



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
morpc.org

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COMMISSION MEETING
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
TOWN HALL

Thursday, September 9, 2021
1:30 p.m.

Remote Option

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.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

To participate by phone, use the conference call information below.

[+1 614-362-3056](#) United States, Columbus
[\(888\) 596-2819](#) United States (Toll-free)
Phone Conference ID: 760 642 914#

AGENDA

- 1:30 p.m.
- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
 - 2. Welcome and Introductions** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
 - **Recognition of Guests and New Members** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
 - 3. Executive Director’s Report** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director
 - 4. Focus on Greenways: RAPID 5, Trail Town Initiative, Trail App** – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Planning & Sustainability Director
 - 5. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** – Ted Geer, MORPC Economic Development & Infrastructure Officer

2:05 p.m.

Committees

6. **Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization** – Mark Forrest (Madison County), Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Chair
7. **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Brad Ebersole (Delaware County), Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair
 - a. **Census Update** – Liz Whelan, MORPC Data Manager
8. **Regional Policy Roundtable** – Ben Collins (Plain Township), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
 - a. **Legislative Update** – Joe Garrity, MORPC Director of Government Affairs & Community Engagement
9. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Jim Schimmer (Franklin County), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair

2:30 p.m.

10. **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 [June 10, 2021 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
 - 2) Approval of [August 12, 2021 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
 - 3) [Proposed Resolution T-7-21](#): “Amending the State Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program”
 - 4) [Proposed Resolution T-8-21](#): “Accepting the State Fiscal Year 2021 Planning Work Program Completion Report”
 - 5) [Proposed Resolution T-10-21](#): “Adopting the 2021 Public Participation Plan”
 - 6) [Proposed Resolution T-11-21](#): “Amending the SFY 2022 Planning Work Program”
 - d. [Proposed Resolution T-9-21](#): “Amending the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan” – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director
 - e. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

11. Commission Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of [August 12, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
- b. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

12. Other Business

3:00 p.m. **13. 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, October 14, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

PARKING AND TRANSIT: When parking in MORPC's parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with a yellow "M". Handicapped parking is available at the side of MORPC's building. On Commission meeting days only, additional parking is available in numbered spaces toward the west end of the parking lot. Electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

MORPC is accessible by COTA BUS. The closest bus stop to MORPC is S. Front Street & W. Blenkner St. Buses that accommodate this stop are the Number 61 - Grove City, the Number 5 - West 5th Ave. /Refugee, and the Number 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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MORPC Monthly Agency Report

August 2021

Department Directors

Kerstin Carr kcarr@morpc.org
Thea Ewing twalsh@morpc.org
Joe Garrity jgarrity@morpc.org

Shawn Hufstедler shufstедler@morpc.org
Niel Jurist njurist@morpc.org
Robert Williams rwilliams@morpc.org

Population Estimates

Team Members are finalizing a data release schedule for 2020 Census-based MORPC Member Population Estimates. Staff is gathering building permit data from members to calculate population estimates and to create a Population Dashboard.

Team Members are evaluating 2020 Census Redistricting data to understand regional growth trends as well as impacts on MORPC population work more broadly.

Transportation Safety

The Central Ohio Transportation Safety Forum is Tuesday, September 21, 1 p.m. Join us for a conversation with Freddy Collier, Director of City Planning, City of Cleveland; Beth Osborne, Director of Transportation for America; and Dru Van Hengel, Senior Principal with Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates about the trends we are seeing still today and what we can do to change them. We will discuss the various challenges that local agencies face, from the specific safety issues to the institutional and cultural barriers that stand in the way. These experts will share their experiences with navigating those challenges and provide a unique perspective on efforts underway throughout the USA. Register for the event [here](#).

Summer Intern Program

Twenty-two summer interns completed their summer program. Approximately five are continuing to work with their hosts this fall, and one will complete his experience next summer. Two interns started in August and will continue through the academic year. The program concluded with two celebrations to accommodate the large class. Interns received performance evaluations and provided feedback.

Four graduate students participated in the Easton Future Vision Fellows. The Fellows gave final presentations before a panel of judges with representatives from the Easton Foundation, OSU-Knowlton School of Architecture-City & Regional Programs, and MORPC.

FranklinWORKS

MORPC announced a new strategic partnership with Franklin University that applies to all members and their employees. FranklinWORKS is a tuition discount program for all degree programs and offers a twenty percent discount on prevailing undergraduate tuition and master's degree tuition and a ten percent discount on doctoral degree tuition. Free books may be available with some restrictions. Franklin University offers online courses as well as in-person courses.

MORPC Annual Salary & Fringe Benefit Survey

In mid-July Team Members sent the MORPC Annual Salary & Fringe Benefit Survey form to members to be completed by September 3, 2021. The completed report is expected to be released in late September.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

A public comment period was held August 2-31 for a proposed amendment to the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The proposed amendment will incorporate findings from recent LinkUS corridor planning activities on West Broad, East Broad, East Main, and Northwest Corridors. Information on the proposed amendment is available on the MORPC website and was presented to CAC, TAC, and TPC in August. Action on a resolution adopting the proposed amendment will be requested at September committee meetings.

Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)

TRAC met July 21 for a work session only. ODOT has revised the TRAC funding cycle timeline as follows:

- Draft list vote – August 25
- ODOT's Public comment period on draft selected projects list – August 25 to September 15
- Final selected projects list vote – September 22

At the July 21 TRAC meeting, ODOT staff shared the draft list of projects recommended for funding, with seven of nine MORPC area projects recommended for funding as follows:

- US33/Pickerington Rd interchange - \$1 million for preliminary engineering; \$0.5M for detailed design
- I70/Taylor Rd Far East - \$5 million for preliminary engineering
- I-70/I270/Brice Rd (Far East Fwy) Phases 2 & 3 - \$1.1 million for Right-of-Way; \$37.3 million for construction
- I-270/US23 South Outerbelt - \$14 million for construction
- I-71 HSR Study - \$3 million for preliminary engineering
- US23 Corridor Study - \$2 million for preliminary engineering
- Alum Creek Dr widening - \$1.7 million for preliminary engineering
- No funding was recommended for the following two projects:
 - Pataskala SR16 Broad St widening – No funding recommended
 - I-71/Big Walnut interchange – no funding recommended

Central Ohio Defense Group

MORPC Team Members and members of the Central Ohio Defense Group toured the Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC) on August 30. DSCC hails as the Land and Maritime Supply Chain headquarters for the Defense Logistics Agency with over 3,000 employees in 51 locations around the world. These locations include Columbus, Richmond, Philadelphia, Mechanicsburg, Norfolk Naval Shipyard and Puget Naval Shipyard. DSCC employees are also forward located with Army, Navy and Marine Corps customers throughout the states and overseas – extending its footprint to better ensure end-to-end supply chain management.

Diversity & Inclusion

In an effort to continue increasing our diverse workforce and expand our marketing and advertising outreach strategy, we are partnering with the Professional Diversity Network (PDN). PDN is known as America's #1 diversity recruiting platform. Founded in 2003, their mission is to "provide diverse communities with a trusted professional network, which pairs job seekers with employers who are serious about building a diverse workforce." PDN also provides a large network of diverse talent.

MORPC will be featured in a Diversity video as part of a partnership with the AEP Foundation and the YWCA Columbus. AEP is creating a "Social Justice Grant Series" to highlight grantees' work. They will interview staff and beneficiaries of the programs that their funds support. MORPC will be spotlighted as a beneficiary of the newest YWCA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) Training Series. This also supports the expansion of our racial justice work over the next four years, including additional DE&I training services, in which MORPC can participate.

MORPC Team Members participated in the National African American Male Wellness Walk and the Westerville Bike Rodeo increasing the awareness of our programs and services by interacting with community members.

State Advocacy

Team Members met with Representatives Jarrells and Stewart.

Regional Housing Strategy (RHS)

The July Housing Speaker Series panel focused on place-based outcomes in a session called "A ZIP Code Shouldn't Determine Outcomes, But it Does." Approximately 100 people registered for the session. All past sessions can be viewed on MORPC's YouTube channel.

Presentations about the state of housing were given to Marysville City Council and the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

Regional Policy Roundtable

The Regional Policy Roundtable met August 10 and heard a special member update from Director of Strategic Engagement for the Greater Ohio Policy Center Jason Warner. MORPC advocated for reactivating

the Clean Ohio Brownfields Program as part of the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund. MORPC was not alone in this effort. The Greater Ohio Policy Center was instrumental in ensuring \$350 million was allocated to the Brownfield Remediation Fund in the state operating budget. This funding will provide patient capital investment in cleanup and site development, significantly benefiting rural, urban, and suburban communities. Jeff Polesovsky, Vice President of Public Policy for the Columbus Partnership, was voted as a new member to the Roundtable and MORPC Diversity, Inclusion, and Engagement Officer Ralonda Hampton provided an update on recent diversity and engagement efforts.

Columbus Region Coalition

On August 17 the Coalition hosted a continuing discussion with members of the Ohio Congressional Delegation on Smart Columbus. As the winner of the U.S. Department of Transportation's \$50 million Smart City Challenge in 2016, Columbus was awarded \$10 million from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation to grow our region's electric vehicle (EV) market. Smart Columbus Executive Director Jordan Davis provided an update on the next steps of this initiative, specifically focusing on sustainability and digitalization.

Mobility Management

Development of the statewide specialized transportation search tool Gohio Mobility continues. While provider data is being updated by ODOT, MORPC is submitting non-data related improvements to RideAmigos after review from OARC partners.

Team Members are working with Ohio Mobility Managers to develop mobility management trainings for creating and managing Transportation Advisory Committees (TACs). MORPC is working with leaders among the Ohio Mobility Managers group to identify other trainings to be created, including for the Gohio Mobility tool.

MORPC staff is working with ODOT and Ohio Mobility Managers to on-board new statewide partners to the Gohio Commute platform to further the development process of Gohio Mobility and improve efficiency of provider editing on the tool.

MORPC staff are working with partners in Union County to connect the two mobility management programs and improve support and awareness of multimodal services.

Regional Mobility Plan

Team Members continue to develop the ODOT HTSTC Region 6 Coordinated Plan (Regional Mobility Plan). Survey responses significantly increased this month. Outreach is focused on counties with few associated survey responses. Additional partners from these counties have been identified and contacted. Team Members have identified additional public events for survey outreach to fill in the gaps.

FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient

MORPC released the 2021 Call for Projects for 5310 Enhanced Mobility Funding for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities on August 16. Staff held an informational workshop on August 24 virtually to go over the grant and answer questions. A new online application tool was selected to be tested for this round of funding and future MORPC calls for projects.

Gohio

MORPC was featured on Columbus Concerns radio show. Team Members discussed the challenges of the return to the workplace commute and discussed how the Gohio Commute Rideshare Platform could be a solution for commuters interested in exploring alternatives to driving alone as they plan their commute back to the office.

Team Members are working with multiple entities on commuter benefit programs. The Commute Action fund is elevating conversation with employers who want to start programs in first quarter of 2022.

MORPC is working with OARC partners on a draft RFP for opening up the possibility for a new platform provider.

US23 Connect Study

Public outreach activities continue. The Project Team is preparing for Phase 2 of stakeholder engagement activities in October. Team Members are coordinating data and travel forecasting information as needed.

LinkUS

Team Members attended pre-30% design workshops for both the Northwest and East-West (East Main/West Broad) Bus Rapid Transit corridors. COTA staff plans to apply for the Capital Investment Grant Project Development (CIG PD) the last week of August for the East Main and West Broad lines. Leadership Coalition meetings began discussions in August for both the Executive and Steering Committees. MORPC is coordinating with the ODOT Central Office to study traffic impacts both regionally and at the corridor level.

Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative (RSTI)

MORPC and AECOM met to discuss the 3C+D (Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Dayton) corridor ridership and economic impact study.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)

The semi-annual county-level subcommittee meetings are September 13-17. Team Members are developing a policy proposal for programming RTPO-dedicated funding, recently made available from ODOT, to present at September sub-committees and seek feedback and discussion from CORPO members and stakeholders. The final policy will be adopted by the CORPO Committee in November.

Team Members updated the CORPO Public Participation Plan (PPP). The PPP provides the structure by which CORPO members and the public may participate in CORPO planning activities. The update mainly incorporates new technology tools. The updated PPP will be presented at September sub-committee meetings, with adoption by the CORPO Committee in November.

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)

District 3/Franklin County funding applications for improvements to local infrastructure scheduled to begin construction between July 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023, are due by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 13, 2021. More information is available at: <https://www.morpc.org/tool-resource/local-infrastructure-funding-from-ohio-public-works/>.

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

The Round 16 Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Applicant Workshop is October 4. Details to follow soon. Preliminary Screeners are due December 10, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. More information available at <https://www.morpc.org/program-service/clean-ohio-conservation-fund>.

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)

The next RDAC meeting is September 7. They will discuss the creation, staffing, and membership of new working groups, among other items.

- The Data Policy Needs Survey & Toolkit Working Group met July 20 to discuss the final details for their survey and to discuss the future of the group. The survey was distributed July 26 to 248 prospective respondents. Results will be presented at the September 7 RDAC meeting.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group is meeting with other local prospective partners on September 8 to discuss the implementation of the strategy.
- The Central Ohio GIS User Group met September 2.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) met August 4s. Rob Moore, Scioto Analysis, presented "[Beyond GDP: Measuring Genuine Progress in Ohio](#)", and the group participated in three breakout sessions: "Census 2020 Data Deep-Dive," "Organizing Your Data," and "Tableau Use Cases & Examples."
- The next RIDG Steering Committee meeting is October 13 to discuss the structure and topics for the November 3 RIDG meeting.

Data & Mapping Outreach & Collaboration

Team Members assisted Logan County Economic Development staff to consume and use data to support their housing development goals.

Team Members are collaborating with Logan County Chamber of Commerce, Bowling Green State University, and the Columbus Board of Realtors to provide survey design support for a Central Ohio homebuyer survey planned for this month.

Team Members continue working with partners, other agencies, and ESRI to gather data for use with the new ESRI ArcGIS Urban program.

MORPC assisted Jefferson Township with their proposed fire department network analysis.

Presentations made this month:

- ESRI Urban project in an ESRI webinar on August 11.
- Highlights from MORPC's COVID-19 Policy Briefs at the Joint Statistical Meeting of the American Statistical Association on August 9.

Team Members continue to update the COVID-19 Resource Hub (<https://central-ohio-covid19-morpc.hub.arcgis.com/>) and the Mid-Ohio Open Data/M.O.O.D. (<https://www.morpc.org/tool-resource/mid-ohio-open-data/>) with information pertinent to members.

Active Transportation Plan (ATP)

Team members presented ATP updates at the August CAC & TAC meetings. Discussion focused on the role of public participation in informing the plan. The Team continues work on the design of an online resource that will house the ATP and interactive resources.

Complete Streets

The Complete Streets Policy Steering Committee completed the update process. The draft policy update is available for review and will be presented to CAC, TAC, and the Transportation Policy Committee in November as an item for adoption.

