NOTICE OF A MEETING

REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA WORKSHOP
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
Zoom meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020
2:00-3:30pm

AGENDA

2:00 Welcome – Brandi Whetstone, MORPC

2:05 Introductions and Workshop Overview – Jason Reece, Consultant and Brandi Whetstone, MORPC
- Introductions
- Overview of agenda
- Overview of equity recommendations

2:20 Small Group Discussion 1 – Three breakout rooms, facilitated by Brandi Whetstone, Justin Milam, and Alex Slaymaker
Do the proposed goals encompass top sustainability priorities at a high level? Are there any major omissions or suggestions?
- Improve air quality and reduce energy consumption and emissions to protect public health and reduce the impacts of climate change.
- Protect and preserve natural resources to support healthy and resilient communities, ecosystems and regions.
- Create sustainable neighborhoods and assure access for all residents to sustainable neighborhoods to improve residents' quality of life.

2:35 Discussion Ends & Harvest (collect/synthesize notes)

2:40 Small Group Discussion 2 – What are important equity considerations for the Regional Sustainability Agenda? Can you narrow it down to your top 3?

2:55 Discussion Ends & Harvest (collect/synthesize notes)
3:00  Small Group Discussion 3 –
Are the equity considerations practical? Can the sustainability-focused goals have an impact
on the equity considerations?

3:15  Discussion Ends & Harvest (collect/synthesize notes)

3:25  Closing and Next Steps

3:30  Adjourn

PLEASE NOTIFY LYNN KAUFMAN AT LKAUFMAN@MORPC.ORG TO CONFIRM YOUR
ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.
## Background

### Goal 1

**Objective 1.1** Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).<br>**2020 Target:** 9,200 VMT per capita (5% reduction)

**Objective 1.2** Reduce the percentage of commuters driving alone and increase the percentage of commuters using transit, biking, or walking.<br>**2020 Target:** 60% of commuters drive alone<br>60% of commuters use transit, bike, or walk

**Objective 1.3** Increase the percentage of vehicles using alternative fuels.<br>**2020 Target:** 30% of registered vehicles use alternative fuels (data and methodology under development)

**Objective 1.4** Increase the number of alternative fuel vehicles within the fleet.<br>**2020 Target:** 4.3 million Central Ohio (specify fuel types and miles traveled annually)

**Objective 1.5** Increase the number of alternative fuel stations.<br>**2020 Target:** 220 alternative fuel stations (50% increase)

**Objective 1.6** Reduce per capita energy consumption across all sectors.<br>**2020 Target:** 50% reduction in the gap per capita total energy consumption between Central Ohio and U.S.

**Objective 1.7** Increase the number of local renewable energy projects and generating capacity.<br>**2020 Target:** 57% certified renewable energy facilities with 83.4 megawatts of total generating capacity (25% increase)

### Goal 2

**Objective 2.1** Reduce air toxics to meet federal air quality standards.<br>**2020 Target:** ozone attainment, PM2.5 attainment

**Objective 2.2** Increase the number of people receiving air quality information and education.<br>**2020 Target:** 3.0% increase in number of people receiving information on air quality alerts, highway signs, and media

**Objective 2.3** Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste per capita disposed in the landfill.<br>**2020 Target:** 4 pounds of waste produced per person per day (10% reduction)

**Objective 2.4** Minimize greenfield development and promote walkability and connectivity.<br>**2020 Target:** 0% of development occurred outside the urban area between 2010 and 2020

**Objective 2.5** Reduce per capita water consumption.<br>**2020 Target:** 5% reduction in gallons of water per capita consumed

**Objective 2.6** Improve water quality in the Upper Scioto Watershed.<br>**2020 Target:** 85% of Upper Scioto sampling sites are in attainment

### Goal 3

**Objective 3.1** Increase the number of businesses in Central Ohio with established sustainability policies and practices.<br>**2020 Target:** 20% increase in the number of GreenSpot Businesses

**Objective 3.2** Increase the number of adopted institutional food purchasing policies that support the purchase of local food.<br>**2020 Target:** 30% increase in adopted institutional food purchasing policies (data and methodology under development)

### Goal 4

**Objective 4.1** Encourage MORPC member communities to adopt complete streets policies or policies that contain those elements.<br>**2020 Target:** 45% of MORPC member communities have adopted complete streets policies or policies that contain those elements

**Objective 4.2** Target infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people and jobs, and increase sidewalk coverage of arterials and collectors.<br>**2020 Target:** 5 people / jobs per acre are within 0.5 mile of a sidewalk, 40% of arterials and collectors have sidewalks

