Avenue Recommendations Inventory. Team Members are developing a first draft of Columbus’ Speed Management Framework tool.

Transportation Safety
MORPC participated in the February 2 Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Steering Committee meeting. Five of the past six years (2014-2020) have seen an increase in traffic fatalities in Ohio. Preliminary data for 2020 shows the highest number of fatalities seen since the mid-2000s (more than 1,200 statewide). Overall crashes statewide in 2020 were down significantly from previous years.

Team Members participated in the February 4 Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review meeting. Columbus Police reported that motorcycle fatalities were significantly higher in 2020 than in previous years and that pedestrians comprised 26 percent of all fatal crashes that occurred in 2020. The percentage of fatal crashes that occurred on freeways was also reported as abnormally high for the year.

Team Members participated in the February 9 OARC Transportation Safety Subcommittee meeting. The Subcommittee adopted official bylaws and voted on a proposal that ODOT will take to the TRAC for funding. The proposal includes the purchase and installation of permanent traffic count equipment to collect motorized and non-motorized data at strategic locations throughout the state. If the funding is awarded, ODOT will be looking for local partners interested in having the equipment installed on local roadways. Please reach out to lcardoni@morpc.org for more information.

MORPC participated in the February 10 Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition meeting and presented a summary of recent Central Ohio Transportation Safety trends as well as a detailed summary of crashes involving people walking and bicycling in the region. The Coalition is actively looking for new members and hoping to engage additional communities within Franklin County, including local police departments. Please contact lcardoni@morpc.org if someone from your agency or police department is interested in participating. The Coalition focuses on education and outreach around transportation safety.

Team Members participated in the kick-off and scoping meeting for the US 62 Corridor Safety Study with ODOT Central Office, ODOT District 6, and the City of Grove City. The Safety Study will evaluate the US 62 corridor from the I-270 ramps to Southwest Blvd. within Grove City.

Sustainable2050
Monthly updates to members included several webinars and virtual panels on topics ranging from urban forestry to EPA funding opportunities. The first member meeting is March 19 with a focus on energy and renewables.

Central Ohio Greenways Board (COG)
The Central Ohio Greenways Board met January 20 and welcomed new board members Autumn Glover and Bertie Fields.

- The Trail Development Working Group proposed four minor Regional Trail Vision changes which the Board voted to adopt. The Working Group is also advising MORPC on the Trail Prioritization Effort. The results of the study were shared during the meeting. The Board plans to discuss strategies to encourage communities to collaborate on state and federal grant applications to quickly implement some of the key segments that ranked highest in the Trail Prioritization Effort.
- The Marketing & Communications Working Group is strategizing ways to share virtual race routes and curated walking and biking trail routes. The Working Group met with the City of Dublin to learn more about a bike loop they are planning and is interested in collaborating with other communities to plan similar curated bike loops.
- The Operations & Access Working Group shared a social media engagement effort led by COG Intern Jasmine Walker that focused on reaching out to people of color to learn more about how communities of color and black-owned businesses believe trails and COG efforts could impact their communities.
- The Partnership Working Group received funding from the Columbus Realtors and The Columbus Foundation to complete an Impacts of Trail Study. MORPC released an RFP to select a consultant to assist with estimating the COG Regional Trail Vision expected return on investment.

Sustaining Scioto Board
The Board met February 24 to discuss a National Science Foundation application and hear from Danny Johnson on best practices for water utilities addressing climate change in their planning documents.
• The Agriculture and Rural Communities Outreach Team met January 21 to discuss opportunities in creating partnerships and engagement activities between the agricultural and rural stakeholders. Against this backdrop, the Team is preparing to gather data by employing SWCD County Supervisors and elected officials including township trustees who are a resource to the communities of interest of the Team. The goal is to provide a sense of what is of interest to the communities to help shape the Team’s work on creating partnerships and engagement activities.

Water Quality Management Plans
MORPC is providing planning services to the Ohio EPA to develop updated and comprehensive water quality management plans for the Central Ohio region with the next phase focused on Morrow, Logan, and Champaign Counties. A new web page was created for the project and our first stakeholder engagement meeting was hosted virtually for Morrow County February 25.

Energy & Air Quality
The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met January 26 and approved a 2021 Work Plan.

• The Air Quality Sensor Subcommittee continues to work with Ohio EPA to collocate low-cost PurpleAir monitors with an existing particulate matter monitor. The air quality monitoring project runs January 2021 to May 2022 and includes siting the monitors, communication through public presentations, a website, data visualizations, establishing data handling protocols, and a final report. Zip codes for siting the monitors have been chosen based on sociodemographic as well as asthma and COVID-19 rate data. Sensor placement is prioritized in communities more vulnerable to air pollution exposure based on this data.

• The Solar Subcommittee is compiling the application for the SolSmart designation and is expecting to submit it by the end of February. The subcommittee is also assisting two OSU student projects focused on solar development.

• The Diversity and Environmental Justice Subcommittee is developing outreach materials and potential candidates for inclusion on both the Energy and Air Quality Working Group as well as the DEJ Subcommittee.

Local Government Energy Partnership (LGEP)
The Local Government Energy Partnership hosted Solar Week, February 1–4, which focused on solar development and how local governments can and should be involved. Presenters covered topics from engaging with the Ohio Power Siting Board to economic development to community solar and aggregation. The event averaged 100 attendees each day. Attendees primarily consisted of MORPC members, officials, and staff.

