



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

## NOTICE OF A MEETING

**COMMISSION MEETING**  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100**  
**COLUMBUS, OH 43215**  
*TOWN HALL*

**Thursday, June 11, 2026**  
**1:30 p.m.**

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

### ***Live Stream Option***

To view the meeting via live stream, click on “View Commission Meeting via Live Stream” below.

[View Commission Meeting via Live Stream](#)

Meeting ID: 251 550 004 340 09

Passcode: BY6rt3Ge

To listen by phone, use the conference call information below.

[+1 614-362-3056](#), Columbus

[\(888\) 596-2819](#), (Toll-free)

Phone conference ID: 297 943 864#

## AGENDA

- 1:30 p.m.
- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
  - 2. Welcome and Introductions** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), MORPC Chair
    - Recognition of Guests and New Members** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
  - 3. Executive Director’s Report** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director
  - 4. Proposed Resolution 10-26: “Adopting a fee schedule for use in assessing members in 2027”** – Shawn Hufstedler, MORPC Chief Operating Officer

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Ben Kessler**  
Chair

**Laurie Jadwin**  
Vice Chair

**Matthew Starr**  
Secretary

### Boards, Roundtables and Committees

5. **Regional Policy Roundtable** – Sloan Spalding (City of New Albany), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
  - **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
6. **Regional Sustainability Roundtable** – Laurie Jadwin (City of Gahanna), Regional Sustainability Roundtable Chair
  - **Sustainable2050** – Brandi Whetstone, MORPC Director of Sustainability
7. **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Committee** – Daryl Hennessy (City of Sunbury), CEDs Committee Chair
  - **Economic Development Update** – Padmini Roy-Dixon, MORPC Economic Development Director & Regional Innovation Officer
8. **Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board (MPO)** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Central Ohio MPO Board Chair
  - a. **Call to Order and Chair Update** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Central Ohio MPO Board Chair
  - b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Update** – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Development Officer
  - c. **Proposed Resolution T-11-26: “Adopting the 2026-2030 Regional Mobility Plan for ODOT Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Region 6”** – Liz Webb, MORPC Principal Planner
  - d. **Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Consent Agenda**
    - 1) Approval of **May 14, 2026 Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Meeting Minutes**
  - e. **Adjourn Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board (MPO)** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Central Ohio MPO Board Chair
9. **Commission Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of **May 14, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes**
  - b. **Proposed Resolution 11-26: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into, administer, and/or sub-allocate contracts for approximately \$1.78 million from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding and additional local funding”**
  - c. Approval of Actions of the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board

**10. Other Business**

2:45 p.m. **11. Adjourn** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), MORPC Chair

**PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR [ssaunders@morpc.org](mailto:ssaunders@morpc.org)  
IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.**

**The next Commission Meeting is**  
**Thursday, August 13, 2026, 1:30 p.m.**  
*111 Liberty Street, Suite 100*  
*Columbus, Ohio 43215*

**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. On Commission meeting days only, additional parking is available in numbered spaces toward the west end of the parking lot. Electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

MORPC is accessible by COTA BUS. The closest bus stop to MORPC is E. Fulton St./S. High St. Bus lines that accommodate this stop are Numbers 1, 4, 8, and 51.



## MORPC Monthly Agency Report

May 2026

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### Executive Team

Parag Agrawal [pagrawal@morpc.org](mailto:pagrawal@morpc.org)  
Joe Garrity [jgarrity@morpc.org](mailto:jgarrity@morpc.org)  
Ralonda Hampton [rhampton@morpc.org](mailto:rhampton@morpc.org)

Shawn Hufstедler [shufstедler@morpc.org](mailto:shufstедler@morpc.org)  
Jessica Kuenzli [jkuenzli@morpc.org](mailto:jkuenzli@morpc.org)  
Robert Williams [rwilliams@morpc.org](mailto:rwilliams@morpc.org)

### CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY

#### **Transit, Mobility & Human Services:**

MORPC finalized the 2026–2030 Regional Mobility Plan following a May 1-29 public comment period, during which 10 comments were received and addressed. The plan will be presented for adoption by MORPC, LCATS, and county commissions throughout June and July.

MORPC welcomed a new vanpool service traveling from Mansfield to Whitehall, with vehicle delivery completed at the end of May.

Team Members participated in the City of Columbus's Bike to Work Day and hosted a regional contest for local government members.

The Make Your Miles Matter April–June challenge is underway, encouraging commuters to log their daily trips for a chance to win digital gift cards.

#### **Active Transportation & Safety:**

Work is advancing on the 2026 MPO Active Transportation Plan (Central Ohio's Sidewalks, Bikeways, and Trails Plan), with the project team meeting bi-weekly and focusing on data collection and analysis. Progress also continues on the US-23 Active Transportation Plan, where a prioritized project list for the Delaware County study area was finalized and shared with ODOT District 6; final reports and online materials are in development. Team Members participated in ODOT's Walk.Bike.Ohio 2.0 District 6 workshop, providing input on priority connections, projects, and related policy and strategy recommendations.

Team Members attended the 2026 Ohio Traffic Safety Summit on May 19–20, gaining insights on infrastructure, policy, education, and best practices.

MORPC received three proposals to update the regional safety action plan and develop a non-motorized data collection program, which will be reviewed by an evaluation committee of staff and external stakeholders.

#### **Community Development:**

MORPC is updating the Central Ohio Bike Map with the Central Ohio Cycling Guide project, which includes the sixth edition of the Columbus Metro Bike Map and the first regional trails map covering the 15-county region. The new trails map features highlighted rides showcasing key scenic, cultural, and recreational destinations. Several counties expressed interest in developing their own cycling guides, which will be offered through MORPC's Greenway Planning Studio.

Team Members advanced the Building Landscapes of Opportunity and Mitigation (BLOOM) initiative by developing Ecological Corridors of Regional Significance, trail corridors that support and enhance surrounding sensitive ecosystems. The team is seeking additional funding to develop a BLOOM Trail Design Guide.

The Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Advisory Council is meeting June 12 to review Working Group progress, receive updates on Greenways Planning Studio projects, and consider adopting an updated COG Vision that reflects the Blueways Working Group's goals.

COG is planning to introduce “Gateways of Regional Significance” to identify key trailhead locations that provide essential amenities for safe and comfortable travel. Working Groups are finalizing the Gateway definition while also advancing classifications for “Bikeways” and “Blueways of Regional Significance.”

Interested in a housing or growth workshop for your community’s elected officials, staff, or community leaders? MORPC is accepting requests and will partner with you to design a tailored agenda, including recommended speakers and clearly defined learning objectives. Contact Juliana Silveira at [jsilveira@morpc.org](mailto:jsilveira@morpc.org).

Strategic Training for Effective Planning & Zoning (STEPZ) returns July 29, offering a professional development workshop that connects planning theory with real-world decision-making. This year’s program focuses on key regional issues, including data centers and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), and will feature expert insights and a hands-on Urban Plan exercise in partnership with ULI. Register [here](#).

**Sustainability:**

The next Regional Sustainability Roundtable meeting is June 18 at Del-Co Water where members will tour the floating solar project. The group will also review and approve the next round of Sustainable2050 certifications and receive a presentation on the draft strategic framework and action plan for input and approval.