**Objective 4.3** Reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries from crashes.<br>**2020 Target:** 0.03 fatalities per 100,000 VMT; 5.05 serious injuries per 100,000 VMT; 10% reduction in non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

**Objective 4.4** Target transit and bikeway infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people.<br>**2020 Target:** 72% of population live within 3/4 mile of a transit stop; 72% of population live within 3/4 mile of a bikeway

**Objective 4.5** Increase the area of number of income-eligible households receiving free weatherization and safety-related home repairs.<br>**2020 Target:** 5% increase in the number of households served

**Objective 4.6** Increase the number of Central Ohio Governments’ food miles.<br>**2020 Target:** Build 20% additional miles of Regional Governors Trails

### Goal 5

**Objective 5.1** Increase regional collaboration and educational opportunities to advance innovative sustainability solutions.<br>**2020 Target:** Reduce 10% increase in attendance at regional sustainability events
Regional Sustainability Dashboard
The Process for Updating RSA

- Meeting focus - equity considerations within the context of sustainability
- Capture intent, high level priorities to further shape the RSA framework and the top equity considerations
- There will be other opportunities for review and input along the way
Scope & Purpose

Review of goals and objectives from the regional sustainability agenda to through the lens of social equity.

Identify a recommendations on additional objectives and considerations in supporting and assessing sustainability in the region.

The 2017-2020 Regional Sustainability Agenda is the guiding document for MORPC’s sustainability-focused programming and committees, and provides the framework for members and regional partners to work toward common goals. This report card is intended to measure our region’s progress in meeting our 2020 targets.
Equity and sustainability

EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Equity is a primary component of sustainability (e.g. the sustainability triangle or triple bottom line).

National research has identified limited integration of a robust equity perspective in traditional sustainability efforts.

See: Reece (2020) Supporting Community Development for Marginalized Communities through Regional Sustainability Planning in the Research Handbook on Community Development.

Best practices suggest additional attention should be focused on assuring equity concerns are integrated into sustainability planning efforts.

https://www.elgaronline.com/view/edcoll/9781788118460/9781788118460.00009.xml
Integrating equity into sustainability goals and objectives. Considerations and questions to pose.

- Does practice based research indicate equity challenges or considerations in meeting particular goals or objectives?
- Do goals and objectives focus explicitly on the needs of marginalized communities?
- Are there specific needs for populations that need to be considered?
Who are populations of concern from an equity perspective?

What population are most important to focus on from an equity perspective?

Who faces forms of discrimination (historical or contemporary) that impact quality of life and access.

Who has barriers to opportunity?

There is no simple answer to this question, it requires a robust view of how each goal or objective may intersect with specific community conditions and needs.
Structure of Recommendations

- Original Objective
- Equity Considerations
- Rationale
Goal 1: Proposed Goal Statement

Improve air quality and reduce energy consumption and emissions to protect public health and reduce the impacts of climate change.
Objective 1

**Objective**

Reduce vehicle miles traveled.

**Potential Strategies:**

Through infill and mixed-use development, transit-oriented development, transportation investments, travel demand management and encouraging telework.

**Potential Equity Goals & Considerations**

- Expand broadband connectivity in LMI communities to assure LMI households have adequate connectivity to support telework.
- Support inclusionary housing options in infill development, redevelopment and transit-oriented development areas.

→ Alignment with regional affordable housing strategy goals.
Objective 1 (cont.)

OBJECTIVE

Reduce vehicle miles traveled.

Potential Strategies:

Through infill and mixed-use development, transit-oriented development, transportation investments, travel demand management and encouraging telework.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Reduce travel times for LMI households utilizing public transit.
Objective 2

OBJECTIVE

Increase the proportion of commuters using alternative forms of transportation.

Additional Objectives:
Reduce the cost of commuting.
Reduce the percentage of commuters driving alone
Increase the percentage of commuters riding transit, bicycle or walking.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure reduction in commute time disparities between equity populations (LMI and racial/ethnic groups) who utilize transit.
- Assure equitable access to non-motorized and transit infrastructure in LMI areas.
Objective 3

OBJECTIVE

Increase the percentage of vehicles using alternative fuels (or focus explicitly on electric vehicles).

