



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Monthly Legislative Update

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MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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What's Happening

General Assembly Passes \$3.5 Billion Capital Bill

The Ohio General Assembly voted to pass House Bill 687, the state capital appropriations, sending the bill to Governor Mike DeWine for his signature. This \$3.5 billion appropriations bill provides funding to support the construction and renovation of facilities, including school facilities, higher education institutions, parks and our cultural organizations over the next two fiscal years. These projects are mainly funded through the issuance of state debt, although this year's bill funds some appropriations with \$401.2 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and \$1.5 billion in General Revenue Fund (GRF).

Included among the capital appropriations are \$191.3 million in community project funding. These are targeted projects of local and regional importance that include commitments of local resources. Such projects include mental health and drug treatment facilities, facilities for people with developmental disabilities, parks, recreation and conservation projects, historical and cultural facilities, and agricultural society improvements.

Among MORPC counties, HB 687 makes \$34.8 million in community project funding. Among the bigger projects in Central Ohio, a \$2.5 million appropriation was made for Heritage Trail Extension in Franklin County; \$1.4 million was appropriated for the Columbus Zoo in Delaware County, and \$500,000 went for Indian Lake Maintenance in Logan County.

Below is a complete list of community project appropriations in MORPC member counties.

Project Name	County	Agency	Appropriation
Columbus Zoo	Delaware	DNR	\$1,400,000
Project Playground Galena	Delaware	DNR	\$350,000
Edge Adventure Park	Delaware	DNR	\$300,000
Concord Township Park Renovation	Delaware	DNR	\$172,000
Havener Park Improvements	Delaware	DNR	\$75,000
The Barn at Stratford	Delaware	FCC	\$500,000
Orange Township Veterans Memorial	Delaware	FCC	\$400,000
Delaware Arts Castle Mason Repairs	Delaware	FCC	\$100,000



What's Happening

Project Name	County	Agency	Appropriation
Strand Theater	Delaware	FCC	\$100,000
Salvation Army New Community Center	Fairfield	DDD	\$200,000
Ohio and Erie Canal Restoration	Fairfield	DNR	\$175,000
Lancaster Nature Trail at AHA!	Fairfield	DNR	\$75,000
Buckeye Lake Crystal Lagoon and Public Park	Fairfield	DNR	\$50,000
Millersport Lions Park	Fairfield	DNR	\$50,000
Pickerington Promenade	Fairfield	DNR	\$25,000
Fairfield County Historical Society Goslin Room	Fairfield	FCC	\$50,000
Ohio Glass Museum	Fairfield	FCC	\$25,000
Fairfield County Workforce Center	Fairfield	OHU	\$500,000
Lancaster Festival Upgrades	Fairfield	OHU	\$100,000
Historic Washington Auditorium Renovation	Fayette	FCC	\$300,000
Fayette County Museum	Fayette	FCC	\$100,000
Heritage Trail Extension	Franklin	DNR	\$2,500,000
Franklin Park Conservatory Renovation of the Wolfe Park Palm House and the Davis Showhouse	Franklin	DNR	\$1,000,000
Hamilton-Clover Groff Trail Project	Franklin	DNR	\$450,000
McCord Park Renovations	Franklin	DNR	\$450,000
Replacement of Discovery Frontier Playground at Fryer Park	Franklin	DNR	\$450,000
Alum Creek Pedestrian/Bike Bridge - Bexley	Franklin	DNR	\$350,000
Gahanna Exploration Center	Franklin	DNR	\$100,000
Veterans Memorial at Rose Run Park	Franklin	DNR	\$100,000
Big Walnut Trail Extension and Park	Franklin	DNR	\$50,000
Big Walnut Trail SE Columbus - Eastland Area	Franklin	DNR	\$50,000
Drews Trak Memorial Pump Track Expansion	Franklin	DNR	\$50,000
Columbus Symphony Orchestra	Franklin	FCC	\$2,000,000

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Project Name	County	Agency	Appropriation
Central Presbyterian Church	Franklin	FCC	\$650,000
York Mason Building Renovation	Franklin	FCC	\$500,000
Brown-Harris Historic Cemetery Preservation	Franklin	FCC	\$450,000
Columbus Museum of Art	Franklin	FCC	\$350,000
Rockwell District Cultural and Arts Ampitheater - Whitehall	Franklin	FCC	\$300,000
Rickenbacker Boyhood Home	Franklin	FCC	\$250,000
Grant Sawyer Carriage House	Franklin	FCC	\$200,000
Columbus College of Art and Design Youth and Community Learning Hub	Franklin	FCC	\$100,000
Dublin Arts Council - Muirfield Drive Project	Franklin	FCC	\$100,000
O.P. Chaney/Historic Mill	Franklin	FCC	\$50,000
Ronald McDonald House of Central Ohio	Franklin	OSU	\$2,250,000
Culture Markets	Franklin	OSU	\$50,000
Upper Arlington Community Center	Franklin	OSU	\$450,000
Kitchen of Life	Franklin	OSU	\$450,000
Zora's House	Franklin	OSU	\$600,000
Highland Youth Garden's Center	Franklin	OSU	\$50,000
East Side Dental Clinic	Franklin	OSU	\$250,000
Gravity Phase II	Franklin	CTI	\$75,000
Goodwill Columbus	Franklin	CTI	\$500,000
Girl Scouts of Ohio'S Heartland STEM and Leadership Immersion Campus	Franklin	CTI	\$1,500,000
Gracehaven - Multipurpose Building	Franklin	MHA	\$2,500,000
Boundless Health Campus Expansion	Franklin	MHA	\$900,000
Van Buren Center Restoration	Franklin	MHA	\$500,000
Refuge Residential Capacity Expansion	Franklin	MHA	\$400,000

