



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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**NOTICE OF A MEETING**

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**October 5, 2022**  
**9 a.m.**

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 225 774 454 235

Passcode: nLYykv

**Or call in (audio only)**

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[\(888\) 595-9475,,233893200#](tel:(888)5959475233893200#) United States (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 233 893 200#

**AGENDA**

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions** – James Young, Chair
- 9:02 a.m. Approval of August 31, 2022 Meeting Minutes**
- 9:03 a.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** – Nick Gill, MORPC
- 9:15 a.m. Funding Programs**
- Attributable Funds Project Status Update – Thomas Graham, MORPC
- 9:20 a.m. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**
- 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures – Maria Schaper, MORPC
- 9:30 a.m. Informational Items**
- ODOT Multimodal Design Guide – Cait Harley, ODOT
  - Technical Assistance Program – Lauren Cardoni, MORPC
- 9:55 a.m. Other Business**
- 10:00 a.m. Adjourn**

PLEASE NOTIFY CHUCK RATLIFF AT 614-233-4115 OR EMAIL AT [cratliff@morpc.org](mailto:cratliff@morpc.org) TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

**The Attributable Funds Committee meeting will follow this meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

The next TAC meeting is **November 2, 2022 at 9 a.m.**

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Erik J. Janas**  
Chair

**Chris Amorose Groomes**  
Vice Chair

**Michelle Crandall**  
Secretary

# Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **August 31, 2022**  
Time: **9:00 a.m.**  
Location: **MORPC**

## **Members Present**

Mike Andrako  
Mike Barker  
Zakee Bashir (online)  
Andrew Biesterveld  
Barbara Cox  
William Ferriano

Corey Francis  
Matt Huffman (online)  
Tiffany Jenkins  
Josh Lockhart (online)  
Alan Moran  
Kim Moss (online)

Tim Nittle  
Matthew Peoples  
Scott Sanders (online)  
Letty Schamp  
Kelly Toth (online)  
Kevin Weaver

## **Guests**

Mike Avellano  
Doug Bender  
Nathaniel Brugler (online)  
Maria Cantrell

Chantil Milam (online)  
Eric Petee (online)  
Kelsey Vandia (online)

## **MORPC Staff**

Lauren Cardoni (online)  
Mary Ann Frantz  
John Gardocki  
Nick Gill

Thomas Graham  
Prince Kwarteng-Crooklyn  
Elliott Lewis  
Jennifer Noll

Chuck Ratliff  
Maria Schaper  
Nate Vogt

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

- Vice-Chair Weaver called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. There was a quorum present.

### **II. Approval of August 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

- Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve the August 3, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Barker moved; Mr. Nittle seconded; and the motion passed.

### **III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report** – Nick Gill, MORPC

- Mr. Gill informed the committee about the ODOT Revenue Alternative Study and Central Ohio Feedback Survey. ODOT is currently conducting a study to address future revenue needs, considering the current Ohio Gas User Fee does not have long term sustainability in the evolving vehicle economy. More information and a link to the survey will be sent to the committee.
- Mr. Gill reported that on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, the U.S. DOT will come to the MORPC offices to execute its MPO certification process. This process, done every four years, will review how MORPC conducts its business as an MPO. In the evening, there will be a public open house from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Ms. Noll reminded the committee that Data Day will be held on Thursday, September 15th, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at MORPC. Data topics and breakout

sessions are centered on using census data. Lunch is included for the in-person option.

- Ms. Noll informed the committee that MORPC will hold the next in the series of Intel conversations on Thursday, September 22, 2022, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at MORPC. This topic, titled Sustainability Initiatives, will discuss updates on initiatives addressing land, air, water, and energy, along with best practices that enhance environmental and community health.
- On Thursday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., MORPC will facilitate Planning Together – Local Governments and Schools, which will discuss the benefits of joint planning between municipalities and their school districts.
- Ms. Noll finished their update by mentioning MORPC's Summit on Sustainability, being held on Friday October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Hilton Columbus Downtown.
- Ms. Noll introduced the new Air Quality & Sustainability Program Coordinator Prince Kwarteng-Crooklynn. Mr. Kwarteng-Crooklynn gave a brief introduction to the committee.

#### **IV. Funding Programs – Thomas Graham, MORPC**

- Mr. Graham brought to the committee's attention that the highlighted projects on the MORPC-Attributable Funding Commitments for SFY 2023 handout are the projects that submitted commitment updates in July of 2022. The August report reflected the current commitments at that time. Based on discussions held at the last Attributable Funds Committee meetings, the commitments have been updated to reflect the most current. While those commitments have not been formally adopted, MORPC felt it's more realistic for how our program is going to look.
- Mr. Graham informed that as part of Resolution T-10-22: Amending the State Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, there will be a consideration to increase funding for Delaware project PID 103626: US-36 & US-37, aka "The Point", to accommodate rising costs. This increase is included in the handout.
- Although the E. Broad St. right away funding is showing outstanding and overdue, ODOT is still working through review of some revised right away plans. Expectations for when those funds will be encumbered have not been determined.
- Mr. Graham explained that for the 70/71 Innerbelt project, previous reports showed two PIDs for Phase 4a and Phase 4b. All the construction funding for those phases have been combined into PID 77372. However, the commitment did not change.