Active Transportation Committee (ATC)

The final Active Transportation Committee meeting for 2021 is October 19. If you are interested in attending this meeting or becoming a member of the ATC, please contact Lauren Cardoni at lcardoni@morpc.org.

insight2050 Technical Assistance Program (TAP)

Cycle one projects in City of Columbus, City of Hilliard, City of Westerville, Jefferson Township, and Franklin County Engineer's Office are wrapping up. Team Members have started developing the next round of technical assistance with the goal of kicking off Cycle 2.0 in early 2022. Eligible project types for this cycle include more focus on implementation and moving projects from the MTP to funding and construction.

Sustainable2050

The next meeting is September 17 and will focus on sustainable mobility, with presentations about regional trail activities and the Active Transportation Plan. MORPC staff will present updates on programming and review the proposed tier status certification process aligning with the new Regional Sustainability Agenda. The City of Hilliard was recognized at the August Commission meeting for earning its Platinum tier status certification. A press release went out to highlight this achievement.

MORPC Team Members met with the Minerva Park Mayor to discuss regional sustainability resources and funding and Sustainable2050 membership.

Central Ohio Greenways Board (COG)

The COG board met July 21.

- The Marketing & Communications Working Group is focused on developing a trails passport in partnership with Experience Columbus and RAPID 5. The passport encourages use of trails for hiking, biking, and paddling in Central Ohio. The working group is also advising a Trail Town Project focused on supporting tourism efforts in rural communities' new regional trails.
- The Operations & Access Working Group is focused on trail winter maintenance, as well as equity and inclusion support for existing and future trail related projects.
- The Partnership Working Group is wrapping up the Economic Impact of Trails Report.
- The Trail Development Working Group is focused on overseeing a trail monitoring pilot project that will inform recommendations for a reimagined regional trail monitoring program. Additionally, the group is gathering data to prepare multijurisdictional trail projects for federal funding programs.

The next Central Ohio Greenways Forum is the end of September with a focus on the RAPID 5 visioning effort.

Sustaining Scioto Board

The Sustaining Scioto Board met August 25 with a featured presentation on the U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit and water quality applications of the toolkit. The board is continuing to consider strategies to support federal financing of updates to national precipitation statistics that will allow for consideration of increasing high precipitation events under climate change. The board also plans to revisit short-term adaptation

management strategies as outlined in the Sustaining Scioto Implementation Plan to prioritize and focus its efforts.

- The Agriculture and Rural Communities Outreach Team deployed social science surveys throughout the month of August. This was done with the help of Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District staff. The next meeting is September 16.

Energy & Air Quality

The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met July 27 with a featured presentation from the Ohio representative of Solar United Neighbors. The group was made aware of the process to update the Regional Sustainability Agenda and to hire new sustainability and energy staff for MORPC. The group provided guidance on MORPC's Neighborhood Air Quality Monitoring Project that is now in the phase of ongoing collocation of sensors with Ohio EPA's Smoky Row regulatory particulate matter monitor and commencing with installation of monitors at the final hosting sites.

Local Government Energy Partnership (LGEP)

MORPC is working with UNPREDICTABLEcity to engage local government members in the SolSmart designation process. MORPC hosted two introductory meetings on August 24 and 27 to review the process, timeline, and available no-cost technical assistance. A presentation about SolSmart was also included in the August Rickenbacker Area Stakeholder Meeting. MORPC is coordinating next steps on a regional approach for energy aggregation and in the hiring process for the Energy & Sustainability Program Coordinator to lead the energy work.

Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

The next meeting is September 15. The agenda includes a Summit on Sustainability update, policy report, and a presentation on the remaining Regional Sustainability Agenda targets for adoption. Joshua Simon, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator for Metro Parks, has been appointed to replace a previous member who stepped down from the Committee.

Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA)

A new web page was developed to house the Regional Sustainability Agenda and associated equity resource documents at <https://www.morpc.org/sustainabilityagenda>.

MORPC in the News

Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews.

Upcoming Events

MORPC and Spectrum are partnering to hold a three-part web series focused on data privacy, rural broadband, and smart cities. The first session on data privacy was August 27.

Save the Date for MORPC's annual Summit on Sustainability on October 15, 2021, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. More details to come.

Franklin County Urgent Needs (FCUN) Program

The 2019 funding round's goal is 26 projects. All 26 projects are identified and three are complete. One project is waiting initial inspection and the rest are in various stages of production. All projects should be out to bid or in construction by mid-September.

The 2020 program with 23 projects in some stage from client application, to inspection, work write-up, and out-to-bid. Production will start soon for several of these.

Team Members are keeping an eye on COVID-related shortages and increased costs. Contractors are having to wait six to eight weeks for some materials.

Team Members submitted the grant request for the 2021 program.

COCIC

The COCIC program is leveraged with the Franklin County program. Projects are moving along with the FCUN projects.

Grant Opportunities

Team Members submitted an application for \$1 million in lead abatement funding from the Ohio Department of Health. Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) is the lead agency. This should be announced in September.

Team Members are investigating applying with FCPH for a \$2 million Healthy Homes Production Program Grant through HUD.

WarmChoice

WarmChoice production is increasing again after the decrease experienced in July. This slowdown is typical during summer months and was likely exacerbated by pandemic restrictions being lessened. One of the HVAC contractors is adding personnel to perform WarmChoice work. The three inspectors' schedules are staying full for WarmChoice, but there is a bit of a backlog.

HWAP

Production is continuing normally for the new program year while we await approval for the grant from ODSA. We are currently averaging about three HWAP inspections per week. We are starting to inspect HWAP standalones as they are approved.

Finance

FY22 budget development has begun. Team Members are collecting requests from all departments.

Facility and IT Updates

A new exterior sign and some of the lobby and other internal graphics were installed. The remainder of the graphics installation is expected over the next month.

Information Technology Services Team continues to make progress on the following projects and tasks:

- Supporting office renovation through audio/video technology design and phone system configuration.
- Pursuing outsourcing of technical support.
- Conducting phish email tests. August prone to phish rate is 4.9%.

Personnel Updates

The following new Team Members recently started at MORPC:

- Communications & Engagement Marketing Intern Madison Jones began August 10
- Transportation & Infrastructure Development Associate Engineer Raj Roy began August 16
- Planning & Sustainability Active Transportation & Safety Intern Jeremiah Commey began August 16
- Public Policy Fellow James Holley began August 16

MORPC is currently recruiting for four (4) open positions:

- Director of Data & Mapping
- Energy and Sustainability Program Coordinator
- Residential Services Energy Auditor
- Communications & Engagement Public Information Officer

The following are in the interviewing or offering stage, or onboarding soon:

- Planning & Sustainability Planning Intern
- Planning & Sustainability Active Transportation & Safety Intern

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:

- Integrated Software Proposal
- 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-rfq/>.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2021
Time: 2:26 p.m.
Location: Video/Audio Conference

Transportation Policy Committee Members

Chris Amorose Groomes	Melanie Houston	Cornell Robertson
Mike Anderson	Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Isaac Robinson
Karen Angelou	Monica Irelan	Allen Rothermel
Herb Asher	Laurie Jadwin	Lauren Rummel
Beth Beatty	Steve Kennedy	Jim Schimmer
Ben Collins	Ben Kessler	Elissa Schneider
Michelle Crandall	Benjamin King	Steve Schoeny
Karl Craven	Bill LaFayette	Roby Schottke
Tracie Davies	Greg Lestini	Kim Sharp for Joanna
Kristen Easterday	Dana McDaniel	Pinkerton
Brad Ebersole	Rory McGuinness	Thom Slack
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Megan O'Callaghan	Joe Stefanov
Matt Greeson	Rob Peters	Christie Ward
Dave Gulden	Bryan Rhoads	Nancy White
Alex Heckman	Eric Richter	Carrie Woody
LaGrieta Holloway	Ryan Rivers	

Commission Members

Joe Antram	Tim Hansley	Jeremiah Upp
Franklin Christman	Eric Phillips	R.C. Wise
Terry Emery	David Scheffler	
Bill Habig	Chris Schmenk	

Associate Members

Nikki Scarpitti

MORPC Staff

Kerstin Carr	Ralonda Hampton	Anna Ostereich
Betsy Ehmcke	Shawn Hufstедler	Shari Saunders
Thea Ewing	Hosana Josephat	Aaron Schill
Mary Ann Frantz	Eileen Leuby	Bevan Schneck
Amanda Frey	Dina Lopez	Susan Tsen
Joe Garrity	Amanda McEldowney	Brandi Whetstone
Ted Geer	William Murdock	Robert Williams

Guests

Danielle Boyd, Stonewall Columbus	Grant Molnar, Summer Intern, Hocking/Logan Counties
Marilyn Brown	Mitchell Pinsky, Summer Intern, Bloom Twp
Jake Buchanan, Summer Intern, Chillicothe	Joseph Sierputowski, Summer Intern, Grandview Heights
Prince Kwarteng Crooklynn, Summer Intern, Gahanna	Caroline Stollar, Summer Intern, Reynoldsburg
Christian Harris, Summer Intern, Delaware	Marlee Stollar, Summer Intern, Morrow County
Beth Hugh, Berkshire Township	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Sarah Jonassen, Summer Intern, Mifflin Twp	Brent Welch, FCEO
Kamran Karshidi, Summer Intern, Reynoldsburg	Hannah Wynne, Summer Intern, Circleville
Zachary Maziar, Summer Intern, Perry County	
William "Mac" McCloy, Summer Intern, Hilliard	

Meeting Called to Order

Chair Karen Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:26 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Report

- **Transportation & Infrastructure Development – Thea Ewing, MORPC
Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director**

Thea Ewing announced that \$2.6 million was set aside by the Ohio Legislature in the transportation budget for rural transportation planning.

Ms. Ewing noted Resolution T-6-21 on the consent agenda is a large TIP amendment that includes a number of member directed spending (earmark) projects to make sure they are eligible.

Ms. Ewing gave an [Overview](#) of the US 23 Study. MORPC is working with TMACOG and ODOT District 6 for a better free flow access between Columbus and Toledo. The project was included in the TRAC proposal for \$1.5 million in preliminary engineering. The project will eventually be over \$12 million. ODOT is in the public engagement process with an online public input tool and conducting public meetings.

MORPC is federally required to have a Public Participation Plan. MORPC is looking at greater considerations around equity and technology and a way to provide general updates. We are not looking at a major overhaul. Contact Bevan Schneck with recommendations. The draft will be out for public comment in July. The plan will be brought forward for adoption in September.

Applications for the RAISE grant are due mid-July. MORPC intends to seek a planning grant for urban-rural connections. We are not only looking at transit, but trail and broadband as part of the approach. MORPC Team Members are available for help with applications.

Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda

Cornell Robertson made a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Rory McGuiness; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 12, 2021
Time: 2:42 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

Chris Amorose Groomes	Brad Ebersole	Eric Richter
Karen Angelou	Matt Greeson	Lauren Rummel
Herb Asher	Tom Homan	Mike Schadek
Jeff Benton	Erik Janas	Jim Schimmer
Ron Bullard	Steve Kennedy	Ike Stage
Michelle Crandall	Rob Peters	
Kristin Easterday	Steve Pyles	

Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

Ben Collins	Bill LaFayette	Steve Schoeny
Karl Craven	Greg Lestini	Michael Schuiling
Tracie Davies	Jill Love	Kim Sharp for Joanna Pinkerton
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Dana McDaniel	Dan Sowry
Jennifer Gallagher	Rory McGuiness	Joe Stefanov
Alex Heckman	Megan O'Callaghan	Christie Ward
LaGrieta Holloway	Hunter Rayfield	Brent Welch for Cornell Robertson
Matt Huffman	Bryan Rhoads	Nancy White
Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Ryan Rivers	
Laurie Jadwin	Isaac Robinson	
Benjamin King	Elissa Schneider	

Commission Members Present in Person

Joe Antram	Franklin Christman	David Scheffler
Taylor Brill	Bill Habig	Chris Schmenk

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Wes Dodds	Eric Phillips	R.C. Wise
Terry Emery	Andy Ware	

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Mark Crosten	Hosana Josephat	Shari Saunders
Thea Ewing	Niel Jurist	Aaron Schill
John Gardocki	Eileen Leuby	Bevan Schneck
Joe Garrity	Amanda McEldowney	Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	Robert Williams
Shawn Hufstedler	Stephen Patchan	Hannah Young

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Lauren Cardoni	Dina Lopez	Jordan Petrov
Ted Geer	Jennifer Noll	Maria Schaper
Nick Gill	Anna Ostereich	Brian Shang
Lynn Kaufman	Anthony Perry	Nate Vogt

Guests Present in Person

Geoff Dew, City of Hilliard	Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Kristin Hosni, City of Hilliard	Steve Stivers, Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Peter Marsh, City of Hilliard	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Guests Attending Remotely

Atima Al Jarani
Shane Farnsworth, Jackson Township
P'Elizabeth Koelker, City of Grandview Heights
Brian Petereit, Franklin University
Mitchell Pinsky, Summer Intern, Bloom Twp
Mysheika Roberts, City of Columbus

Andrew Shepler, ODOT
Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Nick Soulas, FCEO
Johannes Swart, Summer Intern
Anthony Turkowski,
Daniel Van Epps
Kyle Webb, Knox County

Meeting Called to Order

Chair Karen Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:42 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Report

- **Transportation & Infrastructure Development – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director**

Thea Ewing announced that MORPC started a new program, the Commute Action Fund, to incentivize employers to promote sustainable modes for employees to get to work. MORPC will provide a match up to \$5,000.

MORPC received a grant to pursue a Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). We are working with One Columbus on the CEDS. MORPC is holding workshops in the region. The goal is to present the CEDS document for approval in October.

Two funding opportunities from the infrastructure package are investment in AMTRAK and hyperloop funding. MORPC is working to make sure we are prepared when the opportunities arise.

Community Advisory Committee Update – LaGrieta Holloway (Franklin County), Community Advisory Committee Chair

LaGrieta Holloway presented the [Community Advisory Committee Update](#). The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) represents everyday people and are residents who volunteer to review and provide feedback on MORPC's transportation-related programs, plans, and projects. The CAC meets eight times a year. Membership is designed to be representative of a broad swath of the population. Limited to 24 members, many of the members represent multiple interests. The CAC provides a unique viewpoint that ultimately feeds into the work of the Commission and Transportation Policy Committee. Much of what is presented to or acted upon by the Commission has first been considered by CAC.

Public Participation Plan – Niel Jurist, MORPC Communications & Engagement Director

Niel Jurist gave an overview the [Public Participation Plan](#) update. MORPC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Columbus urbanized area. As an MPO we are required to have a public participation plan specifying the different people and groups we reach out to in the transportation planning process. The plan must include specified procedures and strategies. Public participation for transit programs and projects in the MPO is also covered in the plan.

This update is more about fine-tuning some of our processes, rather than a complete overhaul. With MORPC's strengthened emphasis on diversity and inclusion, we can ensure that the Public Participation Plan aligns with our overall agency efforts.