What's Happening

Project Name	County	Agency	Appropriation
Harriet's Hope	Franklin	MHA	\$300,000
Star House	Franklin	MHA	\$200,000
YWCA Family Center - Columbus	Franklin	MHA	\$100,000
Lifecare Alliance	Franklin	MHA	\$50,000
Camp Oty'Okwa Capital Improvements	Hocking	DNR	\$200,000
Old Murray City School Building Demolition	Hocking	DNR	\$125,000
Buckeye Trail Boesel Easement Bridge	Hocking	DNR	\$2,800
Logan Theater Renovation	Hocking	FCC	\$125,000
Knox County Fairgrounds Expo Center	Knox	AGR	\$500,000
Zuck Riparian Preserve Trail	Knox	DNR	\$18,000
Kokosing Gap Trail	Knox	DNR	\$14,000
Knox County Regional Airport	Knox	OSU	\$150,000
Johnstown Splash Pad	Licking	DNR	\$250,000
Bryn Du Barn	Licking	DNR	\$175,000
Buckeye Lake Boat Ramps and Pier Enabling Project	Licking	DNR	\$150,000
Center Ice Foundation	Licking	DNR	\$50,000
Historic Newark Arcade Renovation	Licking	FCC	\$1,000,000
Johnstown Ampitheater	Licking	FCC	\$150,000
Louis Sullivan Building	Licking	FCC	\$100,000
Indian Lake Maintenance	Logan	DNR	\$500,000
Bellefontaine Blue Jacket Park	Logan	DNR	\$135,000
Chippewa Park Shelter House	Logan	DNR	\$40,000
Lutheran Community Services Building	Logan	MHA	\$200,000
Plain City Heritage Trail	Madison	DNR	\$100,000
Mt. Sterling Mason Park	Madison	DNR	\$75,000
Madison County Fire Training Program	Madison	CTI	\$150,000

What's Happening

Project Name	County	Agency	Appropriation
Flying House Farms	Morrow	DDD	\$350,000
Mount Gilead Park Site Preparations	Morrow	DNR	\$150,000
Perry County Agriculture Society Multi-Purpose Building	Perry	AGR	\$300,000
Mount Aloysius Community Rec Center	Perry	DNR	\$200,000
Jacob Miller Tavern	Perry	FCC	\$100,000
Somerset Builders Club	Perry	OHU	\$250,000
Everts Athletic and Arts Community Center	Pickaway	FCC	\$250,000
Pickaway County Memorial Hall	Pickaway	FCC	\$225,000
Tarlton Community Building	Pickaway	FCC	\$75,000
Pickaway County Community Foundation Children's Museum	Pickaway	OSU	\$200,000
Ohio Christian University Organic Chemistry Laboratories	Pickaway	SOC	\$150,000
Chillicothe Paint Creek Recreational Trail	Ross	DNR	\$215,000
Tecumseh! Actors Village Improvements	Ross	FCC	\$150,000
Pump House Center of the Arts	Ross	FCC	\$127,000
Union County Fairgrounds	Union	AGR	\$290,000
Richwood Fairgrounds Restrooms	Union	AGR	\$95,000
Marysville Heritage Park	Union	DNR	\$300,000
Richwood Splash Pad	Union	DNR	\$150,000
Richwood Park Lynn St. Shelterhouse and Parking	Union	DNR	\$50,000
Village of Richwood Opera House Restoration	Union	FCC	\$150,000
Automotive and Mobility Innovation Center Smart Corridor	Union	OSU	\$200,000
TOTAL			\$34,858,800

Top News

FY22-23 Capital Appropriations

Both chambers of the General Assembly voted to pass HB687 (Oelslager), sending the capital budget to Gov. Mike DeWine for his signature. The House approved the legislation by a vote of 82-8, while the Senate passed it 32-0. Both House and Senate finance committees accepted identical sub bills to their respective capital appropriations bills, HB687 (Oelslager) and SB343 (Dolan). The bill itself, as explained by Senate Finance Chair Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) and House Finance Chair Rep. Scott Oelslager (R-North Canton), now totals \$3.514 billion — up from the \$3.3 billion total of the proposal outlined May 24 by Office of Budget and Management Director Kimberly Murnieks. The most unique aspect of this capital appropriations bill, according to Dolan, is that it uses \$1.5 billion in General Revenue Fund (GRF) dollars — cash, in other words — to pay for the projects in the bill, and it authorizes additional use of GRF “if sufficient revenue exists.” The bill also includes nearly \$1.1 billion for Intel. Other appropriations are as follows:

- » \$703.4 million for K-12 schools, including \$600 million for school facilities; \$100 million ARPA funds for school safety grants; and \$3.4 million for the schools for the blind and deaf.
- » \$400 million for higher education facilities.
- » \$557 million for the Public Works Commission.
- » \$403.8 million for the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and \$103.3 million for the Department of Youth Services.
- » \$50 million for local jail grants.
- » \$191 million in community projects. These are the projects that legislators propose for inclusion in the capital appropriations bill.
- » \$500 million for the Department of Natural Resources.

Appalachia

A \$500 million Appalachian development fund proposed by Gov. Mike DeWine in his 2022 “State of the State” speech was amended into a COVID relief funding bill for local governments and passed by both chambers. The legislation, HB377 (Hall-Swearingen), also picked up an omnibus amendment that included a \$20 million appropriation for administration of the Aug. 2 statewide primary necessitated by Ohio’s redistricting saga, as well as dozens of land conveyances previously included in SB322 (O’Brien). The bill also picked up a number of other provisions including the following:

Census

The U.S. Census Bureau said recently in its Post-Enumeration Survey (PES) that Ohio was one of eight states believed to have received net overcounts during the 2020 census, along with Delaware, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Rhode Island and Utah. Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas were estimated to have net undercounts. The Census count for Ohio was rounded to 11.5 million, and the estimate is that it was overcounted by 1.49 percent — the percentage closest to zero for any of the states that were over- or undercounted. Other percentages included Delaware, +5.45; Hawaii, +6.79; Massachusetts, +2.24; Minnesota, +3.84; New York, +3.44; Rhode Island, +5.05; Utah, +2.59; Arkansas, -5.04; Florida, -3.48; Illinois, -1.97; Mississippi, -4.11; Tennessee, -4.78; and Texas, -1.92.

