



WILLIAMS ROAD

Multimodal Corridor Planning

RAISE Discretionary Grant Application | Submitted February 28, 2023

Project Readiness



I. Project Readiness

The City of Columbus has the technical capacity to successfully deliver the proposed planning project. Columbus has extensive experience coordinating planning studies – including corridor plans – and managing federal aid projects. It also significant experience coordinating federal aid projects with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Franklin County Engineer’s Office (FCEO), and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. The Ohio Department of Transportation named Columbus its Local Public Agency of the Year in 2022. According to ODOT, “This award recognizes an outstanding Local Public Agency (LPA) that has excelled in upholding the requirements of the federal program and has a demonstrated track record of partnering with ODOT and DBE firms, while also encouraging the utilization of DBE firms on local-let, federally funded Department of Transportation (DOT) projects.”¹ It has the staff, resources, and experience necessary to successfully complete the proposed project. MORPC and the FCEO also have the staff and experience necessary to support the project as well.

The corridor plan’s schedule is based on ODOT’s Project Development Process.² The schedule takes into account the length of the corridor, as well as the challenges that have already been identified. It also takes into

Schedule Phase	Start Date	Duration	End Date
1. Planning Phase	Jan. 2024	24 months	Dec. 2025
2. Preliminary Engineering Phase	July 2025	24 months	July 2027
3. Stage 1 Plans	July 2027	24 months	July 2029
4. NEPA Document	Sept. 2028	9 months	July 2029

account the project’s need to coordinate with multiple railroad companies, local governments, residential groups, businesses, and other corridor stakeholders. The schedule can be adjusted based upon grant agreement dates. Both Columbus and the Franklin County Engineer have significant experience coordinating planning studies and federal aid projects, and they have the staff, experience, and capacity to successfully execute the proposed project.

Columbus has the financial resources necessary to successfully complete the project, and a commitment letter from the Mayor’s Office has been provided. The City of Columbus’ local match will be provided as needed and upon final authorization from the Columbus City Council. The Columbus City Council authorized Columbus to apply for this funding knowing federal funds can only provide up to 80% of the total project costs, and that local funding will also be required.

Project narrative, appendices, and letters of support are available online:

<http://www.morpc.org/williamsroadcorridor>

¹ See [Appendix 1 - LPA of the Year](#).
² “PDP Phases & Paths,” ODOT, <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/working/pdp/pdp-phases-paths>.