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)
A new member orientation meeting was held February 9 to provide information about the SAC including its role, structure, and topics of interest. The SAC met February 17. MORPC’s Planning & Sustainability Team presented their 2020 accomplishments and highlighted 2021 initiatives. The meeting also included updates on the Regional Sustainability Agenda and Working Group reports.

• Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee (RSA): A draft is in place for the updated Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) with input from the RSA subcommittee, SAC, and Sustainable2050 members. The Subcommittee continues to meet monthly. In January, members reviewed proposed strategies to support the goals and objectives. Team Members are preparing to reach out to broader community stakeholder groups in the region for input. An informational meeting will be offered during the first week of March. The SAC will review and adopt the RSA at their April meeting.

Membership Services
Membership Services continues to serve through monthly forums for Central Ohio Local Governments. Team Members conducted interviews and matched students for the 2021 Summer Intern Program. They also set up a mentor program and MOU agreements with Appalachian scholarships. Several member visits were made. Two refresher webinars were held on the grant search service.

Community Engagement
Team Members met with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to discuss opportunities to help get their information and resources to members.

MORPC in the News
Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews.
Housing
Two projects for the Franklin County Urgent Needs (FCUN) 2018 program are nearing completion. Team Members are watching the projects to determine if there will be funding left for an additional project in this round. Thirty projects have been completed so far. The FCUN 2019 program is moving forward. One project is in the closing process, two projects are in the contracting phase, and one contract is out to bid. Several others will go out to bid soon. Team Members are currently processing 34 projects for this round. The FCUN 2020 program funding has been received. Team Members will begin reviewing applications and projects the first quarter of 2021.

One project is ready to go for the COCIC agreement. Team Members are working with COCIC staff on other program opportunities.

WarmChoice
Columbia Gas put out an email blast that resulted in 107 new application requests. Production for February 2021 to date: 35 initial inspections and 31 completions. One of our contractors has added an additional crew and is considering adding a third crew. This could increase their output from 17+ jobs a month to approximately 40-50 jobs per month. There will be a short training period before the new crews reach full capacity.

HWAP
Despite the impact of severe weather in February, HWAP is still above the minimum year-to-date goal. Team Members updated marketing collateral in Spanish and Somali including creating a video in both languages for the home weatherization program.

Renovation Updates
After nearly all construction work is completed, effective certificate of occupancy has been obtained for our renovation at 111 Liberty Street. We are now continuing work on the AV enhancements, graphics and signage updates, and furniture installation.

Information Technology Updates
Information Technology (ITS) continues to conduct phish email tests. The prone to phish rate rose to 5.1 percent in February. Users that fail the phish test received required video-based training. ITS is in the process to increase local storage for servers. ITS is developing a virtual desktop interface to retire the old remote access. ITS is now deploying Teamviewer for better remote technical support. ITS is in the process of selecting an enterprise antivirus software.

Personnel Updates
MORPC is currently recruiting for three (3) open positions:
- Data & Mapping – Data Analyst
- Communications & Engagement and Residential Services – Executive Assistant
- Residential Services – Program Assistant
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:
- Economic Impact of Trails Study (closed February 15, 2021)
- Air Quality Forecasting (closed February 19, 2021)
- 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/.
GOVERNING ESSENTIALS FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Designed for newly elected officials (or experienced officials seeking a refresher), this introductory series will promote a high-level understanding of topics essential to effective service as a local council, board, or commission member. The curriculum will be delivered by both seasoned practitioners and academic experts and is organized to fit the demanding schedules of the participants. All sessions include practical information you will use immediately, plus opportunities to network and collaborate with peers.

**CORE SESSIONS**
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Dublin Integrated Education Center
6805 Bobcat Way, Dublin, Ohio 43016

*Health guidelines permitting. If restrictions are still in place, these sessions will be held in a virtual format.*

**Governance | Wednesday, May 5**
Understand the statutory roles of members of councils, boards, and commissions in the effective operation of local government.

**Finance | Wednesday, May 12**
Make sense of the vocabulary and uses of revenue generation, borrowing, and budget-making as the foundation for fiscal responsibility.

**Leadership, Values, and Ethics | Wednesday, May 19**
Learn the roles that equity, justice, and accountability play in the work of a public servant and apply them in exercises on ethics and leadership.

**Economic Development | Wednesday, May 26**
Hear about the tools, resources and technologies that local officials can command to drive healthy, long-term growth.

**ENRICHMENT SESSIONS**
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Virtual Sessions

**Strategic Communications | Wednesday, June 9**
Learn practical techniques for constituent service and media engagement in the age of digital platforms.

**Safety | Wednesday, June 16**
Learn the public safety architecture in Ohio and explore effective leadership, crisis preparation and management, and community collaboration principles and practices.

**Public Works | Wednesday, June 23**
Understand the role that infrastructure plays in the life of the community and try out tools to aid long term thinking.

Cost: $750.00 per person
Maximum 24 participants.
Pre-registration is required.

Participants who complete all four core sessions and at least one enrichment session will receive a certificate of completion.

Questions: GVAcademy@ohio.edu

“I believe the government’s highest calling is to empower people and galvanize their energy and resources to help solve our problems, meet our challenges, and seize our opportunities.”