Economic Development

The tourism industry in Ohio rebounded to its second-best year in 2021, according to TourismOhio, which made the pronouncement in conjunction with the 2022 Tourism Day event outside the Statehouse. The industry received \$46.9 billion in visitor spending and 219 million visitors into and within the state. The industry supports 411,000 full-time, part-time and seasonal jobs. This represents a major increase from 2020 and neared the record numbers set in 2019 of \$48 billion in spending, 226 million visits and 429,000 industry jobs.

Intel announced that Gilbane Building Company had been selected to manage early excavation work for its two chip factories, with McDaniel’s Construction Corp., Inc. (MCCI), Northstar Contracting Inc. and GTSA Construction Consulting

Top News

serving as partners. The project is expected to involve 7,000 construction jobs in Central Ohio, along with tens of thousands in indirect and support jobs.

The Ohio Ethics Commission recently adopted an informal advisory opinion that found a township and village can take a donation from a company building a solar facility in their area. The opinion was issued to the Licking County Prosecutor's Office on behalf of a township board of trustees and addresses the question of whether a company building a solar-powered electric generation facility in the township and an adjacent village could donate money to the two public entities. The donation would be provided for potential expenses associated with the project, including any incurred by the respective fire departments for necessary equipment and training.

Energy/Utilities

Officials at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) told members that evolving energy policies during the Trump and Biden administrations, along with geopolitical and macroeconomic developments, will trigger a "perfect storm" in the cost of natural gas this winter and electricity as early as summer 2023. They said price shocks will hit at-risk communities particularly hard. Commissioners heard from Federal Energy Advocate Sarah Parrot, economist Tim Benedict, and Director Rob Fadley of PUCO's Service, Monitoring and Enforcement Department on alarming price hikes at the wholesale energy auctions administered by Ohio's 13-state regional transmission organization (RTO), PJM Interconnection, and in the New York Mercantile Exchange's (NYMEX) month-end settlement price. Year-over-year inflation in wholesale energy prices from the first weeks of the Biden administration until recent auctions for Ohio's four electric distribution utilities (EDU) runs between 59 percent for AES Ohio (Dayton Power & Light), 54 percent for FirstEnergy, 49 percent for American Electric Power (AEP) of Ohio, and 41 percent for Duke Energy Ohio. Statewide, Ohioans are facing a 50 percent price hike for electricity to start next year's summer cooling season. That is because EDU auctions are forward-looking and, at present, cover service periods through May 2023.

Comprehensive energy policy reform legislation introduced by House Democrats last year received its first hearing in the House Public Utilities Committee. Rep. Juanita Brent (D-Cleveland) joined Rep. Casey Weinstein (D-Hudson) for testimony as a primary co-sponsor of HB429, replacing former Rep. Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland). Brent said the legislation would establish at least 15 "Clean Energy Incubators" across the state to ensure BIPOC-led projects are well-supported. The programs would prioritize BIPOC communities, individuals aging out of foster care, environmental justice communities, low-income communities and citizens re-entering society after being incarcerated. Another program under the bill would help incarcerated Ohioans gain skills to enter the clean energy industry when they are released, she said. Weinstein said the bill would "launch Ohio's largest economic development initiative in recent history," moving the state in the right direction following the 133-HB6 (Callender-Wilkin) scandal.

A minority-owned marketer joined the Office of Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) to oppose the latest proposed subsidy under the 14-year-old policies of 127-SB221, passed during a pre-shale era of rising energy prices. Instead of allowing utilities to bill all customers for electric vehicle (EV) charging they may not use, witnesses said the state should ensure non-monopolies compete on a level playing field for the emerging EV market. Officially appearing as an interested party, Director Michael Haugh of OCC's Analytical Department-Competitive Services told the Senate Energy and Public Utilities

Committee his comments were consistent with the consumers' counsel's historical opposition to energy subsidies that "tend to subvert or even prevent Ohio consumers from receiving the benefits of the free market," which he defined as lower prices and greater innovation. Haugh said OCC's position on SB307 (Rulli) would move to open opposition if the Legislature doesn't remove the proposed EV billing rider under SB221's continuing system of electric security plans (ESP).

The House Public Utilities Committee accepted an amendment to HB450 (Baldrige-Lanese), which Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) said would address some opponent concerns and includes changes sought by proponents. Chair James Hoops (R-Napoleon) said they will look at any remaining opposition concerns and see if something can be worked out further. He would like to have a committee vote soon. Seitz's amendment, AM3144-2, replicates previous action in the

Top News

“one energy” amendment to 133-HB6 (Callender-Wilkin), limiting the amount a community solar project can generate to 100 percent of its expected annual requirements, rather than 120 percent. Seitz said this is so they do not get into the “business of being a generator for other users.” He also said the amendment has two actions to “smooth out” the cost implications of the bill — the first is a requirement that projects be located proportionally through the service territories of all four electric distribution utilities (EDUs) in Ohio, so that resulting solar activity is not clustered in one area. Seitz added it was of particular concern as most distressed properties are within one EDU’s territory.

General Assembly/Statehouse

The House voted to provide \$422 million to smaller jurisdictions that did not receive COVID relief funding directly from the federal government. Under HB377 (Hall-Swearingen), non-entitlement units (NEU) of local government, including townships, will share in another \$422 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, following distribution of the initial \$422 million via HB168 (Fraizer). The bill passed on a vote of 75-9.

The House offered temporary relief to small township fire departments in need of staff via HB564 (Koehler), which allows townships to have first responders work up to 38 hours per week for the next 18 months while still being considered part-time employees, meaning they do not need to be provided benefits.