We have changed the name from public “involvement” to public “participation” to match the wording used in the MPO regulations. The goals of the updated plan also align with the desired outcomes spelled out in the regulations. There are three layers of participation: committee process, project-specific process, and general public outreach and dissemination. The plan always sought to reach those traditionally underserved by transportation. The updated plan further specifies many of the people and groups we are trying to reach.

The public comment period ends August 25. A resolution for adoption will be presented at the September meeting. After adoption, it will be reviewed by ODOT, FHWA and the FTA. The final plan will be available on MORPC’s website.

**2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment – Thea Ewing, MORPC
Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director**

Thea Ewing presented the [2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment](#). The proposed amendment will keep the LinkUS corridor planning on schedule and allow us to go after federal funds. A resolution will be presented next month for action. LinkUS is a partnership between MORPC, COTA, the City of Columbus and Franklin County. The goal of LinkUS is to provide equitable mobility options for all and ensure access to jobs and affordable housing, promoting economic growth and improving sustainability. The public comment period is open August 1-31.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director
Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: September 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-7-21: "Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program"

Proposed Resolution T-7-21 will add or modify 12 projects to the SFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with commitments totaling over \$369 million. These changes are necessary to enable the projects to advance and to maintain fiscal constraint. In October, 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. Three projects include MORPC-attributable funding.

An explanation of the proposed changes to the TIP follows.

COTA - The following additions and modifications to the TIP are being made for COTA projects:

- PID 115454 – COTA Bus Security Cameras: Add ODOT Urban Transit Partnership funded project to the TIP.
- PID 112116 – COTA High Capacity Transit EW Corridor: Add \$2,200,000 of ODOT OTP2 funding in SFY 2022. This project includes MORPC funding, but there is not change to MORPC funding.
- PID 115536 – COTA Passenger Counter: Add ODOT OTP2 funded project to the TIP.

DCT - The following additions to the TIP are being made for Delaware County Transit projects:

- PID 111773: DCT 2021 Vehicle Expansion: Add ODOT OTP2 funded project to the TIP.
- PID 111778: DCT 2022 Vehicle Replacement: Add ODOT OTP2 funded project to the TIP.

- PID 115539: DCT Mobility Plan Development: Add ODOT OTP2 funded project to the TIP.
- PID 115540: DCT Facility HVAC Replacement: Add ODOT OTP2 funded project to the TIP.

Etna Twp: The following addition to the TIP is being made for an Etna Twp project:

- PID 113789 – Global Way Part 2: Add project to the TIP.

FCDCP: The following addition to the TIP is being made for a Fairfield Center for Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy Inc. project:

- PID 115416 – 5310 & Large UZA CRRSAA: Add project to the TIP.

Franklin County TID: The following modification to the TIP is being made for a Franklin County TID project:

- PID 115179 – SR 161 at Linworth Rd: Adding \$350,000 for PE Env in SFY 2022 and \$150,000 for PE DD in SFY 2023. This project includes MORPC funding in the ROW and construction phase, but there is no change to the MORPC funding.

ODOT, District 6: The following additions and modifications to the TIP are being made for ODOT projects:

- PID 105523 – FRA 70/71 (4R/6R): Adding \$454,395 for PE DD in SFY 2022. This project includes MORPC funding in the construction phase, but there is no change to the MORPC funding.
- PID 90200 – I-71 at Sunbury Pkwy: Add \$1,000,000 for PE Env in SFY 2022.

NTG:TG

Attachments:

- Proposed Resolution T-7-21

RESOLUTION T-7-21

“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, two project additions and one project modification to the 2021-2024 TIP have been identified as needed for Central Ohio Transit Agency projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, four project additions to the 2021-2024 TIP have been identified as needed for Delaware County Transit projects as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project addition to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for a Etna Township project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project addition to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for a Fairfield Center for Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy Inc. project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project modification to the 2021-2024 TIP has been identified as needed for a Franklin County TID project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, two project modifications to the 2021-2024 TIP have been identified as needed for Ohio Department of Transportation projects 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 August 30, 2021, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its meeting on September 1, 2021 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-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: COTA

PID: 112116

TIP ID: 3736

MTP ID: 5

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

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Expansion Capital

Air Quality: System Analyzed

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.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
2021	Other	Local-Transit	\$20,000,000	
2022	Other	STBG-S	\$2,200,000	
2022	Other	Local-Transit	\$550,000	
2022	PE-Detailed Design	STBG-M	\$1,500,000	MORPC Funds - Cap Amount
2022	PE-Detailed Design	Local-Transit	\$400,000	
2023	Other	FFY23 Sec 5307	\$750,000	
2023	Other	Local-Transit	\$2,250,000	
2024	Other	FFY24 Sec 5307	\$10,936,164	
2024	Other	Local-Transit	\$77,036,836	
			Total:	\$115,623,000

Agency: COTA

PID: 115454

TIP ID: 3867

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: COT-Bus Security Cameras--

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Activity

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: Bus Security Cameras, Transit Activity, Bus Security Cameras through the SFY2022 Urban Transit Program. Scope: 114-00 ALI 11.42.09 FPC: O-Capital

Bike Components: Not applicable.

Ped Components: Not applicable.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2022	Other	Federal	\$2,668,766
			Total: \$2,668,766

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.

Friday, August 27, 2021

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Resolution T-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: COTA

PID: 115536

TIP ID: 3868

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-COTA Automatic Passenger Counter-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Activity

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: COTA Automatic Passenger Counter, Transit Activity, Scope: 114-00. ALI: 11.42.20. EPC: O-Capital. STBG funds are flexible fund transfers.

Bike Components: None.

Ped Components: Pedestrian detectors.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

Other

STBG-S

\$1,000,000

2022

Other

Local-Transit

\$700,000

Total:

\$1,700,000

Agency: DCT

PID: 111773

TIP ID: 3741

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-DCT 2021 Vehicle Expansion-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Expansion Capital

Air Quality: System Analyzed

Description: DCT 2021 Vehicle Expansion, Transit Expansion Capital, Transit Vehicle Expansion. Scope: 111-00. ALI: 11.13.04. EPC: O-Capital. STBG funds are federal flex fund transfers.

Bike Components: No information provided.

Ped Components: No information provided.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2021

Other

Local-Transit

\$900,000

2022

Other

STBG-S

\$229,643

Total:

\$1,129,643

Agency: DCT

PID: 111778

TIP ID: 3742

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-DCT 2022 Vehicle Replacement-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Replacement Capital

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: DCT 2022 Vehicle Replacement, Transit Replacement Capital, Scope: 111-00 ALI: 11.12.04 EPC: O-Capita. Less than 30' vehicles - fiberglass replacement using STBG funds as a flex fund transfer using TDC for the SFY2022 OTP2.

Bike Components: No information provided.

Ped Components: No information provided.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

Other

STBG-S

\$148,093

Total:

\$148,093

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.

Friday, August 27, 2021

Page 2 of 7

Resolution T-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: DCT

PID: 115539

TIP ID: 3869

MTP ID: 200

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-DCT Delaware Mobility Develop Plan-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Activity/Planning Activity

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: DCT Delaware Mobility Develop Plan, Transit Activity & Planning Activity, Delaware County Transit Mobility Development Plan. Scope: 441-00-ALI: 44.22.00-EPC: 2-Planning. STBG funds are federal flex fund transfers using TDC.

Bike Components: Not applicable.

Ped Components: Not applicable.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

Other

STBG-S

\$500,000

Total:

\$500,000

Agency: DCT

PID: 115540

TIP ID: 3870

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-DCT Delaware Facility HVAC Replace-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Replacement Capital

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: DCT Delaware Facility HVAC Replace, Transit Replacement Capital, Delaware County Transit Facility HVAC Replacement. Scope: 114-00-ALI: 11.44.03-EPC: 0-Capital. STBG funds are federal flex fund transfers using TDC.

Bike Components: Not applicable.

Ped Components: Not applicable.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

Other

STBG-S

\$69,250

Total:

\$69,250

Agency: Etna Twp

PID: 113789

TIP ID: 3865

MTP ID: 185

Co-Route-Sec: LIC-Global Way Pt 2-

Length (mi.): 0.25

Project Type(s): New Roadway

Air Quality: System Analyzed

Description: Global Way Pt 2, New Roadway, 2 lanes, Extension of Global Way north to provide access to new business

Bike Components: Maybe - To be determined.

Ped Components: Maybe - To be determined.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

Construction

ODSA

\$300,000

2022

Construction

J&C

\$100,000

2022

Construction

Local

\$541,406

Total:

\$941,406

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Friday, August 27, 2021

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Resolution T-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: FCDP

PID: 115416

TIP ID: 3866

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: FAI-5310 & Large UZA CRRSAA-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Replacement Capital

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: 5310 & Large UZA CRRSAA, Transit Replacement Capital, buy replacement vans for Fairfield Center for Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy Inc. Scope: 641-00, ALI: 11.12.15; EPC: O-Capital.

Bike Components: No information provided.

Ped Components: No information provided.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

Other

Sec 5310

\$129,600

Total:

\$129,600

Agency: Franklin County TID

PID: 115179

TIP ID: 3852

MTP ID: 1119

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-SR161-08.08

Length (mi.): 0.32

Project Type(s): Intersection Modification

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: SR 161 at Linworth Rd, Intersection Modification, Intersection improvement to reduce the severe congestion and long queues experienced by vehicles at the intersection and add pedestrian/multi-use facilities.

Bike Components: Multi-use path. 0.34 mi. added to bike network.

Ped Components: Sidewalk on 1 side, multi-use path on 1 side. 0.64 mi. added to ped network.

State Fiscal Year

Phase

Source

Amount

2022

PE-Environmental Study

Preserv-State

\$70,000

2022

PE-Environmental Study

Preserv-Federal

\$280,000

2023

PE-Detailed Design

Preserv-Federal

\$120,000

2023

PE-Detailed Design

Preserv-State

\$30,000

2024

Right-of-Way

STBG-M

\$4,800,000

MORPC Funds - Cap Amount

2024

Right-of-Way

Local

\$1,200,000

Total:

\$6,500,000

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Friday, August 27, 2021

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Resolution T-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: ODOT 6

PID: 105523

TIP ID: 3295

MTP ID: 270/ 1117

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-70/71 Part1 (4R); Part2 (6R)-

Length (mi.): 1.77

Project Type(s): Major Widening/Interchange Modification

Air Quality: System Analyzed

Description: 70/71 Part1 (4R); Part2 (6R), Major Widening & Interchange Modification, Part 1: FRA-70/71-12.68 (4R): Rebuilds I-70/I-71 EB/NB and adds an extra lane through the 70/71 overlap area; modifies bridges, ramps, Livingston Av, Front & Fulton Sts.
Part 2: FRA

Bike Components: Bicycle lanes. The Fulton Street bike lane will be extended to Front. 0.1 mi. added to bike network.

Ped Components: Modify existing facilities. The new Front Street bridge will include 10 foot wide sidewalks.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
2021	PE-Detailed Design	Major/New-S	\$821,600	
2021	PE-Detailed Design	Preserv-State	\$75,000	
2021	Construction	Major/New-S	\$100,000	
2021	Construction	MLMR-F	\$417,749	
2022	PE-Detailed Design	Preserv-State	\$50,000	
2022	PE-Detailed Design	Major/New-S	\$404,395	
2022	Construction	MLMR-F	\$42,331,333	
2022	Construction	Bond	\$25,000,000	
2022	Construction	LABR-F	\$11,626,303	
2022	Construction	LABR-S	\$1,885,649	
2022	Construction	Major/New-F	\$1,648,242	
2022	Construction	MLMR-S	\$29,717,220	
2022	Construction	NHFP	\$105,000,001	
2022	Construction	PIAC-F	\$900,000	
2022	Construction	PIAC-S	\$100,000	
2022	Construction	Preserv-Federal	\$4,230,000	
2022	Construction	Preserv-State	\$720,000	
2022	Construction	STBG-M	\$2,952,000	MORPC Funds - Cap Amount
2022	Construction	Local	\$4,280,348	
2023	Construction	Preserv-State	\$500,000	
2023	Construction	Preserv-Federal	\$2,250,000	
			Total:	\$235,009,839

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.

Resolution T-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: ODOT 6

PID: 90200

TIP ID: 2427

MTP ID: 384/ 325

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-IR071-07.91

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): New Interchange/Study

Air Quality: System Analyzed

Description: I-71 at Sunbury Pkwy, New Interchange & Study, Preliminary studies and engineering for a preferred alternative concept in the vicinity of the existing I-71 and US 36/SR 37 Interchange in Delaware County to determine future interchange and road improvement

Bike Components: Multi-use path.

Ped Components: Sidewalk on 1 side, multi-use path on 1 side.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2021	PE-Detailed Design	Local	\$4,200,000
2022	PE-Environmental Study	Major/New-S	\$200,000
2022	PE-Environmental Study	Major/New-F	\$800,000
Total:			\$5,200,000

Funds in FYs prior to 2021 are not included in this report nor in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program.

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Friday, August 27, 2021

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Resolution T-7-21

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Summary of Funding Sources

<u>Source</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
Bond	State-Issued Bonds	\$25,000,000
Federal	Unassigned Federal Transportation Funds	\$2,668,766
FFY23 Sec 5307	Transit Formula Block Grants	\$750,000
FFY24 Sec 5307	Transit Formula Block Grants	\$10,936,164
J&C	State Jobs & Commerce Funds	\$100,000
LABR-F	Labor - Federal	\$11,626,303
LABR-S	Labor - State	\$1,885,649
Local	Local Public Agency	\$10,221,754
Local-Transit	Local Public Transit Authority	\$101,836,836
Major/New-F	Major/New Program - Federal	\$2,448,242
Major/New-S	Major/New Program - State	\$1,525,995
MLMR-F	Multi-Lane Major Rehab	\$42,749,082
MLMR-S	Multi-Lane Major Rehab	\$29,717,220
NHFP	National Highway Freight Program	\$105,000,001
ODSA	Ohio Development Services Agency Roadwork Development Fund	\$300,000
PIAC-F	Project Impact Advisory Council - Federal	\$900,000
PIAC-S	Project Impact Advisory Council - State	\$100,000
Preserv-Federal	District Preservation (Pv & Br) - Federal	\$6,880,000
Preserv-State	District Preservation (Pv & Br) - State	\$1,445,000
Sec 5310	Transit Enhanced Mobility Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities	\$129,600
STBG-M	Surface Transportation Block Grant, Attributable to MORPC	\$9,252,000
STBG-S	Surface Transportation Block Grant, Attributable to the State	\$4,146,986
Grand Total:		\$369,619,597

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.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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PLANNING COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Officers and Board Members
Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Thea J. Ewing, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure
Development

DATE: September 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-8-21: **"ACCEPTING THE PLANNING
WORK PROGRAM COMPLETION REPORT FOR STATE
FISCAL YEAR 2021"**

Annually, MORPC is required to submit a report to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) describing the work completed with federal planning funds provided to continue the metropolitan transportation planning process, as defined by the FAST Act.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021, the use of these funds was outlined in the SFY 2021 Planning Work Program (PWP) adopted by Resolution T-8-20. The PWP serves as the scope of work, the schedule, and the budget for the federally funded planning activities.

