MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

CENTRAL OHIO'S ADVANCE FUND PROPOSAL

November 6, 2025

CENTRAL OHIO'S ADVANCE FUND PROPOSAL

Overview – An advance fund would provide funding to local jurisdictions in the Central Ohio area to initiate infrastructure projects awaiting reimbursement from funding agencies.

Benefits – To mitigate cash flow challenges faced by local jurisdictions that have been awarded grants on a reimbursement basis. The fund will ensure that these jurisdictions are able to initiate their projects.

This could ensure that all local jurisdictions in Central Ohio area are equally able to benefit from funding opportunities, such as TSI funding, and enable efficient delivery of regional priorities.

THE WHY -- A MECHANISM TO ASSIST WITH PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Infrastructure Funding Opportunities

- **COTA LinkUS TSI Funding –** COTA's TSI will provide approximately $50 million annually to communities within the COTA service area. These funds will be awarded on a reimbursement basis.

- **Other Funding Opportunities –** Other programs for infrastructure projects provide funding on reimbursement basis.

THE WHY -- A MECHANISM TO ASSIST WITH PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Identified Central Ohio needs:

- **Local Communities Need –** Communities such as the Village of Lockbourne and Franklin Township have already expressed concerns over the ability to pay for the construction of TSI projects and await reimbursement

  - Village of Lockbourne – $350,000 TSI in 2026
  - Franklin Township - $500,000 TSI in 2026

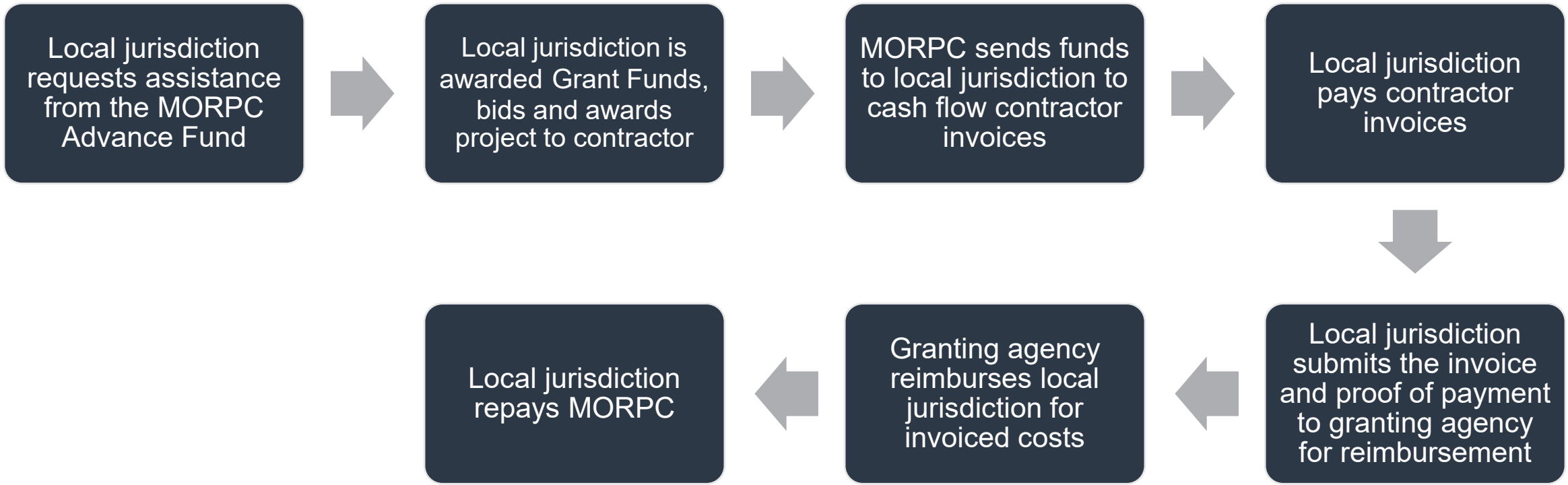
- **Limited Local Funding –** Many smaller jurisdictions **lack adequate cash flows** necessary to pay contractor invoices while awaiting reimbursement for expenses incurred

THE WHY -- A MECHANISM TO ASSIST WITH PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Best Practices for Reference:

- **NCTCOG (Dallas Area MPO) – Revolver Loan Fund (RLF) Program**
  - Created two funds, one for $10M and another for $15M
  - Established these funds via local funding
  - Utilizes these funds to further enable the agency to pursue reimbursement-based grants

MORPC ADVANCE FUND CONCEPTUAL PROCESS



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Responding to a Local Need – Advance fund directly addresses concerns among local jurisdictions who seek to advance projects via reimbursement-based grants

Local Jurisdictions in Driver Seat – Local jurisdictions are responsible to administer and manage projects. MORPC would only be providing financial support to bridge the cashflow gap

Administrative Costs – MORPC is exploring multiple options for funding the costs of administering an advance fund, including:

- Administrative fees assessed to local jurisdictions utilizing the fund
- Interest revenue
- Others?