The Senate passed legislation that allocates federal funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill for roads and bridge projects in the state, as well as other federal dollars for projects through other state agencies. The Senate Transportation Committee had earlier in the day amended HB338 (Hoops) to add a number of transportation-related provisions as part of an omnibus amendment. The bill originally addressed motorcycle safety laws, including allowing those seeking a motorcycle license to take other end-of-course evaluations that meet or exceed Motorcycle Ohio standards. In addition to appropriating federal dollars, other provisions allow for qualified military veterans to obtain a CDL without a driving or written test as well as giving the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) the ability to bid more for contracts related to the Brent Spence Bridge project. The bill passed 30-1.

In other action, the Senate passed SB299 (Schaffer) along party lines by a vote of 24-6. The bill also includes an emergency clause, which passed by the same margin. The legislation increases the amount of time township employees can work while still being considered part-time workers. Sen. Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster) said the bill is necessary to ensure fire departments in rural areas can continue to provide emergency services.

House Speaker Bob Cupp (R-Lima) said the chamber will not be in session again until November.

Housing/Homelessness

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio’s (COHHIO) Board of Directors announced housing and health care advocate Amy Riegel would become the organization’s new leader starting Wednesday, June 1. Riegel will take over from founding Executive Director Bill Faith, who will be retiring this summer. Riegel most recently served as the senior director of housing for CareSource, a Medicaid-managed care organization based in Dayton. Under her guidance, CareSource ramped up its efforts to address housing insecurity and improve the underlying conditions that affect the health and wellness of low-income Ohioans. Previously, Riegel helped oversee housing and homelessness policy and programs for the city of Dayton.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) joined U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Marcia Fudge, U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus) and Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther to discuss steps the Biden administration will take to increase affordable housing in the state and nationwide through 2027. A White House fact sheet said this plan starts with the creation and preservation of hundreds of thousands of affordable housing units in the next three years, paired with other policies such as rental and down payment assistance. It includes rewarding changes to zoning and land-use policies; improving current forms of federal financing; ensuring that more government-owned homes go to owners who live in them rather than large institutional investors; and working with the private sector to finish building the most new homes in 2022 for any year since 2006. As part of the plan, President Joe Biden is continuing to urge Congress to pass investments

Top News

in housing production and preservation, provide tax credits for building and rehabilitation of 125,000 homes for low and middle-income buyers and provide Housing Supply Fund financing to develop 500,000 units for low and moderate-income renters and homebuyers.

The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) announced recipients of its 2022 Housing Tax Credits, with 31 developments awarded over \$31.9 million in 10-year federal tax credits. These developments will create or preserve 1,554 apartments for families, seniors and individuals at risk for homelessness. Projects receiving awards are located in all regions of Ohio, and they include eight developments in rural communities that will create affordable housing. The funding supports 227 units created or preserved in Appalachian Ohio as well. Among the 31 developments, 14 are for seniors, 13 are for families and four will provide supportive services.

The Ohio Controlling Board approved a request from the Ohio Department of Development (DOD) to use \$1.7 million in federal funds for rental assistance. Rep. Bride Sweeney (D-Cleveland) asked agency officials how quickly the rental assistance program will be going out and how DOD will be promoting the use of the federal funds for those facing eviction. Latisha Chastang, the deputy chief of community services at DOD, told Sweeney that some of the delays were due to the agency's working to identify the best needs for Ohio and trying to streamline the technology that will be used for the program so that when it goes live there would not be as many bugs.

Ohio could see substantially more affordable housing development if it supplemented federal tax credits for that purpose with a state version, developers, employers and human services advocates told a House committee. The House Families, Aging and Human Services Committee heard from proponents of HB560 (Hoops-Pavliga), which would provide \$50 million in nonrefundable credits per year for a limited period to go toward projects that have qualified for the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC).

Judicial

Government bodies in Ohio have struggled with the prospect of executive session since last year's 12th District decision granting Chris Hicks of the Clermont County Republican Party Executive Committee \$80,000 in legal fees for county commissioners' apparent failure to conduct themselves lawfully, counsel told the Ohio Supreme Court in oral arguments last week. How to announce executive session under R.C. 121.22(G), how and whether public officials must show confidential proceedings didn't stray from their stated purpose, and whether the Open Meetings Act (OMA) could use an overhaul are now questions before the Court.

People

Ohio will have the "largest inter-connected park system in the country" if RAPID 5's public-private collaborative led by former Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Amy Acton succeeds in turning Central Ohio waterways and trails into a single, connected greenspace. Acton will provide her "unique ability to inspire people to live their best lives" at RAPID 5 (Rivers and Parks + Imagination and Design) with support from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), Columbus/Franklin County Metro Parks, Urban Land Institute (ULI) of Columbus, and other public and private partners across the capital region. The RAPID 5 nonprofit seeks to connect Big Darby Creek, Scioto River, Olentangy River, Alum Creek and Big Walnut Creek with greenways, waterways, trails and parks to give more Ohio residents access to transportation and recreation including kayaking, mountain biking, running and hiking.

Sen. Tina Maharath (D-Canal Winchester) gave birth to her son, Davis Lee Maharath, on Thursday, May 12. The birth was announced by Sen. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) on the Senate floor during session. She said the boy weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces. Maharath has one other son.

Top News

Public Safety

The Ohio State Highway Patrol reported 17 deaths on Ohio's roadways during the 2022 Memorial Day weekend according to provisional statistics. This Memorial Day saw more fatalities than last year, when there were 15 traffic deaths during the weekend. The four-day reporting period began Friday, May 27 and ran through Monday, May 30.

Technology/Aerospace

The second "GovTech Summit" was held by OhioX, a nonprofit dedicated to growing the state economy through technology and innovation. A wide array of public and private officials were set to speak at the virtual event, including keynote remarks by Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) and Senate President Matt Huffman (R-Lima). Rep. Mark Fraizer (R-Newark), chair of the House Technology and Innovation Committee, was due to speak on a "Building Ohio's Tech Hub" panel along with Rep. Mary Lightbody (D-Westerville), ranking member of the committee; Rep. Adam Holmes (R-Nashport), a committee member and chair of the Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Technology Committee; and former Ohio House Chief of Staff Mike Dittoe, now partner at High Bridge Consulting.

