# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

2021 Update



MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

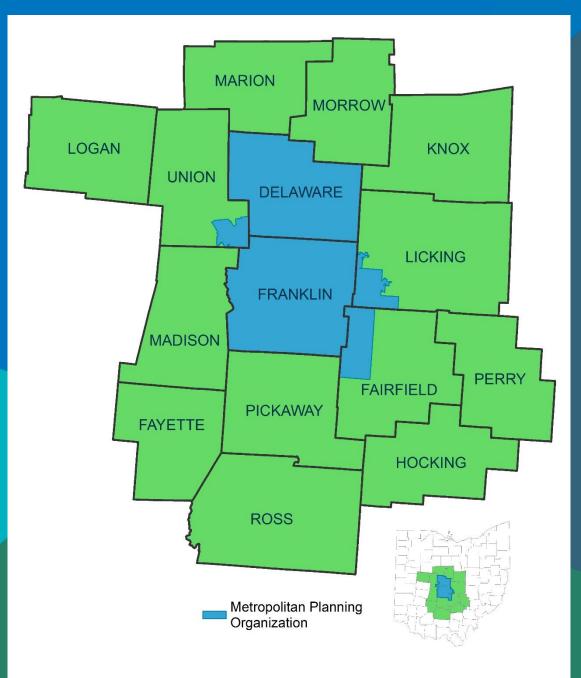
- For informational purposes today
- Resolution for consideration at September meeting



## WHAT IS THE PLAN?

Lays out how a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) reaches out to members of the public for their input as it carries out the transportation planning process

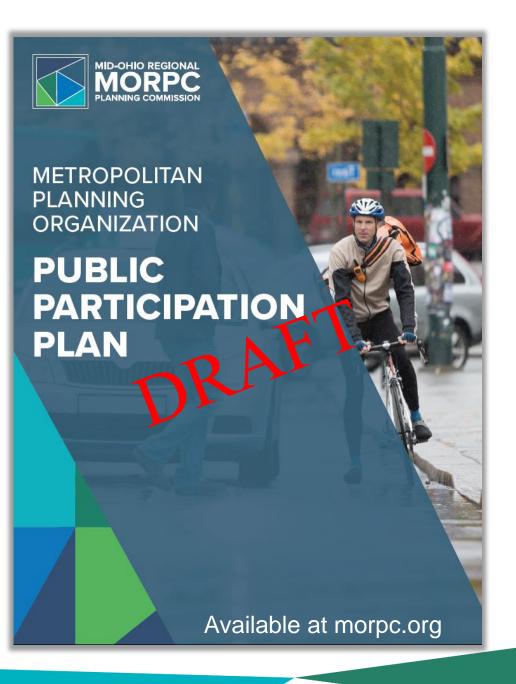
- Required through federal MPO regulations
- A set of procedures to be consistently applied to incorporate public participation in the transportation planning process
- Includes planning and development of programs and projects of Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) and Delaware County Transit





## **2021 PLAN UPDATE**

- Update rather than overhaul
  - Driven by new/emerging technologies and strategies to effectively reach diverse populations
- Previous plan adopted in 2015
- Public "Involvement" Plan → Public "Participation" Plan



### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**



An overall process based on the following goals:

Provide timely information about planning issues and processes to the public

Foster transparency by providing public access to technical and policy information used in the development of transportation plans/programs

Employ visualization techniques to describe plans/programs (maps, charts, graphs, pictures)

Provide adequate notice of public participation and planning activities

Continually seek specific ways to engage and consider the needs of all segments of the population

Obtain early and continuous public participation in the transportation planning process