Senator George V. Voinovich

Voinovich Academy for Excellence in Public Service
VOINOVICHACADEMY.OHIO.EDU
GVacademy@ohio.edu
Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

FROM: Kerstin Carr, Director, Planning & Sustainability

DATE: March 9, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 02-21: "Authorizing the executive director to contract with Sonoma Technology, Inc. to provide air quality forecasting services"

The purpose of the attached resolution, 02-21, is to authorize the executive director to enter into an agreement with Sonoma Technology, Inc. (STI) to provide air quality forecasting services beginning April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023, for an amount not to exceed $153,000. Included in the agreement is an option to renew for a third year, April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, for an amount not to exceed $80,000. The funding source is the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program administered through the Ohio Department of Transportation.

MORPC’s Air Quality Awareness Program has contracted with an air quality forecasting consultant since 2001 to provide the public with timely, accurate, daily air quality forecasts for both ozone and fine particulate matter (PM$_{2.5}$). Professional daily air quality forecast services enable MORPC to alert the public and the media in the region when ozone and PM$_{2.5}$ reach unhealthy levels. This information is especially important to sensitive groups including active children and adults, seniors, and individuals with respiratory and heart disease. Using MORPC’s daily air quality forecast, Central Ohioans can reduce their exposure to harmful air pollution and its health impacts, as well as learn about ways they can reduce air pollution.

In addition to protecting public health, air quality forecasting services allow MORPC Team Members to continue to work with member governments, Ohio EPA, and U.S. EPA on strategies to maintain Central Ohio’s ozone attainment designation. Maintaining attainment designation is important because nonattainment can result in federal penalties, including loss of highway funds, and can impact businesses that want to locate or expand an air pollution source in that area.

Attachment: Resolution 02-21
RESOLUTION 02-21

“Authorizing the executive director to contract with Sonoma Technology, Inc. to provide air quality forecasting services”

WHEREAS, Central Ohio was designated in attainment for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard as authorized by the Clean Air Act, and maintaining attainment status remains a priority as the region experiences significant growth; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration through the Ohio Department of Transportation provides the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program funding to MORPC as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for services to attain and/or maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone and particulate matter (PM$_{2.5}$) in the Columbus region, and the services described herein are contingent on the approval and receipt of funding; and

WHEREAS, MORPC’s Air Quality Program proactively addresses Central Ohio’s air quality issues by serving as the region’s resource for tracking ozone and PM$_{2.5}$ levels, informing the public about the health risks associated with poor air quality, and promoting strategies that reduce the formation of ozone and PM$_{2.5}$; and

WHEREAS, the Air Quality Program will use daily forecasts to issue Air Quality Alerts as a public service the day before high ozone and/or PM$_{2.5}$ levels are to occur; and

WHEREAS, MORPC does not retain the in-house technical expertise in air quality forecasting, and thus a suitable consultant must be selected under MORPC’s procurement policies and procedures to provide air quality forecasting services; now therefore,

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

Section 1. That the executive director is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with a consultant to provide air quality forecasting services beginning April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023 for an amount not to exceed $153,000. This agreement also provides MORPC with the option of extending the contract for a third year, April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, with costs identified that should not exceed $80,000.

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: March 11, 2021
Submitted by: Kerstin Carr, Director, Planning & Sustainability
Prepared by: Brandi Whetstone, Sustainability Officer
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: March 11, 2021
Transportation Policy Committee Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Angelou</td>
<td>Matt Huffman</td>
<td>Hunter Rayfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacey Boumis</td>
<td>Pamela Hykes O’Grady</td>
<td>Bryan Rhoads</td>
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<td>Greg Butcher</td>
<td>Monica Irelan</td>
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<td>Greg Lestini</td>
<td>Roby Schottke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cindi Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Jill Love</td>
<td>Kim Sharp for</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Greeson</td>
<td>Glenn Marzuf</td>
<td>Joanna Pinkerton</td>
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<td>Dave Gulden</td>
<td>Dana McDaniel</td>
<td>Ike Stage</td>
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<td>LaGrieta Holloway</td>
<td>Bonnie Michael</td>
<td>Brent Welch for</td>
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<td>Tom Homan</td>
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Commission Members

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<td>Mitch Noland</td>
<td>R.C. Wise</td>
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Associate Members

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<tr>
<td>Nikki Scarpitti</td>
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MORPC Staff

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<tr>
<td>Kerstin Carr</td>
<td>Ralonda Hampton</td>
<td>Aaron Schill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aijing Chen</td>
<td>Shawn Hufstedler</td>
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<td>Kiley Kinnard</td>
<td>Brian Shang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thea Ewing</td>
<td>Eileen Leuby</td>
<td>Hosana Tekie</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Frantz</td>
<td>Amanda McEldowney</td>
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<td>Nick Gill</td>
<td>Shari Saunders</td>
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Guests

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<tr>
<td>Mike Andrako, FCEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Booth, Knox County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Bramlish, Franklin County Veterans Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Duguid, ODOT District 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine Girves, Toole Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luke Harper, Future Ready Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>P’Elizabeth Koelker, City of Grandview Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Leach, Future Ready Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nick Souls, FCEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter</td>
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<td>Beverly Vandiver, Kirwan Institute</td>
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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 working with nine Central Ohio counties to develop the Regional Mobility Plan, a transit coordinated plan for the ODOT Human Service Transportation Coordination Region 6. To fully evaluate the needs and limitations of the region, MORPC just completed an extensive public engagement campaign for the Plan holding four virtual public meetings between February 2 and 10.