Telecommunications/Broadband

Lt. Gov. Jon Husted announced members of Ohio's Broadband and 5G Sector Partnership, including industry, education and government entities. Ohio State University (OSU) was picked to develop the associated curriculum and the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) was previously named as the industry partner. The sector partnership is working to design and distribute curriculum and training programs, along with promoting career awareness, to meet industry workforce needs. It is estimated these programs will support filling 1,250 jobs for broadband access expansion and 32,000 jobs for 5G deployment in Ohio. Partnership members will have their first official meeting at OSU on Thursday, June 9.

Transportation/Infrastructure

Gov. Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Jack Marchbanks announced the release of \$51 million for 44 new safety improvement projects to specifically address an increase in pedestrian-involved traffic crashes and fatal roadway departures on state and local roads. The funds come as fatal crashes involving pedestrians and roadway departures both hit their highest levels in 2021, compared to the previous decade.

Preeti Choudhary has been selected by Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Jack Marchbanks as the new executive director of DriveOhio, effective Monday, May 9. According to DriveOhio, Choudhary is a senior intelligent transportation systems engineer with a diverse background in systems engineering analyses; connected and automated vehicle (CV/AV) strategic planning and programming; and technology pilot deployments. Her technical background and communication skills make her a bridge between engineers, policy makers, and stakeholders, the department said.

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) approved a \$614,456 grant that will make improvements on the Midland Subdivision rail line by Indiana & Ohio Railway (IORY) in Cincinnati and Clinton County. ORDC said IORY is matching the grant at \$614,456, for a total project investment of \$1,228,912. The work consists of two related elements on the Midland Subdivision: installation of a crossover near Oakley Yard in Cincinnati, and improvements to Midland Yard in Clinton County.

According to early numbers released by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) this week, Ohio had 1,351 reported traffic fatalities in 2021, a 9.8 percent increase over the previous year, when 1,230 traffic fatalities occurred. NHTSA said Ohio was one of 44 states along with the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to have an increase in 2021 as compared to 2020, while one state was unchanged and five states had decreases. The Midwest region, which includes Ohio, saw an overall 9 percent increase in fatalities in 2021.

Serious auto crashes in urban areas are more likely on city streets that look to drivers like highways, according to new research that analyzed roads in Columbus, OH. The study, conducted at Ohio State University (OSU), applied machine learning techniques to analyze more than 240,000 images of road segments in Columbus, taken from Google Street View.

Top News

Researchers wanted to know what the roads looked like to drivers and whether that was linked to serious and deadly crashes. Findings showed street segments that were classified as “open roads” — those where the photos showed more visible sky, more roadway and more signs — had 48 percent more crashes that caused injury or death than those classified as “open residential.” The open road classification included almost all of the highway segments in Columbus (93 percent), but it also included more than half of the city’s arterial road segments (59 percent) — the major high-capacity roads through the city.

Workforce

Education and business leaders discussed how Ohio can prepare for the future workforce needs triggered by Intel’s semiconductor production facilities in Central Ohio, as part of a wider forum on workforce and education hosted by Ohio Excels and the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation. The hour-long panel was moderated by JobsOhio Senior Managing Director Kristi Clouse and included John Berry, president of Central Ohio Technical College (COTC); John Trott, executive director of the Area 7 Workforce Investment Board; Jack Thomas, president of Central State University (CSU); Jeff Spain, director of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership at Columbus State Community College (CSCC); Joyce Malainy, superintendent of the Career and Technology Education Centers of Licking County; and Steve Ringel, executive director of the Ohio State University (OSU) Institute for Materials Research.

Legislative Updates

Goal 1: Promote regionalism at the local, state, and federal levels of government fostering economic growth, prosperity, efficient use of resources, and a high quality of life for Central Ohio residents.

HB63 AMEND EMINENT DOMAIN LAWS (CUTRONA A, STOLTZFUS R) To amend the law regarding eminent domain and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/2/2021 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-63>

HB66 REVIEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS (HOOPS J) To require the reporting of information on and legislative review of property tax exemptions.
Current Status: 10/19/2021 - BILL AMENDED, Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-66>

HB71 EXEMPT CERTAIN HOUSING FROM PROPERTY TAXATION (PLUMMER P, HICKS-HUDSON P) To exempt from property taxation qualifying housing for individuals diagnosed with mental illness or substance use disorder and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - House Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-71>

HB143 REGARDS THE CLEAN OHIO PROGRAM (HILLYER B) Relating to the Clean Ohio Program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-143>

HB237 REQUIRE ELECTRONIC MEANS OF RECORDING INSTRUMENTS, INCREASE FEES (HILLYER B) To require counties to provide an electronic means of recording instruments and accessing them, to allow county recorders to charge a document preservation surcharge, to increase recording fees for certain instruments, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 3/15/2022 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-237>

HB264 MODIFY TAX RULE FOR EMPLOYEES OF TEMPORARY WORKSITE (SMITH M, SOBECKI L) To amend Section 29 of HB197 of the 133rd General Assembly to modify the municipal income tax withholding rule for employees working at a temporary worksite.
Current Status: 4/22/2021 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-264>

HB275 EXPAND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION JOINT PURCHASING AUTHORITY (LAMPTON B) To expand political subdivision joint purchasing authority to expressly include purchases for construction services.
Current Status: 5/12/2021 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-275>

HB290 EXPRESS INTENT FOR SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA (MCCLAIN R, JOHN M) To express the intent of the General Assembly to establish a school funding formula that allows families to choose the option for all computed funding amounts associated with students' education to follow them to the public and nonpublic schools they attend.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-290>