#### **V. Resolutions**

- Resolution T-9-22: Amending the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Maria Schaper, MORPC
  - Ms. Schaper presented information on the MTP and explained that resolution T-9-22 is in line with the regional strategy of system development, specifically roadway infrastructure. This resolution will adjust the limits of MTP Project 464, which extends the limits from state route 161 from U.S. 62 to I-270 over to State Route 3, adding a lane in each direction as well as add major and minor widening roadway projects in New Albany. These extensions will directly support Intel site development.

- The public comment period, held July 15 through August 15, 2022, received 10 comments which include calls for consideration and incorporation of transit and other multi-mobility elements into the identified infrastructure improvements and future infrastructure improvements beyond the area immediately serving the site and calls for transportation improvements on a broader network than is included in the identified projects. In response, language is included in T-9-22 directing staff to continue working with partners on multi-mobility planning for the broader region.
- Ms. Schaper informed the committee that the Community Advisory Committee's (CAC) consideration of T-9-22 at their meeting on August 29, 2022 garnered further discussion on the incorporation of transit services and infrastructure into the proposed projects. The discussion resulted in the CAC passing the resolution with the addition of a request to ODOT, that for MTP Project ID 464 as proposed, be amended to incorporate into their design, engineering, and acquisition of right away for a future high-capacity transit corridor.
- Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Peoples moved; Mr. Barker seconded; and the motion passed.
  
- Resolution T-10-22: Amending the State Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program – Thomas Graham, MORPC
  - Mr. Graham reported that this amendment will add or modify 15 projects to the state fiscal year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with commitments totaling over \$500 million. Additionally, one project, the construction phase of I-71 at Sunbury Parkway, will be removed from the MORPC SFY 2021-2024 TIP. This was voted on in June 2022. These changes are necessary to enable the projects to advance and to maintain fiscal constraint. In October, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will ask the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to amend the Statewide TIP to include these changes. Information on specific changes can be found in the resolution. Five COTA projects are being added or modified. Any changes to section 5307 funding underwent a thirty-day public comment period, but no comments were received.
  - For US-36 & US-37, aka "The Point", increased funding in the TIP is to accommodate rising costs. The total increase for the construction phase is \$6,804,685, which includes increasing the MORPC funding commitment by \$3,721,385.50 to accommodate increased project costs, specifically increases to railroad reimbursement costs.
  - Mr. Graham informed that five projects related to ODOT New Albany projects are being added to the TIP to account for locally funded activities.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Ferrigno moved; Mr. Biesterveld seconded; and the motion passed.

- Resolution T-11-22: Establishing Priorities for Central Ohio Candidate Projects Submitted in 2022 for TRAC Funding – Elliott Lewis, MORPC
  - Mr. Lewis informed the committee that a total of 31 applications were submitted statewide, with six applications from the MORPC MPO area. These projects are requesting \$306 million to advance.
  - The TRAC project prioritization evaluation, which uses key MTP goals, is used to determine the regional priorities list. A public comment period was held June 27 to August 12, 2022. Sixty-eight comments were received, the majority of which were in support of the projects.
  - Given the evaluation and public comments, a list of the top five priorities were presented to the committee. The top priority included two applications, Phase 2D and 3 of the I-70/I-71 Downtown Ramp Up program, and MORPC would defer to TRAC on which phase to select should funding not be available for both.
  - The regional public hearing will be held on October 12, 2022 at the ODOT central office at 9 a.m. The final project list is expected to be released this winter.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Barker moved; Mr. Ferrigno seconded; and the motion passed.
  
- Resolution T-12-22: Accepting the Planning Work Program Completion Report for State Fiscal Year 2022 – Nick Gill, MORPC
  - Mr. Gill explained that the Planning Work Program completion report outlines the work that MORPC staff has completed over the fiscal year and that this resolution is to accept this report. The full report, along with this resolution will be submitted to ODOT at the end of September 2022.
  - Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Peoples moved; Mr. Biesterveld seconded; and the motion passed.
  