  The MORPC Team has been working with local governments to identify regional projects to be funded via MORPC’s Attributable Funding Program. There is approximately $70 million available for road, bike/ped and transit projects through construction year 2027. Within the next month a list of projects for funding consideration will be advanced to public involvement. Public comments will be considered prior to final approval of the projects at the May MORPC Transportation Policy Committee meeting.

  U.S. DOT released Notice of Funding Opportunities for two discretionary programs, BUILD and INFRA, then withdrew them within a day or two. The new administration is revising them. We anticipate they will re-release the notice of funding opportunities before the end of April with possible new criteria for the awards.

- BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) - $1 billion in funding is available for multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects that are more difficult to support through traditional DOT programs. It can provide $5-$25 million awards for urban areas. Project awards in rural areas can be as low as $1 million.

- INFRA (Infrastructure For Rebuilding America) - $1 billion in funding is available for major freight mobility projects on highways, bridges, rail, maritime and ports. It can provide at least $5 million for small projects and $25 million for short projects.

Recent articles on social media and around Ohio have been reporting that Amtrak is planning to improve and expand five routes that impact service in the State of Ohio. One route is part of a Midwest plan the FTA worked on, it is essentially the 3C Corridor. In preparation for Amtrak’s request for federal reauthorization they are meeting with states to discuss passenger rail service improvements and expansions needed. There is no guarantee that even if Amtrak receives all of the funds they are seeking in the reauthorization bid they will be spent in Ohio. We are coordinating with ORDC and Amtrak on this matter.

- Data & Mapping – Aaron Schill, MORPC Data & Mapping Director
  Aaron Schill reported the Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) will review and approve the Regional Data Agenda at its next meeting on March 2. RDAC will share more at next month’s Commission meeting.

  Mr. Schill gave an update on the 2020 Census. The state apportionment data (used to determine congressional representatives, etc.) will be delivered to the president and congress by April 30. The state redistricting data will be delivered no sooner than July
30. The official decennial counts will be issued after that. MORPC does have the 2020 Census geographies.

**Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**
Pamela Hykes O’Grady made a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Greg Lestini; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director
Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: March 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-1-21: “Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program”

Proposed Resolution T-1-21 will add or modify nine projects to the SFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with commitments totaling over $168 million. These changes are necessary to enable the projects to advance and to maintain fiscal constraint. In April, 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. One project includes MORPC-attributable funding.

An explanation of the proposed changes to the TIP follows.

**COTA** - The following modifications to the TIP are being made for COTA projects:
- PID 112116 – COTA High Capacity Transit EW Corridor: Modifying local funding in the TIP.
- PID 114449 – COTA SFY 21 DERG Buses: Add project to the TIP.
- PID 114757 – Rickenbacker Mobility Center: Add project to the TIP.
- PID 114758 – COTA Integrated Mobility Innovation Grant: Add project to the TIP.
- PID 114759 – Demonstration of Enhanced Data Infrastructure: Add project to the TIP.

**Dublin**: The following modification to the TIP is being made to a Dublin project:
- PID 113532 – University Boulevard: Updating ODOT PID for this project. MORPC ID 3817.

**ODOT, District 6**: The following additions to the TIP are being made for ODOT projects:
- PID 111158 – Innovation Campus Way West: Add project to the TIP. This PID was previously assigned to the Dublin University Boulevard project.
- PID 111091 – Statewide ATCMTD Truck Platoon Grant: Add project to the TIP.
Whitehall - The following modification to the TIP is being made to a Whitehall project:

- PID 105768 – E Broad Street at S Hamilton Road: Add $67,680 in SFY 2021 for PE Environmental Study phase. This project includes MORPC funding in the construction phase, but there is no change to the MORPC funding.

NTG: TG

Attachments:
- Proposed Resolution T-1-21
RESOLUTION T-1-21

“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, five 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 modification to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for a Dublin project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, two project additions 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 a Whitehall project 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 March 1, 2021, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its meeting on March 3, 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-1-21
Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

### Agency: COTA

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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-COTA High Capacity Transit EW Corr-

**Project Type(s):** Transit Expansion Capital

**Description:** COTA High Capacity Transit EW Corr, Transit Expansion Capital, East-West Corridor Pre-Project Development, Development through Completion. Engineering & Design. Additional $90 million in project costs in SFY 2025. ALI 11.21.01

**Bike Components:** Yes - Type to be determined.

**Ped Components:** Yes - Type to be determined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>2021</td>
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<td>2023</td>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>2024</td>
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<td>2024</td>
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**Total:** $116,859,836

### Agency: COTA

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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-COTA 21 DERG Buses-

**Project Type(s):** Transit Replacement Capital

**Description:** COTA 21 DERG Buses, Transit Replacement Capital, Replace four model year 2009 diesel powered transit buses with four new CNG powered transit buses. ALI 11.12.01

**Bike Components:** Bicycle racks.

**Ped Components:** Not applicable.

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**Total:** $2,361,084

### Agency: COTA

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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-COTA Rickenbacker Mobility Center-

**Project Type(s):** Transit Activity

**Description:** COTA Rickenbacker Mobility Center, Transit Activity, The Rickenbacker Area Mobility Center is envisioned as a hub connecting multiple rural, workforce, and urban transit systems in one multi use space that also provides access to food, healthcare, childcare

**Bike Components:** Yes - Type to be determined.

**Ped Components:** Transit shelters.

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<td>2022</td>
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**Total:** $6,750,000

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.