Legislative Updates

- HB357** INDEX HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AMOUNTS (STEPHENS J, LARE J) To index the homestead exemption amounts to inflation.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-357>
- HB364** WATERWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION (PATTON T) To make changes to the application process for the waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Public Utilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-364>
- HB377** CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY (HALL T, SWEARINGEN D) To amend Section 220.11 of H.B. 168 of the 134th General Assembly to make an appropriation related to coronavirus local fiscal recovery.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - Consideration of Senate Amendments; House Does Concur, Vote 80-10
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-377>
- HB386** REQUIRE FIRE, POLICE CHIEF RESIDE IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (INGRAM C, HICKS-HUDSON P) To allow a municipal corporation to require its fire chief or chief of police to reside within the municipal corporation during the chief's first five years.
Current Status: 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-386>
- HB397** AGRICULTURAL LEASES, PUBLIC WORKS (STEWART B, KICK D) To revise the law regarding agricultural leases and soil and water conservation districts; to modify the laws governing the Ohio Public Works Commission, district public works integrating committees, and natural resources assistance councils; to convey state-owned land in Fairfield County to the board of commissioners of Fairfield County; to create the Investing in Ohio Fund; to revise the law governing the issuance of unit operation orders under the Oil and Gas Law; to make changes to the law regarding battery-charged fences; and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 4/21/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-397>
- HB422** BILLING - MUNICIPAL SERVICES (FRAIZER M, WEST T) To limit the amount municipal corporations can recover from property owners of non-owner-occupied properties for unpaid municipal utility and other service rates and charges and to create an appeals process for improper billing of municipal services.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government and Elections
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-422>
- HB430** PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (CROSS J) Relating to property development and protecting underground utility facilities during construction and to designate April as "Ohio Work Zone Safety Awareness Month."
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - Consideration of Senate Amendments; House Does Concur, Vote 55-28
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-430>
- HB463** ELIMINATE HEALTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCILS (STEPHENS J) To eliminate district advisory councils for general health districts, and transfer their duties and responsibilities to boards of county commissioners.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-463>

Legislative Updates

- HB519** MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX FILINGS (ROEMER B, LANESE L) To modify the law regarding extensions for filing municipal income tax returns and to limit penalties for late filings.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-519>
- HB546** INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (GRENDALL D) To allow local governments to establish investment funds and use interest earnings to reduce taxes and special assessments on senior citizen homesteads.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-546>
- HB560** TAX CREDIT FOR AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING (HOOPS J, PAVLIGA G) To authorize a nonrefundable tax credit for the construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing.
Current Status: 5/26/2022 - House Families, Aging and Human Services, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-560>
- HB563** LIMIT LOCAL REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROPERTY (FOWLER S, FERGUSON R) To limit local regulation of short-term rental property.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - REPORTED OUT, House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-563>
- HB566** VACANT PROPERTY OWNERS - CONTACT INFO (BLACKSHEAR W, WHITE A) To require owners of vacant property to file contact information with the county auditor.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-566>
- HB581** COUNTY CREDIT CHARGES (MILLER J, HOLMES A) To allow county credit card charges for temporary and necessary assistance care provided by a county veterans service office.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - REPORTED OUT, House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-581>
- HB646** PACE LOANS (CUTRONA A, ROEMER B) Regarding residential property assessed clean energy (PACE) loans.
Current Status: 5/31/2022 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-646>
- HB658** PUBLIC RECORDS VIOLATIONS (INGRAM C) To require the award of attorney's fees to an aggrieved person if a court of appeals determines in an appeal by a public office from a Court of Claims order that the public office denied the person access to public records in violation of the Public Records Law.
Current Status: 5/17/2022 - Referred to Committee House Civil Justice
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-658>
- HB677** TAX TRANSPARENCY ACT (YOUNG T) To require local governments to provide certain information to residents regarding proposed property and income tax levies and to name this act the Tax Transparency Act.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-677>

Legislative Updates

- HB688** COVID LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY (LIPPS S) Regarding coronavirus local fiscal recovery and prescription digital therapeutics, and to make appropriations.
Current Status: 5/31/2022 - Referred to Committee House Health
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-688>
- HJR4** CA: LOCAL ELECTIONS (EDWARDS J, SEITZ B) Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit local governments from allowing persons who lack the qualifications of an elector to vote in local elections.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - ADOPTED BY SENATE; Vote 32-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HJR-4>
- SB15** FISCAL OFFICERS-LIABILITY (WILSON S) To change the circumstances in which certain fiscal officers may be held liable for a loss of public funds.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate Does Concur, Vote 30-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-15>
- SB20** COUNTY UTILITY SUPPLY CONTRACTS (HACKETT R) To exempt county utility supply contracts entered into under a joint purchasing program from the 10-year maximum period for such contracts and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-20>
- SB24** FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS (GAVARONE T, PETERSON B) To enact the First-time Home Buyer Savings Act, authorizing income tax deductions for contributions to and earnings on savings accounts designated for the purchase of a home.
Current Status: 10/19/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-24>
- SB45** TAX INDUCEMENTS CERTAIN BUSINESSES (PETERSON B, KUNZE S) To enhance state and local tax inducements for businesses making substantial fixed asset and employment investments and their suppliers.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-45>
- SB172** TAX CREDIT-NONRESIDENT TAXPAYERS (SCHAFFER T) To require municipal corporations with more than \$100 million in annual income tax collections to provide a tax credit to nonresident taxpayers.
Current Status: 5/4/2021 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-172>
- SB193** UNPAID WATER CHARGES (WILLIAMS S) To prohibit political subdivisions from placing a lien on property for unpaid water charges.
Current Status: 5/17/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-193>
- SB349** LAND BANKS-PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX (SCHURING K) To allow local governments to levy a real property transfer tax for the benefit of a land bank.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-349>

Legislative Updates

- SJR6** CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE-ELECTOR REQUIREMENTS (BLESSING III L) Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit local governments from allowing persons who lack the qualifications of an elector to vote in local elections.
- Current Status:** 5/24/2022 - Senate Local Government and Elections, (Second Hearing)
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SJR-6>

Legislative Updates

Goal 2: Achieve an advanced, inclusive, and exceptional transportation system that connects Central Ohio's people and products to the world.