- Resolution T-13-22: Support ODOT Federal Performance Measure Targets – Maria Schaper, MORPC
  - Ms. Schaper presented that this resolution is specifically to support the ODOT statewide annual safety targets, and the targets established by ODOT for the 2022-2026 federal performance period. MORPC finds these targets to be consistent with current regional performance measures and targets, reflective of regional investment strategies, and reasonable based on recent trends and benchmarks. The regional performance measures will be brought forward to this committee separately.
  - Ms. Schamp asked what networks the measures apply to, all roads or just federal aid. Ms. Schaper answered that it depends on the measure. For example, the safety performances measures apply to all streets, local and federal aid.
  - Ms. Schamp stated that the reasoning behind the question is that the data has shown that prioritizing congestion and safety are not aligned. There is an understanding that on a freeway system, congestion mitigation strategies may be appropriate. However, on the local street system, there is a question of if they align with what we want in this region. Ms. Schaper responded that the performance measure is set through the federal performance management process. Given that, we

don't have any say on what the performance measures are. Through this resolution, we are either supporting the targets or establishing our own. When we look at our region's performance measures, we need to ensure that they are not conflicting.

- Vice-Chair Weaver asked for a motion to approve; Mr. Andrako moved; Mr. Barker seconded; and the motion passed.

## **VI. 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

- Ms. Schaper gave a brief overview of what the MTP is and reviewed the goals for the 2024 – 2050 MTP.
- Ms. Schaper informed the committee that in September & October, the plan is to publish the draft goals, open a public comment period, and update objectives and targets. The goals for adoption will be presented in November 2022 along with the draft objectives and targets.

## **VII. Informational Items**

- 5310 Program Management Plan Update – John Gardocki, MORPC
  - Mr. Gardocki provided an overview of the 5310 program which provides federal formula funding for the urbanized area of Central Ohio for enhanced mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Mr. Gardocki stated that the 5310 Program Management plan has not been updated since 2017. MORPC will submit the Program Management Plan to be reviewed and approved by FTA Region 5.
  - Mr. Gardocki asked for a TAC representative for the 5310 Advisory Committee, which would meet twice a year for about one hour to review the applications and scoring. Vice-Chair Weaver asked for volunteers for TAC representation on the 5310 Advisory Committee. None responded. Mr. Gardocki will follow-up.
  - Mr. Biesterveld asked if it is a conflict for a COTA representative to be on the committee. Mr. Gardocki responded that they would need to abstain from voting on any COTA applications. Vice-Chair Weaver stated that because we have members from Franklin and Delaware counties, this may present a challenge with finding TAC representation.
- COG Trail Town Framework - Melinda Vonstein, MORPC
  - Ms. Vonstein presented information on the Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Trail Town Framework, which aims to add over 500 miles to our region's trails. MORPC partnered with four communities along the Ohio to Erie trail; London, Sunbury, Centerburg, and Mount Vernon, conducting site visits and surveys to understand the community's thoughts on trails. It was learned that many already view their community as a Trail Town. Many are ready to participate in a designation program.
  - The regional designation program was developed allowing communities to apply to be a part of a shared tourism and marketing strategy.
  - The framework will be available on MORPC's website in September.
  - MORPC is continuing work with urban trail town communities, who lives within 2 miles of a regional trail that will have the opportunity to

participate in it. This will include nearly, if not every, large community within Franklin County.

- Funding provided by ODOT has been granted to research wayfinding in Central Ohio and develop an intuitive strategy that unifies the region's network and celebrates its diverse communities.

**VIII. Other Business**

- None brought forward.

**IX. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.



Thea Ewing, Secretary  
**Transportation Advisory Committee**



# METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION REPORT

September 2022

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## PROGRAMMING

Thea Ewing, Chief Regional Development Officer & Sr. Director of Programming – [tewing@morpc.org](mailto:tewing@morpc.org)

### Transportation

Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director – [ngill@morpc.org](mailto:ngill@morpc.org)

#### Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

- A resolution to amend the 2020-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan was adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and the Community Advisory Committee with an amendment to the resolution requesting that ODOT include high-capacity transit in the design, right-of-way, and construction of the amended MTP project 464.
- Continued to compile and develop data for the 2022 MTP Report Card.
- Reviewed and crafted goals, objectives, and performance measures for the 2024-2050 MTP.

#### Transit, Mobility & Human Services:

##### *Mobility Management*

- The Union County Moves Coalition held its quarterly meeting with mobility stakeholders. The discussion revolved around forming a new workforce transportation subcommittee and the startup of the county's first homeless shelter.
- The ODOT Office of Transit released transit funding awards.
- Madison and Fayette counties continue to work towards coordinating their mobility solutions, including adding a Madison County Mobility Manager.

##### *FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient*

- Continued work on the 2021 round of 5310 projects.
- Discussed 2019/2020 outstanding vehicle deliveries with the vendors.

##### *Gohio Commute*

- Gohio Commute welcomes the Army National Guard to our vanpool program. These individuals are traveling from Licking County to Franklin County daily. Besides saving thousands on their commute, they are helping improve air quality in our region.
- MORPC's Gohio Commute Program celebrated car-free day on September 22, 2022. Commuters were encouraged via social media to try other forms of transportation.