The PWP included such activities as follow up the SFY 21-24 TIP, continued delivery of projects using MORPC-attributable funds, follow up of the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), assistance on freeway and arterial studies, support for safety and operations and management of the transportation system, and support for transit, bike and pedestrian planning. The SFY 2021 PWP also included the continuation of ridesharing/demand reduction and air quality awareness activities. As part of this scope of work, MORPC also maintained the Public Involvement Plan, completed the selection process for FTA Section 5310 funding, continued the Regional Data Advisory Committee, continued outreach and developed resources related to insight2050, including the technical assistance program, continued the Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative, launched the LinkUs initiative with other regional partners and other projects and activities that have been presented over the state fiscal year.

A summary of the PWP activities is included as an attachment to the resolution. A full report is available upon request. Resolution T-8-21 approves the completion report and requires that it is forwarded to ODOT.

Attachment: Resolution T-8-21

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Karen J. Angelou
Chair

Erik J. Janas
Vice Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Secretary

RESOLUTION T-8-21

“ACCEPTING THE PLANNING WORK PROGRAM COMPLETION REPORT FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021”

WHEREAS, it is the role of the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) to help encourage, facilitate and provide a forum for regional, cooperative transportation planning and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Work Program (PWP) is the document that outlines the work of the MPO, the use of regional transportation planning funds and the regional planning activities that will be conducted each state fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee adopted the SFY 2021 Planning Work Program (PWP) by Resolution T-8-20; and

WHEREAS, the activities described in the PWP have been completed or carried over into SFY 2022 and reported in the PWP Completion Report, a summary of which is attached; and

WHEREAS, major products of the PWP have been presented previously; and

WHEREAS, these products include the core work with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the continued delivery of projects using MORPC-attributable funds, as well as the freeway and arterial studies, local traffic forecasting and continuing updates to the travel demand model, maintaining data to support modeling and planning needs, support for transit planning and ODOT planning studies, ITS, ridesharing/demand reduction, bike and pedestrian planning, safety planning and air quality awareness; and

WHEREAS, ODOT requires approval of this PWP Completion Report by the Transportation Policy Committee as the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its August 30, 2021 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its September 1, 2021 meeting recommended approval 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 Transportation Policy Committee approves the PWP Completion Report for SFY 2021.
- Section 2. That this resolution and the PWP Completion Report be forwarded to the Ohio Department of Transportation for appropriate action.
- Section 3. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of the committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Karen J. Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date

Prepared by: Transportation Staff
Attachment: Summary of Completion Report for the SFY 2021 Planning Work Program

SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR 2021 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM-COMPLETION

I. Formula Funded Planning Program Projects

Total Budget \$2,912,359

Balance Remaining for SFY 2021 or later is \$173,150

WORK ELEMENT REPORT SUMMARY FUNDING SUMMARY

60111-1000 Active Transportation Planning

Budget \$420,000 ^ MORPC continued to assist local governments with Complete Streets projects and Complete Streets policy development and reviewed transportation projects for Complete Streets compliance. MORPC also assisted local governments with their active transportation planning and projects. Team members worked with MetroParks, Columbus, and other partners to conduct its annual trail counts as well as the bi-annual non-motorized traffic counts along selected street segments. Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Board accomplished many items set out in its 5-year strategic plan, including obtaining funding for developing its Trails Impact Study and the Trails Prioritization project. Team members also developed a significant portion of the Regional Active Transportation Plan update.

Spent 6/30 \$345,503

60121-3000 Management & Operations Planning

Budget \$175,000 Meetings of the Central Ohio ITS committee were held in July, October, January, and April. Project updates were provided at each meeting.

Spent 6/30 \$150,795 MORPC continued to engage in the OARC freight transportation working group over FY 2021. MORPC organized several virtual meetings for the OARC Freight Working Group. MORPC participated in events organized by the Columbus Region Logistics Council, the Mid-Ohio Development Exchange (MODE), and other Chamber of Commerce and OneColumbus events related to freight and logistics in Central Ohio. MORPC hosted the Ohio Conference on Freight (virtually) in May 2021.

60131-1000 Safety Planning

Budget \$125,000 The team was actively involved in local safety initiatives and assisted other departments and agencies with project evaluation based on crash data. MORPC staff also hosted its first safety forum to learn from others around the state and country. MORPC continues to be the OARC representative on statewide and regional safety committees, such as the Transportation Records Coordination Committee, the Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan Steering Committee, and Safe Communities, including the Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review Board.

Spent 6/30 \$97,937

60151-3000 Transit and Human Services Planning

Budget \$75,000 MORPC began updating the Regional Mobility Coordinated Plan or the Coordinated Plan for nine counties per ODOT Office of Transit's Human Service Transportation Coordination Region 6. Counties include Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Logan, Madison, Pickaway and Union

Spent 6/30 \$64,592

MORPC facilitated COTA/DCT/LCT/LCATS/MORPC and added Fairfield, Pickaway and Union Counties to the Transit Coordination quarterly meetings. These meetings covered communications, coordination, pilots, public information, mobility management, service and capital planning with each agency.

In cooperation with COTA, DCT & LCT MORPC administered the apportionment of FFY 2021, FFY 2021 CRRSAA and ARP Act Section 5307, 5340 and 5339 funding within the Columbus UZA Split Letter.

MORPC participated in discussions with local employers and governments that have limited access to transit. MORPC worked with COTA and DCT to implement new First/Last mile service. MORPC also worked with COTA DCT and other county transit entities on the COTA Integrated Mobility Innovation grant

60201-3000**Budget** \$275,000**Spent 6/30** \$256,057**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Implementation**

Five amendments to the FY 2021-2024 TIP requested by ODOT and local agencies were prepared, processed and approved. Federally funded projects were coordinated with local agencies, ODOT and the Ohio Public Works Commission. ODOT District staff scheduled quarterly meetings with local sponsoring agencies, their consultants, and MORPC staff. Monthly reports on the status of the MORPC-attributable projects were provided to the TAC. MORPC, COTA, DCT, and ODOT Transit met quarterly to stay current on transit-specific TIP issues.

The process to solicit and select projects to use MORPC-attributable federal funding was completed. MORPC received 31 final applications for new funding commitments that totaling over \$200 million. MORPC staff and the Attributable Funds Committee (AFC) completed a review and evaluation of the projects from October 2020 through January 2021. The AFC approved a draft of funding recommendations for attributable funds available for SFYs 2022-2027. The draft recommendations were available for public review and comment from February 26 until March 28, 2021. MORPC reaffirmed and updated previous commitments of over \$134 million and made \$78 million in new commitments. It did not fulfill requests for another \$146 million.

For SFY 2021, approximately \$26 million of attributable funds were encumbered for use on transportation projects and programs in the region.

ODOT suspended its 2020 TRAC application process, so the typical fall 2020 prioritization was not needed. In early 2021 ODOT did announce an accelerated 2021 TRAC round with applications due in May. Nine projects were submitted in the MORPC area. Project fact sheets were prepared and a public comment period began to solicit comments on the MPO prioritization of the projects. MORPC prioritization of the projects was completed in June and presented to ODOT.

Assistance was provided to ODOT and local agencies in preparing and follow up on applications for INFRA and BUILD. MORPC helped form the Franklin County Transportation Improvements District.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

60511-2000**Budget** \$445,000**Spent 6/30** \$445,807**Manage, Map, Collect, and Share Data**

MORPC updates base GIS files and other transportation and planning datasets from state, federal, and local sources on a quarterly, annual, or as needed basis.

MORPC maintains an open data site called Mid-Ohio Open Data (MOOD) - <https://public-morpc.hub.arcgis.com/> - to make GIS and other data files available for download. To make data accessible to nontechnical audiences and those without GIS capabilities, many of MORPC's data is also available for viewing through interactive maps on the same MOOD open data site.

MORPC expanded our COVID-19 resource hub with data and links specific to Central Ohio and targeted primarily toward the needs of local governments. The focus switched from # of cases to vaccination rates and locations.

MORPC's Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) continues to meet on a quarterly basis and advises staff and Commission on MORPC's role as a leader in regional data efforts. This year the Regional Data Agenda was updated and approved.

MORPC continues to host three data- and mapping-focused user groups. The Central Ohio GIS User Group consists of public sector GIS officials from throughout Central Ohio, RIDG for data centric professionals in the region and COSMOS consists of IT directors from several Central Ohio jurisdictions.

MORPC continues to facilitate the maintenance of the Franklin County LBRS. Road centerlines, address points, bikeways and sidewalk mapping files are structured so local communities can jointly edit a common GIS files. This year we are working with the ODOT and their consultant to help process for consumption into the ODOT roadway network.

MORPC's work on the 2020 Census included participating in a NARC working group to provide comments to the Census Bureau on changes to the methodology to identify the urbanized area. The Data & Mapping Director chaired the Columbus/Franklin County Complete Count Committee Local Government Subcommittee and was active in the Columbus/Franklin County Complete Count Committee and the Ohio Census Advocacy Coalition (OCAC).

60521-2000**Budget** \$400,000**Spent 6/30** \$394,182**Data Analytics and Research for Transportation Projects and Programs**

MORPC conflated multiple datasets to generated Level of Traffic stress scores for the Federal Aid Roads, as part of the Active Transportation Plan.

A cycle of Attributable Funding projects was analyzed and draft recommendation maps created.

For the Gohio Commute program, MORPC performs cluster and hotspot analyses to identify potential mode shift opportunities for employers considering participation in the program.

As part of the Regional Housing Strategy that MORPC is leading, dashboard tools were produced as resources for the region's housing stakeholders. The Implementer's Toolkit helps local planners and policymakers identify actions to implement based on local housing submarket conditions and the Metrics Dashboard tracks regional progress toward four overarching housing goals.

Significant data collection and analysis support was provided in the update to the Regional Sustainability Agenda. This included the development of metrics to reflect a set of stakeholder-generated sustainability objectives using the best available data sources. Trend analysis and contextual research were used to set progress targets.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

60551-3000**Budget** \$280,000**Spent 6/30** \$298,160**Transportation Systems Analysis Techniques and Applications**

Staff continued working closely with the consultant, ODOT and other MPOs on the improvements of the 3C regional travel demand model. Staff continued conducting test runs of the 3C model on MORPC's server and worked diligently with the consultant to refine/improve the 3C model. The model was used for several planning studies.

Air quality analysis was conducted for projects requesting CMAQ eligibility. Staff continued using travel time data from INRIX/NPMRDS to produce measures for various studies and showing the COVID impacts of reduced travel on peak period speeds. The origin-destination (O-D) data available from ODOT's subscription to Streetlight Insight and produce meaningful measures for several studies.

Many traffic growth rate requests were fulfilled throughout the region.

61011-3000**Budget** \$290,000**Spent 6/30** \$279,144**Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Planning**

MORPC's MTP (and TIP) received conformity determination from USDOT effective July 1.

MORPC staff also sent documentation to ODOT in compliance with the federal performance management program safety targets.

Staff began working with the LinkUS team on a proposed amendment to the 2020-2050 MTP to reflect recent work completed by the LinkUS team to on the East-West transit corridors and the Northwest transit corridor based on recent corridor studies.

Staff from across the agency have been compiling data to report the 2021 condition for each of the adopted performance measures. The data will be summarized in an MTP Report Card document.

Staff drafted a general timeline of tasks and milestones for the development of the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Columbus area, which must be adopted by May 2024. Initial data collection and development activities have begun.

61021-0400**Budget** \$122,359**Spent 6/30** \$107,499**Transportation Public Involvement**

Eight meetings of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and 10 meetings of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) took place, all of which were in a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All transportation-related topics included elsewhere in the PWP report were presented. The committees reviewed and passed 10 transportation-related resolutions over the year.

Press Releases, printed materials, and digital content (social media and electronic newsletters) were regularly used to solicit public participation and involvement on transportation-related activities. Topics included were: Central Ohio Transit Authority and Delaware County Transit updates; MORPC-attributable Funds; Transportation Improvement Program, Active Transportation Plan, Transportation Review Advisory Committee Process/Projects; People Who Bike Campaign; Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan; Central Ohio Greenways; Planning Work Program; COVID-19 Transportation-related Information; LinkUS Mobility Initiative; Population Estimates; Air Quality; Annual Safety Performance Measures; Smart Region Task Force; Regional Sustainability Dashboard; Regional Sustainability Agenda; Ohio Public Works Commission; Competitive Advantage Projects; Regional Mobility Plan; Intelligent Transportation Systems; Public Participation Plan; COTA Multi-County Innovative Mobility Initiative; and State of Safety Report.

62511-1000**Budget** \$200,000**Spent 6/30** \$198,285**Planning Coordination and Support**

MORPC met regularly with its member communities to receive planning updates and to provide assistance and coordination for some of their projects. Four times a year, MORPC held regional collaboration meetings, and at least monthly, MORPC provided educational transportation workshops and forums.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

69711-3000

Budget \$105,000

Spent 6/30 \$101,248

Program Administration

Meetings of the MPO transportation committees (CAC, TAC & Policy) were conducted throughout the year, with the CAC holding eight meetings and the TAC and Policy Committee each holding ten meetings. The 2020 PWP completion report was prepared as well as the 2022 PWP.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

II. Special Studies

Total Budget \$1,332,368

Balance Remaining for SFY 2021 or later is \$154,018

WORK ELEMENT REPORT SUMMARY **FUNDING SUMMARY**

66507-1000

Central Ohio Greenways Planning

Budget \$200,000 ^
100% MORPC STBG with Toll
Credit

Spent 6/30 \$198,954

Staff managed the development of the Regional Trail Prioritization Plan that prioritized implementation of future trail segments. Staff finalized the development of the COG Urban Greenway Design Guide that provides design guidance for member agencies to implement the most appropriate trail facility. Staff commenced and advanced development of the Economic Impact of Trails that will identify how trails can assist in savings on health care and transportation as well as increasing investment in real estate and job creation.

The RAPID 5 project, a partnership between ULI Columbus and COG was initiated to create a vision of how to activate the river corridors while creating linear, paved transportation connections within the corridors and to the corridors that are aligned with the Regional Trail Vision.

66541-0400

Paving The Way

Budget \$100,000
100% MORPC STBG using toll
credit

Spent 6/30 \$69,336

The upgraded Paving the Way system launched in FY2020 is currently in use by communities throughout Central Ohio, which represents a significant expansion beyond the prior system. Local government staff, as well as their consultants and contractors, are able to maintain project information directly in the system. MORPC continues to function as the site administrator and provide support for users, while also responding to general inquiries.

