



Central Ohio Blueways

CAC & TAC – November 2, 2022



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

ORIGIN

Initiated in 2015

Purpose

- To promote water trails in Central Ohio

Objectives

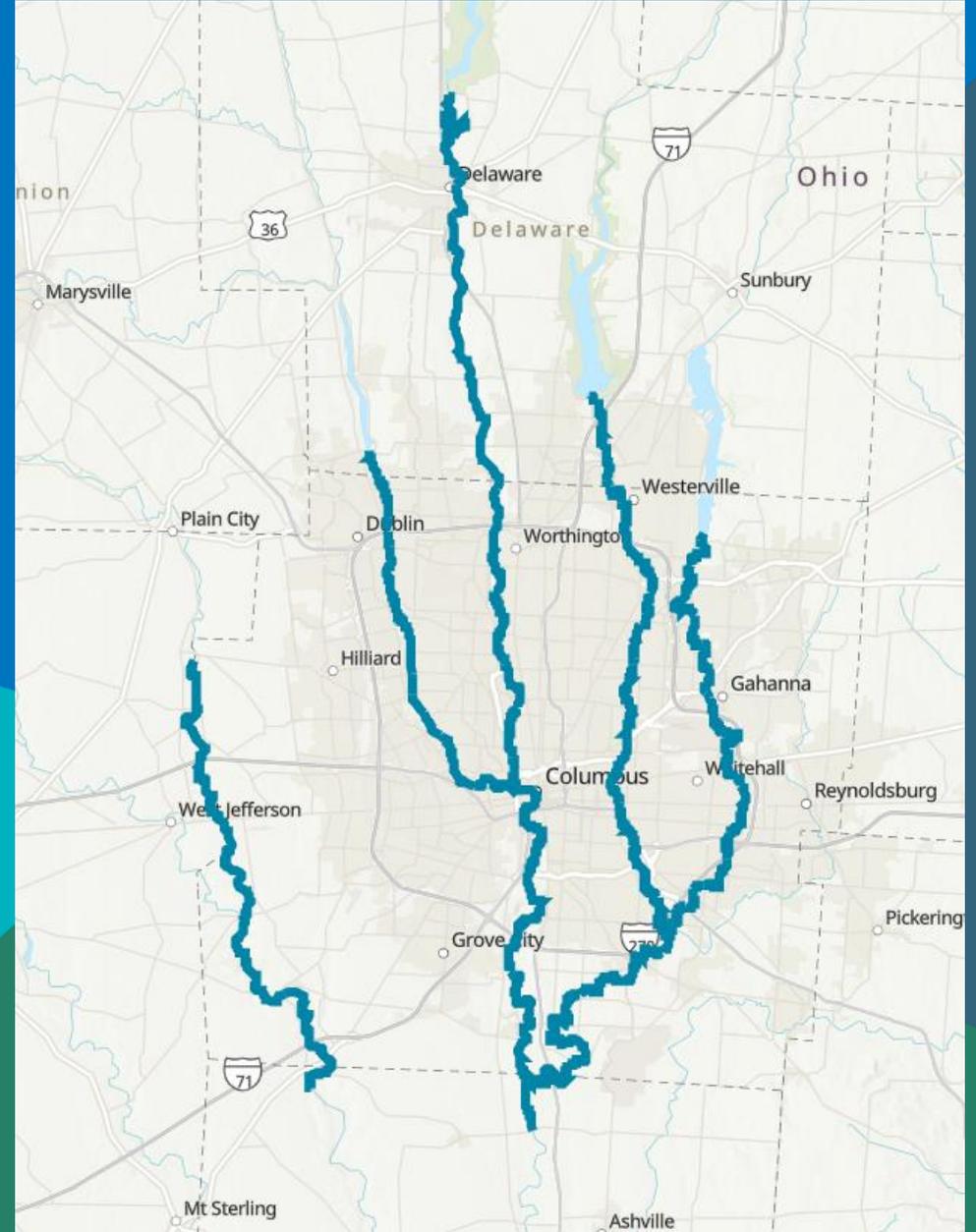
- Assess 92 miles of proposed Blueways
- Increase use and knowledge of Central Ohio's water trails and water resources

Tasks and Deliverables

- Evaluate and prioritize access points
- Blueways mapping (access, hazards, etc.)
- Develop logo and branding/signage
- Create educational information