## Transportation Planning Activities:

### *US 23 Connect Study*

- Continued to support ODOT in the US 23 Connect study by participating in coordination and stakeholder meetings.

### *LinkUS Mobility Initiative*

- The Transit Principal Planner started attending the COTA Short-Range Transportation Plan (SRTP) meetings to assist COTA in jurisdictional meetings regarding the next five-year planning strategy for COTA operations.

### *Interregional Connections*

- The Central Ohio region submitted a letter of intent for the FRA Corridor Identification Program based on the Cincinnati-Dayton-Columbus-Cleveland (3C+D) and Chicago-Ft. Wayne-Columbus-Pittsburgh passenger rail lines.

## Active Transportation Planning:

- MORPC continues to host the monthly APBP webinars virtually via Microsoft Teams. The October webinar will be held on Thursday, October 19 at 3:00 p.m. The topic for October is Assessment of Bicycle Detection Confirmation and Countdown Devices. Contact Jordan Petrov ([jpetrov@morpc.org](mailto:jpetrov@morpc.org)) to attend.
- The next MORPC Active Transportation Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022. Members will have the option to attend in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams. Contact Lauren Cardoni ([lcardoni@morpc.org](mailto:lcardoni@morpc.org)) for more information.

## Transportation Safety:

- Provided assistance and letters of support to several member communities in their application for the new federal discretionary grant program [Safe Streets and Roads for All](#). This included City of Columbus, City of Dublin, City of Hilliard, and City of Upper Arlington. Applications for this new grant were due on September 15, 2022.
- Assistance is available for crash data analysis and safety funding applications, including but not limited to ODOT's [Highway Safety Improvement Program](#). Funding application windows open multiple times per year, depending on the type and amount of request. Contact Lauren Cardoni ([lcardoni@morpc.org](mailto:lcardoni@morpc.org)) for more information.

## Technical Assistance Program:

- Technical Assistance services for a Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement Activity for Metro Parks have been completed. An implementation plan, alternatives analysis tool, and geodatabase were provided to the client. Metro Parks has applied for MORPC attributable funding and are now working with a design consultant to further progress toward implementing the recommended alignment for extending the Scioto Trail.
- The Trail Access & Connectivity study for the City of Sunbury was completed. The client received a portfolio of documentation that includes recommendations for better connecting Sunbury communities to the Ohio to Erie trail.
- The Implementation Plans for the cities of Columbus and Dublin are currently being developed and reviewed. When completed, these plans will recommend bike and trail access alignments to be prioritized for further feasibility study, funding applications, and implementation.

- Cycle 3 of the Technical Assistance Program is being developed. The Program Guide is being reviewed and updated for a new round of assistance to begin in 2023. The application window will likely open in November 2022.

## Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO):

- Hosted seven virtual CORPO County Subcommittee meetings. These meetings included ODOT representatives from districts 5 and 6 and acted as STIP-related rural consultation meetings.
- During the CORPO subcommittee meetings, draft performance measures, draft TRAC recommendations, and draft STIP project lists and maps were shared. CORPO members were asked to submit any comments to Mike Borger ([mborger@morpc.org](mailto:mborger@morpc.org)) by mid-October. TRAC related information was shared with members via email on September 8, 2022.
- Attended the Madison County Mobility meeting on September 1, 2022.
- On September 7, 2022, attended the UC Moves Coalition meeting in Union County. Guidance and support continue to be provided when needed.
- Attended the OARC Transportation Committee Meeting on September 9, 2022.
- On September 15, 2022, CORPO submitted a joint application with MORPC for the Safe Streets for All grant. This grant will provide funding to complete a safety action plan for the CORPO region. This grant was created as part of the recent bi-partisan infrastructure bill.
- On September 20, 2022, attended the Parks and Trails Working Group in Union County. Guidance and support continue to be provided when needed.
- Participated in the MPO/RTPO summit hosted at MORPC on September 27, 2022. The event was planned and developed in collaboration with ODOT.

## Infrastructure Funding:

### *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*

- Coordination with ODOT is underway for the SFY 2024-2027 TIP. This process will be ongoing until the updated TIP is adopted in the spring of 2023.

### *MORPC-Attributable Funding*

- In mid-August, applicants received feedback from MORPC regarding screening applications. Final applications for funding were due on September 28, 2022. A full summary of final applications will be presented to the Attributable Funds Committee on October 5, 2022.

### *Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)*

- Applicants in Franklin County District 3 submitted 19 applications requesting a total of \$48 million in SCIP/LTIP funding for the fiscal year 2023 beginning July 1, 2023. Approximately \$31 million is available. The team is reviewing and scoring applications. The Public Works Integrating Committee's (PWIC) next meeting is on October 21, 2022.