- HB27** INCREASE PENALTY FOR FAILING TO SECURE VEHICLE LOAD (PATTON T) To increase the criminal penalties associated with failing to secure a load on a vehicle.
Current Status: 3/16/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Judiciary
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-27>
- HB47** ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATION GRANT REBATE (LOYCHIK M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 6/22/2021 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-47>
- HB70** REVISE LAW FOR PASSING SCHOOL BUS (BROWN R) To make changes to the law governing passing a school bus.
Current Status: 5/6/2021 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-70>
- HB111** ALTER USE OF CELLPHONES WHILE DRIVING LAWS (LIGHTBODY M) To alter the law governing the use of a handheld electronic wireless communications device while driving.
Current Status: 5/11/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-111>
- HB141** MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS (SKINDELL M, UPCHURCH T) To make appropriations related to public transportation.
Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-141>
- HB283** EXPAND DISTRACTED DRIVING LAWS (ABRAMS C, LAMPTON B) To expand the texting while driving prohibition to a general prohibition against using an electronic wireless communications device while driving, with certain exceptions, and to create data collection requirements based on associated violations of the distracted driving laws.
Current Status: 3/3/2022 - BILL AMENDED, House Criminal Justice, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-283>
- HB346** REGARDING ELECTRIC MOTOR VEHICLES (MILLER J, WEINSTEIN C) To alter the definitions of "plugin electric motor vehicle" and "hybrid motor vehicle" under the motor vehicle law and to halve the additional registration fees for those two types of motor vehicles.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-346>
- HB347** REQUIREMENTS FOR REPLICATOR MOTOR VEHICLES (FOWLER S) To establish requirements relative to the titling and use of replica motor vehicles.
Current Status: 3/8/2022 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-347>

Legislative Updates

- HB361** UNLAWFUL BLOCKS OF RAILROAD CROSSING (HALL T, MIRANDA J) To establish new requirements and increased penalties that apply to a railroad company that unlawfully blocks a railroad crossing.
Current Status: 10/26/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-361>
- HB465** ODOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS-SCHOOLS (SHEEHY M, BIRD A) To establish requirements regarding Department of Transportation projects, specifically as they relate to schools and school zones.
Current Status: 3/22/2022 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-465>
- HB524** NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED BY STATE AGENCIES (HALL T) To modify the law governing notifications issued by state agencies.
Current Status: 5/19/2022 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Government Oversight, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-524>
- HB531** COUNTY PROSECUTOR LEGAL SERVICES (GHANBARI H) To allow a county prosecutor to provide legal services to a metropolitan planning organization, regional transportation planning organization, or regional council of governments.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - Senate Local Government and Elections, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-531>
- HB547** TRAFFIC PHOTO-MONITORING DEVICES (PATTON T) To prohibit a municipal corporation or township that does not operate either a fire department or an emergency medical services organization from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-547>
- HB548** TRAFFIC MONITORING DEVICES - POPULATION REQUIREMENTS (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority with a population of 200 or fewer from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-548>
- HB549** TRAFFIC TICKET REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority, in any year, from issuing a total number of traffic tickets based on the use of traffic law photo-monitoring devices that exceeds two times the population of the local authority.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-549>
- HB550** TRAFFIC TICKET REQUIREMENTS - ANNUAL REVENUE (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority from deriving more than 30 per cent of the total annual revenue of the local authority from the issuance of tickets for traffic law violations based on evidence recorded by traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-550>
- HB551** TRAFFIC TICKET REVENUE - LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES (PATTON T) To require 80 per cent of all revenue from a traffic camera ticket be used for law enforcement expenses.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-551>

Legislative Updates

- HB552** PROHIBIT TRAFFIC CAMERAS NEAR INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS (PATTON T) To prohibit placement of a traffic camera within one-half mile of an interstate highway entrance.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-552>
- HB553** TRAFFIC CAMERA REQUIREMENTS (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority, located in a county with a population of one million or more, from using traffic cameras to enforce traffic violations on interstate highways.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-553>
- HB626** MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (PATTON T) To modify the penalties for the offense of “failure to comply with an order or signal of a police officer” involving the offender’s operation of a motor vehicle and expressly provide that a motor vehicle used in the offense is subject to possible seizure and forfeiture.
Current Status: 6/2/2022 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-626>
- SB23** ILLEGALLY PASSING SCHOOL BUS (GAVARONE T) To impose a civil penalty when a driver who illegally passes a school bus cannot be identified, to designate the month of August as “School Bus Safety Awareness Month,” and to designate this act as the School Bus Safety Act.
Current Status: 12/7/2021 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, Senate Veterans and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-23>
- SB32** ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION (RULLI M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-32>
- SB277** FUEL TAXES-TEMPORARY REDUCTION (HUFFMAN S) To temporarily reduce motor fuel excise tax rates and suspend collection of the additional motor vehicle registration taxes on electric and hybrid vehicles, both for five years, and to amend the version of section 4503.10 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on October 1, 2022, to continue the changes to that section on and after that date.
Current Status: 2/16/2022 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-277>
- SB279** STATE AGENCY NOTIFICATIONS (WILSON S) To modify the law governing notifications issued by state agencies.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-279>
- SB307** ELECTRIC VEHICLE INCENTIVES, UTILITIES (RULLI M) To authorize incentives for the manufacture and usage of electric vehicles, to permit electric distribution utilities to create, and recover costs of, transportation electrification programs, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 5/17/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-307>

Legislative Updates

Goal 3: Pursue sustainability solutions that protect and conserve our natural resources and promote a diverse supply of clean, affordable, and reliable sources of energy for our growing region.