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ORIGIN

Debuted in 2018

Features

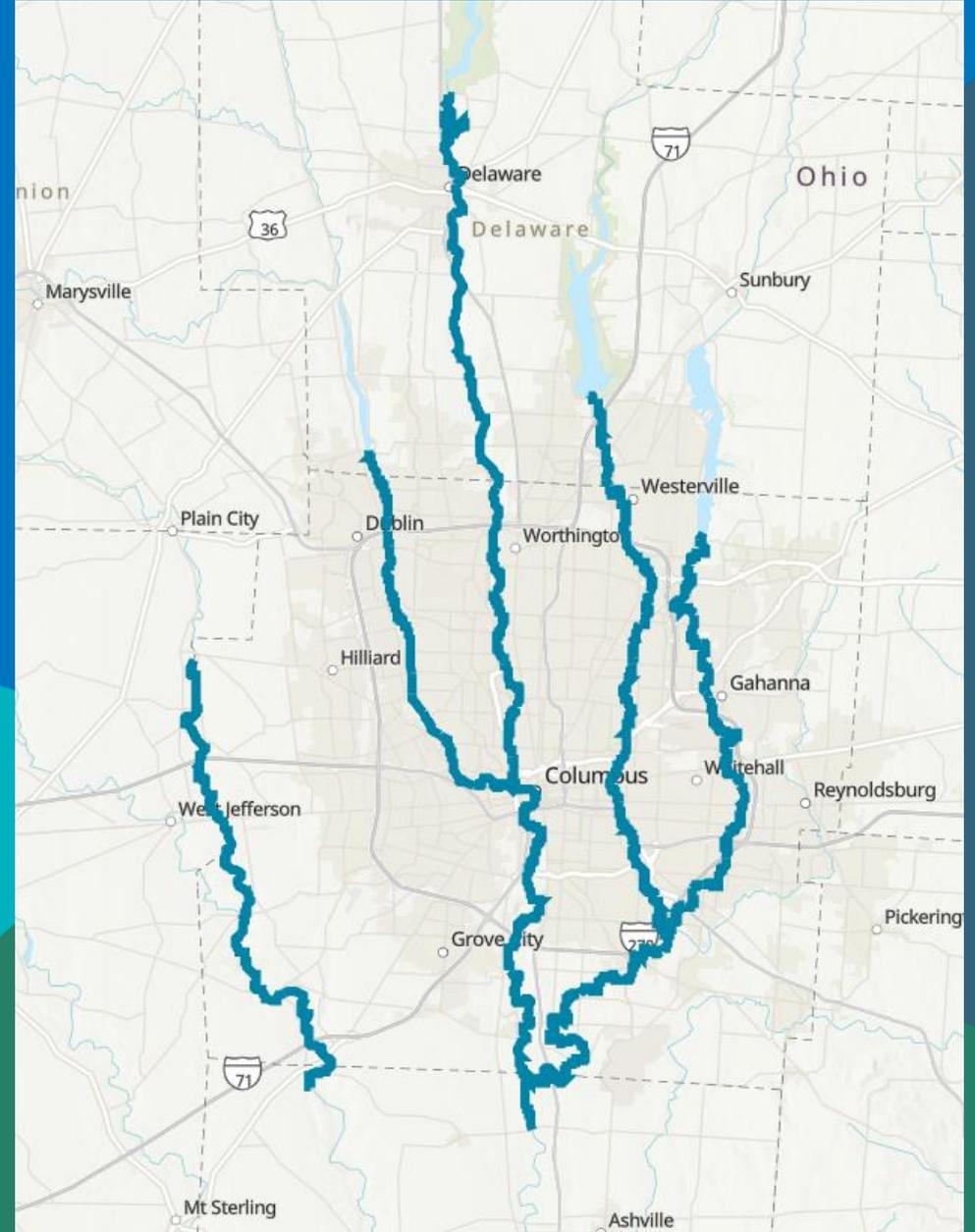
- Online mapping of access points
- Water safety
- Boat registration
- Protection of waterways
- Links to water levels

Coverage

- Big Darby Creek (Scioto Darby Road to Orient)
- Scioto River (O'Shaughnessy Dam to Rickenbacker)
- Olentangy River (Delaware Dam to Scioto River)
- Alum Creek (Alum Creek Reservoir to Three Creeks/Big Walnut Creek)
- Big Walnut Creek (Hoover Dam to Rickenbacker)



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CURRENT FOCUS

Develop a program that promotes waterways as a resource in Central Ohio for accessible and equitable recreation and natural environment experiences.

How?

