



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

NOTICE OF A MEETING

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

August 6, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Note: Due to changes in Ohio Revised Code 121.221 regarding public bodies and virtual meetings, the Attributable Funds Committee meeting will be aired via live stream. We will note who views the meeting via live stream as information is available.

Live Stream Option

[View Attributable Funds Committee Meeting via Live Stream](#)

Meeting ID: 249 937 472 537

Passcode: eJ6GE7Pf

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Phone Conference ID: 924 683 423#

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Approval of December 18, 2024 Minutes
3. Summary of Survey Results and Discussion with MPO Funding Committee Members
4. Brainstorm Thoughts on Process and Changes for Next Round
5. Complete Streets Policy Update
6. Timeline and Next Steps
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

PLEASE NOTIFY EVA REDA AT 614-233-4167 OR EMAIL EREDA@MORPC.ORG TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

**The next MPO Funding Committee meeting is
September 3, 2025, at 10 a.m.**

PARKING AND TRANSIT: When parking in MORPC's parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with a yellow "M". Accessible parking is available at the side of MORPC's building. Electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Attributable Funds Committee Meeting Minutes



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **Wednesday, December 18, 2024**
Time: **10:00 a.m.**
Location: **MORPC – Town Hall**

Members Present:

Andrako, Mike	Letty, Schamp	Risko, Michele (online)
Biesterveld, Andy	Lockhart, Josh (online)	Scott, Aaron (online)
Comek, Laura (online)	Moran, Alan	Stargell, Reynaldo (online)
Cox, Barbara	Moss, Kimberly (online)	Wawszkiewicz, Tina
Ferrigno, Bill (online)	Nittle, Tim	Weiss, Ira
Girves, Catherine	Owen, Jonathan (online)	Wilfong, Gary
Jenkins, Tiffany (online)	Pajk, Jim (online)	Young, James
Komlanc, Tom	Peoples, Matthew	

Guests Present:

Bakare, Tajudeen (online)	Hibbard, Tom	Medley, Dave (online)
Banks, Annalisa (online)	Hines, Judd (online)	Nimps, Ronni (online)
Crosier, Fritz	Johnson, Sean (online)	Rosepiler, Amy (online)
Farst, Stephen (online)	Long, Mike	
Hamons, Shannon	Lossick, Andrea (online)	

MORPC Staff Present:

Agrawal, Parag	Oldroyd, Shelby	Roy-Dixon, Padmini (online)
Cardoni, Lauren	Petrov, Jordan (online)	Schaper, Maria
Frick, Preston	Rice, Sam	Vonstein, Melinda
Graham, Thomas	Roberts, Griffin	
Lewis, Elliott		

- **Meeting Called to Order**
- Chair Young called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- **Approval of December 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes**
- Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the December 4th Meeting Minutes. Mr. Nittle made the motion; Mr. Peoples seconded. The motion passed.

- **Discussion on Timing of Outstanding Commitments**
- Mr. Graham updated the committee on discussions with MORPC Attributable-Funds recipients for outstanding commitments. The Franklin County TID and Franklin County Metro Parks will move their commitments for SR 161 and Linworth and the Scioto Trail Bridge into state fiscal years 2030 or 2031 to maintain fiscal balance for the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The projects are not currently on schedule. MORPC staff is comfortable with the level of overprogramming within the TIP years with these projects moved out to 2030 or 2031. Mr. Graham added that ODOT has been encouraging overprogramming within the TIP years.

- Staff did not recommend inflating construction costs for the two projects moving construction commitments past 2029 until the next round of commitment updates. Currently, there are no updated cost estimates for these projects on which to base an increased funding commitment. The committee expressed a desire to commit to accepting inflated costs for these projects during the next round of commitment updates.
- **Discussion of Funding Scenarios for New Commitments**
- Mr. Graham started the discussion of funding scenarios for new commitments by sharing an updated funding scenario.
- The current category thresholds would limit the available funding for System Preservation to \$2 million. The committee discussed funding beyond that threshold, given that most projects have significant bike and pedestrian components. Franklin County Engineer's Office is able to accept a 90% funding commitment for Cooke Rd Phase 2.
- The committee confirmed their support for funding the top scoring project in the bike and pedestrian category (Big Walnut Trail from Cherrybottom Park to Morse Rd) at 100% and not funding other projects in this category.
- The committee discussed funding for the transit category. COTA is in conversations with FTA to allow a construction commitment for East Main BRT in 2030. Contingent on this approval from FTA, the committee agreed to funding 100% of the request for the East Main BRT.
- Mr. Graham began the discussion of the Roadway and Operations category. Prior to the meeting, the City of Columbus adjusted their request by the amount received through Transit Supportive Infrastructure funding. The proposed funding scenario funds the reduced request at 100%. After discussion, the City of Columbus agreed to accept 80% of the revised funding request. The committee generally agreed that both the Dublin Emerald Connector and the Grove City Southwest Regional Medical and Innovation Gateway were both important regional projects that remove barriers over interstates. The committee recommended funding both projects at 35% as fixed commitments.
- Ms. Girves made a motion to approve the new funding commitments. Mr. Weiss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **Timeline and Next Steps**
- Mr. Graham reviewed the next steps and timeline for the committee. There will be a public comment period for the new and updated funding commitments. There will be a meeting hold for the committee in February in case there are significant comments on the commitments that would require revising the program. Formal approval of the commitments will occur in March, after which point projects will be programmed by ODOT and will be included in the Transportation Improvement Program update.
- **Other Business**
- No other business was brought before the committee.
- **Adjourn**
The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Maria Schaper, MORPC
Secretary
Attributable Funds Committee