66561-3000

Supplemental Planning

Budget \$350,000
100% MORPC STBG using toll
credit

Spent 6/30 \$350,000

- 1) See 60201-3000 for activities related to the TIP and project expedition.
- 2) In spring of 2021 traffic counts were collected in the more rural areas of the region.
- 3) See 60521-2000 for activities related to the data sharing tools.
- 4) MORPC provided planning data and travel demand forecasting support for several local and regional planning activities, including: ODOT US-33 Southeast Study, LinkUS Mobility Initiative, ODOT Rt 23 Connect , TIS support in Jerome Township, Etna Township, Columbus (Quarry/Mckinley, Westbourne Ave), Dublin, and others.
- 5) Discussions continued on intercity passenger service including talks with Amtrack.
- 6) Staff worked with the Sustainability team on identifying research needs and projects around Climate Change. The Sustaining Scioto is one project that addresses water quality.
- 7) With the support of an active working group, staff updated its Regional Sustainability Agenda and ensured that its goals were aligned with the MTP and were focused around equity.

66571-1000

Technical Assistance Program

Budget \$200,000
100% MORPC STBG using toll
credit

Spent 6/30 \$190,215

The following communities received Technical Assistance under this program: cities of Columbus, Hilliard, and Westerville as well as for Franklin County and Jefferson Township. All projects are nearly completed.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

67410-3000

Budget \$108,597 ^
 100% FTA 5310 Administration
 10% of Apportionment
Spent 6/30 \$146,283

5310 Designated Recipient-2020

MORPC administered contracts after execution in TrAMS with subrecipients receiving 5310 funding from past apportionments to the Columbus, Ohio UZA according to MORPC's Program Management Plan (PMP). The following FTA Grant Agreements were administered:

Staff has started the process of updating the comonitored and participated in efforts to address goals and strategies of the 2018-2021 Coordinated Plan for nine counties

67411-3000

Budget \$113,771 ^
 100% FTA 5310 Administration
 10% of Apportionment
Spent 6/30 \$0

5310 Designated Recipient-2021

See 67410-3000 for description of work completed in FY 2021. For the 2022 PWP the funding for this activity was combined into 64710-3000 and that work element carried forward in the FY 2022 PWP.

67420-3000

Budget \$130,000 ^
 80% FTA 5310, 20% local
Spent 6/30 \$183,113

Mobility Management 2020

MORPC began updating the Regional Mobility Coordinated Plan or the Coordinated Plan for nine counties per ODOT Office of Transit's Human Service Transportation Coordination Region 6. Counties include Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Logan, Madison, Pickaway and Union.

MORPC worked with RideAmigos that provides the Gohio Commute platform and worked with NOACA and ODOT Office of Transit in develop and test Gohio Mobility a search t intended to help individuals, caregivers, mobility mangers and social service agencies in urban and rural areas find transportation services. Ideally, this tool will assist in coordinating transportation for medical, work, and social trips. The Gohio Mobility search tool hosts transportation provider data that can be identified based on specific search criteria

67421-3000

Budget \$130,000 ^
 80% FTA 5310, 20% local
Spent 6/30 \$0

Mobility Management 2021

See 67420-3000 for description of work completed in FY 2021. For the 2022 PWP the funding for this activity was combined into 64720-3000 and that work element carried forward in the FY 2022 PWP.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

III. Ridesharing and Air Quality Projects

Total Budget \$1,250,000

WORK ELEMENT REPORT SUMMARY **FUNDING SUMMARY**

66711-3000

Budget \$700,000

100% MORPC CMAQ

Spent 6/30 \$645,519

Transportation Services (Ridesharing)

Gohio Commute continued to promote vanpool and carpool services in addition to other modes such as biking, walking and riding transit. The program sponsors and develops program services based on the needs of the individual commuter, employer, job-ready/training programs, colleges/universities, non-profits and communities throughout the region. MORPC is leveraging relationships with other TDM partners to encourage modal shift, generating more of a streamlined and coordinated message to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips.

During the COVID-19 pandemic some vanpools were paused but other were created and maintained. MORPC NTD data was entered for 2020.

MORPC developed an employer telework policy guide to assist employees setting up work from home standards.

MORPC prepared the 2020-2021 Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan and monitored initiatives in the 2018-2019 plan with an emphasis on shifting cultural SOV preferences, performance based programing, collaborative champions, and TDM policy integration.

Related to MORPC's TDM Strategic Plan, MORPC and other Ohio rideshare agencies are using an interactive ridesharing platform that can be used by each rideshare agency in the state. OARC is using RideAmigos to provide rideshare, TDM and air quality platform with consistent brand (Gohio Commute) for ridesharing across the state. Gohio Commute has been in use since May 2017.

Due to COVID-19 MORPC's Air Quality and Gohio Commute did not hold a Central Ohio Commuter Challenge campaign.

66731-1000

Budget \$550,000

100% MORPC CMAQ

Spent 6/30 \$520,865

Air Quality Awareness

MORPC maintained its daily air quality forecasting program and coordinated digitally focused marketing to educate the public about air quality. MORPC convened bi-monthly Energy and Air Quality Working Group meetings to share best practices.

In partnership with Franklin County Public Health and working group members, MORPC continues to actively work on deploying particulate matter monitors across Franklin County to increase awareness of air pollution and monitor for potential differences in air pollution levels between neighborhoods.

MORPC participated in planning efforts to shape the future direction of the Smart Columbus program and continues to be a resource to its members around EV infrastructure and greenhouse gas emissions. MORPC was designated as a SolSmart member which allowed the agency to receive free technical assistance to its members.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021

IV. Projects Undertaken By Other Entities

Total Budget \$0

WORK ELEMENT REPORT SUMMARY **FUNDING SUMMARY**

66505-3000

Budget \$0

No funding

Spent 6/30 \$0

Ongoing Local Planning

MORPC regularly monitors local planning activities. A current library of new plans is maintained on the website under the Studies and Plans section. MORPC staff regularly participates in planning efforts of local communities.

The CAP initiative is a partnership between MORPC and One Columbus, to advance strategic infrastructure projects across Central Ohio by developing a vetted list of regional infrastructure project priorities. During the past fiscal year, MORPC continued to advocate and assist in finding funding for CAP projects.

MORPC continued to assist with administration of The Franklin County Transportation Improvements District (TID), a tool for advancing transportation projects. A few projects receiving ODOT funding as a result.

67401-3000

Budget \$0

No funding

Spent 6/30 \$0

Ongoing COTA Activities

COTA generally makes service changes three times a year - the first Monday of every January, May and September. Public information, review and comment take place before each service change. However, beginning in March 2020, COTA made significant changes to their service in response due to COVID-19 including charging no fares. Fares were reinstated January 2021, and service changes went back to three times a year.

The 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program was maintained as needed, including public involvement requirements for FTA Section 5307. COTA submitted grant requests to FTA. MORPC worked with COTA to develop the 2021-2024 TIP and monitor the MTP

COTA embarked on on their multi county IML grant and County Connections program.

MORPC, COTA, GREAT and New Albany SmartRide continue to work together to promote, track ridership and adjust routes for the first and last mile shuttle. MORPC joined COTA in conversations with employers and local governments working on Mobility Plans. COTA worked with Dublin and Share for workforce development transportation and Grove City and Westerville on an on demand microtransit first mile last mile servicet for connections to jobs and health care. COTA continues Mainstream on Demand Pilot to provide non-ADA trips to eligible Mainstream paratransit riders.

The C-Pass system with COTA and the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District (SID) was maintained.

67402-3000

Budget \$0

No funding

Spent 6/30 \$0

Ongoing DCT Activities

DCT continues to evolve from the 2010 Columbus UZA boundary change. Topics included the FTA funding transition from rural Section 5311 to urban Section 5307, state funding changes and local match needs for capital and operating and other FTA funding sources.

The 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program was amended as needed, including public involvement requirements for FTA Section 5307 . MORPC worked with DCT to develop the 2021-2024 TIP.

Beginning in March 2020, DCT made significant changes to their service in response to COVID-19. These chages have remained. After eliminating fixed route service their Flex service in Delaware City has been successful.

^ Project continues beyond SFY 2021



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Níel M. Jurist, Director, Communications & Engagement
Thea Ewing, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: September 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-10-21: "**ADOPTING THE 2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**"

MORPC has updated the agency's Public Participation Plan (previously named Public Involvement Plan, or PIP). A Public Participation Plan (PPP) lays out how a federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO), like MORPC, reaches out to members of the public for their input as it carries out the region's transportation planning process.

The PPP is designed to provide the public with the opportunity to participate in, review, and comment on the formulation of transportation policies, plans, and programs. MORPC's plan includes a structured committee process, a project-specific process, and a public outreach/information dissemination effort tailored to meet specific needs.

The transportation planning area for the MORPC MPO includes: Delaware and Franklin counties; Bloom and Violet townships in Fairfield County; New Albany, Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County; and Jerome Township in Union County.

MORPC did not overhaul its current public involvement processes, but updates were made in relation to new or emerging technologies and strategies to ensure the agency can effectively reach diverse populations, including those historically underserved and/or underrepresented in the transportation system.

A formal public comment period on the draft PPP began on July 9, 2021, and lasted through August 25, 2021. There were no comments received.

The final PPP is reviewed by the Ohio Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration to ensure that full and open access is provided by MORPC, COTA and Delaware County Transit in the transportation decision-making process.

Attachment: Resolution T-10-21

###

“ADOPTING THE 2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN”

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Committee of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission is designated as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) by the governor, acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and in cooperation with locally elected officials for Delaware and Franklin counties, Bloom and Violet townships in Fairfield County, New Albany, Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County and Jerome Township in Union County; and

WHEREAS, the FAST Act and the most recent federal metropolitan planning regulations require the MPO to engage in a proactive process that provides the public with complete information, timely notice, full access to key decisions, and supports early and continuing involvement while developing plans, such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and programs, such as the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, the MPO's first public involvement plan was prepared and endorsed in January 1995 and the plan outlines a continuous process that utilizes MORPC's Transportation and Community Advisory Committees, special project committees, and general outreach and information dissemination; and

WHEREAS, the plan was amended in June 2000 to include the Central Ohio Transit Authority's (COTA's) planning and development of its program of transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the plan was amended in June 2005 to incorporate revisions to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) bylaws, requirements of the new Americans with Disabilities (ADA) laws, and MORPC's Title VI complaint process, among other changes; and

WHEREAS, the plan was amended in 2013 to incorporate the planning and development of Delaware Area Transit Agency – now Delaware County Transit Board – program of transit projects, the Consultation process to involve local governments and other stakeholders, and updates to the approach to outreach and use of social media; and

WHEREAS, the plan was amended in 2015 to include the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) Section 5307 annual Program of Projects in the public involvement process.

WHEREAS, the 2021 Public Participation Plan incorporates new technology options and outreach methods to diverse audiences and those traditionally underserved or underrepresented by the transportation system and the plan was made available to the public for a 45-day review and comment period; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its August 30, 2021 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its September 1, 2021 meeting recommended approval 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 Transportation Policy Committee adopts the 2021 Public Participation Plan.
- Section 2. That it directs staff to implement, monitor and recommend updates to the Plan as needed.
- Section 3. That it directs staff to transmit this resolution to ODOT, COTA, Delaware County Transit, FHWA and FTA.
- Section 4. That this 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 J. Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date

Prepared by: Transportation Staff
Attachment: 2021 Public Participation Plan



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

METROPOLITAN
PLANNING
ORGANIZATION

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

SEPTEMBER 2021



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INTRODUCTION

The Public Participation Plan specifies the procedures that the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) will use to reach members of the public for their input while conducting its transportation planning process. The plan also includes a section on environmental justice, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and nondiscrimination complaint procedures for programs and activities of MORPC.

BACKGROUND

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is composed of local governments in Central Ohio. Franklin County and nearby counties, as well as their cities, villages and townships, are eligible for membership.

The agency's envisioned future for the 15 urban and rural counties it serves is one of prosperity and growth. The members and staff take pride in bringing communities of all sizes and interests together to collaborate and build consensus on economic and community development, transportation and other infrastructure projects, energy, and environmental sustainability.

Elected and appointed officials from local governments serve as representatives on the commission, which determines the strategic direction of the agency and sets its policies. All meetings are open to the public.

Because of MORPC's role in the region, its Transportation Policy Committee was formed and designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Columbus urbanized area in 1964. The Transportation Policy Committee maintains that role today.

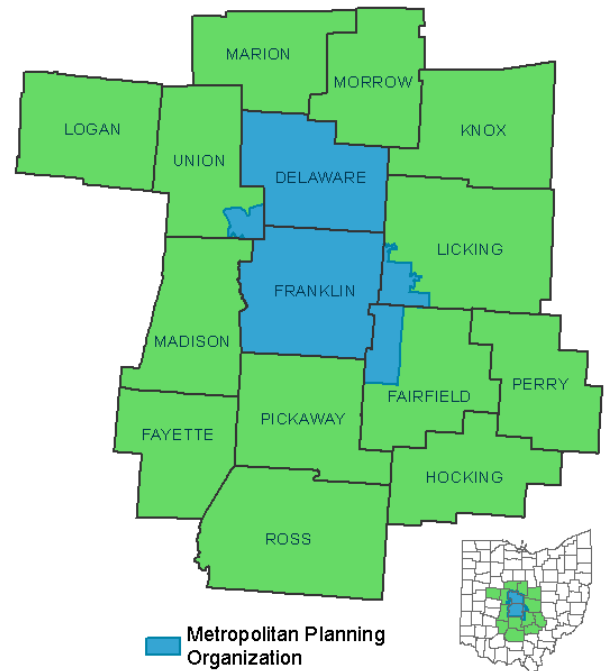
MORPC AS THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

As the MPO, MORPC's Transportation Policy Committee conducts the federally required "3C" transportation planning process – a process that is continuous, cooperative and comprehensive.

The Transportation Policy Committee serves as a forum for decision making within the MPO boundaries, and the members approve required actions of the transportation planning process.

AS OF 2021, MORPC'S MPO AREA INCLUDES:

- Franklin County
- Delaware County
- Bloom and Violet townships in Fairfield County
- New Albany, Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County
- Jerome Township in Union County



There are no tribal lands or federal public lands identified in the MPO planning area. The MPO boundaries are updated every 10 years based on the results of the federal decennial census.

The transportation planning process results in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes for all people. It is the basis for the development of MORPC's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The MTP and TIP are lawfully required products of MPOs.

[View Federal Regulations Related to Metropolitan Planning Organizations](#)

The MPO plans and programs lead to the development and operation of the region's integrated, multimodal transportation system that facilitates the efficient and economic movement of people and goods.

Public participation provides a deliberative and transparent process for people affected by the projects, strategies, and initiatives to be involved. “People,” as defined here, includes:

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

Input from all these groups creates a more inclusive process in shaping the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program, as well as other actions and considerations of the MPO.



The public participation process encourages early and continuous involvement that not only helps to develop plans that accommodate personal mobility needs, but also the efficient movement of goods. Public participation is also required by the Metropolitan Planning Regulations of the United States Department of Transportation in 23 CFR 450.316, 49 U.S.C. 5307(b)(1-7) and FTA Circular 9030.1E.

This Public Participation Plan is the process through which public participation activities are conducted by MORPC in fulfilling its MPO role. Through it, MORPC strives to provide a transparent and accessible process, ensure adequate notice of public participation activities, and educate stakeholders and the public on transportation-planning processes and products.