### *Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)*

- The priority list of applications from the MORPC MPO region was approved by the Transportation Policy Committee at its meeting on September 8, 2022. The list and public comments that were received will be transmitted to TRAC by October 5, 2022. A regional public hearing for these projects will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at the ODOT Central Office.

### *Federal Competitive Programs*

- Partnered with four local member jurisdictions to submit applications to the Safe Streets and Roads for All program. All four applications were for construction of safety projects. In addition, on behalf

of CORPO to complete a Safety Action Plan for the CORPO Planning Area, an application was prepared and submitted.

### *Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)*

- During its meetings with each of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy counties, the MORPC Economic Development (ED) team reviewed current CAP projects and has begun discussions about updates in individual counties.
- During the CORPO quarterly meeting, the ED team worked collaboratively with the CORPO-focused MORPC team to maximize efficiency, and review CAP updates for Fairfield, Knox, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway, Union counties.

## **Economic Development**

### *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):*

- Meetings with all the CEDS counties have been completed.
- With letters of support secured from nearly all the CEDS counties, the ED team has been focused on research and data development for the EDD designation request. The first draft of the designation request will be submitted to the EDA in the fall of 2022.
- A letter of concurrence for the EDD designation has been requested from the State of Ohio. The ED team is working with the Government Affairs & Community Relations department to secure the signed letter from Governor DeWine.

### *Brownfield Assessments:*

- MORPC is awaiting the release of the next round of Brownfield funding from the U.S. EPA.
- The MORPC ED team hosted several internal planning meetings for the next round of Brownfield funding from the U.S. EPA.
- Strategies for the application approach include a focus on equity-based projects, food deserts, and areas of general economic distress.

### *Grants:*

- MORPC has hired a Grants Intern and is in the process of hiring a Grants Coordinator to support increasing requests from regional stakeholders for support around research, analysis, and application of grant and project funding.
- On-going support has been provided to Perry County and townships and cities within the county around HB 377 and the upcoming release of \$500M in Appalachian grant funding from the State of Ohio.
- The ED team supported stakeholders with research around EDA Public Works funding opportunities.

# PLANNING

Kerstin Carr, Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Sr. Director of Planning – [kcarr@morpc.org](mailto:kcarr@morpc.org)

## Community Development

### Central Ohio Greenways (COG):

- The COG Trail Development Working Group is working with MORPC's Technical Assistance team to consider updates to the Regional Trail Vision based on new trail proposals in select locations, including Dublin, Scioto Trail area, Sunbury, and Downtown Columbus.
- COG established a Nomination Committee to recruit new board members and to ensure diverse voices in the region are part of the region's trail efforts. This committee's first meeting was held on August 19, 2022. Agenda items included committee bylaws and a review of potential new board member applications. Based on committee recommendations, Tobi Otulana with Yay Bikes! and Jody Dzurainin, Executive Director of the Ohio to Erie Trail have been offered a seat on the Board and will begin their terms as board members on September 21, 2022.
- The Outdoor Trails Passport, a program in collaboration with Experience Columbus, is live. Residents and visitors are invited to access the passport online any time they explore a greenways trail. By checking in at locations across the COG network, passport users become eligible to win prizes.
- The final Trail Town Framework Steering Committee meeting was held on August 25, 2022. The committee reviewed the final project document, which includes local community case studies, a regional implementation framework, and local community short-term implementation strategies. The final document was made available on the Central Ohio Greenways Website.
- COG has been awarded funding from The Columbus Foundation to expand the Trail Town Framework to meet the unique needs of urban communities. COG plans to begin the Urban Trail Town project in the fall of 2022.
- COG has secured funding from ODOT for a Wayfinding Study that will launch in late 2022.
- The COG Board met on September 21, 2022.

### Central Ohio Blueways:

- Central Ohio Blueways efforts have ramped back up.
- Initial base mapping is in process to determine jurisdictions who would be impacted by a Blueways Program and Water Trail Designation of the five major waterways, which include Big Darby Creek, Scioto River, Olentangy River, Alum Creek, and Big Walnut Creek, as well as the mileage of waterways and the number of access points within each.
- In conjunction with a timeline for the completion of each, the program charter is being revised with updated goals and objectives.

### insight2050:

#### *LinkUS Mobility Initiative*

- Together with MORPC's Programming department, team members are engaged in ongoing committee and working group meetings for the LinkUS initiative.