- **Water Trail Designation**
- **Update mapping**
- Wayfinding and signage
- Access point best practices
- Connections to points of interest
- Synchronize access



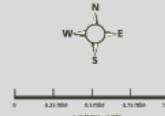
WATER TRAIL DESIGNATION

- Through Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)
- Requires Partnership Agreements
- Need Access Point Inventory
 - Including Amenities
- Opportunities for Funding
 - Brochures
 - Maps
 - Signage
- Olentangy River received Water Trail Designation
 - Broadmeadows to the Downtown Confluence



Olentangy River Water Trail

8.94 miles / Class I - II



	Water Trail Access
	Boating Hazard
	Parkland
	Trailhead
	Parking
	Paddle/Pedal
	Restrooms
	Natural Area
	Shelter
	Playground
	Athletic Fields
	Tennis Courts
	Basketball Courts

Watch for signage to portage around lowhead dams:



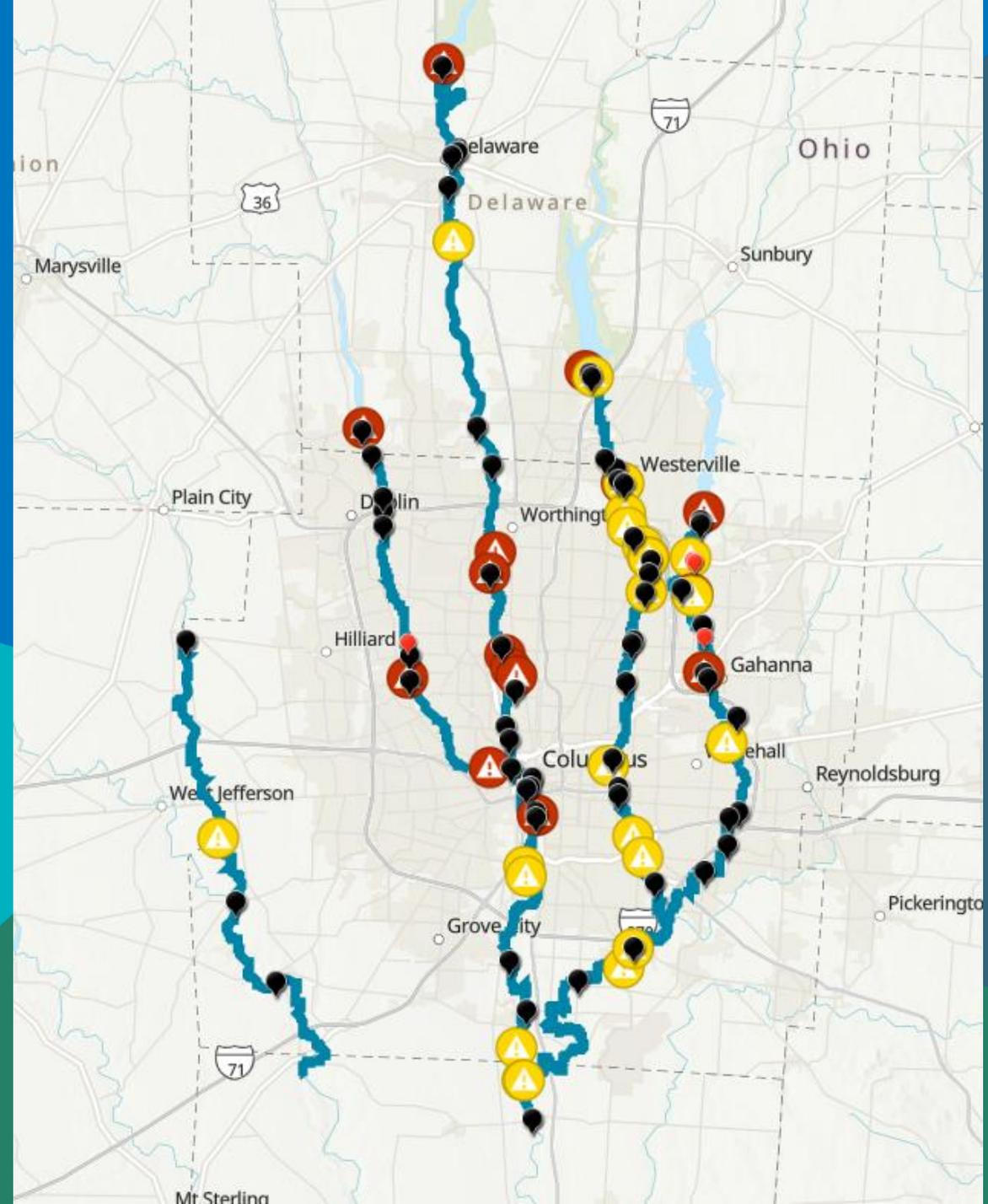
UPDATE MAPPING

Current Mapping

- Photo
- Name
- Type
- Parking
- Bathroom
- Picnic
- Distance to next access
- Contact
- Link to water level
- Hazards

Needs

- Updating and filling in blanks
- ADA accessibility
- Storage
- Trail access
- Potable water
- Etc.



AFTER THAT?