The transportation-planning process is complex. Because of this complexity, all interested groups are encouraged to view the morpc.org website, solicit presentations, and attend meetings and other public forums to gain an understanding of the process and plans.

The meetings are designed not only to educate and inform the public, but also to allow the public the opportunity to provide input into the various elements of the planning and decision-making process.

MORPC, as the MPO, will consult agencies and officials responsible for other planning activities within the metropolitan planning area that are affected by transportation – state and local planned growth agencies, airport operations, freight movements, safety agencies, active transportation groups, non-profit organizations, environmental protection groups, economic development agencies – and provide for the design and delivery of transportation services. The input will be considered and provided to the public for review and comment during each of the plan or study milestones.

Furthermore, the public is encouraged to contact MORPC to answer questions related to its transportation-planning work.

The procedures and strategies contained in this plan to ensure a full and open participation process are to be periodically reviewed for effectiveness.



INTENT OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

The Public Participation Plan is designed to provide the public with the opportunity to participate in, review, and comment on the formulation of transportation policies, plans, and programs.

This process provides a set of procedures to be consistently and comprehensively applied to incorporate the public's involvement in the transportation planning process, including the planning and development of the Central Ohio Transit Authority's (COTA's) and Delaware County Transit's (DCT's) programs and projects.

The plan further serves to satisfy the public participation requirements for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program grant funding received by both COTA and DCT.

In addition, as the designated recipient for FTA Section 5310 funds – Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities – that awards grants to sub-recipients, MORPC makes the draft list of all projects being considered for funding available for public review and comment.

It is the intent of the MPO to utilize the participation process in a proactive manner to solicit input from a broad representation of the community. The MPO will secure data and consult with resource agencies, social service agencies, environmental groups and associations, state, county and local governmental agencies, and other non-governmental agencies.

The MPO actively seeks the views of the minority, people with disabilities, older adults, low-income, and other populations traditionally underserved by transportation to ensure that a broad representation is obtained.

The overall process is based upon 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

The Public Participation Plan is reviewed periodically by the Ohio Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration to ensure that full and open access is provided by the MPO, COTA, and DCT in the transportation decision-making process.

The plan outlined in the following sections enhances the opportunity for public input and satisfies federal requirements for public participation.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

MORPC uses a three-tier process to solicit input in the development of transportation plans, programs, and policies. This process includes:

1. A structured MPO committee process
2. A study/project-specific process
3. A public outreach/information collection and dissemination effort tailored to meet specific needs

TIER 1: METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE PROCESS

The MPO’s existing public involvement structure incorporates the activities of three transportation committees: the Transportation Policy Committee; the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC); and the Community Advisory Committee (CAC).



The Transportation Policy Committee is the MPO, and therefore serves as the final decision-making body. The policy committee includes the representation of local elected officials, officials of agencies that administer or operate major modes or systems of transportation, appropriate state officials, and the chair of the Community Advisory Committee.

It is responsible for the review and adoption of all MPO planning work products such as the Public Participation Plan, the Planning Work Program, the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the four-year Transportation Improvement Program, major area studies or corridor plans, amendments to adopted plans and programs, COTA’s and Delaware County Transit’s programs and projects, and FTA funding such as the Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula annual Program of Projects. The actions of the Transportation Policy Committee are based upon recommendations from the Transportation Advisory Committee and Community Advisory Committee.

The policy committee meetings take place in tandem with MORPC’s full commission meetings, allowing many representatives from outside the MPO area to also be aware of MPO transportation-related decisions. For more information, see the Transportation Policy Committee Bylaws (Appendix A).

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) provides technical advice, assistance, and recommendations to the Transportation Policy Committee and MPO staff. TAC reviews the procedures for and results of the various phases of the transportation planning process and special studies, methodology, projections, assumptions, and recommended plans, programs, strategies and solutions before submission to the Transportation Policy Committee.

TAC’s membership represents state, local, and federal transportation agencies, public utilities, public and private transportation providers, environmental and freight interests, and consultants. For more information, see the TAC Bylaws (Appendix B).

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) provides recommendations to the Transportation Policy Committee from the perspective of residents, special interests, and communities. The CAC is one method by which the public can review and participate in all current transportation planning efforts, projects, and issues.

The CAC membership, as defined by its bylaws, is a broad representation of the community including, but not limited to, low-income and minority households, special interest groups, neighborhood and area commissions, and those traditionally underserved by transportation.

By having a membership that usually serves for several years, the CAC becomes educated about transportation issues, constraints, and processes and their relationship to other conditions in the community. For more information, see the CAC Bylaws (Appendix C).

We strive to ensure that we are continuously improving diverse representation and voices on our committees and within our membership. Also, our goal is to commit to culturally competent committee members, which represent the diverse region that we serve.

All of these committees offer the chance for input to be provided on the MPO’s transportation work. The committees meet regularly throughout the year. In addition, MORPC’s MPO committee work is supplemented and informed by additional committees of MORPC, including the agency’s Sustainability Advisory Committee, Regional Data Advisory Committee, Regional Policy Roundtable, and the Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization.

All MORPC meetings are open to the public – in accordance with Ohio law – with advance notice and meeting materials posted at morpc.org. Although it is standard for these meetings to be held in person – and usually at the MORPC office – there may be virtual options for some people to participate.

Special assistance can be provided to individuals such as those who are hearing impaired, provided that arrangements are made reasonably in advance of the meetings.



TIER 2: STUDY/PROJECT-SPECIFIC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Participation in specific studies occurs through the formation of committees or the utilization of standing committees, with these special studies having their own participation efforts as defined during the scoping of the study. Committee structure need is reviewed to ensure that the appropriate segments of the population and specific special interests are represented and encouraged to participate.

The committee members for these projects assist by addressing study issues through reviewing and providing feedback on information presented, answering questions at public meetings, and by providing information to their constituents. Study team members may supplement committee meeting presentations with presentations to committee member constituent groups.

Agencies that undertake area studies and corridor plans, where there is a specific need of intensive study to determine potential transportation needs and impacts, follow this process.

People who may be impacted directly by the study results are involved through the following process:

- Advisory groups may be established for the study, and standing committees that include representation of specific target groups may be formed. Representatives from appropriate neighborhood and area commissions, employers, resource agencies, businesses, special interests, and local, state and federal transportation agencies are invited to participate. The advisory group meetings are held in venues convenient to the study area and may include virtual options.
- Public meetings are scheduled in or near the study area at accessible locations, and they may also include virtual options. Invitations to attend the meetings are marketed through website postings, social media (including paid or boosted posts), electronic newsletters, and through direct and/or electronic mail to neighborhood and civic associations, employers, businesses, resource agencies, media, local communities, and other representative group in the study and transportation planning area.

Interim updates and final results of these studies or projects are presented to the advisory groups, Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, Transportation Policy Committee, and other interested groups and communities. Short, written reports on progress may also be provided.

Information on the study milestones may be displayed in a newsletter and distributed to the media, general public, and public libraries, as well as placed on a website and on social media.

A web page or website specifically for these studies or projects may be developed. If this is the case, all written documents and presentations will include the web address of the study.

MORPC's website has the capability of being automatically translated into various languages. Draft and final versions are available for public review and comment on the website and with print materials available. Comments can be submitted written or orally.

Comments are to be summarized by the study team and included with the final plan/program documents. If a plan or program is changed significantly from the original format made available for public comment and raises new issues, additional opportunity for public comment on the revised document will be provided.

TIER 3: PUBLIC OUTREACH/INFORMATION COLLECTION & DISSEMINATION

MORPC engages the public in the transportation planning process through an array of outreach methods and options, including:

- Public meetings or focus groups (in person and/or virtual)
- One-on-one or small-group contacts
- Surveys
- Social media
- E-mail blasts
- Community events/festivals
- Presentations
- Website
- Interactive web maps and story maps
- Videos and podcasts
- Various printed marketing and collateral materials (often translated to additional languages)
- Public engagement digital platforms and applications

Upon request, MPO work products and documents are made available in alternative formats, if they can be reasonably accommodated by staff or consultants.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The public outreach program for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, COTA, DCT and FTA Section 5307 Program of Projects includes the following:

- Legal notices are placed, as required by 23 CFR 450.316, in local newspapers (with the largest circulation for each county and minority newspapers) at the beginning of work on a new Metropolitan Transportation Plan or Transportation Improvement Program.
- Legal notices are placed for public hearings.
- MORPC's website is updated and press releases are distributed to the media announcing the availability of draft and final major reports, public review periods, public meetings, and other transportation planning efforts.

Posting of information on all transportation programs and projects can be found at morpc.org or on project-specific websites. MORPC's website has the capability of being translated into various languages. Public comments can be submitted through the website, by electronic mail, or sent through U.S. mail.

Announcements to review draft reports and attend public meetings are sent to a list maintained by MORPC that includes neighborhood and civic associations, local communities, special interest groups, businesses, resource agencies, and other representative groups by direct and electronic mail. They are also placed on social media (including paid and boosted posts) and included in electronic newsletters.

MORPC's periodic publications that provide information pertaining to various transportation activities include an electronic newsletter, the Regional eSource, and an annual printed report distributed to a mass audience – typically associated with the agency's annual State of the Region event.

Copies of drafts and final reports for plans and programs are distributed to local libraries and are placed on the website.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

In a period of a public health emergency or disaster recovery – when social distancing is required, or when a weather-related or other disaster prevents regular public involvement processes from going forward – alternative arrangements may be made to the participation process that continue to allow for meaningful involvement from members of the public. These may include alternative in-person meetings, virtual-only meetings, or other methods. MORPC will use the resources available to it to notify and inform the public of such changes.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES

The various components of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan are presented to the Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and Transportation Policy Committee for review and comment over the course of its development.

A notice of availability of the draft documents for review with a minimum 30-day comment period by the general public is distributed by social media (including paid and boosted posts), and by direct and electronic mail to neighborhood and civic associations, employers, resource agencies, media, and local communities. A web map with proposed projects is also available. A notice of availability and copies of draft documents are distributed to area libraries and placed on the website at morpc.org/mtp.

MTP OPEN HOUSE

The MPO hosts an open house at an accessible location at least 30 days prior to the adoption of the transportation plan. At the open house, a formal presentation that can be generally understood is provided, the various components of the transportation plan are displayed, and MPO staff is available to answer questions.

Invitations to attend the open house are posted on the website and social media (including paid and boosted posts), and distributed by direct and electronic mail to a list maintained by MORPC that includes: the Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, Transportation Policy Committee members; neighborhood and civic associations; employers; resource agencies; social service agencies; media; local communities; and other representative groups in the transportation planning area.

The open house may include virtual components, and a copy of the formal presentation slides and/or video is placed on the website.

COMMENTS ON THE MTP

Comments are received electronically, by U.S. mail, or submitted in writing at public meetings. MORPC will accommodate the needs of any member of the public in submitting comments within the allotted time period.

All comments received are considered public comments, and therefore are subject to disclosure under Ohio's Public Records Act. All public comments received are reviewed for consideration and if found appropriate, are incorporated into the document. All responses are included in the final adopted document in a separate appendix. Copies of the final adopted document are sent to area libraries in the transportation planning area.

AMENDMENTS TO THE MTP

In order for transportation projects to be eligible for federal funding, they must be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. At times, it may be necessary to amend the Metropolitan Transportation Plan – part of the continuous planning process. Amendments to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan will be made available to the public for a 30-day comment period prior to approval.

Amendments are brought before the Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and Transportation Policy Committee for approval after being included on the committee agendas and in the meeting materials in advance. The amendment and the revised Metropolitan Transportation Plan – including the revised project listing, map, and other amendment changes – will be placed on the website.

Upon request, MPO work products and documents are made available in alternative formats, if they can be reasonably accommodated by staff or consultants.



TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES

Prior to the development of the draft Transportation Improvement Program, a legal notice is placed in the major local and minority newspapers announcing the update. The notice will satisfy requirements for public participation in the development of the FTA Section 5307 Program of Projects.

A notice announcing the availability of the draft TIP for review, with a minimum 30-day comment period, is sent to neighborhood and civic associations, employers, resource agencies, media, and local communities. A web map with proposed projects is also available.

The notice distributed by direct and electronic mail and social media (including paid and boosted posts) announces the comment period and states where a copy of the document can be obtained or viewed. The draft document is distributed to area libraries in the planning area and placed on the website at morpc.org/tip.

TIP OPEN HOUSE

MORPC hosts an open house at an accessible location at least 30 days prior to the adoption of the TIP. Elements of the TIP, including the FTA Section 5307 Program of Projects, are displayed, and a presentation that can be generally understood is conducted on the information. MPO staff members are available to answer questions.

Invitations to attend the open house are posted on the website and social media (including paid and boosted posts), and distributed by electronic and direct mail to a list maintained by MORPC that includes: the Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, Transportation Policy Committee members; neighborhood and civic associations; employers; resource agencies; social service agencies; media; local communities; and other representative groups in the transportation planning area.

The open house may include virtual components, and a copy of the formal presentation slides and/or video is placed on the website.

COMMENTS ON THE TIP

Comments are received electronically, by U.S. mail, or submitted in writing at public meetings. MORPC will accommodate the needs of any member of the public in submitting comments within the allotted time period. All public comments received are considered, and responses are included in the final adopted document located in a separate appendix. Copies of the final document are placed on the website and sent to area libraries in the transportation planning area.

AMENDMENTS TO THE TIP

Periodically amendments to the TIP are needed because the schedule, scope, or funding of a transportation project needs to be revised or a new project needs to be added to the TIP. This is part of the continuous planning process. Notice of the amendment will also satisfy the public participation requirements for the FTA Section 5307 annual Program of Projects.

The amendment is brought before the Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and Transportation Policy Committee for approval after being included on the committee agendas and in the meeting materials in advance. All amendments to the TIP are placed on the website. Significant amendments – those that simultaneously require a MTP amendment – are made available to the public for a 30-day comment period prior to approval.

Upon request, MPO work products and documents are made available in alternative formats, if they can be reasonably accommodated by staff or consultants.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Recognizing that federal policies, programs, rules and activities could have a disproportionate impact on protected groups, Executive Order 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations,” was issued in February 1994.

The needs of those traditionally underserved by the existing transportation system are sought and considered by the MPO. The following actions are meant to reduce the barriers faced by low-income and/or minority residents, older adults, or people with disabilities for participation in the decision-making process:

- Notices are mailed informing the underserved populations of opportunities to participate, major milestones, public meetings, and other avenues to participate and provide input.
- When possible, public meetings are held in locations that are located along a transit bus route, convenient to low-income populations, and accessible to people with disabilities. Such locations include public libraries, schools, community centers, and churches.
- Agencies and organizations that represent these populations are included in mailings, or contacted through e-mail, when possible.

Outreach to these groups is also part of MORPC's broader diversity, inclusion, and equity efforts.

Upon request, MPO work products and documents are made available in alternative formats, if they can be reasonably accommodated by staff or consultants.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) is a civil rights statute that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in all aspects of life. The ADA, therefore, calls for federally assisted programs to be accessible to people with disabilities.