## RAPID 5

- RAPID 5 welcomed its newest team member, Melissa Sever, who serves as Chief of Staff for the organization. Sever brings deep expertise in public health and organizational leadership, including in her most recent role as the Director of Organizational Development and Culture at Columbus Public Health. As RAPID 5 continues to evolve as its own non-profit, the organization will host community events and listening sessions with community leaders. Stay up to date with RAPID 5 news and events at [rapid5.org](http://rapid5.org). MORPC's main contact for the RAPID 5 initiative is Chief Regional Strategy Officer, Kerstin Carr ([KCarr@morpc.org](mailto:KCarr@morpc.org)).

## Regional Housing Strategy (RHS):

### *Outreach*

- Team members met with several community leaders to discuss opportunities for collaboration on data analysis and outreach pertaining to regional housing supply and affordability.

### *Implementation Assistance*

- MORPC is accepting requests for those interested in a housing workshop for their community's elected officials. Our team will work with you to design the agenda, presentations, recommended speakers, and learning objectives. Contact Jennifer Noll for more information ([JNoll@morpc.org](mailto:JNoll@morpc.org)).

## Sustainability

### Sustainability Advisory Committee:

- The Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) met at 2:30 p.m. on September 29, 2022. The agenda included updates on MORPC programs, the Inflation Reduction Act, and a presentation on New Albany's proposed Sustainable2050 certification for adoption by the SAC.

### Sustainable2050:

- The Sustainable2050 quarterly meeting was hosted on September 16, 2022. The agenda included updates on air quality, energy, clean energy opportunities under the Inflation Reduction Act, and a sustainability toolkit which is under development. Joe Florida with Power a Clean Future Ohio, and Nolan Rutschilling with the Ohio Environmental Council, presented an overview of their recent report titled *The Bill is Coming Due: Calculating the Financial Cost of Climate Change to Ohio's Local Governments*. Several members expressed interest in focusing the next quarterly meeting on the federal funding opportunities from the Inflation Reduction Act and bi-partisan infrastructure bill and identifying where they have common interests.
- The fourth quarterly meeting will be December 9, 2022 at MORPC. Membership and tier status certification is open to MORPC members. Please contact MORPC's Sustainability Officer, Brandi Whetstone, for more information ([BWhetstone@morpc.org](mailto:BWhetstone@morpc.org)).

## Water Resources Program:

### *Sustaining Scioto*

- The board's August meeting was held at 2:00 p.m. on August 24, 2022 at O'Shaughnessy Dam. Board members toured the hydro-electric power portion of the dam for a brief overview of the power portion components, and a project that is currently under construction. Board members also toured the water supply portion of the dam where City of Columbus officials provided an overview of the dam from a water supply, sustainability, and flood control perspective. The Board will meet again on October 26, 2022.

- The Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach team met on September 15, 2022 to discuss strategies for increasing visibility for the working team and the general Sustaining Scioto Board. Members were also tasked with developing priorities for 2023, including increasing membership in the Working Team and making recommendations for members representing the agricultural community in the Sustaining Scioto Board. The team attended the [Future of the Scioto Watershed](#) webinar and discussed strategies to help increase value and interest in subsequent events. The Working Team will meet again on November 17, 2022.

## Energy & Air Quality:

### *Air Quality*

- No Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG) days were recorded, and no Air Quality Alerts were issued during September.
- The team provided input on a proposed no-idling policy for the City of Upper Arlington and offered policy templates and resources for local governments, organizations, and businesses interested in adopting vehicle no-idling policies to reduce emissions and improve air quality. Those who adopt a policy are eligible to receive free no-idling parking lot signs on a first come, first served basis.

### *Energy and Air Quality Working Group (EAQWG)*

- The EAQWG meeting was held virtually on September 27, 2022. At the meeting, MORPC's Sustainability Coordinator Prince Kwarteng-Crooklynn was introduced to the group. There was updates on clean energy and air quality funding opportunities from the Inflation Reduction Act, programming and funding from the Ohio EPA, and the development of the SB 52 sub-committee tasked with building out resources and an engagement strategy on utility-scale solar.
- The November 15, 2022 Energy & Air Quality Working Group meeting was held at OSU's Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center, where Aaron Wilson and Jason Cervenec discussed the development of the next installment of the National Climate Assessment and provided a tour of their research facilities and world-renowned ice cores.

### *Energy Planning*

- MORPC would like to congratulate the City of Hilliard for becoming the most recent member to earn the SolSmart Bronze designation. SolSmart is a national, no-cost technical assistance and designation program that helps local governments spur solar market growth in their communities. If interested in learning more, please contact Brian Filiatraut ([bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org)).
- The Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op is still open to all residents who live in and around Franklin County up until October 15, 2022. If interested in learning more and possibly joining the co-op, please visit [solarunitedneighbors.org/columbus](http://solarunitedneighbors.org/columbus).
- The Regional Schools Energy Strategy (ReSES) is an opportunity for schools, school districts, and local governments to move forward with onsite solar power generation through a collaborative solar co-op to secure the best pricing on installation and electricity rates. MORPC is in discussions with interested entities. If any local government or school leader is interested, please contact Brian Filiatraut ([bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org)).
- The Rickenbacker Energy Consortium (REC) met on September 21, 2022. REC and continued the conversation on building public and private partnerships to spur clean energy projects in the area. The meeting featured the Columbus Region Airport Authority's successes and approach to clean energy solutions. Anyone interested in learning more or joining should contact Brian Filiatraut ([bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org)).