Wayfinding Plan

- On and off water signage
- Tied into COG Wayfinding
- Include nearby points of interest

Opportunities for Improved Access

- Upgrading primitive access points
- ADA accessibility
- Boat slides
- Best practices

Integrating with the Community

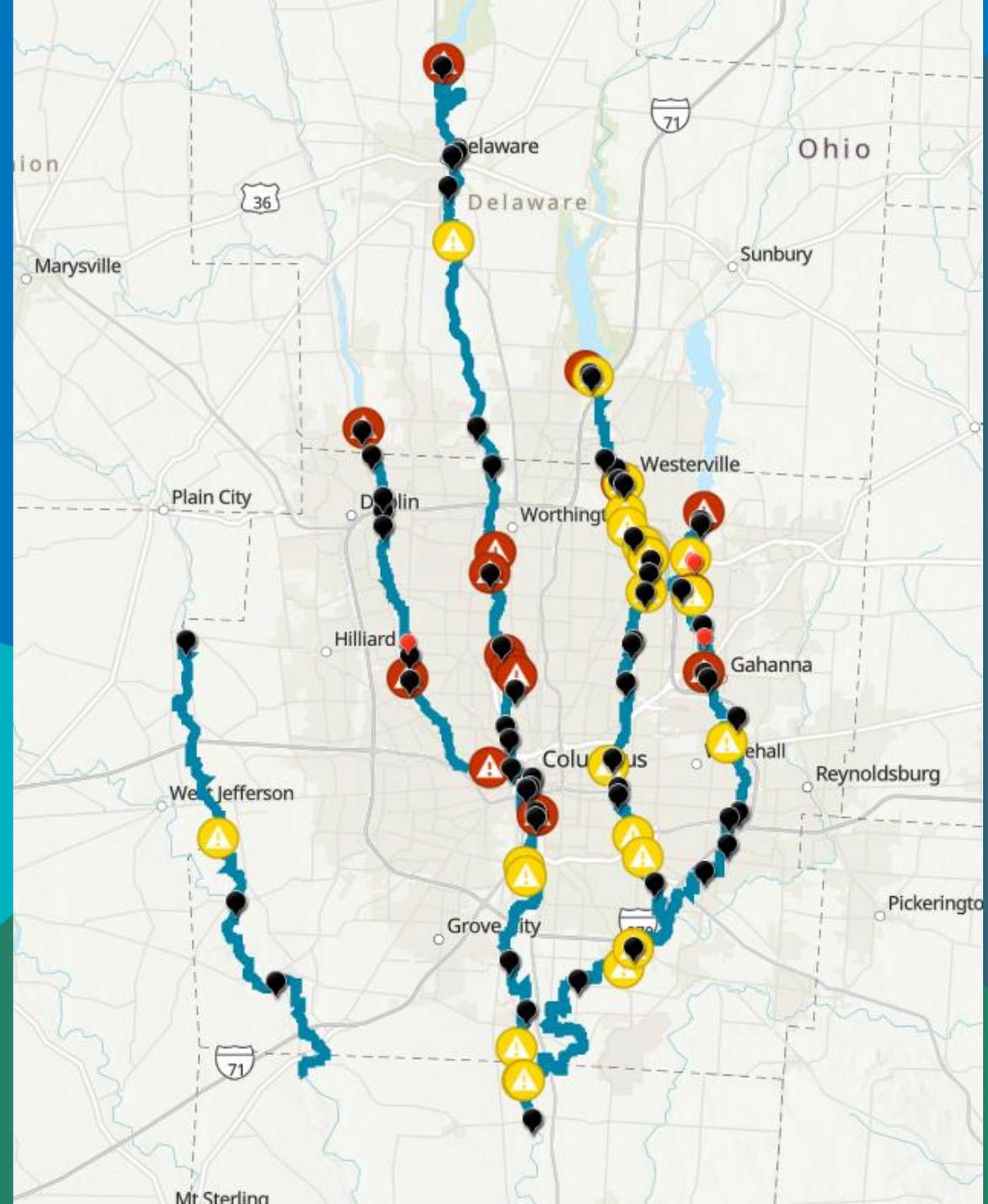
- Synchronize access with trail and transit
- Signage and tie-ins for points of interest

Maintenance Plan

- How to keep mapping/data current



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FIRST THINGS FIRST

Steering Committee

- Needed to help guide the work of Blueways

To Be Determined

- Meeting cadence
- Duration of commitment
- Responsibilities of members

Current Activities

- Remapping Blueways with new schema for an updated web map
- Determining Blueway mileage and access points within each impacted community
- Sending out Blueways updates to impacted communities to solicit participation in the Steering Committee



THANK YOU!

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