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Memorandum

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization Funds Committee (formerly known as the Attributable Funds Committee)

FROM: Maria Schaper, Transportation Director
Tom Graham, Principal Planner

DATE: August 1, 2025

SUBJECT: Summary of Survey Results and Conversations with Committee Members

In April, a short survey was sent to members of the MPO Funds Committee (formerly known as AFC) to collect feedback on the Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds. In total seven responses were received, and subsequently staff met with multiple respondents to further discuss their ideas for improving upon the current project solicitation, evaluation, and selection process. This memo summarizes the key themes from the survey responses and conversations. The memo is organized by the questions included in the survey.

1. *Is the current application process too resource intensive for applicants? What costs are applicants facing to complete an application?*

Responses to this question varied, though many jurisdictions did express concerns with the time and cost required to complete the application. Consultant fees or significant staff time were cited as potentially prohibitory costs when considering an application.

2. *Does having separate activity categories/funding ranges still provide value? Are you interested in exploring opportunities to reduce the number of different categories or blending categories?*


Responses to the question indicated support for maintaining activity categories and funding ranges but generally suggested that the MPO Funds Committee take a deeper look at how projects are assigned to an activity category.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

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Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

- 
3. *If activity categories remain the same as they were in the 2024 round, do you have any suggestions for addressing projects which may have significant portions of their projects in different activity categories (e.g. a system preservation project with a significant bike/ped component)?*

Responses to this question varied, but all suggested an update to our approach for assigning a project to an activity category. Suggestions included redefining some activity categories, assigning an activity category based on the primary purpose of the project, and assigning an activity category based upon the largest proportion of cost.

4. *Are you interested in introducing a cap on the amount of funding able to be requested for a single project?*

Responses were generally supportive of instituting some form of a cap to individual project requests, though the specific level of funding varied.

5. *Scoring and Evaluation Questions*

Responses to the three scoring and evaluation questions varied. Some applicants were comfortable with the current evaluation system, while others felt it was too complex. Generally, there was support for better defining scoring rubrics for individual criteria. Finally, responses did not express concerns regarding transparency of the existing process.

6. *Are you interested in introducing a set-aside for small jurisdictions, perhaps requiring the project to meet a certain scoring threshold?*

Some responses supported this idea, while others strongly opposed it stating that regional funds should be allocated to projects with the greatest regional benefit.

7. *Are you interested in introducing a set-aside for project development activities, such as feasibility studies?*

Responses were generally open to further exploring this idea, though multiple respondents did express that funding feasibility studies should be the responsibility of the local jurisdiction.


8. *Is the current process for considering out-of-cycle requests still appropriate? Do you think there should be more or less flexibility around out-of-cycle requests?*

Generally, no concerns were raised with the existing policy for out-of-cycle requests.

9. *How can agencies be held more accountable for delivering projects in a timely manner?*

No significant ideas for addressing timely project delivery were suggested.





10. *What additional concerns or suggestions do you have regarding the Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funding?*

Multiple additional ideas were suggested, including:

- Reviewing the weighting of categories to align with current regional priorities
- Improving the scoring around safety to include a measure of how well a project will address safety issues
- Revising existing congestion relief criteria (deviating from current peak hour analysis)
- Inclusion of more policies to promote transit and mobility
- Formalizing project selection processes
- Introducing an adjustment to scoring when a project's scope is unable to score points in any given goal
- Aligning these evaluation criteria more with the criteria utilized for development of the MTP

These items, along with others, will be discussed during the August MPO Funds Committee meeting. This memo is meant to give all members of the committee information to consider prior to the meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tom Graham at tgraham@morpc.org.