Sustainable2050 met June 4. The meeting included results from the Leaders Listen Sustainability Survey, highlighting strong regional support for conservation and renewable energy. The City of Mount Vernon achieved Q1 certification, while additional members are working toward Q2 certification.

MORPC and SWACO launched a Working Group to explore municipal approaches to commercial and multi-family recycling. The group will evaluate models from across the country to inform strategies for Central Ohio, with SWACO providing resources to support implementation in Franklin County. Sustainable2050 members may still join the Working Group.

MORPC Members can join the Sustainable2050 program year-round by passing a resolution of participation. Contact Brandi Whetstone at [bwhetstone@morpc.org](mailto:bwhetstone@morpc.org) for more information, or to request a Sustainable2050 presentation.

The Central Ohio Water Advisory Council met May 19 to review the draft strategic plan developed with Black & Veatch, highlighting priorities such as a regional water supply management plan, nature-based solutions, water reuse, and shared data and modeling. The plan also outlines the financial and staffing resources needed to advance these initiatives.

The Energy and Air Quality Working Group met May 27 to receive program updates and hear presentations on geothermal energy and Columbus’s no-cost energy audit program. The group also learned about the 2026 Columbus Area Solar Co-op, which offers a point-of-sale rebate for eligible participants to reduce installation costs. The next meeting is August 26.

The CLEAN project (neighborhood air monitoring) is finalizing its data collection and completing community outreach efforts. Team Members will release the final report, along with an updated community air monitoring guide, and additional educational materials and flyers by the project’s completion in June.

With support from the Sustainable Cities Project, MORPC is expanding air quality monitoring and community outreach in the American Addition and Driving Park neighborhoods. The Team installed six sensors and will add more in both areas. The May workshops launched the summer series to strengthen engagement and understanding of local air quality concerns.

**Data & Mapping:**

Working Groups continue to meet regularly. They are advancing policy implementation efforts, strengthening data governance practices, and developing resources and training materials to support regional partners. The groups are also providing feedback on data initiatives, incorporating stakeholder input into long-range planning, and sharing insights through presentations and outreach. User group meetings remain well attended, with recent discussions focused on GIS applications, improving data quality, and preparing organizations for effective and responsible AI adoption.

Team Members are developing data visualization best practices to improve clarity and ensure compliance with digital accessibility standards. Staff is also advancing data infrastructure efforts to support more efficient storage and management of large datasets, while exploring scalable solutions for future cloud deployment.

MORPC is building a specialized database to capture and analyze Leaders Listen survey responses, enabling more complex insights, comparisons across surveys, and improved reporting of survey data.

## BUILD VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS

### **Community-Based Planning Assistance:**

The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program continues to be a valuable resource for members and we are committed to enhancing it to better meet your needs. Members can learn more and request assistance from the program by visiting <https://www.morpc.org/community-based-planning-assistance> or contacting Juliana Silveira at [jsilveira@morpc.org](mailto:jsilveira@morpc.org).

MORPC continues to support the Jefferson Township Parks & Recreation Plan.

### *Planner Pool Program*

Members may submit applications through the Planner Pool Program for assistance with planning, zoning, or sustainability needs and are encouraged to contact Juliana Silveira to discuss how MORPC can support their community.

MORPC is compiling a list of fixed-fee services to address common challenges facing Central Ohio communities and welcomes suggestions, which may be directed to Juliana Silveira at [jsilveira@morpc.org](mailto:jsilveira@morpc.org).

### *Consultant Services Program*

The Consultant Services Program supports communities throughout the RFP process by drafting documents, prequalifying consultants, reviewing proposals, and facilitating final presentations. Each year, the program prequalifies consultants to work on community-initiated long-range planning projects, including comprehensive plans, zoning updates, economic development initiatives, public engagement efforts, neighborhood plans, housing strategies, active transportation plans, and parking studies. Pre-qualified consultants for the 2026 program year and additional information can be found at: <https://www.morpc.org/consultant-services-program/>.

If you have an RFP you would like advertised through the Consultant Services Program or need assistance with developing one, contact [consultantservices@morpc.org](mailto:consultantservices@morpc.org) or Juliana Silveira at [jsilveira@morpc.org](mailto:jsilveira@morpc.org).

## DRIVE INVESTMENT

### **Passenger Rail:**

Team Members presented at the May 16 All Aboard Ohio Columbus Chapter meeting providing updates on the Corridor Identification & Development (ID) process for the Midwest Connect and 3C+D routes, as well as ongoing passenger rail advocacy efforts and collaboration opportunities. MORPC continues to prepare for Step 2 of the Midwest Connect Corridor ID process, working with the City of Fort Wayne, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and the Federal Railroad Administration to begin planning activities in 2026.

### **Grant Updates:**

MORPC assumed the administrative role from the City of Columbus and has begun planning and developing the final Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) deliverable, the Status Report. Team Members will use this report to document progress and identify any changes since completing the [Central Ohio Climate Action Plan](#) (COCAP).

### **Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):**

The RFP Evaluation Committee completed its review of consultant proposals for the Building Equitable and Safe Transportation (BEST) initiative, assessing eight project teams representing 24 companies. The committee conducted interviews with the two finalist teams in late May.

Team Members initiated a review of ODOT's performance targets, in alignment with the federal performance management framework, to determine the most effective approach for integrating these measures into the regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan's goals, objectives, targets, and update cycle.

**FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient:**

MORPC submitted the FY2025 award to FTA and will develop contracts with all 5310 subrecipients upon FTA approval.

**LinkUS:**

Public comments on the draft 2027–2031 Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) Capital Improvement Program (CIP) were accepted through May 22. Feedback reflected strong support for included projects, highlighted priority projects, and suggested new connections and initiatives for consideration in future CIP updates. The TSI Leadership Committee met May 28 to review and vote on the recommended 2027–2031 CIP, which advances projects from the 2026–2030 CIP with adjustments to reflect project status updates and maintain a balanced program budget.

**Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO):**

At the May 4 meeting, the CORPO Board approved resolutions adopting the SFY 2027 Planning Work Program and amending the SFY 2026 program to include the FY 2025 Safe Streets and Roads for All grant award. The Board deferred action on the 2026 Public Participation Plan to November to address minor public comments, with an additional comment period planned this summer.

**Technical Assistance Grants Program:**

Work continues on 2025 Technical Assistance Services for the Cities of Gahanna and Grove City.

The review committee, consisting of MORPC staff and an external panel, completed its evaluation of the five submitted projects for the Q2 2026 Technical Assistance Grants program round.

**MORPC MPO Funding:**

MPO funding applications opened May 18. Team Members coordinated outreach to a broad audience through email, social media, and newsletters, while continuing preparations for a virtual workshop for applicants and interested parties on May 27.

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

MORPC received SFY28 funding allocations and initiated the funding round in the Infrastructure Funding Management System (IFMS).

**Infrastructure:***Clean Ohio Conservation Fund*

Team Members are increasing communications and promotion of the Clean Ohio Fund to encourage more applications. Approximately \$10 million is available for funding for District 3, with preliminary screeners encouraged by June 1 and final applications due August 28. About \$3 million is available for FY 2027 for District 17. Final applications are due September 18. Contact Edwina Teye at [eteve@morpc.org](mailto:eteve@morpc.org) for more information.

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

Team Members coordinated with ODOT on the 2026 application cycle and confirmed that applications remain closed, with no set date for reopening at this time.

**Franklin County Transportation Improvement District (TID):**

The TID Board approved a new funding agreement to support improvements to the Walnut Street Corridor and completed updates to both the TID program of projects and TID branding.

**Economic Development:**

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee met May 21 to review and provide feedback on the draft SWOT analysis and begin developing the Action Plan section. Working group meetings are scheduled for June to further refine goals and action items.

Lee Shirey, the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Economic Development Representative for Ohio, plans to visit Central Ohio in late July to meet with MORPC Staff and consult with communities interested in EDA funding opportunities. Contact Padmini Roy-Dixon at [proydixon@morpc.org](mailto:proydixon@morpc.org) to learn more.

MORPC accepted Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP) Program project nominations through May 31.

Planning for the 2026 Regional Economic Development Academy is underway. The Academy will hold five in-person training workshops over August-December on different economic development topics relevant to Central Ohio. Confirmed partners include the Ohio Economic Development Association, City of Westerville,

Ohio Air Quality Development Agency, City of Groveport and the Affordable Housing Coalition of Central Ohio.

MORPC is beginning development of a Regional Freight Plan and anticipates releasing an RFP soon. The plan will assess key freight components while emphasizing economic and workforce development, aligning investments with industry growth to strengthen supply chains, expand job access, and enhance regional competitiveness. To support engagement throughout development and implementation, MORPC is forming the Central Ohio Freight Advisory Committee (COFAC). Contact Brian Filiatraut at [bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org) if you have questions.

## PAY IT FORWARD

### **Membership Services:**

Membership services visited five communities and attended member-hosted events.

### **Summer Intern Program:**

MORPC hosted two orientation sessions.

### **Public Involvement & Engagement:**

Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at [News – MORPC.org](#).

### **Events:**

#### *Completed Events*

- May 14 – Pre-Commission Luncheon – Data Centers in Central Ohio
- June 3 – Columbus Night at the Clippers

#### *Upcoming Events*

- June 17 – Mobility Exchange
- July 8 – Village Forum
- July 16 – Rural Forum

### **Finance Updates:**

The auditors from the Auditor of State's Office completed their audit and review of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) prepared by MORPC. The draft audit reports and ACFR were presented at the June Executive Committee meeting.

### **Personnel Updates:**

The following Team Members started at MORPC in May:

- Erin Schaefer, COG Fellow, May 12
- Jake Macioch, Transportation Intern, May 19
- Erol Sommez, Transportation Intern, May 19
- Rose Plottel, Economic Development Intern, May 19
- Osiena Haile, City of Columbus Greenways Fellow, May 19
- Alex Granato, Associate Modeler, May 26

MORPC is currently recruiting for open positions:

- MODE Associate or Senior Planner
- Insights Intern
- Customer Service Outreach Specialist

The requirements for the posted positions are available for review on the website at <http://www.morpc.org/careers/>.

### **RFP/RFQ Postings**

The following RFP's/RFQ's were posted:

- Crash Analytics and Injury Research (CAIR) – deadline June 12
- Central Ohio Transportation Safety Plan (closed May 15)
- HVAC Contractor for Residential Energy Programs
- Insulation Contractor for Residential Energy Programs

The full RFP/RFQs are available at <http://www.morpc.org/rfps-rfqs/>.

Click [here](#) to view the detailed May 2026 Metropolitan Planning Organization Report.



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## Memorandum

**TO:** Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Executive Committee  
Officers and Board Members

**FROM:** Shawn Hufstedler  
Chief Operating Officer

**DATE:** May 29, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Resolution 10-26: **“Adopting a fee schedule for use in assessing members in 2027”**

This resolution adopts the 2027 membership fee schedule. Regularly increasing the dues by relatively small amounts in order to carry on the efforts of the Commission has been preferred over more infrequent but larger increases. This year’s resolution follows this past practice. Additionally, the proposed rates for 2027 are consistent with the 2027 planned rates presented in the planned five-year dues rates schedule presented a year ago in June.

The total Regional Planning Commission (RPC) per capita rates are paid by full members in all areas of MORPC’s 15-county region. As further described below, if the member is in the MPO or is a CORPO County, the additional rates noted apply.

The current (2026) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) per capita rate of \$0.69 includes \$0.07 restricted to building costs, \$0.22 for MPO federal matching fund and reserve needs, and \$0.40 for MORPC services to members, development, and other local activities of the agency. Members located outside the MPO boundaries pay dues at the reduced (“Total RPC”) rate of \$0.47, which excludes the MPO portion of the dues.

The current (2026) Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) per capita rate totals \$0.58, including \$0.07 restricted to building costs, \$0.11 for CORPO matching fund requirements, and \$0.40 for MORPC services to members, development, and other local activities of the agency. This CORPO rate applies only to member counties in areas that are outside the MPO and in the 7-County CORPO area.

The 2027 Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) per capita rate recommendation is \$0.715 including \$0.07 restricted to building costs, \$0.225 for MPO federal matching fund and reserve needs, and \$0.42 for MORPC services to members, development, and other local activities of the agency. Members located outside of the MPO boundaries would pay dues at the reduced (“Total RPC”) rate of \$0.49, which excludes the MPO portion of the dues.

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

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Chair

**Laurie Jadwin**  
Vice Chair

**Matthew Starr**  
Secretary

The 2027 Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) per capita rate recommendation totals \$0.605 per capita, including \$0.07 restricted to building costs, \$0.115 for CORPO matching fund requirements, and \$0.42 for MORPC services to members, development, and other local activities of the agency. This total CORPO rate applies only to member counties in areas that are outside the MPO and in the 7-County CORPO area.

Per MORPC’s Bylaws:

- Each year the COMMISSION shall adopt a fee schedule by August 31 to be used in assessing members for the upcoming calendar year.
- Each year the Commission shall provide a non-binding estimate of fees for the next five (5) years for members to use in their financial planning.

This last bullet indicates an estimated or planned dues schedule will be presented with the annual fee schedule each year. Note that the planned rates are not approved via resolution each year but instead included via memo only for reference and planning purposes. The below rates for 2027-2030 are as planned a year ago.

The planned five-year dues rates schedule for 2027-2031 is presented below, represented in cents per capita.

Planned Rates	MPO Area Planned Rate	CORPO Area Planned Rate	RPC-Only Area Planned Rate
2027	71.50	60.50	49.00
2028	74.00	62.50	51.00
2029	76.50	65.00	53.00
2030	79.00	67.00	55.00
2031	81.50	69.00	57.00

This is further detailed as follows to show the expected increase area in each year with actual 2026 rates included for comparison purposes:

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Building	7 cents	7 cents	7 cents	7 cents	7 cents	7 cents
RPC	<u>40 cents</u>	<u>42 cents</u>	<u>44 cents</u>	<u>46 cents</u>	<u>48 cents</u>	<u>50 cents</u>
<b>Total RPC</b>	<b>47 cents</b>	<b>49 cents</b>	<b>51 cents</b>	<b>53 cents</b>	<b>55 cents</b>	<b>57 cents</b>
CORPO	<u>11 cents</u>	<u>11.5 cents</u>	<u>11.5 cents</u>	<u>12 cents</u>	<u>12 cents</u>	<u>12.5 cents</u>
<b>Total CORPO</b>	<b>58 cents</b>	<b>60.5 cents</b>	<b>62.5 cents</b>	<b>65 cents</b>	<b>67 cents</b>	<b>69.5 cents</b>
MPO	<u>22 cents</u>	<u>22.5 cents</u>	<u>23 cents</u>	<u>23.5 cents</u>	<u>24 cents</u>	<u>25 cents</u>
<b>Total MPO</b>	<b>69 cents</b>	<b>71.5 cents</b>	<b>74 cents</b>	<b>76.5 cents</b>	<b>79 cents</b>	<b>82 cents</b>

NOTE: The Total CORPO amount equals the Total RPC plus the CORPO rates for each year. The Total MPO amount equals to the Total RPC plus the MPO rates for each year. The Total MPO amounts exclude the CORPO amounts.

The 2027 minimum annual membership fee will be \$1,300, which will be consistent with the amount charged to associate members as well. The 2026 minimum annual membership fee and associate member fee was \$1,250.

The population estimates for members will be completed in Autumn 2026 and will show each members' dues amount for 2027. The 2027 projection will be presented as part of the process to establish and adopt the 2027 budget and will be presented for formal adoption by the Commission by December of this year.

Attachment: Resolution 10-26

RESOLUTION 10-26

**“Adopting a fee schedule for use in assessing members in 2027”**

WHEREAS, the financial provisions of the MORPC Bylaws require that the Commission adopt a fee schedule by August of each year to be used in assessing members for the upcoming calendar year; and

WHEREAS, a planned dues schedule has been established that shows the expected rates for 2027 through 2031 to help with long-term planning for both MORPC members and MORPC staff; and

WHEREAS, a 2027 projection for member dues and related uses will be presented as part of the process to establish and adopt the 2027 budget and will be presented for formal adoption by the Commission by December; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Section 1. That a 2027 per-capita fee of \$0.715 with a minimum of \$1,300 is hereby adopted for members of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for areas in the MPO boundaries, a 2027 per-capita fee of \$0.605 is hereby adopted for county members of the Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) for areas within the CORPO boundaries, and a reduced 2027 per-capita fee of \$0.49 with a minimum of \$1,300 is hereby adopted for members of the Regional Planning Commission that are not a CORPO County or not in the MPO.
- Section 2. The \$0.07 per-capita portion (included within the \$0.715, \$0.605, and \$0.49 rates) of the dues for the building for 2027 is included to pay a portion of building lease payments and improvements is hereby adopted.
- Section 3. That 2027 membership fee of \$1,300 is hereby adopted for associate members.
- Section 4. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.
- Section 5. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

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Ben Kessler, Chair  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Effective date: June 11, 2026  
Submitted by: Shawn Hufstedler, Chief Operating Officer  
Prepared by: Steve Armstrong, Finance Director  
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21  
For action date: June 11, 2026  
Attachment: Commission Membership as of June 2026

**Commission Membership as of June 1, 2026  
MPO vs CORPO vs RPC**

<b>Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) &amp; Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Members 2027 dues rate per-capita: \$0.715</b>		
<b>County Members:</b>		
Delaware County	Franklin County	
<b>Municipal Members (Cities):</b>		
Bexley	Groveport	Reynoldsburg
Canal Winchester	Hilliard	Sunbury
Columbus	Johnstown	Upper Arlington
Delaware	New Albany	Westerville
Dublin	Obetz	Whitehall
Gahanna	Pataskala	Worthington
Grandview Heights	Pickerington	
Grove City	Powell	
<b>Municipal Members (Villages):</b>		
Galena	Minerva Park	Urbancrest
Lithopolis	Plain City	
Lockbourne	Riverlea	
Marble Cliff	Shawnee Hills	
<b>Township Members:</b>		
Blendon Township (Franklin)	Mifflin Township (Franklin)	
Bloom Township (Fairfield)	Norwich Township (Franklin)	
Brown Township (Franklin)	Perry Township (Franklin)	
Clinton Township (Franklin)	Plain Township (Franklin)	
Etna Township (Licking)	Pleasant Township (Franklin)	
Franklin Township (Franklin)	Prairie Township (Franklin)	
Hamilton Township (Franklin)	Sharon Township (Franklin)	
Jackson Township (Franklin)	Truro Township (Franklin)	
Jefferson Township (Franklin)	Violet Township (Fairfield)	
Jerome Township (Union)	Washington Township (Delaware, Franklin, Union)	
Madison Township (Franklin)		
<b>Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO) &amp; Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Members 2027 dues rate per-capita: \$0.605</b>		
<b>County Members:</b>		
Fairfield County*	Marion County	
Knox County	Morrow County	
Madison County	Union County*	
<b>Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Only Members 2027 dues rate per-capita: \$0.49</b>		
<b>County Members:</b>		
Hocking County	Logan County	
Licking County*	Perry County	
<b>Municipal Members (Cities):</b>		
Bellefontaine	Lancaster	Mount Vernon
Chillicothe	London	Newark
Circleville	Marion	
Heath	Marysville	
<b>Municipal Members (Villages):</b>		
Alexandria	Commercial Point	New Lexington
Ashville	Gambier	Somerset
Baltimore	Granville	South Bloomfield
Buckeye Lake	Hebron	West Jefferson
Centerburg	Mount Sterling	
<b>Township Members:</b>		
Granville Township (Licking)		
*For Fairfield, Licking and Union Counties, a small portion of the County is in the MPO and therefore the County pays the MPO rate for that portion. Fairfield and Union Counties pay the CORPO rate for the remainder of the County.		



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

## Memorandum

**TO:** Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board  
Transportation Advisory Committee  
Community Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Maria Schaper, Transportation Director

**DATE:** 5/27/26

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Resolution T-11-26: **“Adopting the 2026-2030 Regional Mobility Plan for ODOT Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Region 6”**

As required by federal law, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) developed the Regional Mobility Plan for the nine counties in the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Region 6: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Fayette, Licking, Logan, Madison, Pickaway, and Union Counties.

This plan is the Public Transit-Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan for ODOT HSTC Region 6 – also known as the Regional Mobility Plan. This plan establishes local and regional goals for how transportation services can be better coordinated and how new funding and other resources should be used to improve transportation services for the transportation-disadvantaged populations.

This plan is maintained to keep the counties in ODOT HSTC Region 6 eligible to apply for and receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307, 5310 and 5311 funding for specialized transportation projects as administered by MORPC and ODOT. Section 5310 funds are specifically to be used to enhance transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

To improve transportation services for underserved populations and ensure coordination of transportation resources, the Regional Mobility Plan identifies gaps between existing transportation resources and transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes.

The Regional Mobility Plan includes goals pertaining to three major categories of strategies: those pertaining directly to expanding and improving transportation services, those that relate to programs to improve access to transit, and those that improve awareness of current programs and services.

This plan will serve as a reference by which the community can determine how existing transportation services can best be used and how new funding and other resources should be used to improve future transportation needs. Representatives from the public and private sector, including human services

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Ben Kessler**  
Chair

**Laurie Jadwin**  
Vice Chair

**Matthew Starr**  
Secretary

organizations, transit authorities, specialized transportation providers, local governments, the business community, and residents, worked together to develop the Regional Mobility Plan.

Resolutions of approval for the ODOT HSTC Region 6 Regional Mobility Plan signal support for the findings, goals, strategies, and action steps outlined in the document and contribute to each county's eligibility for FTA Section 5310 funding, and other FTA discretionary and formula funding, to enhance transportation for older adults and people with disabilities. County commissioners of Fairfield, Fayette, Logan, Madison, Pickaway, and Union counties are also asked to pass resolutions supporting the Regional Mobility Plan. Licking County Area Transit Study is asked to pass a resolution of approval for Licking County.

This plan is a key element of implementing operation and transit infrastructure strategies in the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This plan specifically relates to the implementation of these MTP strategies:

- OP 8: Manage, improve, and coordinate human service, private and public transportation, to better meet the needs and fill the gaps
- OP 12: Facilitate multi-jurisdictional dialogue to improve opportunities for collaboration
- TRAN 7: Facilitate multi-jurisdictional dialogue to improve opportunities for collaboration

The passing of this resolution by the Central Ohio MPO Board contributes to the eligibility for Franklin and Delaware Counties.

The 2026-2030 Regional Mobility Plan is published at <https://www.morpc.org/programs-services/regional-mobility-plan/>. An executive summary is attached to the resolution.

Attachment: Resolution T-11-26

RESOLUTION T-11-26

**“Adopting the 2026-2030 Regional Mobility Plan for ODOT Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Region 6”**

WHEREAS, under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the development of a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan (“Coordinated Plan”) is required to receive federal funding under the transit program: Enhanced Mobility of Older Adults and People with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board (formerly known as the Transportation Policy Committee) of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) adopted the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) by Resolution T-3-24; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Mobility Plan serves as the Coordinated Plan for the nine (9) counties in the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Region 6: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Fayette, Licking, Logan, Madison, Pickaway, and Union counties; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Mobility Plan will fulfill the Enhanced Mobility of Older Adults and People with Disabilities funding requirement for the nine (9) counties in ODOT HSTC Region 6; and

WHEREAS, MORPC is the designated recipient to administer the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funds received under the Coordinated Plan for the Columbus, Ohio Urbanized Area (UZA); and

WHEREAS, MORPC is the designated coordinating agency responsible for leading the development of the Regional Mobility Plan for ODOT HSTC Region 6; and

WHEREAS, MORPC maintains objectives, policies, procedures, and administrative requirements documented in its Program Management Plan (PMP) filed with FTA; and

WHEREAS, to improve transportation services for underserved populations and ensure coordination of transportation resources, a Coordinated Plan is developed for the nine (9) counties in ODOT HSTC Region 6 to identify gaps between existing transportation resources and transportation needs of individuals with disabilities and older adults; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Mobility Plan outlines goals and strategies at the regional level pertaining to supporting transportation services and improving access and awareness for available transportation programs and services; and

WHEREAS, to address the strategies, any eligible entity, individually or in conjunction with a public or private partner, may apply for a grant using the funds identified above; and

WHEREAS, representatives from the public and private sectors, including human services organizations, transit authorities, local governments, other transportation providers, the business community, and residents, worked together to develop the Regional Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS, this plan is a key element of implementing operation and transit infrastructure strategies in the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This plan specifically relates to the implementation of the MTP strategies – OP 8: Manage, improve, and coordinate human service, private and public transportation, to better meet the needs and fill the gaps; OP

12: Facilitate multi-jurisdictional dialogue to improve opportunities for collaboration; TRAN 7: Facilitate multi-jurisdictional dialogue to improve opportunities for collaboration; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and its meeting on June 1, 2026, and the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) at its meeting on June 3, 2026, recommend adoption of this resolution to the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CENTRAL OHIO MPO BOARD OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Section 1. That the 2026-2030 Regional Mobility Plan (published at [www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)) be adopted as the official coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan for Delaware and Franklin counties.
- Section 2. That MORPC will continue to maintain its PMP and assist subrecipients.
- Section 3. That it recommends eligible applicants incorporate or support proposed strategies into their planning and program efforts to improve transportation options in the region.
- Section 4. That the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

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Ben Kessler, Chair  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Prepared by: Mobility and Development Staff  
Attachment: 2026-2030 Regional Mobility Plan Executive Summary

# Executive Summary

The Regional Mobility Plan (RMP) is a nine-county Public Transit-Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Region 6 for Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Logan, Madison, Pickaway, and Union counties for 2026-2030. The RMP will serve as the update to existing county Coordinated Plans and as the ODOT HSTC Region 6 Coordinated Plan. This plan fulfills the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, signed into law as a reauthorization of surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2020. According to requirements of the FAST Act, locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plans must be updated to reflect the changes established by the FAST Act legislation. The FAST Act applies to new programs and rules for all Fiscal Year 2016 funds and authorizes transit programs for five (5) years.

## INTENTIONS OF THE REGIONAL MOBILITY PLAN

- Identify community resources for transportation and mobility
- Understand the gaps and unmet needs within those resources
- Determine the approach to addressing those gaps and needs

The RMP was administered by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) with the support of transit agencies, transportation providers, transportation planners, human service organizations, transportation users, and other community partners in ODOT HSTC Region 6. The following regional goals are not ranked in priority. A major focus of this plan is to ensure disadvantaged populations are supported in their access to and awareness of mobility options. For the purpose of this plan, disadvantaged populations are those who may experience exclusion from or less access to economic opportunity or community resources as a result of sex, location, poverty, disability, ethnicity, language, migration, displacement or other characteristics.

## REGIONAL GOALS

Goals related to improving access and awareness to mobility options are outlined for ODOT HSTC Region 6 and each county within its boundary. All goals were developed through the data and mapping analysis of the region, stakeholder and public engagement, and public input obtained through the Leaders Listen survey. Strategies for these goals are described later in the document.

### GOAL 1: MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE LEVEL OF SERVICE

### GOAL 2: ENCOURAGE STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR TRANSIT

### GOAL 3: IMPROVE AWARENESS OF TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS



**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**  
**Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 14, 2026

Time: 2:43 p.m.

Location: MORPC Town Hall

**Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Members Present**

LaGrieta Acheampong	Cindi Fitzpatrick	Matt Peoples
Matt Allison	Adam Fowler	Joshua Rauch
Chris Amorose Grooms	Jeremiah Gracia	Eric Richter
Lee Bodnar	Daryl Hennessy	Carolyn Riggle
Stacey Boumis	Laurie Jadwin	Steve Schoeny
Paul Brake	James Jewell	Jeff Sheridan
Susan Brobst	Carol Kauffman	Ike Stage
Ron Bullard	Ben Kessler	Matt Starr
Gary Burkholder	Laura Kunze	Joe Stefanov
Jodi Burroughs	Bill LaFayette	Robyn Stewart
Ben Collins	Kris Long	Christie Ward
Brad Ebersole	Lisa McCutcheon	Jeff Washburn
David Efland	Rory McGuinness	Trenton Weaver
Shane Farnsworth	Eric Meyer	Andrew Williams
Jamie Fisher	Pam O'Grady	

**Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Members Viewing Live Stream**

Herb Asher	Emily Keeler	Sloan Spalding
Carson Combs	Dave Medley	Andy Volenik
Tracie Davies	Laura Oldham	Cindy Wengerter
Cameron Garczyk	Erin Prosser	
Dave Gulden	Devayani Puranik	

**Commission Members Present**

Savannah Andrews	Chasilyn Carter	Jeff Hall
Joe Antram	Rick Dzik	Tom McCarthy
Chase Bennett	Greg Fitzpatrick	Hannah Wynne
Jamie Brucker	Jeff Fix	
Grace Byler	Nancy Geiger	

**Commission Members Viewing Live Stream**

Courtney DeCosky	Bill Narducci	Julia Suggs
Bill Habig	Rob Slane	

**Associate Members Present**

Joe Lombardi	Jennie McAdams
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**Associate Members Viewing Live Stream**

Kristin Sutton

**MORPC Staff Present**

Parag Agrawal	Eileen Leuby	Maria Schaper
Dave Dixon	Kelsey Matson	Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	Robert Williams
Shawn Hufstedler	Kyle Probert	
Ethan Hug	Padmini Roy-Dixon	
Jessica Kuenzli	Shari Saunders	

**MORPC Staff Viewing Live Stream**

Brian Filiatraut	Adam Porr
Jeff Ortega	Liz Webb

**Guests Present**

Chet Chaney, Perry Township	Andrew Lundell, City of Lancaster
Isabella Fransko, Lancaster Port Authority	Jonas Peterson, One Columbus
Sophia Kuhar, City of Circleville	Cornell Robertson, Mannik & Smith

Jackson Sager, Etna Township  
Andy Shifflette, Shifflette Strategies

Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

**Guests Viewing Live Stream**

Barry Adler, Jerome Township

Terri Wise

**Meeting Called to Order – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Central Ohio MPO Board Chair**

Chair Ben Kessler called the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Meeting to order at 2:43 p.m.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Update – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Central Ohio MPO Chair and Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Development Officer**

Chair Kessler and Parag Agrawal presented the [Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Update](#) highlighting upcoming updates on the Advance Fund and the Regional Mobility Plan.

Parag Agrawal highlighted three main grant programs: the MORPC Technical Assistance Program, MPO attributable funds (approximately \$80 million available), and Ohio Public Works Commission funding (about \$37 million for Franklin County), with application periods and support contacts provided.

Four projects in the MPO area received a combined \$18.2 million in TRAC funding, including improvements in Delaware and Franklin Counties, with Central Ohio receiving about 25 percent of the state's TRAC funding over the past five years.

Mr. Agrawal reviewed the MPO Planning Work Program budget, totaling approximately \$14.5 million, which includes operational funds, studies, and rideshare initiatives. Mr. Agrawal highlighted significant growth in funding in recent years, as well as increased investment in the regional rural planning program.

The draft Regional Mobility Plan identifies transportation needs for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and low-income populations across nine counties. The plan is open for public comment through May 29. Mr. Agrawal encouraged members to review the plan and provide feedback.

MORPC held its second annual Regional Bike to Work Day on May 13 with participation from ten communities. Data is being compiled. The winning community will be recognized at a future meeting.

**Advance Fund Update – Thomas Graham, MORPC Associate Director Transportation Planning**

Tom Graham provided an update on [Central Ohio's Advance Fund](#), a tool to help communities manage cash flow for reimbursement-based grants. The fund aims to improve access to funding opportunities by providing upfront support for project costs, with program policies under development and full implementation anticipated later this year.

**Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Consent Agenda**

Trenton Weaver made a motion to approve the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Consent Agenda, second by Jodi Burroughs; motion passed.

The Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

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Matthew Starr, Secretary

**Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board**



Date: May 14, 2026  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Location: MORPC Town Hall

**Commission Members Present**

LaGrieta Acheampong	David Efland	Lisa McCutcheon
Matt Allison	Shane Farnsworth	Rory McGuiness
Chris Amorose Grooms	Jamie Fisher	Eric Meyer
Savannah Andrews	Cindi Fitzpatrick	Pam O'Grady
Joe Antram	Greg Fitzpatrick	Matt Peoples
Chase Bennett	Jeff Fix	Joshua Rauch
Lee Bodnar	Adam Fowler	Eric Ricther
Stacey Boumis	Nancy Geiger	Carolyn Riggle
Paul Brake	Jeremiah Gracia	Steve Schoeny
Susan Brobst	Jeff Hall	Jeff Sheridan
Jamie Brucker	Daryl Hennessy	Ike Stage
Ron Bullard	Laurie Jadwin	Matt Starr
Gary Burkholder	James Jewell	Joe Stefanov
Jodi Burroughs	Carol Kauffman	Robyn Stewart
Grace Byler	Ben Kessler	Christie Ward
Chasilyn Carter	Laura Kunze	Jeff Washburn
Ben Collins	Bill LaFayette	Trenton Weaver
Rick Dzik	Kris Long	Andrew Williams
Brad Ebersole	Tom McCarthy	Hannah Wynne

**Commission Members Viewing Live Stream**

Herb Asher	Bill Habig	Rob Slane
Carson Combs	Emily Keeler	Sloan Spalding
Tracie Davies	Dave Medley	Julia Suggs
Courtney DeCosky	Bill Narducci	Andy Volenik
Cameron Garczyk	Laura Oldham	
Dave Gulden	Erin Prosser	

**Central Ohio MPO Board Members Viewing Live Stream**

Devayani Puranik	Cindy Wengert
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**Associate Members Present**

Joe Lombardi	Jennie McAdams
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**Associate Members Viewing Live Stream**

Kristin Sutton

**MORPC Staff Present**

Parag Agrawal	Jessica Kuenzli	Padmini Roy-Dixon
Dave Dixon	Eileen Leuby	Shari Saunders
Ralonda Hampton	Kelsey Matson	Maria Schaper
Shawn Hufstedler	William Murdock	Brandi Whetstone
Ethan Hug	Kyle Probert	Robert Williams

**MORPC Staff Viewing Live Stream**

Brian Filiatraut	Adam Porr
Jeff Ortega	Liz Webb

**Guests Present**

Chet Chaney, Perry Township	Cornell Robertson, Mannik & Smith
Isabella Fransko, Lancaster Port Authority	Jackson Sager, Etna Township
Sophia Kuhar, City of Circleville	Andy Shifflette, Shifflette Strategies
Andrew Lundell, City of Lancaster	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Jonas Peterson, One Columbus	

**Guests Viewing Live Stream**

Barry Adler, Jerome Township	Terri Wise
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**Meeting Called to Order – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**

Chair Chris Amorose Groomes called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recognition of Guests and New Members – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer**

Eileen Leuby welcomed new MORPC Members Nancy Geiger from Commercial Point and Jennie McAdams from Delaware Public Health District. Ms. Leuby welcomed MORPC Members Union County Commissioner Tom McCarthy and new City Manager for Hilliard Joshua Rauch. Ms. Leuby welcomed guest speaker Jonas Petterson from One Columbus and summer interns Isabella Fransko, Lancaster Port Authority; Jackson Sager, Etna Township; and Sophia Kunar, City of Circleville.

**Remarks from the Chair – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**

Chair Amorose Groomes took a moment to thank the Commission. She shared that it was an honor to serve as Chair. She hopes members continue to find value in MORPC and that it remains a meaningful contributor to your communities, helping inform decisions and strengthening our ability to speak with a unified regional voice.

**Nominating Committee Report – Laurie Jadwin (City of Gahanna), Nominating Committee Chair**

Laurie Jadwin thanked the Nominating Committee Members:

- Laurie Jadwin, Chair, City of Gahanna
- Jeff Benton, Delaware County
- Ben Collins, Plain Township
- Kris Long, Franklin County
- Mike Schadek, City of Columbus

Mayor Jadwin reported the Nominating Committee met April 22 and makes the following recommendations for Officer roles and Executive Committee positions:

- Nominees for new or renewed one-year Officer Terms (expires 2027):
  - Chair: Ben Kessler, Mayor, City of Bexley
  - Vice Chair: Laurie Jadwin, Mayor, City of Gahanna
  - Secretary: Matthew Starr, Mayor, City of Mount Vernon
- Nominees for renewal of two-year Executive Committee Term (expires 2028):
  - Kris Long, Deputy Director, Franklin County
  - LaGrieta Acheampong, Senior Budget Officer, Franklin County
  - Laurie Jadwin, Vice Chair and Mayor, City of Gahanna
  - Matthew Starr, Secretary and Mayor, City of Mount Vernon
  - Haley Lupton, Administrator, Village of Plain City
  - Lourdes Barroso de Padilla, Council Member, City of Columbus
- Nominees for renewal of one-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2027):
  - Joe Stefanov, Chair of the Benefits & Compensation Working Group and City Manager, City of New Albany
  - Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair of the Central Ohio Passenger Rail Advisory Council and Mayor, City of Dublin
  - Jeff Benton, Chair of the Building Working Group and Commissioner, Delaware County

**Election of Officers and Executive Committee – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**

Chair Amorose Groomes opened the floor for additional nominations; none were submitted.

Jeff Fix made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee recommendations, second by Pam O'Grady; motion passed.

Following the election of officers, new Chair Ben Kessler assumed leadership of the meeting and thanked outgoing Chair Chris Amorose Groomes for her dedicated service. Chair Kessler presented gifts to Mayor Amorose Groomes in recognition of her contributions.

Chair Kessler announced the following appointments:

- Joe Stefanov, Chair of the Benefits & Compensation Working Group
- Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair of the Central Ohio Passenger Rail Advisory Council
- Jeff Benton, Chair of the Building Working Group

### **Executive Director's Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

William Murdock gave the [Executive's Director Report](#) congratulating the officers elected and Executive Committee members re-elected today. The Executive Committee and officers are among our most engaged community leaders, generously sharing their time, expertise, and guidance. Their leadership is greatly appreciated. Mr. Murdock expressed his appreciation to Mayor Amorose Groomes for her leadership as Board Chair over the last few years.

MORPC is hosting an ICMA-sponsored Primal Intelligence course in June, with participants traveling from across the country to attend.

Mr. Murdock highlighted a few agenda items. Three new community members will be presented for consideration, including a major community in Pickaway County, a key health district partner, and the final non-member township in Franklin County, reflecting the strength of regional collaboration and engagement. Thomas Graham is giving an update on the Advance Fund, a tool to help communities access reimbursement-based grants by providing cash flow support. Ethan Hug is providing a summary of the latest Leaders Listen Survey.

The March 20 State of the Region event drew nearly 1,000 attendees and featured former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, local government award presentations, and remarks from Greg Lindsay, with continued discussion on advancing regional collaboration. Mr. Murdock recognized Amanda McEldowney for successfully organizing the event.

Mr. Murdock highlighted MORPC's partnership with One Columbus to support regional economic development programs, including the Competitive Advantage Projects which have a rolling deadline of May 31. Mr. Murdock reminded members of ongoing initiatives such as the Economic Development Academy, CEDS work, and technical assistance.

Mr. Murdock provided an update on the Midwest Connect (Chicago–Fort Wayne–Columbus–Pittsburgh) and the 3C & D (Cleveland–Columbus–Dayton–Cincinnati) corridors, both of which aim to restore passenger rail service to Central Ohio. Both initiatives advanced to the second stage of the federal process, with ongoing coordination with the Federal Railroad Administration.

Mr. Murdock shared updates on rail initiatives and engagement efforts, including a delegation visit to South Florida to explore Brightline's private passenger rail model and its applicability to Ohio. Additionally, the America 250 Ohio Buckeye Train event drew approximately 800 participants and demonstrated strong public interest in passenger rail and its potential for regional connectivity and economic development.

At a recent international conference, Co-Motion, MORPC's work in Central Ohio was highlighted during a kickoff panel featuring Parag Agrawal. Mr. Agrawal was invited to return as a future speaker.

Mr. Murdock reminded members that up to eight hours of annual mapping and data technical assistance is available to members. The featured resource of the month, [datacentermap.com](http://datacentermap.com), supports analysis of regional data center activity. Mr. Murdock encouraged members to complete a survey to guide MORPC's support for local governments addressing data center development.

Mr. Murdock announced upcoming Clean Ohio Conservation Program funding opportunities, with approximately \$13 million available across designated districts. Members are encouraged to prepare applications ahead of district-specific deadlines and to contact Dr. Edwina Teye for assistance or coordination with the appropriate district.

The June 17 Mobility Exchange, an event combining innovation and transportation safety, features keynote speaker Rakesh Shah and a range of breakout sessions. Mr. Murdock encouraged members to register.

Mr. Murdock congratulated Jessica Kuenzli for being named to this year's Columbus Business First 40 Under 40.

Mr. Murdock reported due to illness there is no Regional Policy Roundtable update today. However, Steve Tugend will give the Legislative Update. Other related items were included in the member newsletter distributed via email, including information on the upcoming Ohio Candidates Forum on July 31.

### **One Columbus – Jonas Peterson, Chief Economic Development Officer for the Columbus Partnership and President of One Columbus**

William Murdock introduced Jonas Peterson, Chief Economic Development Officer for the Columbus Partnership and President of One Columbus, who recently came to the region with more than twenty years' experience in regional economic development. Jonas Peterson introduced himself and expressed enthusiasm for the region's collaborative approach. Mr. Peterson emphasized his commitment to partnering with members to advance regional economic development.

### **Quarterly Membership Update – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer**

Eileen Leuby presented the [Quarterly Membership Update](#) highlighting:

- Member events
- Member visits
- Regional planning updates
- Member Benefit of the Month – Drive Investment Newsletter
- Educational partnerships available to members
- Local Government Internship Program
- Upcoming Events
  - July 8 Village Forum at MORPC
  - July 16 Rural Forum in Delaware
  - June 3 MORPC Night at the Clippers

### **Proposed Resolution 05-26: "Accepting Pleasant Township (Franklin County) as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)" – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

Ike Stage made a motion to approve Resolution 05-26, second by Joe Antram; motion passed.

**Proposed Resolution 08-26: “Accepting the Village of Commercial Point (Pickaway County) as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)” – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

Jeff Fix made a motion to approve Resolution 08-26, second by Laurie Jadwin; motion passed. Chair Kessler welcomed Commercial Point representative Nancy Geiger.

**Proposed Resolution 06-26: “Accepting Delaware Public Health System as an associate member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)” – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

Brad Ebersole made a motion to approve Resolution 06-26, second by Ron Bullard; motion passed.

Chair Kessler welcomed Delaware Public Health District representative Jennie McAdams.

**Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Update – Brian Ball (Knox County), Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Vice Chair**

Brian Ball gave the [Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Update](#). Mr. Ball provided an update on rural transportation planning and funding efforts, emphasizing CORPO’s role in supporting local governments in advancing projects through state and federal processes. Ongoing county outreach and planning work are informing the 2028–2050 plan, supported by a Safe Streets for All grant. Mr. Ball encouraged members to identify and prepare projects for future funding opportunities, with additional outreach and project solicitations forthcoming.

**Regional Data Roundtable Update – Robyn Stewart (City of Worthington), Regional Data Roundtable Chair and Dave Dixon, MORPC Director of Data Analytics & Strategy**

Robyn Stewart and Dave Dixon provided the [Regional Data Roundtable Update](#). MORPC partnered with OSU and the Federation of American Scientists to identify seven priority research areas, including housing, economic development, transportation, and climate, and produced a regional research and impact ecosystem report. A collaboration with Arizona State University and OSU focused on developing an open-source multimodal travel demand forecasting model, with a use case examining residents’ access to parks via various transportation modes. Ms. Stewart provided an update on the 2026–2028 Regional Data Agenda. Ms. Stewart invited members to serve as champions for Data Day.

Dave Dixon provided updates on land use data collection to support long-range planning and encouraged members to share current and upcoming projects for inclusion. Mr. Dixon also shared updates on the MORPC Insights platform, population estimates and forecasts in development, upcoming survey efforts, and progress toward the regional data agenda.

- **Leaders Listen Survey Results – Ehtan Hug, MORPC Senior Data Analyst**  
Ethan Hug presented the [Leaders Listen: Sustainability 2026 Survey Results](#). The findings are based on over 2,000 regional survey responses. Results indicate strong support for renewable energy, conservation, and expanded pollution reduction efforts, along with concerns about air and water quality, energy reliability, and climate impacts. The findings highlight broad regional alignment and a clear call for continued and enhanced sustainability actions.

**Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter**

Steve Tugend gave the [Legislative Update](#) highlighting the following:

- Property tax reform
- HB 445 – MPO Regulation
- BASICS Act
- Surface transportation reauthorization

- Primary election results
- Data Centers
- Central Ohio Defense Group
- Disclosures and NDAs in economic development

**Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), MORPC Central Ohio MPO Board Chair**

Chair Kessler called the Central Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization Board Session to order at 2:43 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:59 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

**Commission Consent Agenda**

Jeff Fix made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Kris Long; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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Matthew Starr, Secretary  
**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**



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

## Memorandum

**TO:** Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Executive Committee  
Officers and Board Members

**FROM:** Parag Agrawal, Chief Mobility and Development Officer  
Mobility & Development

**DATE:** May 29, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Resolution 11-26: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into, administer, and/or sub-allocate contracts for approximately \$1.78 million from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding and additional local funding”**

This resolution authorizes the executive director to enter into and administer contracts with subrecipients receiving Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funds and additional local funding.

MORPC is the Designated Recipient and administrator for the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Section 5310 to enhance the mobility of older adults and persons with disabilities pursuant to 49 U.S.C. for the Columbus, Ohio urbanized area. Staff is obligated to receive and expend one federal fiscal year of funds for projects approved by MORPC’s Central Ohio MPO Board Resolution T-18-25.

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) and Delaware County Transit Board (DCT) are Direct Recipients with FTA. They administer Section 5310 funds that have been awarded by MORPC creating a sub-allocation agreement to pass-through Section 5310 funds to an eligible transit entity. Their awards are approximately \$622,000.

- Approximately \$264,000 was directed to COTA for purchased transportation.
- Approximately \$358,000 was directed to DCT capitalized maintenance and Mobility Management programs.

MORPC’s procedures with FTA are documented in MORPC’s Program Management Plan to administer funds between FTA and approved subrecipients. All federal requirements will be met with federal oversight. Based on signed contracts, MORPC will reimburse subrecipients or make purchases with budgeted MORPC funds for approved capital items purchased according to proper procurement policies.

**William Murdock, AICP**  
*Executive Director*

**Ben Kessler**  
*Chair*

**Laurie Jadwin**  
*Vice Chair*

**Matthew Starr**  
*Secretary*

Below is an overview of the remaining \$1.16 million.

- Over \$818,000 was awarded to private non-profits, local governments, and other public transportation providers to purchase capital items such as lift equipped vehicles, purchased transportation and preventative maintenance. Additional local funds will be used to make up the difference between the award amount and the price of purchased vehicles.
- MORPC Administration will receive \$177,830.
- MORPC Mobility Management will receive \$160,000.

MORPC, COTA, DCT, and FTA will have \$1.4 million in executed agreements awarding Section 5310 funds to direct recipients and subrecipients. These awards include lift equipped vehicles, acquisition of transportation services, and preventive maintenance on existing Section 5310 vehicles.

Attachment: Resolution 11-26

RESOLUTION 11-26

**“Authorizing the executive director to enter into, administer, and/or sub-allocate contracts for approximately \$1.78 million from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding and additional local funding”**

WHEREAS, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is the Designated Recipient and administrator for the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Section 5310 program for enhancing the mobility of older adults and persons with disabilities pursuant to 49 U.S.C. in the Columbus, Ohio urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, these projects and programs were approved by MORPC’s Central Ohio MPO Board Resolution T-18-25; and

WHEREAS, the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) and Delaware County Transit Board (DCT) are Direct Recipients with FTA and will administer approximately \$622,000 in Section 5310 funds that were awarded by MORPC creating a sub-allocation agreement to pass-through Section 5310 funds to an eligible transit entity; and

WHEREAS, the Section 5310 funds for subrecipients have been recommended and approved by MORPC and the FTA according to MORPC’s approved FTA Program Management Plan to receive approximately \$818,000 for the purchase of vehicles and other capital items under FTA Grant numbers; and

WHEREAS, additional local funds will be used to make up the difference between the award amount and the price of purchased vehicles; and

WHEREAS, MORPC is an authorized Designated Recipient and will administer funds between FTA and approved subrecipients according to MORPC’s Program Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, purchases performed pursuant to these contracts for vehicle and other capital items using Section 5310 and additional local funds will be under the oversight of MORPC and be implemented through a combination of MORPC staff, approved subrecipients, and FTA; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Section 1. That the executive director is authorized to enter into, administer, and/or sub-allocate contracts for approximately \$1.78 million from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding and additional local funding.
- Section 2. That as part of the \$1.78 million, the executive director is authorized to enter into and administer contracts with subrecipients receiving approximately \$1.4 million in FTA Section 5310 funding and additional local funding.
- Section 3. That the executive director is authorized to approve one or more extensions for performance of services under the foregoing agreements and change orders for amounts up to the financial authorization levels in the MORPC bylaws without further authorization from this Commission.
- Section 4. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 5. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

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Ben Kessler, Chair

**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Effective date: June 11, 2026  
Submitted by: Parag Agrawal, Chief Mobility and Development Officer  
Prepared by: Maria Schaper, Transportation Study Director  
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21  
For action date: June 11, 2026