### *Clean Ohio Conservation Fund*

- Round 17 of the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund kicked off with an applicant workshop on October 3, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. The goal of the workshop was to introduce new applicants to the application

process for the next funding cycle. Preliminary screeners are due on December 9, 2022. For more information, please contact Edwina Teye ([eteve@morpc.org](mailto:eteve@morpc.org)).

## Data, Mapping & Modeling

### Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC):

- The committee met on September 13, 2022 and will meet again on December 6, 2022. Jay Knox, the Director of Client Research from One Columbus, joined RDAC as a new committee member, and member Christina Drummond has accepted the position of RDAC Vice-Chair.

### Working Groups & User Groups:

- Capacity Building & Partnerships Working Group:
  - Working Group & RDAC member Hena Masood has accepted the role of Working Group Chair.
  - Data Day has been rescheduled to early March 2023.
  - Ohio University reached out for thoughts on a series of workshops with R. Conversations that led to a partnership with the university for the 2023 Data Day. The partnership includes potentially holding the event at Ohio University's Dublin campus, improved capacity for more attendees, improved technology for virtual attendance, and incorporating the first workshop as a session.
  - Other changes to Data Day include potentially adding additional sessions, such as Data Ethics, from speakers who were unable to attend in September 2022.
  - Partnership should improve attendance and visibility by capitalizing on both MORPC and OU networks, as well as providing additional time, and hosting the event in a more schedule-friendly month.
- The Local Government Resources Working Group created an online resource hub for data policy resources. Members are encouraged to share resources or recommend resources with the group. An online submission form has been developed for this purpose. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group plans to meet on October 27, 2022.
- The Regional Data Agenda Working Group's kickoff meeting will be held October 19, 2022.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) meeting scheduled for September 7, 2022 was postponed until the regular meeting on December 7, 2022. The December meeting will feature Columbus City Auditor Megan Kilgore and other local government auditors in a round table discussion of the impacts to local budgets. As the Steering Committee Chair's term will end in December, a new Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected at the December meeting.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) Steering Committee plans to shorten the length of full RIDG meetings to 90 minutes and to be primarily virtual. The Steering Committee hopes to proactively engage with RDAC Members to help implement RDAC initiatives and goals. The committee also hopes to welcome additional members in 2023.

### Data Management:

- Continued to explore ways to standardize data tools and workflows and to improve version control and documentation. The Data team has identified opportunities to break the member population estimation process into modular components and is experimenting with techniques to formalize the schemas of the input and output data using schema descriptions in Apache Avro format.

- Began the process of taking over management of the PurpleAir air quality data and data retrieval and analysis scripts created as part of the Thriving Earth Exchange grant effort. This effort is expected to include management of a GitHub repository, a cloud-based file storage repository, periodic execution of data retrieval scripts, and analysis of the data upon request.

### *Outreach*

- Continued to provide timely data and analysis support for requests received from member communities, regional partners, and the media.
- MORPC is planning data-focused presentations for several events, including the Summit on Sustainability and the Ohio GIS Conference.
- Select team members will represent Central Ohio at the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership annual meeting in October 2022.

## Data Analytics, Mapping, and Research:

### *Data & Research Activities*

- Data and research activities are focused on inputs to the land use allocation model for the coming cycle of the MTP/CTP and we are internally reviewing draft county population projections and conducting research for other county control totals, which include households, labor force, and employment.
- Worked on FTA appropriation data collection and processes for future updates and supported updating points-of-interest for school building locations and building populations.
- Assisted with the survey analysis for the Central Ohio Trail Town Framework project.
- Received Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) jobs data via ODOT and worked to locate and clean up the data for use in updating 2021 jobs data as part of the MTP.
- Released the 2022 member community population estimates for internal review. The estimates will be made available to members and the public via the MORPC Population Hub. Additionally, the estimates will inform the determination of 2023 membership dues. A resolution to approve the estimates will be presented for adoption at the October 2022 Commission meeting.
- Provided data and analysis support for updates to the Regional Sustainability Agenda metrics as well as the Gentrification and Displacement Risk Analysis.
- Compiled updated metrics for the Regional Sustainability Agenda. A selection of these will be presented at the 2022 Summit on Sustainability. A full report is expected by the end of the year.
- Provided data and analysis support for a series of community presentations on regional growth and housing needs.
- Worked with community partners to model the potential impacts of the Intel development on the region's economy, demographics, and built environment.

