TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

Thea Ewing
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

▪ GRANTS UPDATE
▪ COMMITTEE UPDATES
▪ LinkUS UPDATE
LinkUS: A Mobility Plan for Central Ohio’s Sustainable Future

November 10, 2021
MORPC Commission Update
From Planning to Implementation

Insight2050 (2014)

NextGen (2017)

Insight2050 Corridor Concepts (2019)
Alignment of Regional and City Efforts

- Recreation and Parks Land Plan
- Focused Growth
- Zoning Code Update
- Broadband Expansion
- Central Ohio Greenways Vision
- LinkUS
- Access to Quality Jobs & Housing
- Climate Action Plan
- Public Health Equity & Quality of Life
- Transportation Choices
- Regional Housing Strategy
- Franklin County Housing Magnet Fund
- Rapid 5 Initiative
- Vision Zero
- Celebrate One
- Rise Together Blueprint

Desired Outcomes
Aligned Efforts
Addressing 21st Century Challenges

The LinkUS priorities and the priorities of our region aim to improve conditions and maintain our competitive advantages.

If we want to experience different outcomes, we need to do something different.
A partnership for strategic growth and mobility investment

LinkUS seeks to provide a complete mobility system along key regional corridors.

Principal sponsors:
A next level of transit investment for Central Ohio

Key Features of Premium Transit

- Level & Multi-Door Boarding
- Off-Board Fare Collection
- Dedicated Right-of-Way
- Signal Priority & Intersection Control
- Modern Vehicle Designs
- Frequency & Capacity
- Enhanced Stations
- Adaptability
Capital Improvements

**Intermodal Connectivity**
- Transit Centers
- Park & Rides
- Mobility Hubs

**Vending Marketplaces**
- Food Markets
- Micromarkets

**Electrification**
- Fleet Upgrades
- Maintenance Facility
- BRT & LRT Substations

**COTA Plus**
- New Vehicles
- Maintenance Facility

**Bus Shelter Program**
- Expansion
- Customer Service Improvements
# The LinkUS Leadership Coalition

*A collaborative effort to develop an implementation program*

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| Decides & Acts | LinkUS Executive Committee  
*Elected & Civic Leaders (15 members)*  
Meets 3 times at key milestone points in 2021-22 |
|---|---|
| Recommends | LinkUS Steering Committee  
*(Diverse Representation: organizations, agencies, civic, business leaders (±35 members)*  
Meets 5 times at key milestone points in 2021-22 |
| Technical Oversight | LinkUS Administrative Committee  
*(Agency Administration, Technical Staff, Subject Matter Experts)*  
Meets monthly |
| Studies | Technical Teams  
*(Project Management Staff and Consultants)*  
Produces deliverables: Program Elements, Corridor Projects, Cost Estimating, etc. |
Next Steps
Expected Outcome of Leadership Coalition

- **Program Development Playbook**
- Defines **Mobility Investment Program** expectations, roles, and characteristics
- Identifies a **Funding Strategy** for investment
- Provides an **Action Plan** and recommended timeline for implementation

Example Implementation Playbook from Charlotte Moves Process
Program Development

**Answering the Why, What, and How of Mobility Infrastructure Investment**

- **Why**
  - Establish a shared understanding of **WHY** this is important
  - **Published by June '21**

- **What**
  - Identify **WHAT** investments will make the greatest impacts
  - Establish Program Elements and Aligned investments
  - **Established by Summer '21 – Fall '21**

- **How**
  - Create an action plan that clearly outlines **HOW** we will implement the program
  - Identify an Implementation Funding Strategy
  - **Completed by Summer '21 – Early '22**
The State of Mobility Report

Establishes the “WHY” for mobility investments

Identifies existing & emerging mobility needs

Showcases those things most foundational to understanding mobility in our region

www.linkUScolumbus.com/resources
What is a mobility corridor?

Mobility Infrastructure Investments + Compact and Connected Development = Increased Opportunities
Potential Program Elements

- Bikeways
- Greenways
- Roadway Improvements
- Transit
- Mobility Hubs
- Sidewalks
- Utilities
- Technology & Broadband
- Housing
Identifying Priority Mobility Networks

Next Gen

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Vision Zero & Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan

Central Ohio Greenways

* These plans are representative examples, and not exhaustive of all potential plans to be consulted
Corridor Updates
LinkUS Corridors: Status & Next Steps

**Northwest:** Entering design phase

**West Broad:** Entering design phase & FTA funding process

**East Main:** Entering design phase & FTA funding process

**East Broad:** LPA Identified. Implementation TBD
Small Starts Schedule: 6 years per project, concurrent or consecutive
LinkUS: A Mobility Plan for Central Ohio’s Sustainable Future

November 10, 2021
MORPC Commission Update
Technical Assistance Program 2.0

November Committee Meetings 2021
New Program Purpose

• New focus on **moving from plan/concept to project implementation**

• **Address regional goals** established in the MTP

• **Advance specific MTP strategies** focused on active transportation and transit infrastructure

• **Move toward annual program** with shorter project timeframes

• Requiring **more detailed scopes** of work for selected activities
Program Eligibility

- Local government member within the MPO
- Services requested are within the scope of the TA Program
- Application must be complete (including signed letter of commitment)
- Application must be received prior to the application deadline
## Applicant Responsibilities

| Designation of staff time commitment and specific **Project Manager** | Provision of any relevant data or materials | Participation from relevant departments within the local agency |
| Regular communication with appropriate community stakeholders | Regularly scheduled check-ins with MORPC staff | Consistent and timely review of all materials submitted |
Technical Assistance Activity Types

1. Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement
2. Trail Access Improvements
3. Active Transportation Project Prioritization
4. Complete Streets Policy
5. Walk Audit
6. Transit Oriented Development

7. Other Activity Type
### Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 19, 2021</td>
<td>Review with ATC</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2021</td>
<td>Review with CAC, TAC, and Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13, 2021</td>
<td>Call for Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 14, 2022</td>
<td>Deadline to Submit Applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4, 2022</td>
<td>Awardees Notified</td>
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[www.morpc.org/program-service/technical-assistance-program](http://www.morpc.org/program-service/technical-assistance-program)
THANK YOU!

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