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Encourage EV use in core urban neighborhoods with more air quality challenges.
- Expand access to charging stations; seek to resolve neighborhood charging deserts.
Objective 4

OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of trail miles and trail miles traveled within the region.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Support safe accessibility to trails for LMI communities and those with barriers.
Objective 5

**OBJECTIVE**

Reduce per capita energy consumption in all sectors (residential, commercial, industrial, transportation).

Residential Strategy: additional objectives

- Increase the annual number of income eligible households receiving free weatherization and safety-related home repairs.
- Reduce household energy burden where energy costs are considered unaffordable.

**POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Reduce per capita energy consumption and costs for LMI populations. Target resources to reduce energy cost burden for LMI households and areas.

![Bearing the Impacts of Costs](image)
Objective 6

OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of local renewable energy projects and generating capacity.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Increase the number of workers from equity populations (LMI and/or racial and ethnic populations) employed by renewable energy projects across the region.
Objective 7

OBJECTIVE

Reduce emissions to meet federal air quality standards.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Reduce disparities in exposure to air pollution for LMI populations and racial and ethnic populations.
Objective 8

OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of people receiving Air Quality information and education.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Increase Air Quality information and education in low to moderate income areas and racial and ethnic communities.
Goal 2: Proposed Goal Statement

Protect and preserve natural resources to support healthy and resilient communities, ecosystems and region.
Objective 1

**OBJECTIVE**

Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste per capita disposed in the landfill.

**POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Assuring equitable access to recycling programs and drop off locations in the region.
- Reducing food waste and donating consumable food to reduce food insecurity.
- Creation of job opportunities for LMI communities through recycling programs.
Objective 2

OBJECTIVE

Minimize greenfield development and promote infill and redevelopment.

Note this objective is already is reflected in Objective 1 under Energy.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

Alignment with goal 1, objective 1 equity recommendation (Infill/Redevelopment/TOD).

- Support inclusionary housing options in infill development, redevelopment and transit-oriented development areas.

Alignment with regional affordable housing strategy goals.
Objective 3 (New)

OBJECTIVE
Preservation of vital ecosystem resources and tree canopy.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure equitable access to greenspace and parks in the region for LMI households and racial/ethnic communities. Rationale: Create more equitable distribution and access to ecosystem resources and greenspace/park space.
Objective 4 (New)

**OBJECTIVE**

Increase the use of green stormwater infrastructure utilizing natural systems to reduce runoff and prevent erosion and flooding.

**POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Equity considerations would be primarily concerned with equitable implementation of these projects (and reduction of flooding/prevention of erosion) within LMI communities.
Goal 3: Proposed Goal Statement

Create sustainable neighborhoods and assure access for all residents to sustainable neighborhoods to improve residents' quality of life.
Objective 1

OBJECTIVE

Assure safe and sustainable streets for all; with street design focused on the needs of all users.

Strategies:

- Reduce the number of fatalities, serious injuries and property loss through safer transportation networks. Provide safe access to a variety of transportation options for all users.

- Encourage MORPC member communities to adopt complete streets policies or policies that contain those elements.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure Complete Street programs and improvements are directed to LMI and racial and ethnic communities, particularly those neighborhoods with higher volumes of traffic fatalities and non-motorized victims of traffic accidents.
Objective 2

OBJECTIVE

Target infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people and jobs and increase sidewalk coverage of arterials and collectors.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure equitable infrastructure for pedestrians and non motorized travelers in LMI communities.
Objective 3

OBJECTIVE

Target transit and bikeway infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

Aligned with equity objectives for Goal 1, objectives 1 and 2).

- Assure reduction in commute time disparities between equity populations (LMI and racial/ethnic groups) who utilize transit. Assure equitable access to non-motorized and transit infrastructure in LMI areas.
Objective 4

OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of Central Ohio Greenways trail miles.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

Aligned with equity objectives for Goal 1, objective 4).

- Support safe accessibility to trails for LMI communities and those with barriers.
Objective 5 (New)

**OBJECTIVE**

Assure access to recreational space and infrastructure.

**POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Assure equitable access to greenspace and parks in the region for LMI households and racial/ethnic communities.
Objective 6 (New)

OBJECTIVE

Provision of safe, healthy and affordable housing in all central Ohio communities.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure affordable, safe and healthy housing access for LMI and other equity populations.

→ Alignment with regional affordable housing strategy goals.
Objective 7 (New)

OBJECTIVE

Remove environmental hazards and unsafe land uses that pose health risks to neighborhoods.

POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure LMI and racial/ethnic communities are not overburdened with blighted and unsafe land uses