- HB10** REPEAL HB6 - REVISE ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE LAW (LELAND D) To repeal Section 5 of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to make changes regarding electric utility service law, to allow the implementation of energy waste reduction programs, and to repeal certain provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-10>
- HB18** REPEAL HB6 (LANESE L) Repeal HB 6 of the 133rd GA
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-18>
- HB57** REPEAL HB6 ENERGY LAWS (SKINDELL M, O'BRIEN M) To repeal the changes made by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to the laws governing electric service, renewable energy, and energy efficiency and the changes made to other related laws.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-57>
- HB175** DEREGULATE CERTAIN EPHEMERAL WATER FEATURES (HILLYER B) To deregulate certain ephemeral water features under various water pollution control laws.
Current Status: 4/21/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-175>
- HB192** PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM STOPPING CERTAIN ENERGY GENERATION (CUTRONA A) To prohibit counties, townships, and municipal corporations from prohibiting energy generation from fossil fuels and gas pipelines.
Current Status: 5/6/2021 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-192>
- HB245** EXPAND ELIGIBILITY - COUNTY SEWER DISCOUNTED RATES (INGRAM C) To expand eligibility for county sewer discounted rates or charges.
Current Status: 4/14/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-245>
- HB381** ELECTRIC CHARGES - OTHER STRUCTURES (GRENDLELL D) To allow for certain structures on a retail electric customer's property to be charged the same as the primary residence.
Current Status: 11/10/2021 - House Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-381>
- HB389** REGARDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY (LELAND D, SEITZ B) To permit electric distribution utilities to establish energy efficiency and peak demand reduction portfolios.
Current Status: 11/17/2021 - REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED, House Public Utilities, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-389>

Legislative Updates

- HB429** CLEAN ENERGY JOBS (WEINSTEIN C) To establish programs and state policies regarding clean energy jobs and energy justice, to create the Governor's Office of Energy Justice, to make changes to the environmental, electric utility, and other public utility laws, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-429>
- HB464** ELIMINATE WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (WIGGAM S) To eliminate public water system asset management program requirements and to require the Director of Environmental Protection to rescind rules governing that program.
Current Status: 3/8/2022 - House Agriculture and Conservation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-464>
- SB19** REGARDING PROPERTY TAXATION (SCHAFFER T) To modify the law regarding property taxation and sales and use tax.
Current Status: 2/7/2022 - House Appoints Managers; D. Merrin, R. Stoltzfus & L. Sobecki Named as House Conferees
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-19>
- SB29** ELIMINATE AUTO ENROLLMENT-UTILITY AGGREGATION (HOAGLAND F) To eliminate automatic enrollment in governmental electric and natural gas aggregation programs.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-29>
- SB44** REVISE HB6 FROM 133RD G.A. (RULLI M, CIRINO J) To repeal the nuclear resource credit payment provisions, and amend, and rename as solar resource, the renewable resource credit payment provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.
Current Status: 3/9/2021 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-44>
- SB89** RENEWABLE ENERGY (DOLAN M) To extend the renewable portfolio standard, increase solar energy benchmarks, and extend the property tax exemption for qualified energy projects that use renewable energy resources.
Current Status: 9/21/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-89>
- SB96** PREVENT UTILITY DISRUPTION-COVID (WILLIAMS S) To prevent the disruption of utility service during the state of emergency declared regarding COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/31/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-96>
- SB117** REPEAL LEGACY GENERATION PROVISIONS-HB6 (ROMANCHUK M, CRAIG H) To repeal the legacy generation resource provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly and provide customers refunds.
Current Status: 6/15/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-117>
- SB127** PREVENT LOCALITIES-LIMIT USE OF NATURAL GAS (LANG G, RULLI M) To prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas.
Current Status: 5/12/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-127>

Legislative Updates

Goal 4: Promote effective data policies and the equitable deployment of digital infrastructure that benefit Central Ohio communities.

- HB278** REVISE MARCS LAWS (HILLYER B) To make changes to laws governing the multi-agency radio communications system (MARCS).
Current Status: 5/4/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-278>
- HB432** DATA BREACHES (CROSSMAN J, SOBECKI L) Regarding data breaches on state agency computer systems.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Technology and Innovation
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-432>
- HB445** 9-1-1 SERVICES, TRAINING (CARFAGNA R, SMITH K) To make changes to the law governing 9-1-1 service and to repeal program requirements for emergency-service-telecommunicator training.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-445>
- SB8** BROADBAND-ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EASEMENTS (MCCOLLEY R) Regarding broadband expansion, including access to electric cooperative easements and facilities, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-8>

Goal 5: Raise awareness or racial and social justice issues and work to continually improve communities within our growing region.

- HB341** CREATE BUREAU OF HATE CRIMES (MILLER A, WEINSTEIN C) To create the Bureau of Hate Crimes in the Office of the Attorney General and to authorize the Attorney General to prosecute a hate crime.
Current Status: 6/10/2021 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-341>
- HCR6** DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (HOWSE S, CRAWLEY E) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.
Current Status: 6/23/2021 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HCR-6>
- SB48** CULTURAL COMPETENCY-HEALTH CARE (MAHARATH T, ANTONIO N) To require certain health care professionals to complete instruction in cultural competency.
Current Status: 6/16/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-48>
- SB105** MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (SYKES V, SCHURING K) To require political subdivisions to recognize state certifications of minority business enterprises.
Current Status: 3/2/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-105>

Legislative Updates

SB125 BIRTH EQUITY (KUNZE S, MAHARATH T) To enact the Save Our Mothers Act regarding birth equity, peripartum racial and ethnic disparities, and implicit bias in the health care system and to designate May as “Maternal Mortality Awareness Month.”

Current Status: 11/17/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-125>

SCR4 DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (CRAIG H, WILLIAMS S) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.

Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-4>

SCR5 DENOUNCE RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION-COVID-19 (MAHARATH T, THOMAS C) To denounce all forms of stigmatization, racism, and discrimination occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current Status: 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-5>

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