



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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**NOTICE OF A MEETING**  
**REGIONAL INFORMATION & DATA GROUP WORKING GROUP**  
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
*REMOTE MEETING*

**December 15, 2020, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Finalize RIDG Steering Committee Charter**
- 3. Finalize 2021 Meeting Calendar / Agenda Outline**
- 4. RIDG “Teach, Grow, Learn” Exercise Review**
- 5. Brainstorm Content for RIDG Q1 Meeting (February 3)**
- 6. Other Business**
- 7. Adjourn**

Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or [LKaufman@morpc.org](mailto:LKaufman@morpc.org) to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

**William Murdock, AICP**  
*Executive Director*

**Karen J. Angelou**  
*Chair*

**Erik J. Janas**  
*Vice Chair*

**Chris Amorose Grooms**  
*Secretary*



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**REGIONAL INFORMATION & DATA GROUP (RIDG)**  
User Group Charter

**I. ORIGIN**

The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) is established through the effort of a working group in support of the Regional Data Advisory Committee's (RDAC) goal in the 2019 – 2020 Regional Data Agenda that MORPC foster collaboration among local governments, partners, and stakeholders to enhance the use of data in Central Ohio. Under that goal, the RDAC identified an objective to convene meetings of local government staff responsible for creating and maintaining the region's data resources.

One action item in support of that objective, and identified as a priority by the RDAC, is to support the creation of a new Central Ohio data user group. The Regional Information & Data Group accomplishes that objective.

**II. PURPOSE:**

The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) enhances the use of data in Central Ohio by creating space to convene data users for public good.

RIDG is a group for Central Ohio data users that is responsive, relevant, and innovative:

**RESPONSIVE** responds to emerging data needs of participants as well as emerging RDAC priorities

**RELEVANT** explores the ecosystem of data user groups and resources and understands how RIDG 'fits in'

**INNOVATIVE** looks for new ways to engage around data use for public good

RIDG serves as a forum for sharing knowledge resources across organizations to enhance the ability, as a region, to use data to inform and improve planning, policy, and other decision-making that affects residents now and in the future. RIDG serves as an opportunity for professionals to convene around public sector challenges on a quarterly basis.

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### **III. RIDG OPERATING GUIDELINES:**

#### **a. Steering Committee**

The RIDG Steering Committee will be a group of representatives from RIDG who will convene to shape the vision and strategy of the Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG), and develop content that reflects the needs of the RIDG participants and responds to emerging data capacity-building priorities established by the Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC).

The RIDG Steering Committee will:

- Evaluate and revise (as needed) the RIDG charter and develop a content strategy for the coming year (annually)
- Consider the needs of RIDG participants in developing content for RIDG meetings
- Serve as a conduit to and from RDAC:
  - Nominate user-identified data capacity building needs to RDAC
  - Incorporate emerging data capacity building priorities established by RDAC, as needed
- Develop strategies for engagement of RIDG participants between meetings
- Develop content for quarterly RIDG meetings, or additional RIDG activities, meetings, or events, as determined

#### **i. MEETINGS**

RIDG Steering Committee meetings will be held quarterly. Steering Committee meetings will be conducted virtually whenever possible. Additional meetings will be held as needed, and at the end/beginning of each year for steering committee member transitions, and annual RIDG planning efforts.

Pre-meeting agenda items will include those focused on sharing information or review, when possible. In-meeting agenda items will be limited to those that require group discussion.

MORPC staff will schedule meetings and prepare agendas with support from the Steering Committee Chair and/or Vice Chair. Meeting notes will be kept and shared by MORPC staff.

#### **ii. MEMBERSHIP**

The RIDG Steering Committee will have between 6 and 8 members serving one-year terms. Members may serve multiple terms. Members will be active RIDG participants, and part of the community of data users for public good. Members may be from any sector, aiming for representation from across sectors.

The RIDG Steering Committee will be led by a Chair and Vice Chair, nominated by RDAC, MORPC staff, or Steering Committee members. A Chair or Vice Chair may serve in that role for up to two terms. Individuals in those roles may continue to serve additional terms as members.

## **b. Content**

RIDG meeting content will be created in alignment with the purpose, outlined above. A few key emphasis areas are outlined as follow:

### **1. Share information across organizations about data resources**

This may include:

- Information sharing around data quality and limitations
- Collection and maintenance of a working, crowdsourced data resource inventory
- Identify opportunities to improve or expand local data collection to meet cross-organizational needs
- Introduce students and new professionals to data resources and guidance on appropriate data use


### **2. Expose local and public data users to technical skills and resources**

This may include:

- Demonstrations of new software or other technologies around data management, analysis, or visualization
- Opportunities to share or seek support around specific technical data challenges (e.g. best practices for cleaning or transforming data, methods for statistical analysis, etc.)
- Present real data challenge as an opportunity to innovate and exchange ideas and solutions around data problem solving

### **3. Identify opportunities for collaboration and redundancy reduction**

This may include:

- Regular report-outs of key challenges organizations are working on provides opportunities to partner and collaborate on shared objectives
  - Regular conversations around data or analysis produced by an organization could be useful to another practitioner and reduce redundancy of effort
  - Models for analyzing data (e.g. R or Python scripts) shared across organizations
  - Build partnerships and increase compatibility with other data user groups in the region
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### **c. RIDG Meeting Format & Content**

RIDG meetings will have an agenda, and may include a combination of facilitated discussions, exercises and/or presentations. The RIDG Steering Committee will continue to provide guidance and direction for meeting format and content.

#### **Schedule**

RIDG will meet once per quarter. Meetings will be scheduled to avoid conflict with the Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) to allow participants to attend both meetings. Meetings will be scheduled during regular business hours.

#### **Participants**

Participation in RIDG will be free and open to all. Participation will be solicited from known professionals in the region who work with data to solve problems within the public domain.

#### **Communication**

RIDG meeting schedules and materials will be posted on the MORPC website. A list of RIDG participants will be maintained by MORPC staff and upcoming meeting invitations and agendas will be distributed to that list each quarter, as well as other correspondence as needed.