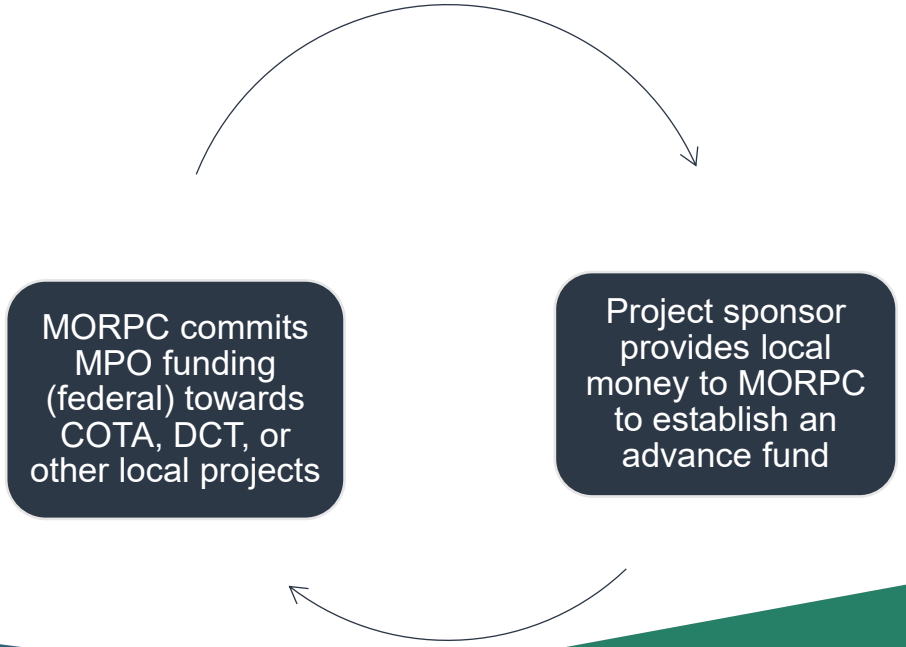
Targeting Smaller Infrastructure Projects – Sidewalks, Trails and other smaller projects; generally projects averaging less than $1,000,000 in cost.

Evaluating and Assessing the Project Fiscal Need

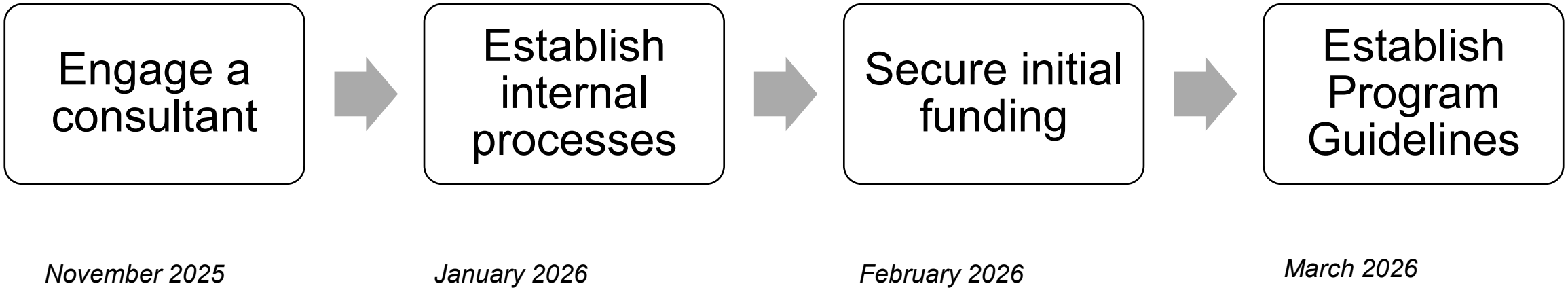
MORPC ADVANCE FUND – SECURE INITIAL FUNDING

Initial deposit of $5M -$7M in local funds to address demand
Potential funding sources:

- Transit agencies like COTA, DCT and others have local funding available. MPO's have federal funds available.
- Potential direct contribution from COTA, DCT, or other local agencies



CENTRAL OHIO'S ADVANCE FUND ACTION ITEMS



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THANK YOU

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