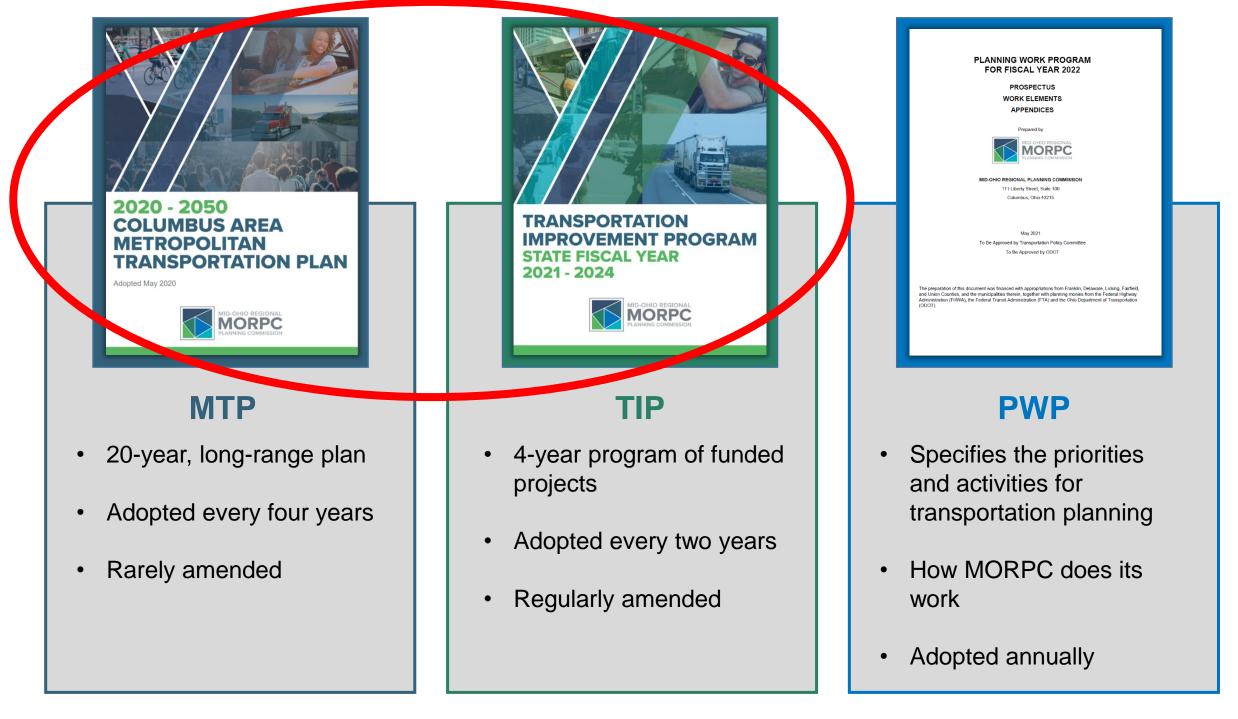
## THREE LAYERS OF PARTICIPATION



• Committees



- Project-specific Process
- General Public Outreach and Dissemination



#### **CHANGES**

- New technology options and outreach methods
- References to MORPC's **non-MPO committees** as helping to inform the work of the MPO
- More direct references to Title VI Plan and Limited English Proficiency Plan
  - Additional references for language translation and accommodations for hearing-impaired individuals
- Public health emergency and disaster recovery language
- Specifying that when there are signification changes to a plan or program as a result of a public comment period, there will be additional opportunity for review and comment
- Specifies how changes to the public participation plan are made, including periodic review of strategies and procedures





The plan actively seeks the views of minority, disabled, low-income, and other populations traditionally underserved by transportation.

The updated plan is more specific about who we are trying to reach for input.

The general public
Minorities (Black or African Americans, Hispanic or Latinx, Asian or Asian Americans, American Indian or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders)
Foreign-born residents and foreign-speaking populations
Those with disabilities
Older adults
Lower-income individuals and families
Bicyclists
Pedestrian facility users
Public agencies
Neighborhood/civic associations and area commissions
Public transportation employees
Intercity bus and rail operators
Public transportation users
Natural and built environment interests
Business and employer interests
Freight shippers and providers of freight transportation services
Private providers of transportation
Other interested parties

### **NEXT STEPS**



#### **COMMENT PERIOD**

July 9 - August 25

#### bschneck@morpc.org

MORPC 111 Liberty St., Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43215

- Comments through 5 p.m. August 25
- Resolution for adoption at September
  meeting
- Plan reviewed by ODOT, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration
- Final plan in PDF and web-friendly format at morpc.org

#### Draft plan available at morpc.org.

#### **NÍEL JURIST**

Director of Communications & Engagement Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

T: 614.233.4126 | M: 614.204.8722 njurist@morpc.org 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43215

