

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

*Remote Meeting*

Regional Information & Data Group Steering Committee  
Meeting Notes

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January 13, 2021, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Members Present

Christina Drummond, Educopia  
Bill LaFayette, Regionomics®

Chair Katie Phillips, OSU CURA  
Vice-Chair Langdon Sanders, City of Marysville

MORPC Staff Present

Ted Geer

Lynn Kaufman

Liz Whelan-Jackson

**Meeting Called to Order at 2:03 pm.**

**Summary of the Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG)**

Members brainstormed on types of information that should be included in a one-page summary about RIDG:

- Mission statement
- Vision and purpose
- The value to Members
- RIDG activities
- A By-the-Numbers graphic showing what RIDG accomplished in 2020
- Origin story mentioning that RIDG operates as an outgrowth of RDAC, with a link to both the RDAC and the RIDG pages.
- This one-pager could be written for members, funders, and potential speakers.
- Differentiate RIDG from other data groups by noting that it has a civic data focus, but is open to all data people.

**How do new participants find RIDG (and stay in the loop)?**

Members discussed creating a Slack channel or other communication hub for RIDG Members, but the consensus was that at the moment, many people are weary of online communications and most Steering Committee Members belong to unused Slack channels. If a RIDG Member wants to communicate with RIDG, they can get the email addresses from the informational emails sent by MORPC staff.

Members also discussed having smaller cohorts within RIDG that may want to communicate together more frequently. Those cohorts may also want to be directed to the same breakout room each meeting.

Members decided to ask the RIDG members at the next full meeting for their communication preference.

Chair Phillips suggested providing a Google Form for RIDG Members to enter information about upcoming events and interesting data articles. This would lead those Members to feel more engaged with RIDG. Steering Committee Members agreed that sporadic informational emails from MORPC staff are acceptable.

To keep attendees in the loop, MORPC staff can download meeting attendees' information via Teams during a RIDG meeting. Any attendee whose information is unavailable can be asked privately if they want to be on the RIDG mailing list.

### **Breakout Session 'Tracks' for 2021**

The original topics from the "Teach / Grow / Learn" list were data sourcing, data processing, data analysis, data visualization, and data governance. Members agreed that these broad topics seem like tracks. Liz Whelan-Jackson noted that the RIDG Members should have access to track breakouts, but the Members should not feel like they are missing out on other tracks. Member Drummond suggested that eventually RIDG Members would splinter off organically into specific tracks via birds-of-a-feather. She also suggested using surveys and rankings to guide what types of breakout sessions to offer.

### **Presentations for RIDG Q1 Meeting (February 3)**

Chair Phillips and Vice-Chair Sanders will give an opening presentation.

The speaker will be Frank Kohstal, InnovateOhio ([data.ohio.gov](http://data.ohio.gov)).

### **RIDG Survey / Poll**

Questions will be:

- What kind of software are you using?
- What do you want to learn?

**Adjourned at 3:24 pm.**