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
**Resolution T-1-21**

**Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information**

<table>
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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-COTA Integrated Mobility Innovation Grant

**Project Type(s):** Transit Operating/ITS

**Air Quality:** Exempt

**Description:** COTA Integrated Mobility Innovation Grant, Transit Operating & ITS, Regional Cloud-based Traffic Management Artificial Intelligence (AI) System (IMI) ALI 55.50.00

**Bike Components:** Not applicable.

**Ped Components:** Not applicable.

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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-COTA Demonstration of Enhanced Data

**Project Type(s):** Transit Activity/ITS

**Air Quality:** Exempt

**Description:** COTA Demonstration of Enhanced Data Infrastructure, Transit Activity & ITS, Demonstration of Enhanced Data Infrastructure for Multimodal Planning in the COVID-19 Environment to Improve Public Confidence in Transit Service Reliability ALI 55.50.00

**Bike Components:** Not applicable.

**Ped Components:** Not applicable.

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

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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-University Boulevard--

**Project Type(s):** New Roadway

**Air Quality:** System Analyzed

**Description:** University Boulevard from Shier Rings Road to Eltermann Road, New Roadway, 4 lanes, The business will be constructing a new roadway for this project. They will be building in a greenfield that currently has no roads. This road will be called University B

**Bike Components:** Multi-use path. 0.75 mi. added to bike network.

**Ped Components:** Sidewalk on 1 side, multi-use path on 1 side. 1.5 mi. added to ped network.

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**Total:** $20,850,000

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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.

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
## Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

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**Co-Route-Sec:** STW-ATCMTD Truck Platoon Grant-<br>**Project Type(s):** Operational Upgrades/Planning Activity<br>**Air Quality:** System Analyzed<br>**Description:** ATCMTD Truck Platoon Grant, Operational Upgrades & Planning Activity, 2019 Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) Truck Platooning Grant. Statewide ATCMTD Truck Platooning Grant - I-70 Focus with InDOT<br>**Bike Components:** Not applicable.<br>**Ped Components:** Not applicable.<br>

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>ATCMTD</td>
<td>$2,116,347</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Local</td>
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**Co-Route-Sec:** FRA-Innovation Campus Way West-<br>**Project Type(s):** New Roadway<br>**Air Quality:** System Analyzed<br>**Description:** Innovation Campus Way West, New Roadway, 2 lanes, Extension of Innovation Campus Way west. $250,000 J&C funds will be contributed to the project<br>**Bike Components:** Maybe - To be determined.<br>**Ped Components:** Maybe - To be determined.<br>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>ODOT J&amp;C</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>Construction</td>
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### Resolution T-1-21

**Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Co-Route-Sec:</strong> FRA-SR016-06.87</td>
<td><strong>Length (mi.):</strong> 0.7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Type(s):</strong> Intersection Modification</td>
<td><strong>Air Quality:</strong> Exempt</td>
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</table>
| **Description:** *E Broad St at Hamilton Rd, Intersection Modification, Proposed:*  
- EB Broad: 2 thru, 1 LTL, 1 RTL  
- WB Broad: 2 thru, 2 LTL, 1 RTL  
- NB Hamilton: 1 thru, 2 LTL, 1 thru/RTL  
- SB Hamilton: 1 thru, 2 LTL, 1 thru/RTL  
- Includes medians on all 4 approaches, signal r |
| **Bike Components:** Multi-use path. 10' path along NE corner of intersection. 0.34 mi. added to bike network. |
| **Ped Components:** Modify existing facilities. Replace existing sidewalks with 6'-8' sidewalks on all approaches except no change on E side of S Hamilton. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Phase</th>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Right-of-Way</td>
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<td>2022</td>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
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<td><strong>$11,391,912</strong></td>
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Wednesday, February 24, 2021
### Summary of Funding Sources

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Grant Award</td>
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<td>CMAQ-M</td>
<td>Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement, Attributable to MORPC</td>
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<td>DERG</td>
<td>Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant</td>
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<td>Transit Formula Block Grants</td>
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<td>Local-Transit</td>
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<td>LTIP</td>
<td>Local Transportation Improvement Program (OPWC)</td>
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<td>ODOT J&amp;C</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total:</strong></td>
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## Commission Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Karen Angelou</th>
<th>David Henry</th>
<th>Robert Peters</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Benedetti</td>
<td>Tom Homan</td>
<td>Eric Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacey Boumis</td>
<td>Melanie Houston</td>
<td>Hunter Rayfield</td>
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<td>Greg Butcher</td>
<td>Matt Huffman</td>
<td>Bryan Rhoads</td>
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<td>Ben Carpenter</td>
<td>Pamela Hykes O'Grady</td>
<td>Eric Richter</td>
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<td>Franklin Christman</td>
<td>Monica Irelan</td>
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<td>Ben Collins</td>
<td>Laurie Jadwin</td>
<td>Michael Schadek</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Crandall</td>
<td>Erik Janas</td>
<td>David Scheffler</td>
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<td>Karl Craven</td>
<td>Steve Kennedy</td>
<td>Jim Schimmer</td>
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<td>Tracie Davies</td>
<td>Ben Kessler</td>
<td>Chris Schmenk</td>
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<td>Joy Davis</td>
<td>Bill LaFayette</td>
<td>Elissa Schneider</td>
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<td>Brad Ebersole</td>
<td>Greg Lestini</td>
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<td>Terry Emery</td>
<td>Jill Love</td>
<td>Roby Schottke</td>
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<td>Cindi Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Glenn Marzluf</td>
<td>Ike Stage</td>
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<td>Matt Greeson</td>
<td>Dana McDaniel</td>
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<td>Dave Gulden</td>
<td>Rory McGuinness</td>
<td>Andy Ware</td>
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<td>Bill Habig</td>
<td>Bonnie Michael</td>
<td>Brent Welch for</td>
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<td>Tim Hansley</td>
<td>Jason Nicodemus</td>
<td>Cornell Robertson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Heckman</td>
<td>Mitch Noland</td>
<td>R.C. Wise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Transportation Policy Committee Members

| Kristen Easterday      | Kim Sharp for        |
| LaGrieta Holloway      | Joanna Pinkerton     |

