

# TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE



**MORPC**  
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



**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*



**Link <sup>★</sup>us**  
Moving our region. **Together.**



# Quick Overview



# From Planning to Implementation

The logo for Insight2050, featuring the word "insight" in a bold, sans-serif font with a red square to its left, and the year "2050" in a smaller, grey font below it.

**Insight2050**  
(2014)

The logo for NextGen, with "NEXT" in green and "GEN" in blue, followed by a dotted orange line and an arrow pointing right, and the tagline "IT'S YOUR MOVE" in blue.

**NextGen**  
(2017)



**Insight2050  
Corridor Concepts**  
(2019)



# Alignment of Regional and City Efforts



**Desired Outcomes**  
**Aligned Efforts**

# Addressing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges

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



**Equity**



**Workforce  
Advancement**



**Innovation**



**Affordability**



**Economic  
Development**

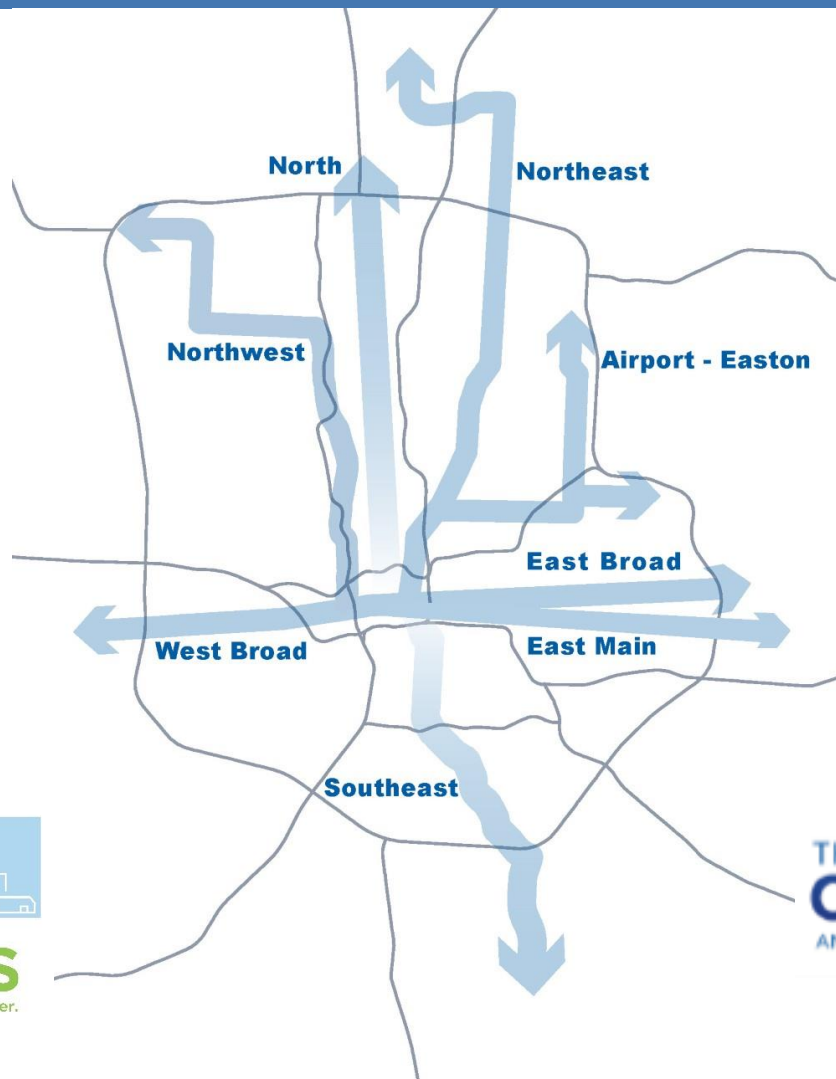


**Sustainability**

*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*

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*

*Publish the State of Mobility Report*

*Establish Program Elements and Aligned investments*

*Identify an Implementation Funding Strategy*

June '21



## Why

*Establish a shared understanding of WHY this is important*

Summer '21 – Fall '21

## What

*Identify WHAT investments will make the greatest impacts*

Summer '21 – Early '22

## How

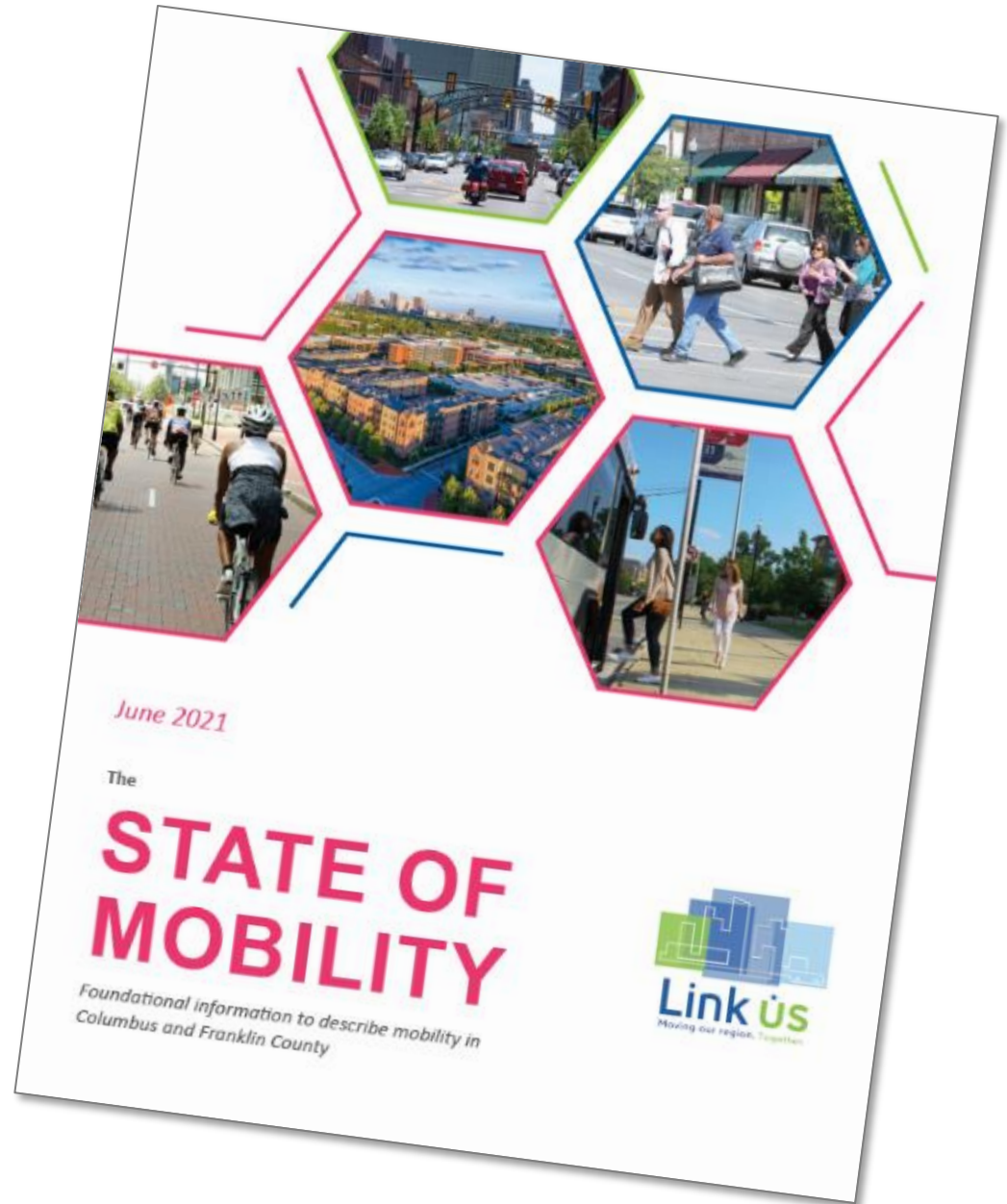
*Create an action plan that clearly outlines HOW we will implement the program*

# 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





# What is a mobility corridor?



*Mobility Infrastructure  
Investments*



*Compact and  
Connected Development*



**Increased  
Opportunities**



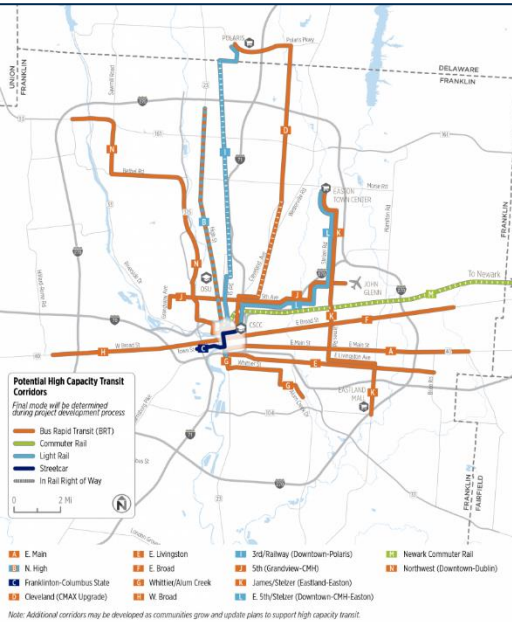
# Potential Program Elements



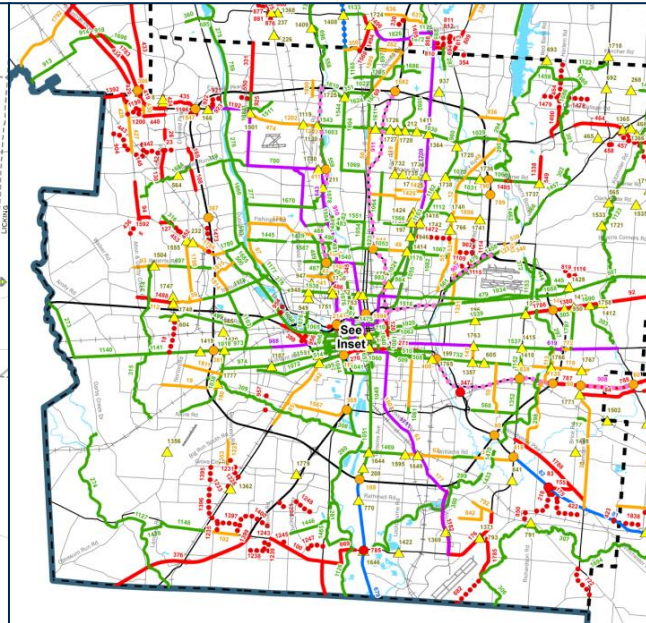


# Identifying Priority Mobility Networks

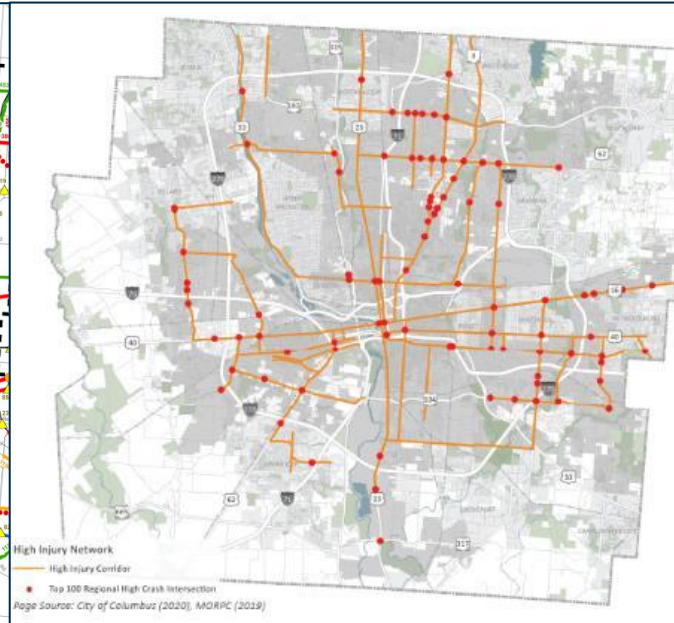
## Next Gen



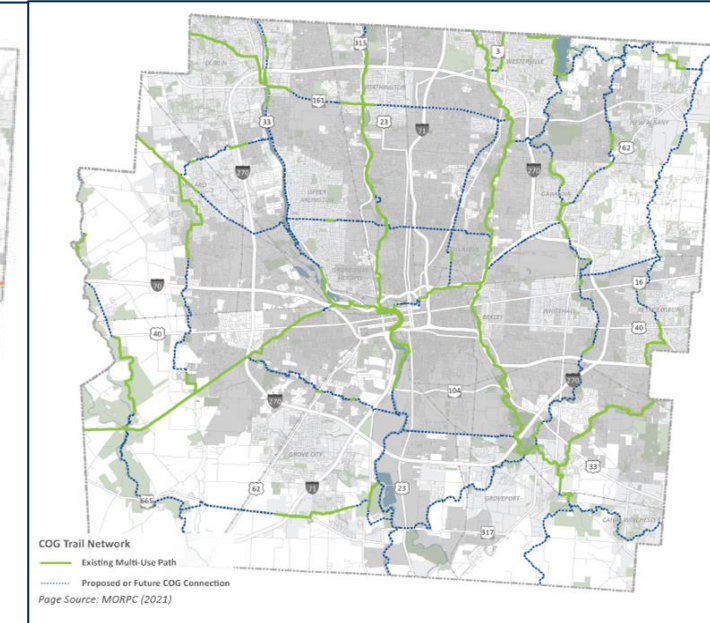
## Metropolitan Transportation Plan



## Vision Zero & Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan



## Central Ohio Greenways



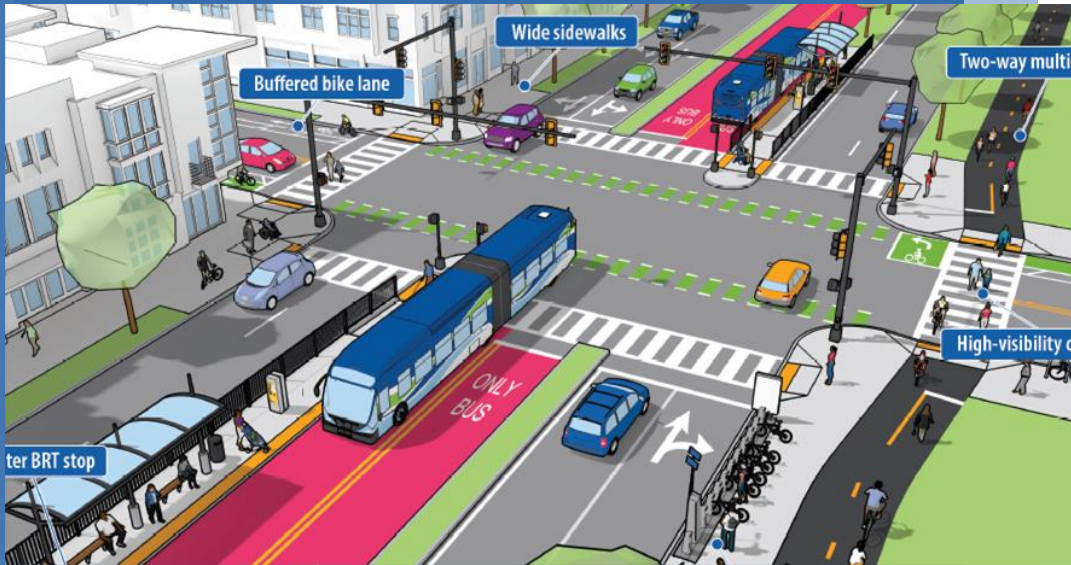
\* These plans are representative examples, and not exhaustive of all potential plans to be consulted



# Corridor Updates



# LinkUS Corridors: Status & Next Steps

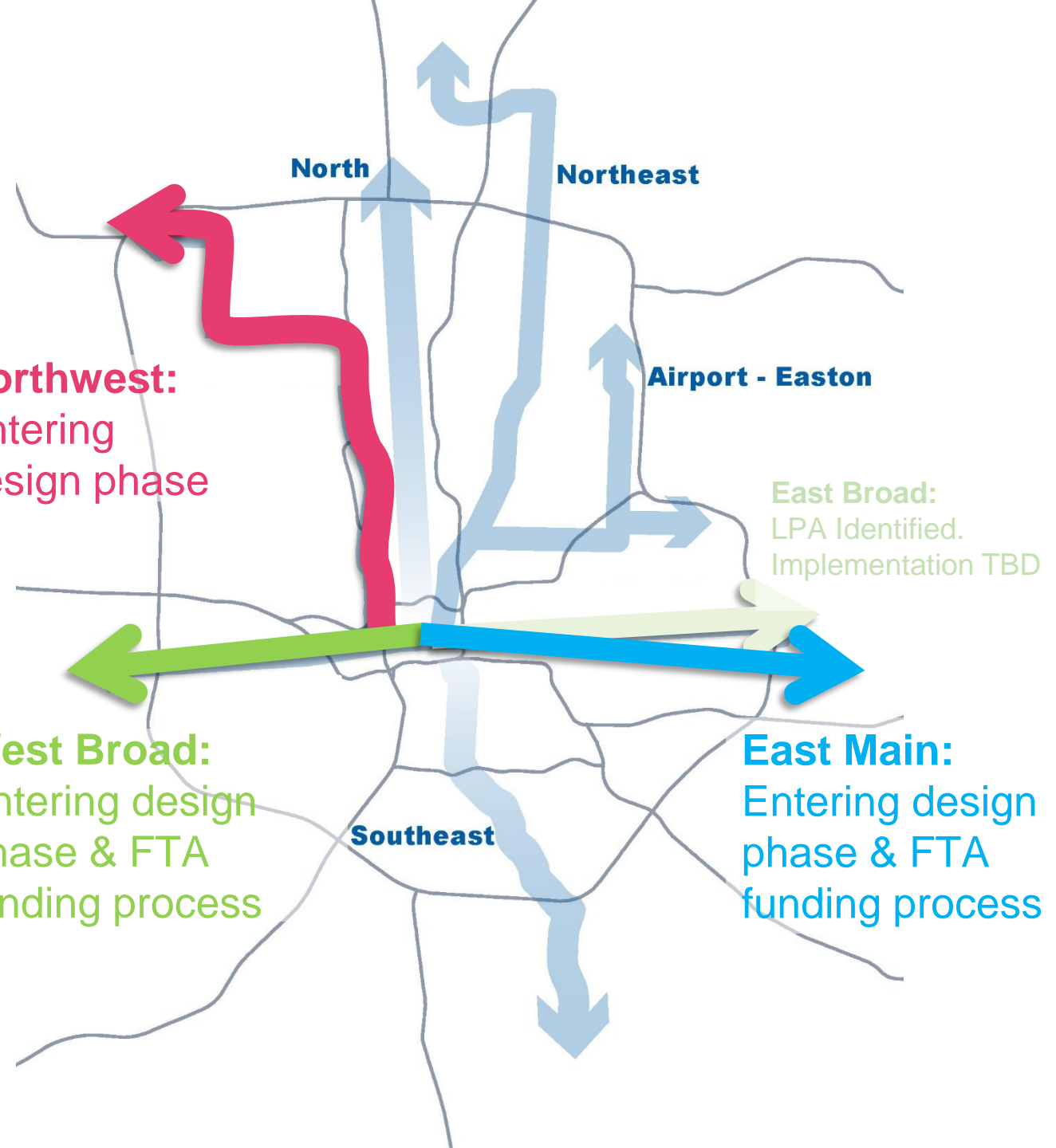


**Northwest:**  
Entering  
design phase

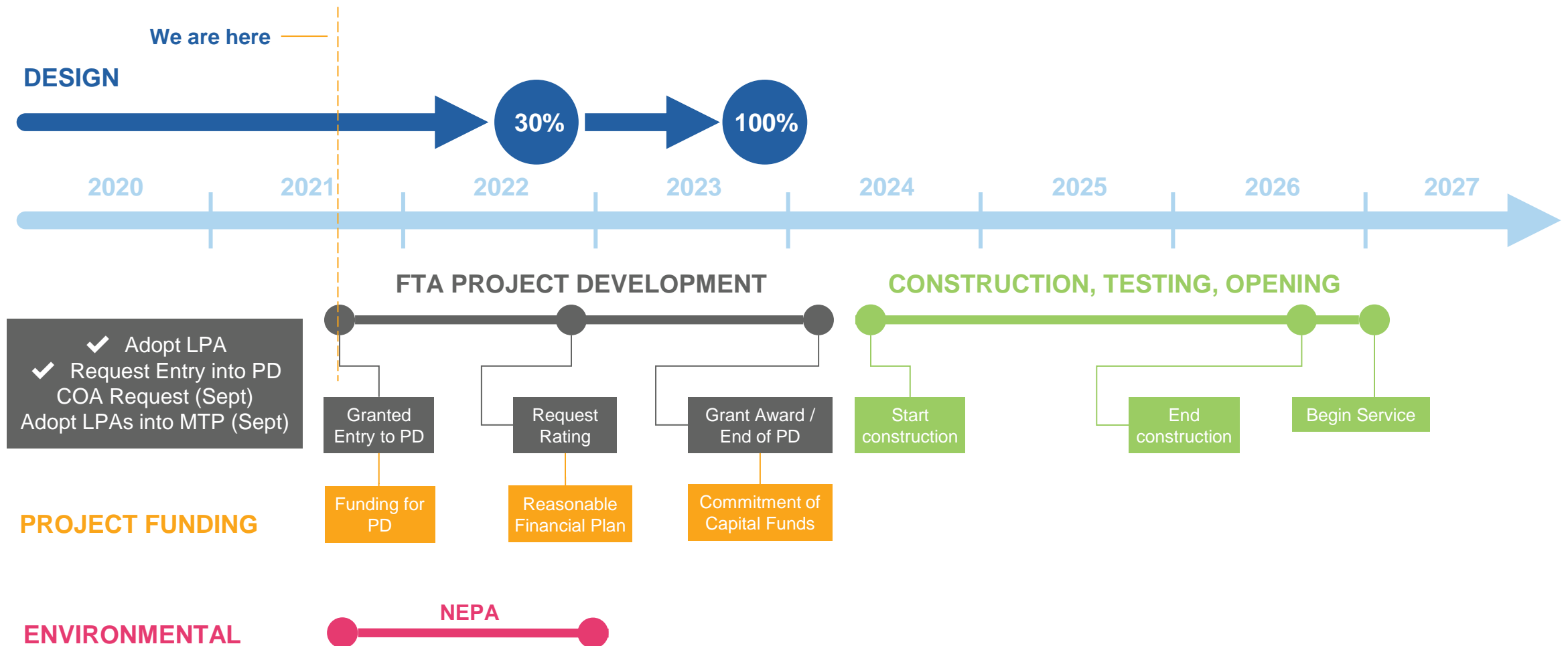
**West Broad:**  
Entering design  
phase & FTA  
funding process

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

**East Broad:**  
LPA Identified.  
Implementation TBD



# Small Starts Schedule: 6 years per project, concurrent or consecutive





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*MORPC Commission Update*



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# Technical Assistance Program 2.0

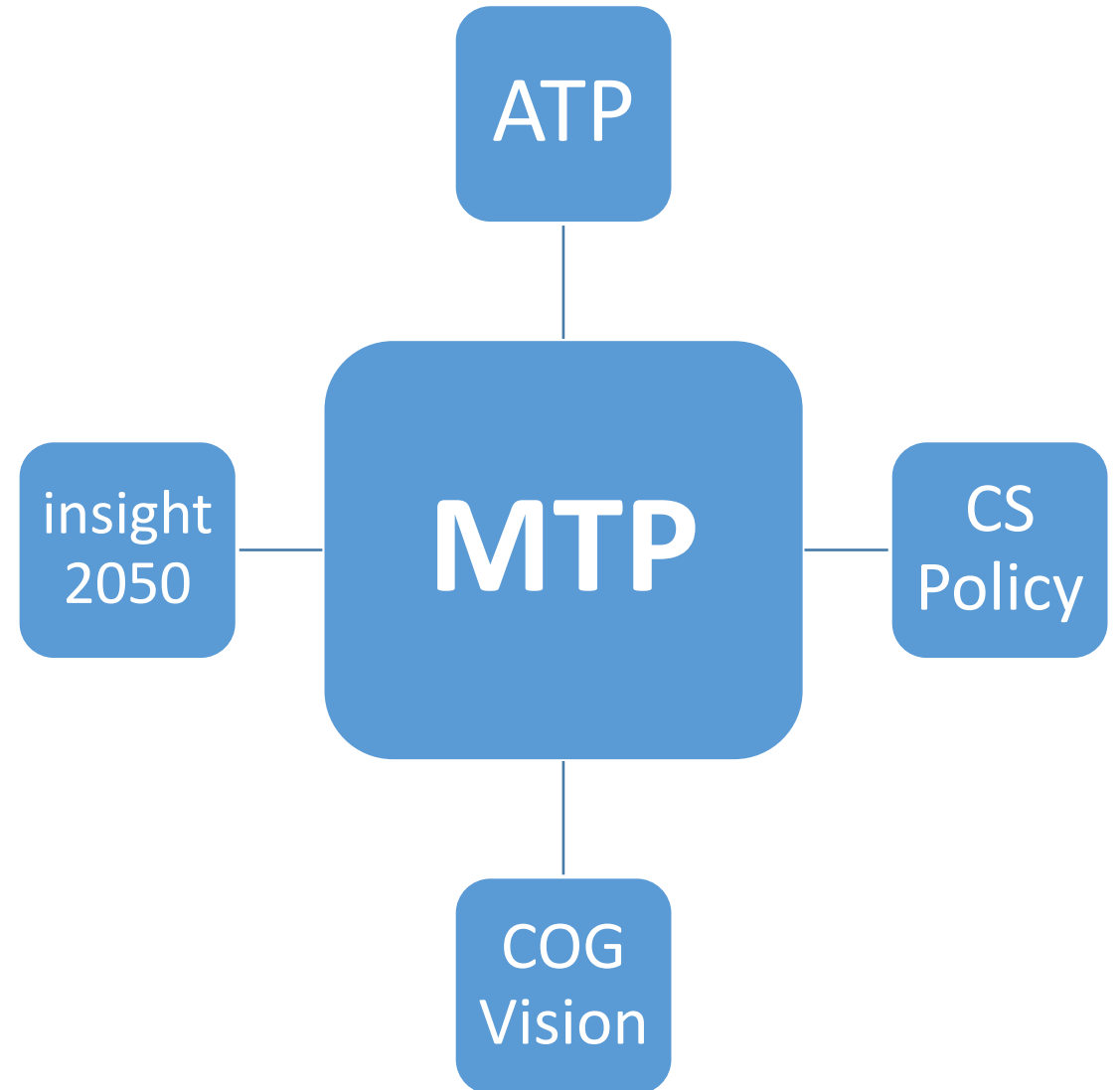
November Committee Meetings 2021



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MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

# 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

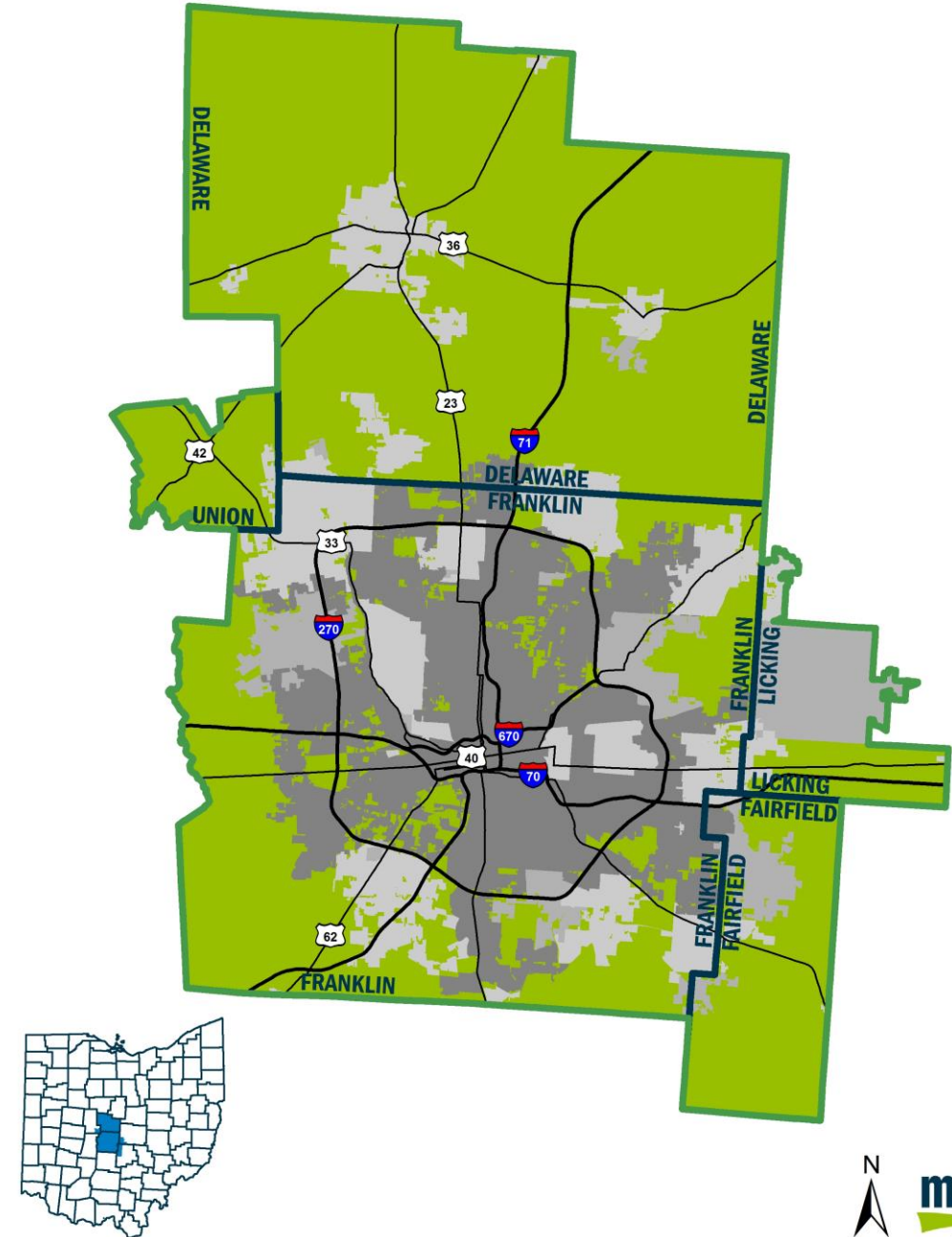




# Program Eligibility

- 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

## MORPC MPO Area



# 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





# Important Dates



**October 19,  
2021**

- Review with ATC

**November  
2021**

- Review with CAC, TAC, and Commission

**December 13,  
2021**

- Call for Projects
- Informational Webinar

**January 14,  
2022**

- Deadline to Submit Applications

**February 4,  
2022**

- Awardees Notified

[www.morpc.org/program-service/technical-assistance-program](http://www.morpc.org/program-service/technical-assistance-program)

# THANK YOU!

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