People with disabilities are represented on MORPC's Community Advisory Committee and encouraged to be involved in the transportation planning process, including the development and improvement of transportation and paratransit plans and services, through any of the various means described previously.

All public meetings conducted by the MPO take place at locations that have accessible facilities to accommodate people with mobility limitations.



NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES OF MORPC

MORPC does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, familial status, religion or disability in programs, services or in employment.

Information on non-discrimination and related MORPC policies and procedures is available at morpc.org. The information is also publicly displayed in the lobby and breakrooms of MORPC's office.

Nondiscrimination procedures cover all external complaints regarding MORPC programs and activities filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or 49 CFR 21, "Nondiscrimination in the Federally Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation."

Information on how to file a complaint can be viewed on MORPC's website at morpc.org/title-vi, where the agency's Title VI Plan and Limited English Proficiency Plan are posted. Printed versions of the complaint process and the complaint form may be requested by calling or e-mailing MORPC's Director of Communications & Engagement at 614.233.4126 or njurist@morpc.org.

CHANGES TO THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

MORPC staff is given the authority to make minor changes to wording and update hyperlinks within this Public Participation Plan to ensure the information is current and directed toward relevant and accurate supplementary sources.

Significant changes or amendments to the plan must be made available to the public for at least a 45-day comment period prior to approval. The updated plan or amendment is brought before the Community Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and Transportation Policy Committee for approval.

The most up-to-date version of the plan will be made available in a web-friendly format that includes a link to the printable PDF version. Printed copies are available upon request.

MORPC staff will periodically review the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the Public Participation Plan with regard to technology, people, and strategies in an effort to ensure a full and open participation process.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Thea J. Ewing, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure
Development

DATE: September 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-11-21: **"AMENDING THE SFY 2022
PLANNING WORK PROGRAM"**

Resolution T-11-21 amends the SFY 2021 Planning Work Program (PWP) to amend the budgets of three work elements because of additional carry over funds from SFY 21 than was included in the SFY 22 PWP.

The SFY 2022 PWP includes one carry over work element from SFY 2021, work element 6011-1000: Active Transportation Planning FY21. The original budget was \$50,000. However, at the conclusion of SFY 21, \$173,150 became the actual carryover amount from SFY 2021 to SFY 2022. The amendment is needed to add this additional funding to the SFT 2022 PWP. Because of the additional funding for the active transportation planning activity, the budget for two other work elements are also being adjusted to better balance the budget across the entire PWP. Work element 60112-1000: Active Transportation Planning is being reduced by \$120,000 and work element 60552-3000: Transportation Systems Analysis Techniques and Applications is being increased by \$120,000. The attachment to the resolution has a table of these changes. There are no changes to the scope or work for any of the work elements.

Attachment: Resolution T-11-21

RESOLUTION T-11-21

"AMENDING THE SFY 2022 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM"

WHEREAS, following review by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), the Transportation Policy Committee accepted the MORPC Planning Work Program (PWP) for Fiscal Year 2021 by Resolution T-4-21; and

WHEREAS, the SFY 2022 PWP includes Work Element 60111-1000 Active Transportation Planning FY21 that is a carryover activity from the SFY 21 PWP with a budget of \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, the actual carryover for this activity from SFY 2021 is \$173,150; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the SFY 22 PWP is needed to reflect this additional carryover amount and make a budget adjustment to two other work elements as shown in the attachment; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its August 30, 2021 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its September 1, 2021 meeting recommended approval 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 it hereby amends the SFY 2021 Planning Work Program (PWP) to amend the work element budgets as shown in the attachment.
- Section 3. That this resolution be forwarded to ODOT and the Federal Transit Administration as evidence of acceptance of this amendment by the Transportation Policy Committee.
- Section 4. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of the committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Karen J. Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date _____

Prepared by: Transportation Staff

Attachment: State Fiscal Year 2022 Work Element Budget Adjustments

State Fiscal Year 2022 Work Element Budget Adjustments

Work Element	Previous Budget	Amended Budget
60111-1000: Active Transportation Planning FY 21 (carry over work element)	\$50,000	\$173,150
60112-1000: Active Transportation Planning	\$420,000	\$300,000
60552-3000: Transportation Systems Analysis Techniques and Applications	\$280,000	\$400,000



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Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Thea Ewing, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Development

DATE: September 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-9-21: **"AMENDING THE 2020-2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN"**

The region's planning partners have been studying High-Capacity Transit corridors for many years, including, most recently, COTA's NextGen plan and the MORPC Insight 2050 Corridor Concepts study. As a result, the 2020-2050 MTP includes five high-capacity transit corridors in the financially constrained plan, however specific modes were not identified when it was adopted in May 2020.

Building upon these regional transit planning efforts, the LinkUS Mobility Initiative was launched in 2020, with the purpose of providing a complete mobility system along key regional corridors, including high capacity and advanced rapid transit, among a broader program of mobility options and infrastructure. The first two corridors to be studied as part of the LinkUS Mobility Initiative were the Northwest Corridor, connecting downtown Columbus to Bethel Rd. (with future studies of a connection to Dublin) along Olentangy River Rd., and the East-West Corridor, which spans Franklin County along West Broad St. and East Broad and East Main Streets. The LinkUS Partners, led by COTA and the City of Columbus, have begun the corridor-specific studies and engagement activities to identify the locally preferred alignments and transit modes for each of these corridors.

To be eligible for federal funds to further advance rapid transit projects in these corridors, they must first be reflected in the regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This amendment is proposed to incorporate the corridor information resulting from the recent LinkUS Mobility Initiative studies.

Of the five high-capacity transit projects already included in the MTP, three projects can now have the specific mode and refined estimates included because of the LinkUS Mobility Initiative corridor studies. Additionally, one transit project that was not previously included in the MTP is proposed to be added as part of this amendment. These projects are all listed and mapped in the Resolution Attachment along with more information on fiscal balance and air quality conformity.

A formal public comment period on the proposed amendment began on August 2, 2021, and lasted through August 31, 2021.

The amendment and the revised MTP, including the revised project listing, maps, fiscal balance information, air quality conformity documentation and other amendment-related changes, will be placed on the website once the resolution to amend the MTP has been approved.

Attachment: Resolution T-9-21

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RESOLUTION T-9-21

“AMENDING THE 2020-2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN”

WHEREAS, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission is designated as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) by the governor acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation and in cooperation with locally elected officials for Franklin and Delaware counties, New Albany, Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County, Violet and Bloom townships in Fairfield County, and Jerome Township in Union County; and

WHEREAS, the MPO, pursuant to 23 United States Code 134 and 49 United States Code 1602(a)(2), 1603(1), and 1604(g)(1), has caused the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) dated May 2020 to be prepared; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) adopted the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) by Resolution T-6-20; and

WHEREAS, projects must be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan to be eligible for federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the 2020-2050 MTP includes five high-capacity transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the LinkUs Mobility Initiative, a partnership among the Central Ohio Transit Authority, City of Columbus, Franklin County and MORPC has advanced high-capacity transit planning activities along the northwest corridor and east-west corridors along Broad Street and east Main Street; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Corridor Mobility Study Phase 1 and the East-West Corridor Alternatives Analysis have been completed as part of the LinkUS Mobility Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Corridor Mobility Study Phase 1 recommended Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) as the transit mode in the Northwest Corridor (MTP ID 643); and

WHEREAS, the East-West Corridor Alternatives Analysis identified BRT as the preferred transit mode for West Broad St. (MTP ID 988), East Main St. (MTP ID 619) and East Broad St., and refined capital cost estimates for each of the three corridors; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2021 the COTA Board of Trustees voted to adopt the three Locally Preferred Alternatives (LPA) as identified in the East-West Corridor Alternatives Analysis for West Broad St., East Main St. and East Broad St; and

WHEREAS, the MTP needs to be amended to include the East Broad Street corridor, establish the mode for each corridor, updated timeframe for implementation, and updated cost information as shown in Figure 1 in the attachment; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal balance of the MTP is maintained because the refined cost estimates combined with the cost of the added project, are not significantly different than the original estimates included in the MTP; and

WHEREAS, the information regarding the project changes, additional project, fiscal balance, and air quality conformity was made available for public comment and review for a 30-day period; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 49 USC, 1607, 23 USC, 134 and 42 USC, 7506, the 2020-2050 amended MTP has been analyzed based on accepted methodology and has been determined to be in conformity with the requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its August 30, 2021 meeting, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its September 1, 2021 meeting recommended approval 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 it amends the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan project listing to add and adjust the projects shown in the Attachment.
- Section 2. That it directs staff to update the 2020-2050 MTP project listing, map, and relevant text in the document to reflect the information as shown in the Attachment.
- Section 3. That it affirms the conformity of the 2020-2050 MTP with the State Implementation Plan.
- Section 4. That it directs staff to administratively modify the 2020-2050 MTP, if necessary, to reflect additional refinements to high-capacity transit corridors or projects resulting from the LinkUS Mobility Initiative and do not significantly change the fiscal balance and impact the air quality conformity determination.
- Section 5. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of the committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Karen J. Angelou, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date

Prepared by: Transportation Staff
Attachment: 2020-2050 Columbus Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment Narrative

2020-2050 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

T-9-21 Amendment Narrative

This amendment is to modify the mode, alignment, and cost estimates for three transit projects and to add one Bus Rapid Transit project to the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The amendment will also adjust the estimated construction timeframe of one of the transit projects.

Background

The region's planning partners have been studying High-Capacity Transit corridors for many years, including, most recently, COTA's NextGen plan and the MORPC Insight 2050 Corridor Concepts study. The 2020-2050 MTP includes five high-capacity transit corridors in the financially constrained plan, however specific modes were not identified when it was adopted in May 2020.

Building upon these regional transit planning efforts, the LinkUS Mobility Initiative was launched in 2020, with the purpose of providing a complete mobility system along key regional corridors, including high capacity and advanced rapid transit, among a broader program of mobility options and infrastructure. The first two corridors to be studied as part of the LinkUS Mobility Initiative were the Northwest Corridor, connecting downtown Columbus to Bethel Rd. (with future studies of a connection to Dublin) along Olentangy River Rd., and the East-West Corridor, which spans Franklin County along West Broad St. and East Broad and East Main Streets. The LinkUS Partners, led by COTA and the City of Columbus, have begun the corridor-specific studies and engagement activities to identify the locally preferred alignments and transit modes for each of these corridors.

Equitable public and stakeholder engagement has been and continues to be an essential part of the LinkUS Mobility Initiative corridor studies. Thus far it has included a range of tools and techniques—including in-person, virtual, and other alternative formats. The information gathered is a key input in the corridor studies.

Project Changes

Of the five high-capacity transit projects already included in the MTP, three projects can now have more detail and refined estimates included because of the LinkUS Mobility Initiative corridor studies. These projects are:

- MTP ID 619: East Main St. Corridor; East Rich St./Main St., from High St./Spring St. to Taylor Rd.; Bus Rapid Transit
- MTP ID 643: Northwest Corridor; Downtown to Dublin; Bus Rapid Transit
- MTP ID 988: West Broad St. Corridor; Broad St. from Westwoods Blvd. to Washington Ave.; Bus Rapid Transit

The following project that was not previously included in the MTP is proposed to be added as part of this amendment:

- MTP ID 987: East Broad St. Corridor; East Broad St. from Taylor Rd. to Souder Ave.; Bus Rapid Transit

Figures 1 and 2, below and on the following pages, represent the projects as they will be included in the amended MTP.

Figure 1: Project Descriptions, Estimated Construction Time Frame, and Cost Estimate

MTP ID	Project Description	Year	Cost Estimate (YOE \$)
619	East Main St. Corridor: East Rich St./Main St., High St. from Spring St. to Taylor Rd, <i>Bus Rapid Transit</i>	2030	<i>\$214 - \$313 Million</i>
643	Northwest Corridor: Olentangy River Rd., from Downtown Columbus to Dublin., <i>Bus Rapid Transit</i>	2030	<i>\$390.3 - \$461.5 Million</i>
<i>987</i>	<i>East Broad St. Corridor: from Taylor Rd to Souder Ave., Bus Rapid Transit</i>	<i>2040</i>	<i>\$178 - \$362 Million</i>
988	West Broad St. Corridor: from Westwoods Blvd. to Washington Ave., <i>Bus Rapid Transit</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>\$157 - \$285 Million</i>

Bold italics = new or changed project components

Fiscal Balance

The 2020-2050 MTP includes a forecast of \$4.05 billion in federal and local revenue intended for construction and operation of five high-capacity transit corridors. The assumed cost of these five high-capacity transit corridors is \$3.9 billion. The cost estimates were based on various planning documents and unit costs. For the projects proposed to be amended, more refined capital cost estimates were developed for the corridors studied in the recent LinkUS Mobility Initiative studies. These more refined costs are lower than the initial cost estimates included in the MTP. Furthermore, this proposed amendment includes moving the estimated construction timeframe for MTP ID 988 up from 2040 to 2030, further lowering the capital cost estimate due to less inflation. The differences in the cost estimates are great enough to accommodate the addition of MTP ID 987 to the financially constrained MTP.