## Associate Members

| Nikki Scarpitti        |

## MORPC Staff

| Kerstin Carr          | Ralonda Hampton       | Aaron Schill        |
| Aijing Chen            | Shawn Hufstedler      | Bevan Schneck       |
| Mark Crosten           | Kiley Kinnard        | Brian Shang         |
| Thea Ewing             | Eileen Leuby         | Hosana Tekie        |
| Mary Ann Frantz        | Amanda McEldowney     | Susan Tsen          |
| Joe Garrity            | William Murdock      | Robert Williams     |
| Ted Geer               | Stephen Patchan      |                   |
| Nick Gill              | Shari Saunders       |                   |

## Guests Present

| Mike Andrako, FCEO      | P'Elizabeth Koelker, City of Grandview Heights |
| Jason Booth, Knox County| Jane Leach, Future Ready Columbus |
| Robert Bramlish, Franklin County Veterans Commission | Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter |
| Lori Duguid, ODOT District 6 | Nick Soulas, FCEO |
| Catherine Girves, Toole Design | Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter |
| Luke Harper, Future Ready Columbus | Beverly Vandiver, Kirwan Institute |
**Meeting Called to Order – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair**

Chair Karen Angelou called the Commission meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Angelou reminded members February is Black History Month which gives us a chance to reflect on the significant contributions of African Americans not only in our communities, but also throughout the country. Chair Angelou shared a tweet from Franklin County Engineer Cornell Robertson, "Today we celebrate #BHM by recognizing Dr. Jack Marchbanks, the first African American Director of The Ohio Department of Transportation. Dr. Marchbanks is passionate about transportation initiatives and has participated in several major Central Ohio Projects."

Chair Angelou continued celebrating Black History Month and thanked MORPC Communications & Engagement Director Niel Jurist for providing the following information:

- In 1926, Harvard trained historian Carter G. Woodson, known as the “Father of Black History,” had a brilliant idea! He created “Black History Week” -- a celebration of people that many believed had no place in history. Years later, it evolved into an annual event and celebration that we now know as Black History Month.
- In 1976, President Ford officially recognized Black History Month, urging the public to “Seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”
- To commemorate Black History Month, MORPC hosted a Lunch & Learn for its employees. They learned about the substantial impact of the King-Lincoln Bronzeville District and how transportation, housing and the arts has affected this nationally known neighborhood. We had guest speakers from ODOT, The Lincoln Theatre, the Near East Area Commission, and the Bronzeville Neighborhood Association.
- If you follow MORPC on Social Media, you will notice MORPC highlighting the noteworthy accomplishments of African Americans throughout the United States, as well as in our own communities.
- Chair Angelou highlighted a few examples, such as Dr. Jack Marchbanks (the first African American Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation) and Granville Woods, who was known as the “The Black Edison”. Born in Columbus Ohio, Granville Woods was an inventor who held more than 60 patents in the U.S. His work mostly involved trains and streetcars. He became known for helping develop a better and safer transportation system.

Chair Angelou encouraged members to do their own research and learn more.

Chair Angelou announced the appointment of Kim Maggard as Chair of the Reserve & Investment Advisory Committee and Joe Stefanov as Chair of the Building Committee.

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

Eileen Leuby welcomed new board members Chris Schmenk, Union County; Monica Irelan, City of Westerville; and Hunter Rayfield, Liberty Township. Ms. Leuby welcomed guests Mike Andrako and Nick Soulas, Franklin County Engineer’s Office; Luke Harper, Future Ready Columbus; and Robert Bramlish, Executive Director of the Franklin County Veterans Commission.
One MORPC One Voice: Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity – Dr. Beverly Vandiver, Kirwan Institute Interim Executive Director

Chair Angelou introduced One MORPC One Voice guest speaker Dr. Beverly Vandiver of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. Dr. Vandiver is the incoming director of Data Access and Analysis in the Office of Research, Innovation, and Collaboration. She is also the incoming professor of Human Development and Family Sciences. Dr. Vandiver has a background in psychology and currently teaches at Western Michigan University and previously Pennsylvania State University. Along with teaching, she is the Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Black Psychology. Established in May 2003, The Ohio State Kirwan Institute is named for former university president William E. “Brit” Kirwan in recognition of his efforts to champion diversity at OSU.

Dr. Beverly Vandiver shared the Mission, Goals & Initiatives of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. The mission of the Kirwan Institute is to create a just and inclusive society where all people and communities have opportunity to succeed. The focus is on race and ethnicity because this area has been the most challenging in establishing equity for all. Current initiatives include educational equity and disparities, health equity and disparities, neighborhood and wealth inequality, and public policy. The Institute is combatting racism through informative research and partnerships with public entities. It is a life-long process and challenge to get people to understand each other. Dr. Vandiver shared several areas where MORPC and Kirwan can work together.

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

William Murdock presented the Regional Diversity Snapshot to see how our committees and commission represent the diversity of our 15-county region. One of the greatest strengths of our region is the diversity of our communities. To best serve our region, MORPC strives to reflect that diversity in all its forms. One of our Diversity & Inclusion goals is to continue improving diverse representation in MORPC’s work, committees, and members. Last month we created a brief survey to capture the demographics of our committees. We received a total of 172 responses from the 14 MORPC Committees surveyed. We have more work to do and need your help as you consider appointments to the Commission and MORPC committees. MORPC has partnered with YWCA Columbus to provide help by offering low-cost webinars for our members on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I). Mr. Murdock thanked MORPC Diversity, Inclusion and Engagement Officer Ralonda Hampton and Team for their efforts on the partnership. Mr. Murdock encouraged members to participate in the YWCA Columbus 21-Day Racial Equity and Social Justice Challenge, March 1-29. YWCA Columbus President & CEO Christie Angel is speaking at the March Commission meeting.

This week is the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) National Conference of Regions. Usually MORPC Team Members are in Washington, DC for the conference which is being held virtually this year. Mr. Murdock is proud of MORPC Team Members Aaron Schill and Niel Jurist for their presentations at this year’s conference. On Monday, Mayor Ike Stage was elected to the NARC Board of Directors.

We hope we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel for the COVID-19 pandemic. MORPC office staff are still working remotely. The Residential Services Team are working safely in homes. There will be no in-person meetings until it is safe. We appreciate your patience with the virtual set-up.
MORPC’s renovated offices have been refreshed. There will be easier remote-in options, more meeting spaces, better technology, better kitchens and better restrooms. There will be a virtual tour of the offices in March. The work is nearing completion. Mr. Murdock appreciates MORPC Team Members Shawn Hufstedler, Tracy Clifton and Níel Jurist for their work on the project.

The Strategic Framework is focusing first on broadband and housing. Let Mr. Murdock know if you want to be involved in discussions on either topic.

The Regional Housing Strategy Speaker Series kicks-off this month. National top-level speakers will be introducing new concepts from around the country. Session 1, “There’s Nothing Cookie-Cutter About These Homes”, is February 19, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

This year’s State of the Region is March 31 and will be held virtually. The keynote speaker is Jonathan Rose, a developer and author from New York.

Mr. Murdock announced that for over thirty years in a row MORPC has received the GFOA Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting. Mr. Murdock expressed his pride in the Finance Team. He thanked former MORPC Executive Director Bill Habig for starting the streak years ago.

Mr. Murdock congratulated Commissioner Jeff Benton on chairing the Central Ohio Regional Advisory Board.

Mr. Murdock congratulated Mayor Chris Amorose Groomes on her appointment to the 2021 Community and Economic Development Federal Advocacy Committee for the National League of Cities.

- **Quarterly Membership Update** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

  Eileen Leuby presented the Membership Services Quarterly Report highlighting:
  - Programs completed last quarter
  - COVID-19 Community Impact Conference Calls – will continue through March and then evaluate need
  - Outreach to members
  - Summer Local Government Intern Program 2021 – still have students waiting for placement, especially in city and regional planning, communications, and civil engineering
  - Grantfinder service
  - Mid-Ohio Finance Administrators (MOFA) meeting – February 25 featuring Dr. Bill LaFayette
  - Rural Service Strategy 3-Part Series
  - The Ohio History Connection is requesting stories and places to recognize underserved audiences throughout Ohio – applications are due May 1 and can be found at remarkableohio.org

**Future Ready by 5 Plan** – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Planning & Sustainability Director and Jane Leach, Future Ready Columbus Executive Director

Kerstin Carr introduced Future Ready Columbus Executive Director Jane Leach. Dr. Carr has served on the Future Ready Advisory Board to help with the development of a strategic plan.
that addresses kindergarten readiness. The plan is not just a strategic plan, but a plan of action with holistic solutions.

Jane Leach presented information on the Future Ready by 5 Plan. Future Ready Columbus is a private-public partnership with a focus on early childhood (pre-natal to 5-year old). Currently, only 40 percent of children in Franklin County are kindergarten ready. The goal of the strategic plan is to ensure that every child in Franklin County will demonstrate kindergarten readiness by 2030. Racial and economic disparities are having a devastating impact on young children. The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment score has a high predictability factor for how the student will perform on their third-grade assessment. Children who start behind, stay behind. The Early Childhood Advisory Council created the Future Ready by 5 Plan, an action oriented, systems approach and equitable plan to address challenges faced by our children. The plan can be found at https://www.futurereadycolumbus.org/fr5. Ms. Leach presented three action items:

- Respond to the Future Ready by 5 Questions on their website
- Participate in or host a virtual or in-person community conversation
- Share the Future Ready by 5 website to rally everyone to participate

Committees

Regional Policy Roundtable – Ben Collins (Plain Township), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
Ben Collins presented the Regional Policy Roundtable Update. The next Regional Policy Roundtable meeting is Tuesday, February 23. Kyle Strickland, Kirwan Institute Senior Legal Analyst & Special Assistant to the Director will provide an update on his work.

- Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joe Garrity, MORPC Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives
  Steve Tugend and Joe Garrity gave the legislative update highlighting the following:
  - Meetings with state legislators and congressional delegation sharing Public Policy Agenda
  - Federal COVID-19 Relief Bill
  - Federal Infrastructure
  - The Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) is advocating for regional broadband councils to coordinate broadband deployment
  - State Transportation Budget – MORPC advocating for
    - Increased transit funds
    - Support Vision Zero efforts
    - Support funds for Rural Planning Organizations
    - Funding for Central Ohio Greenways
  - Energy Update
    - Due to COVID, $2-3 million unspent for low-income energy efficiency
    - Legislation moving forward to end subsidies to First Energy and Energy Harbor
  - State Operating Budget – in better shape than anticipated
  - Central Ohio Defense Group – Working to improve performance and enhance impact in the region
  - Local government fund has been held harmless in the proposed budget
Questions & Answers:
- Any word regarding the aid to state and local governments in the president’s relief package? We are hearing estimates of $220 billion to states and $130 billion to local governments of the $350 billion pot; $130 billion for school reopening.
- The Government Affairs Team will keep track of the municipal income tax.
- Status quo on the front license plate – don’t anticipate it coming back.
- Any interest in restoring the Local Government Fund? There is always interest, but not enough room in this budget.

See the February 2021 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 welcomed Ben Kessler as the new Vice-Chair for the Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Last week MORPC hosted its first ever Solar Week which was designed for local governments to engage on the different solar topics they may face, learn more about what to expect, and how the region can move forward together. Daily forum speakers included representatives from the Ohio Farm Bureau, the Ohio Power Siting Board, ODSA, Bricker & Eckler, the City of Columbus, Smart Columbus Energy and more. Between 70 and 100 people attended each forum. Reach out to Jon-Paul d’Aversa for more information or if you would like to access the recordings.

MORPC and the Central Ohio Greenways Board is working to get a comprehensive picture of the impacts of our trail system by looking at two parts. Part one looks at the health and environmental impacts of trails using trail count and survey data. Part two focuses on the economic and social impacts of trails. An RFP was released the beginning of February for this portion. The final Trail Impact Report will be shared later this year.

MORPC released its annual Air Quality Report for 2020 providing an analysis of pollution levels and long term trends. Central Ohio is currently in attainment with federal Air Quality Standards for both pollutants.

MORPC’s Air Quality Forecasters performed an analysis to determine impacts on pollution levels from the pandemic shut down.
- PM2.5 monthly average concentrations in 2020 were lower than the 2017–2019 averages for May through November. The differences were statistically significant for May and August only.
- Ozone monthly average concentrations in 2020 were lower than the 2015–2019 averages with statistical significance for March, April, and May.
- These preliminary results show a slight reduction in PM2.5 and ozone pollution during several months in 2020 which may be attributed to reduced emissions during COVID restrictions. However, further analyses accounting for variations in weather are needed to link pollutant reductions more definitively to COVID-related reduced emissions.
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 2:59 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Commission Consent Agenda
Joe Stefanov made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Eric Phillips; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Memorandum

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

FROM: Joe Garrity
Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives

DATE: March 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 01-21: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreement with Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. to provide professional services for state government relations services for the Central Ohio region”

This resolution authorizes the executive director to contract with Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. beginning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023. MORPC conducted a fair and open selection process to solicit government relations services proposals to review. Seven proposals were received and evaluated.

Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. will provide a variety of services including: maintaining and building MORPC’s reputation among the region’s leaders; establishing MORPC’s reputation as a visible advocate of racial and social justice issues; continuing to strengthen connections between MORPC members and staff to state and federal public policy leaders; ensuring public policy leaders are more likely to adopt MORPC’s public policy priorities through efficient and effective advocacy efforts; keeping MORPC’s members regularly informed about key legislative developments important to them; protecting and enhancing MORPC’s brand as one of Central Ohio’s top regional advocacy organizations; and strengthening the role in our region that the Central Ohio Defense Group plays.

Attachment: Resolution 01-21
RESOLUTION 01-21

“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreement with Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co, L.P.A. to provide professional services for state government relations services for the Central Ohio region”

WHEREAS, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) has an existing government affairs and public policy program for MORPC members; and

WHEREAS, MORPC’s public policy and advocacy efforts have developed a strong voice for the region and local governments’ needs at the Statehouse and in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, MORPC conducted a fair and open selection process upon the request for proposals for professional services for state government relations services; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing and evaluating the proposals received, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. was selected; and

WHEREAS, Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. will provide a variety of services including: maintaining and building MORPC’s reputation among the region’s leaders; establishing MORPC’s reputation as a visible advocate of racial and social justice issues; continuing to strengthen connections between MORPC members and staff to state and federal public policy leaders; ensuring public policy leaders are more likely to adopt MORPC’s public policy priorities through efficient and effective advocacy efforts; keeping MORPC’s members regularly informed about key legislative developments important to them; protecting and enhancing MORPC’s brand as one of Central Ohio’s top regional advocacy organizations; and strengthening the role in our region that the Central Ohio Defense Group plays; now therefore

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

Section 1. That the executive director is hereby authorized to enter into agreement from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023 with Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A. to provide professional services for government relations services for the Central Ohio region.

Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to enter into a financial agreement with Kegler, Brown, Hill + Ritter that includes a monthly fee of $10,500 plus MORPC approved travel costs not to exceed $1,500 annually.

Section 3. 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 4. 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 5. 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: January 1, 2021
Submitted by: Joe Garrity, Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives
Prepared by: Joe Garrity, Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21
For action date: March 11, 2021