### *Mapping Activities*

- Using ESRI Urban, team members are working with ESRI and the City of Columbus to create sample land use scenarios.
- Worked to clean up QCEW employment data to be used as part of the MTP land use model existing conditions.
- Updated a developed or protected land layer to be used as part of the land use model.
- Researched how to best create a bike/ped network for use in various multi-modal related projects.
- Worked on collecting data and creating maps for Rapid5 corridors.

## *Modeling Activities*

- A third travel demand modeler was hired and started training in late September 2022.
- The team is continuing to support the LinkUS project with transportation modeling estimates.
- Worked on the Quarry Traffic Impact Study & Renner-Trabue-McKinley Corridor (RTMC) Mobility Study as well as on the I71/36/37 interchange modeling and land use review.
- Team members are working on a traffic study on US 33 from 18<sup>th</sup> to Nelson Rd.
- Responded to ten Traffic Growth Rate requests for various locations and continued to maintain the Traffic Count Program.

# COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

Nfel M. Jurist, Sr. Director of Communications & Engagement – [njurist@morpc.org](mailto:njurist@morpc.org)

## MORPC in the News:

- ['Don't panic': Transportation officials discuss Intel traffic concerns](#)
- [Etna Township applying for federal money for Pike Street upgrades](#)
- [Grandview seeks \\$2M in state aid for First Avenue improvements](#)
- [Grove City seeks financial help to keep Columbus Street from flooding](#)
- [Grove City seeks funding for overpass project](#)
- [Grove City working on request for I-71 overpass funding](#)
- [Intel Investment Projections Inch Higher; Strong Regional Economic Impact Certain](#)
- [Local leaders say Intel's future workforce will need public transportation options](#)
- [Intel providing more work to MORPC in terms of transportation, planning](#)
- [MORPC Matters: We're advancing multimodal transportation goals via attributable funding](#)
- [Tired of traffic lights – BG considers joining region's request for Route 23 study](#)

## Digital Content:

### *Social Media: Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter*

- Careers/Jobs, Central Ohio Greenways, Trails Pass, Columbus Vision Zero, eSource, Gohio Commute, LinkUS, Mid-Ohio Open Data Site, Educational Partnership, Car Free Day, National Preparedness Month, Air Quality Alerts, World EV Day, Intel Groundbreaking Ceremony, Don't Drip & Drive, Columbus Area Solar Co-Op, OARC Candidates Forum, Women's Equality Day, and TIP Changes.

### *Social Media: TikTok*

- Data Day, Weatherization Wednesday

### *Top Posts*

- [Instagram and Facebook Reach](#)
- [Best Performing Post-Instagram & Facebook](#)
- [Best Performing Post-Twitter](#)

## Diversity & Inclusion:

- To enhance diverse communications, which is one focus of the Diversity & Inclusion Work Plan, MORPC worked to translate marketing and promotional materials into different languages. We partnered with Gohio to create a new brochure in French and will be exploring additional languages for consideration.
- To recognize National Hispanic Heritage Month, which began on September 15, 2022, MORPC promoted awareness through a social media campaign.

## Public Involvement & Engagement:

- Members of MORPC's internal Diversity & Inclusion Committee participated in the City of Columbus's first ever commemoration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which was celebrated with a program and parade on Saturday, September 17, 2022. This effort was led by MORPC's Regional Policy Roundtable Vice Chair and Columbus City Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla.
- As a partner of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO), MORPC attended the September 2022 meeting, which focused on advocating for equity in the transportation field.
- Attended a webinar hosted by the national chapter of COMTO on September 13, 2022. The virtual event was a day of legislative advocacy designed to bring attention to transportation issues affecting minority communities.
- MORPC's Diversity, Inclusion and Engagement officer will serve as the Communications & Engagement representative for the Active Linden meetings. These meetings will bring community leaders together to discuss how to improve and enhance various issues affecting the Linden community, including transportation.
- MORPC promoted the following requests for public input through social media:
  - Federal MPO Recertification Meeting: [9/8](#) , [9/13](#).
  - [MORPC's Transportation Improvement Plan](#) (also featured on MORPC's [website](#)).

## Marketing Campaigns:

- The Gohio Commute program is continuing to run a marketing campaign that is focused specifically on vanpooling and carpooling. This program is being promoted on social media.

## Events:

- On August 26, 2022, MORPC partnered with the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) to host the 2022 OARC Candidates Forum at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. Both Gubernatorial Candidates attended the forum. The recording can be found on [MORPC's YouTube Channel](#).

### *Upcoming Events*

- The Summit on Sustainability will be held on October 14, 2022 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. Information about the program and registration is available at [www.morpc.org/summit](http://www.morpc.org/summit).