Air Quality Conformity

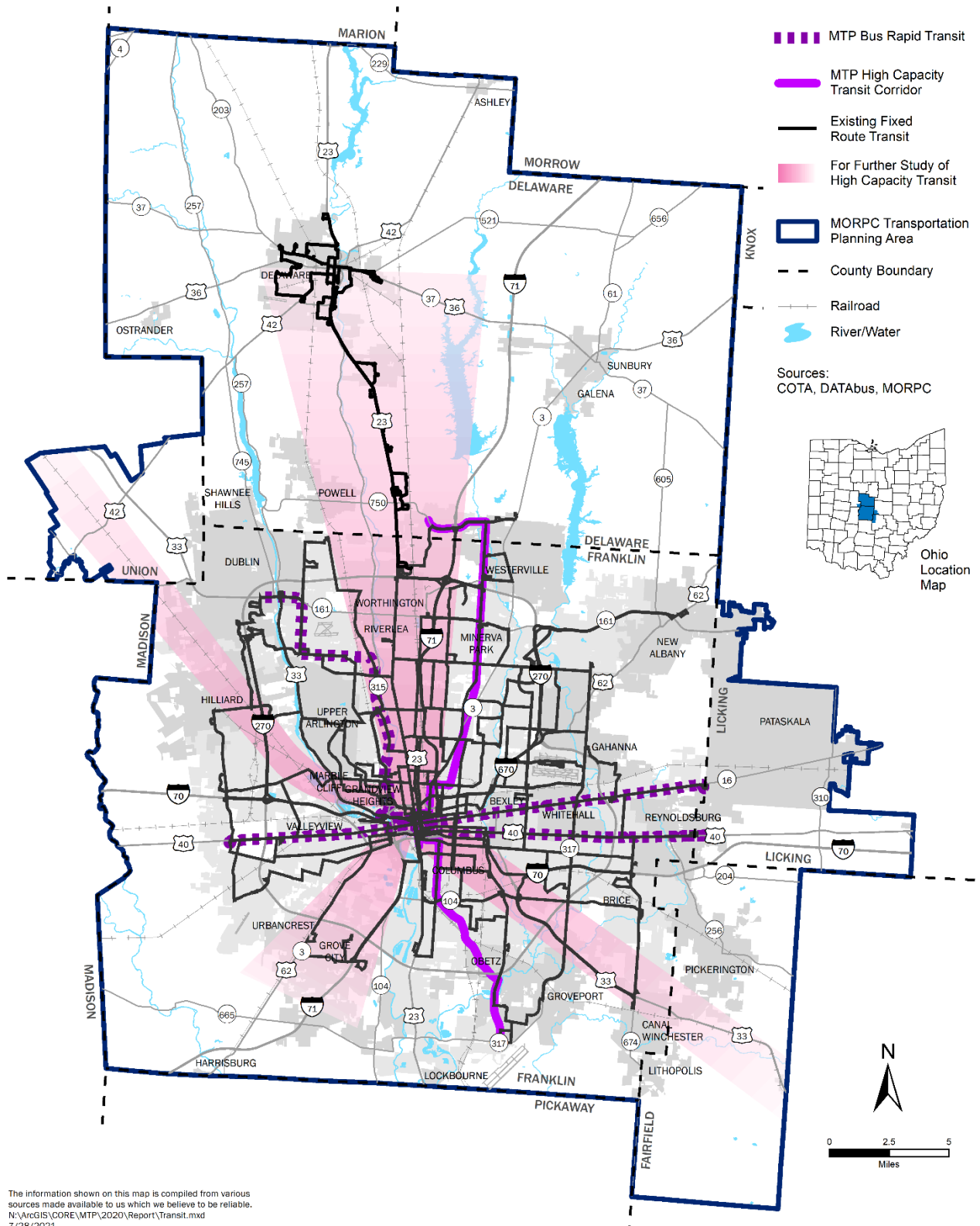
Due to the significance of the proposed changes to the MTP, it is federally required to do an analysis to confirm the projects included in the amended MTP do not lead to violations in the air quality standard or delay obtaining the standard. This is called a conformity determination. The incorporation of the proposed amendments into the conformity analysis has been completed, with no violations found. Appendix B of the 2020-2050 MTP will be updated accordingly upon adoption of the amendment resolution.

Public Involvement

This amendment packet and the revised conformity determination appendix was made available for a 30-day comment period.

The amendment and the revised MTP, including the revised project listing, maps, fiscal balance information, air quality conformity documentation and other amendment-related changes, will be placed on the website once the resolution to amend the MTP has been approved.

Figure 2: High-Capacity Transit Projects





MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: August 12, 2021
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: MORPC Town Hall

Commission Members Present In Person

Chris Amorose Groomes	Michelle Crandall	Steve Pyles
Karen Angelou	Brad Ebersole	Eric Richter
Joe Antram	Matt Greeson	Lauren Rummel
Herb Asher	Bill Habig	Mike Schadek
Jeff Benton	Tom Homan	David Scheffler
Taylor Brill	Erik Janas	Jim Schimmer
Ron Bullard	Steve Kennedy	Chris Schmenk
Franklin Christman	Rob Peters	Ike Stage

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Ben Collins	Benjamin King	Elissa Schneider
Karl Craven	Bill LaFayette	Steve Schoeny
Tracie Davies	Greg Lestini	Michael Schuiling
Wes Dodds	Jill Love	Joe Stefanov
Terry Emery	Dana McDaniel	Christie Ward
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Rory McGuiness	Andy Ware
Jennifer Gallagher	Megan O'Callaghan	Brent Welch for Cornell
Alex Heckman	Eric Phillips	Robertson
Matt Huffman	Hunter Rayfield	Nancy White
Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Bryan Rhoads	R.C. Wise
Laurie Jadwin	Ryan Rivers	

Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person

Kristen Easterday

Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely

LaGrieta Holloway	Kim Sharp for Joanna	Dan Sowry
Isaac Robinson	Pinkerton	

MORPC Staff Present in Person

Mark Crosten	Hosana Josephat	Shari Saunders
Thea Ewing	Níel Jurist	Aaron Schill
John Gardocki	Eileen Leuby	Bevan Schneck
Joe Garrity	Amanda McEldowney	Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	Robert Williams
Shawn Hufstedler	Stephen Patchan	Hannah Young

MORPC Staff Attending Remotely

Lauren Cardoni	Dina Lopez	Jordan Petrov
Ted Geer	Jennifer Noll	Maria Schaper
Nick Gill	Anna Ostereich	Brian Shang
Lynn Kaufman	Anthony Perry	Nate Vogt

Guests Present in Person

Geoff Dew, City of Hilliard	Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Kristin Hosni, City of Hilliard	Steve Stivers, Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Peter Marsh, City of Hilliard	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Guests Attending Remotely

Atima Al Jarani
Shane Farnsworth, Jackson Township
P'Elizabeth Koelker, City of Grandview Heights
Brian Petereit, Franklin University
Mysheika Roberts, City of Columbus
Andrew Shepler, ODOT

Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Nick Soulas, FCEO
Johannes Swart, Summer Intern
Anthony Turkowski,
Daniel Van Epps
Kyle Webb, Knox County

Meeting Called to Order – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair

Chair Karen Angelou called the Commission meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Angelou welcomed members back to the MORPC building. She conveyed her thanks to those in the region for their efforts during the pandemic. To the Counties, Townships, COMMA, Columbus Health, Franklin County Health, and Homeland Security for their constant information and help. To the hospitals, nurses, doctors and first responders for saving lives. To MORPC Staff who continued their work tirelessly at home like it was normal. To the Commission Members for doing the hard work in your communities and sharing your success with us.

Chair Angelou reminded members that the Ohio General Assembly did not extend the authority to convene public meetings virtually beyond July 1, 2021. To be officially counted as attending and to vote, members must attend the meeting in person. Those attending virtually may participate and use the chat feature to provide input or if you have questions. MORPC Team Member Bevan Schneck is monitoring the chat.

Chair Angelou recognized and congratulated Allen Rothermel on his recent retirement.

Recognition of Guests – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

Eileen Leuby welcomed new Commission members Wes Dodds, City of Bellefontaine; Taylor Brill, Village of Plain City; and Steve Pyles, Village of Sunbury. Ms. Leuby welcomed Summer Interns Atima Al Jarani and Johannes Swart. Ms. Leuby welcomed City of Hilliard guests Letty Schamp, Pete Marsh, Geoff Dew and Kristin Hosni.

Ohio Chamber of Commerce – Steve Stivers, Ohio Chamber of Commerce President & CEO

Congressman Stivers thanked Commission members for all they have done over the last year and what they continue to do to help our fellow citizens. He appreciates the public/private partnership that MORPC is and what it does to create regionalism and bring people together on important topics.

The Chamber values MORPC and appreciates MORPC's advocating for broadband and the agency's collaboration on social justice. Congressman Stivers is looking forward to working with MORPC at the Ohio Chamber to help grow the economy for everyone. Over the next 12 months the Chamber is developing the Blueprint for Ohio's Economic Future. This is a multi-year agenda to make Ohio truly competitive with the rest of the country and the world.

COVID-19 Update – Mysheika W. Roberts, MD, MPH, City of Columbus

Dr. Mysheika Roberts gave an update on the status of COVID-19 in Central Ohio. The delta variant has taken hold in Ohio and represents over 90 percent of the cases. Fifty percent of Ohio's population has at least one vaccination shot. Forty-nine percent of Franklin County has completed their vaccinations and 53 percent have started. A large part of the population is not

eligible for the vaccine (under age 12). Even though people are vaccinated, they can still become infected.

Dr. Roberts was asked what should local government leaders focus on? Asking people to do the right thing. Wearing a mask is a simple gesture to help yourself and those around you.

The vaccine may become eligible for those under 12 in late 2021 or early 2022.

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

William Murdock welcomed members and thanked Congressman Stivers and Dr. Roberts for their presentations.

Mr. Murdock shared that MORPC is monitoring the bipartisan infrastructure package and the tremendous resources that will impact our local governments and affect every part of our agency. MORPC is working with One Columbus and the Economic Development Agency on a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The RAPID 5 and LinkUS projects continue. MORPC is working with Amtrak behind the scenes as they are still interested in the region.

Mr. Murdock announced MORPC is following the mask advisory issued by Franklin County and the City of Columbus encouraging people attending meetings to wear masks. Ninety-five percent of MORPC employees are vaccinated. MORPC is using a flexible return-to-work policy, but all employees must be in the building at least part of each week. We will continue to offer hybrid meetings. As the technology comes in, we will be able to do that for most of our meetings.

With the delta variant, MORPC is putting together one more special health update at the end of the month.

Mr. Murdock thanked the Commission for supporting the building renovation. The meeting space is doubled and workspaces are refreshed. The number of electric vehicle charging stations was doubled. A few things, like technology and refrigerators, are on back order. Mr. Murdock invited members to take a tour of the building following the Commission meeting.

Mr. Murdock announced a new partnership with Franklin University that applies to all members and their employees. FranklinWORKS is a tuition discount program for all degree programs and offers a twenty percent discount on prevailing undergraduate tuition and master's degree tuition and a ten percent discount on doctoral degree tuition. Free books may be available with some restrictions. Franklin University offers online courses as well as in-person courses. Mr. Murdock introduced MORPC Board Member Alex Heckman from the City of Westerville who also is a leader at Franklin University. Franklin University has over 40 undergraduate programs, nearly 20 masters degrees, and currently five doctoral programs in addition to a number of associate degrees. Franklin University is an independent nonprofit institution that was started in 1902 as the YMCA School of Business. Their focus is serving working adults in the Central Ohio Community.

Ohio University has added a new Master of Sustainability, Security and Resilience to their \$1,000 scholarship program which is now available for members and their employees. The scholarship program also applies to the Master of Public Administration.

Over 180 individuals from local governments went through the corporate focused Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Trainings with the YWCA or the OSU Kirwan Institute over the last few months.

The deadline for MORPC's Annual Salary and Fringe Benefit Survey is September 3. The survey is a compensation and class survey for over 30 local governments in Central Ohio. The final report will be issued September 24.

MORPC launched a new program called the Commute Action Fund. The fund is a tool for Central Ohio companies to fund new incentives and/or commute projects that motivate company employees to drive less and use sustainable modes of transportation to work. MORPC will provide \$5,000 matching funds to companies that make a \$5,000 commitment to create more sustainable commuter options for their employees.

The RAPID 5 project was revealed July 21. The project is an effort to reimagine stream corridors in the region with economic development, access and fun. The next step is gathering feedback. Everything is online at rapid5.org. If your community is not on the map, we are happy to bring the consultants to you. The Trail Town effort is kicking-off soon.

LinkUS, the mobility, growth and transit initiative in collaboration with MORPC, COTA, the City of Columbus, and Franklin County, is moving forward. Key milestones:

- July 28 – identified the locally preferred alternative for the east-west corridor (West Broad, East Main, East Broad).
- Just launched Phase 2 of the Northwest Corridor Study working toward identifying a locally preferred alternative.

More will be shared later in the meeting.

MORPC's work with housing continues. We are happy to come talk to your communities. The next session of the Regional Housing Strategy Speaker Series is Friday, August 20. "A Return to the 15-minute City" explores the concept of the 15-minute city and what it could look like in communities across Central Ohio.

Congratulations to the City of Westerville for completing their Age-Friendly Westerville Action Plan.

MORPC Data & Mapping Director Aaron Schill reported on the census data that was just released. This is the first look at the sub-state level. The data will be available on MORPC's open data site (www.morpc.org/data). We have a few communities that might jump to city status. Redistricting data will be coming out in September in a more user-friendly format at www.data.census.gov. MORPC will issue a best practices and guidance document next week. This is Mr. Schill's last Commission meeting. Mr. Murdock is proud of the legacy Mr. Schill is leaving.

Our annual MORPC Night at the Columbus Clippers is tonight. MORPC Secretary Chris Amorose Groomes is throwing out the first pitch. Everyone is welcome.

- **Quarterly Membership Update – Eileen Leuby**
Eileen Leuby presented the [Membership Services Quarterly Update](#) highlighting:
 - Summer Rural Forum Series

- Summer Intern Program
- Easton Future Vision Fellows
- Upcoming Events
 - Trains, Planes & Flying Cars – Tuesday, August 31
 - The Future of Central Ohio Airports – Thursday, September 16
 - Regional Collaboration Southwest – Thursday, September 21
- Membership Visits

Committees

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization – Thea Ewing, MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director

In the interest of time, this report was moved to September.

Regional Policy Roundtable – Ben Collins (Plain Township), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair

Ben Collins presented the [Regional Policy Roundtable Update](#). Jason Warner provided an update from the Greater Ohio Policy Center and Ralonda Hampton provided an update on MORPC's services/plans/programs to diverse audiences at the August 10 Regional Policy Roundtable meeting.

- **Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joe Garrity, MORPC Director of Government Affairs & Community Engagement**

Steve Tugend and Joe Garrity gave the legislative update highlighting the following:

- Bi-partisan [infrastructure bill](#)
- State Operating Budget
- State recognized Juneteenth as a holiday
- Central Ohio Defense Group

A significant portion of the emergency assistance from the American Rescue Act has not been distributed. Central Ohio is in good shape regarding the money that went through us. Columbus will have allocated all dollars by the end of September. Franklin County will have allocated \$11 or \$13 million to providers; well above the 65 percent required. There are logistical difficulties getting the dollars out the door. Funding is available through community action and job and family services agencies.

See the [August 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](#). MORPC's annual Summit on Sustainability will return for an in-person event with a virtual option on October 15 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. SWACO is the main event sponsor. Ohio EPA is also a sponsor. Regional Sustainability Awards will be announced for Leadership in Sustainability, Collaborative Achievement in Sustainability, and Leadership in Mobility.

On August 24 and 27, MORPC and UNPREDICTABLEcity are hosting an introductory meeting for member governments interested in the SolSmart program. SolSmart offers free technical assistance to help municipalities, counties, and regional organizations streamline services for

residents and businesses interested in solar technologies. Since SolSmart launched in 2016, more than 400 communities have achieved designation as SolSmart Gold, Silver, or Bronze. MORPC is only one of nine regional organizations to achieve SolSmart designation, earning the Silver level.

- **Sustainable2050 Recognition to the City of Hilliard – Jim Schimmer (Franklin County), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair and Brandi Whetstone, MORPC Sustainability Officer**
Brandi Whetstone reminded members that Sustainable2050 is a program supporting the sustainability efforts of our members through technical assistance, peer exchange, and recognition. Members are encouraged to certify their Tier Status, designated as Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum. The status level is determined by completing three mandatory actions and a minimum number of activities for each level of certification. The eligible activities and categories respond to the objective and goals of the Regional Sustainability Agenda.

Congratulations to the City of Hilliard for qualifying at the [Platinum Tier Status](#).

Transportation Policy Committee – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
Chair Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:42 p.m. The session adjourned at 3:07 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

Commission Consent Agenda

Tom Homan made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Chris Schmenk; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission