NOTICE OF A MEETING

CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD
January 19, 2022 | 10:00 – 11:30

REMOTE MEETING

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Year End Review / 2022 goals
3. Working Group Reports
   a. Trail Development
      i. Regional Trail Vision
         1. Summary of Regional Trail Vision and Trail Definitions
         2. Review proposed Vision Updates
   b. Marketing & Communications
      i. Trail Towns
         Motion to add River to River Trail, Jefferson Twp Trail, Pickaway County Trail, Lockbourne Trail.
         Motion passed.
   c. Operation & Access
      i. Wayfinding
   d. Partnerships
      i. Working Group Expansion
4. Other Business
5. Adjourn

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

The next Central Ohio Greenways Board Meeting will be March 9, 2022, 10:00 am. Location to be Determined.
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Remote Meeting

Central Ohio Greenways Board
January 19, 2022

Members Present
Chair Mike Andrako, Franklin County Engineer’s Office
Laura Ball, City of Westerville
Ariunaa Bayanjargal, Ohio Clinicians for Climate Action
Kacey Brankamp, Capital Crossroads & Discovery SID
Bertie Fields, Black Girls do Bike
Catherine Girves, Cycling Advocate
Bill Habig, Granville Township, Licking County
Adrienne Joly, City of New Albany
Alex Nouanesengsy, LCATS
Eric Oberg, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Andrew Overbeck, MKSK
Wayne Roberts, Friends of the Madison County Park & Trails
Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Kelly Scocco, City of Columbus
Julie Walcoff, Toole Design
Brad Westall, City of Columbus

Public Present
Nina Duerk, Strand Associates

MORPC Staff Present
Lauren Cardoni, Jennifer Noll, Jasmine Walker
Lynn Kaufman, Melinda Vonstein
COG BOARD MEMBERS

- CHAIR Mike Andrako
  Franklin County Engineers Office
- Laura Ball, PLA, ASLA – Chair Trail Development WG
  The City of Westerville
- Kacey Brankamp
  Capital Crossroads and Discovery SID
- Alex Nouanesengsy
  LCATS
- Eric Oberg
  Rails to Trails Conservancy
- Andrew Overbeck, AICP
  MKSK
- Tony Slanec
  OHM Advisors
- Scott Ulrich, AICP, CNU-A, LCI
  Columbus Public Health
- Julie Walcoff
  Toole Design
- Brad Westall
  Columbus Recreation & Parks
- Ariunaa Bayanjargal
  Ohio Clinicians For Climate Action
- Bertie Fields
  Black Girls do Bike
- Catherine Girves – Chair Operations & Access WG
  Cycling Advocate / Yay Bikes / Toole Design
- Autumn Glover
  OSU / ULI
- Bill Habig – Chair Partnerships WG
  Granville
- Adrienne Joly, Chair - Marketing WG
  New Albany
- Dan Kaderly
  Metro Parks
- Wayne Roberts
  Friends of the Madison County Parks & Trails
- Letty Schamp, P.E.
  The City of Hilliard
- Kelly Scocco
  The City of Columbus

4 Open Board Seats

Working Groups:
1. Operations & Access
2. Trail Development
3. Partnerships
4. Marketing & Communications
2022 Goals

- Intentionally focus on **diversity and inclusion** within the Board, working groups, and project steering committees;
- **Strengthen collaboration** with partner efforts such as RAPID5, LinkUS, Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO), MORPC Technical Assistance, and Ohio to Erie Trail Board;
- Identify and actively pursue **funding for large projects**;
- Evaluate the potential of a **levy-funded trail program**;
- Identify **shovel ready or planning ready projects**;
- Inventory local community trail plans, projects, and visions;
2022 Goals

- **Meet with area communities** to support advancement of plan to feasibility phases;

- **Conduct a legal analysis** to better understand possibility for trail building that may require some property acquisition;

- **Draft Maintenance Memorandum of Understandings** to support collaborative efforts among trail managers;

- **Prepare a COG statement for trail-related Capital Budget requests**;

- **Prepare a COG statement to the MORPC Attributable Funds Committee** detailing desired requirements for granting federal funds; and

- **Host a Board Member retreat** to evaluate the short and long-term goals of the COG program.
Trail Development
Regional Trail Vision

500+ Proposed Trail Miles

230+ Existing Trail Miles

Equity Prioritization

- Land availability?
- Weighting metrics?
- Easy availability of dollars?
- Definition of connectivity?

Partnerships

- Key influential partners?
- Who are the true believers?
- COG fundraising committee?
- Existing initiatives?
A **Trail of Regional Significance** is a primary trail, predominantly off-street, that is multi-jurisdictional and connects people to major destination points. These trails have a well maintained, improved surface and should prioritize comfort and safety for trail users. In locations where Trails of Regional Significance intersect or conflict with vehicular traffic, the trail should be emphasized as highly as practicable. Landscaping and buffering should be incorporated into the design of these trails. Access to amenities, such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and parking, should be provided periodically. Wayfinding, snow & ice removal, maintenance, and 24/7 access of Trails of Regional Significance are critical to ensure that reliable and equitable access is provided to all users.

**Community COG Trail Connectors** are secondary on-and-off street pedestrian and bicycle facilities that provide access from a community to the Trails of Regional Significance.

- Community COG Trail Connectors are not identified on the Regional Trail Vision Map, but they have a secondary designation in GIS mapping maintained by MORPC. Community COG Trail Connector locations are to be determined at the discretion of local governments and must provide a connection into to the Trails of Regional Significance.
Proposed Addition: River to River Trail (Bethel)

- Bethel Road from Scioto to Olentangy
- LinkUs Connection
Proposed Alternative: Jefferson Township

• Remove the proposed trail along active rail
• Add trail along Taylor Road and Tech Center Dr (partially existing)
Proposed Alternative: Pickaway County

- Remove Scioto trail through Pickaway County
- Add Ohio to Erie Canal Way
- Add east/west connection from New Holland - Circleville
- Added trails are identified on Pickaway County’s Trail Plan.
Proposed Alternative: Lockbourne

- Connect to Proposed Ohio Canal Way Trail
- Remove proposed trail on London Groveport Road
- Add east/west trail along Big Walnut Creek to connect canal to Scioto trail in Franklin County
- Connects Lockbourne to the COG network
## MORPC 2022 Technical Assistance Program Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant Agency</th>
<th>Requested Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violet Township - Pickerington, OH</td>
<td>Active Transportation Project Prioritization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Township</td>
<td>Active Transportation Project Prioritization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin County Metro Parks</td>
<td>Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Sunbury</td>
<td>Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Dublin</td>
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Central Ohio Greenways Trail Town Framework

PART 1
• Asset inventory and trail town visioning

PART 2
• Develop a general framework for a long-term trail town guide

PART 3
• Short-term local community implementation strategies
Trail Town Definition

A Trail Town is a community through which a trail passes that supports trail users with services, promotes the trail to its residents, and embraces the trail as a resource to be protected and celebrated.

--North Country Trail Coalition (adapted)
Project Purpose

→ To develop a Central Ohio Trail Town Framework and related resources that will guide development of a regional trail town initiative.

→ This is in support of the larger purposes of:
  • Supporting local quality of life by addressing active transportation options for residents
  • Making communities more walkable and bikeable to maximize trail user visits and trail user spending.

→ Both local and visiting trail users are being considered in all tasks.
December Meeting Takeaways

→ The committee wants to be able to see and share trail town success stories.
→ Committee members have questions about how the program will be funded and what will be expected of local governments.
→ The economic benefit is the hook, but not the only reason to pursue trail towns.
→ Branding and wayfinding are top of mind.
→ We’re not selling trails, we’re selling experiences.
→ A trail town “vibe” is typically fostered by local people, but a regional effort can help to jumpstart trail culture.
What would it mean to be a Central Ohio Trail Town?

→ By location
→ In the way of services
→ By local contribution
→ Attitudinally
Operations & Access
Wayfinding Scope of Work

**PART 1**
- Asset inventory

**PART 2**
- Signage Placement and Content

- Focus on one segment of the COG network – OTET;
- Serve as an extension or next phase of the COG Trail Town Effort;
- Identify an asset inventory collection strategy that is replicable throughout the entire region and state;
- Wayfinding is consistently identified as a top requested amenity in trail user surveys;
- Focus on identifying where people want to go, not branding or signage design;
- MORPC will apply for ODOT SRP Grant
- Other Funding ideas?
Partnership
Trail Design Guidelines – Environmental Considerations

Trail Typical Section

Width: Trail width should typically be 10-foot minimum. In cases of limited right-of-way, an 8 foot wide trail may be used. A wider trail may be necessary in areas that are expected to have a high number of users and/or a greater mix of users (cyclists, walkers, in-line skaters, etc.) that require more horizontal space for passing.

Paths should have a maximum of a 2 percent cross slope. The maximum horizontal grade should be 5 percent (grades steeper than 5 percent are permitted, but should be limited to distances indicated in the AASHTO)

Clear Zone: A clear zone should occur on both sides of the shared-use path at a minimum of 2 feet wide. Area should be graded at a maximum slope of 8:1. Additionally, a minimum 1-foot buffer zone between the edge of the graded clear zone and any fixed objects such as signs, mile markers, lighting, or plantings should occur. On bridges this guideline does not apply. The clear zone should include shoulder height obstructions such as pathway signage or fences.

Vertical Clearance: Clear height zone should be a minimum of 8 feet, with 10 feet being typical.

Drainage: Path drainage should be addressed to ensure safe passage for users during moderate rain events.
While there are clear environmental benefits of trails and increased trail use; design choices have an impact.

Topics:
• Vegetation, Tree Plantings, etc.
• Trail Material
• Bridges / Boardwalks
• Wetlands
• Slopes
• Closures
• Proximity to sensitive environments
• Others?
THANK YOU!

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