MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 13, 2026

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Creating an environment for prosperity



A FOCUS ON DATA CENTERS



AN UPDATE ON OHIO'S NEW INCENTIVE CONFIDENTIALITY LAW - WEBINAR

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 | 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Join us for this important OEDA update webinar, **where we'll break down Ohio's revised economic development confidentiality law** — what changed, what it leaves unresolved, as well as what economic development professionals, local elected officials and their counsel need to do before the new provisions take effect September 23.



MORPC's Economic Development Academy

Tuesday, September 22, 2026
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

This course will focus on **Responsible Data Center Development** (in partnership with OEDA). For more information scan the QR Code or email proydixon@morpc.org



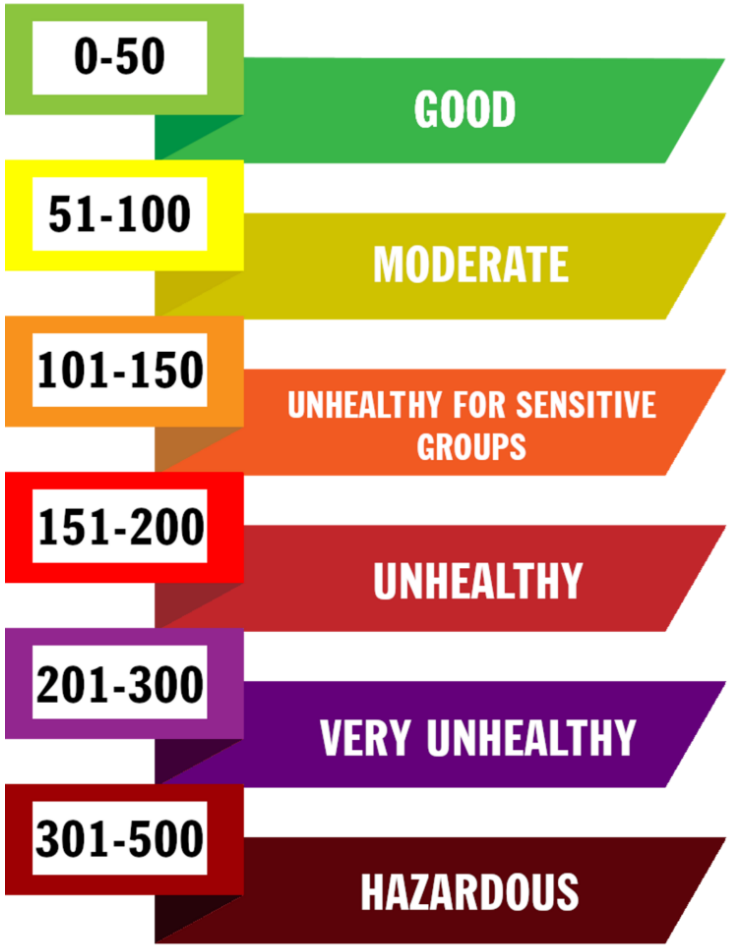
Data Center Community Technical Workshop

Wednesday, October 7, 2026
Time TBD

A workshop focused on Data Centers.
More information to come.
For questions email jkuenzli@morpc.org

MORPC'S AIR QUALITY PROGRAMMING

- **Forecasts and Alerts issued** for ground-level ozone and particle pollution or $PM_{2.5}$
- **Columbus region**: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, and Licking Counties
- **Alerts issued if AQI is "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" levels or higher**
  - Sensitive groups include children, older adults, those with respiratory and heart disease, outdoor workers
- **5 Alerts issued so far in 2026 season**
  - 2 $PM_{2.5}$; 3 ground-level ozone
  - Other end-of-season reports available: morpc.org/airquality



JULY 13-18 OVERVIEW

MORPC

Day	Mon., July 13	Tues., July 14	Wed., July 15	Thurs., July 16		Fri., July 17		Sat., July 18
Forecasted Pollutant	None	Ozone	Ozone	Ozone	PM 2.5	PM 2.5		None
Observed pollutant	None	Ozone	None	PM 2.5		Ozone	PM 2.5	None
Forecasted AQI	Moderate	USG – 101 AQI	USG - 112	USG - 101, 147		51 AQI	179 AQI	Good
Observed AQI	Moderate	USG – 105 AQI	Moderate – 80 AQI	Unhealthy - 153 AQI		179 AQI	266 AQI	Good
Weather conditions	Light winds brought thin plumes of smoke from Canada	Light winds, light smoke plumes	Light winds, lighter than expected smoke	Cold front pushed more PM pollution into the area, decreasing ozone development		Strong morning inversion, lighter-than-forecasted winds, and heavy smoke plume		Heavy rain lowered pollutant levels

MORPC'S RESPONSE TO AIR QUALITY ALERTS

July 16, 2026

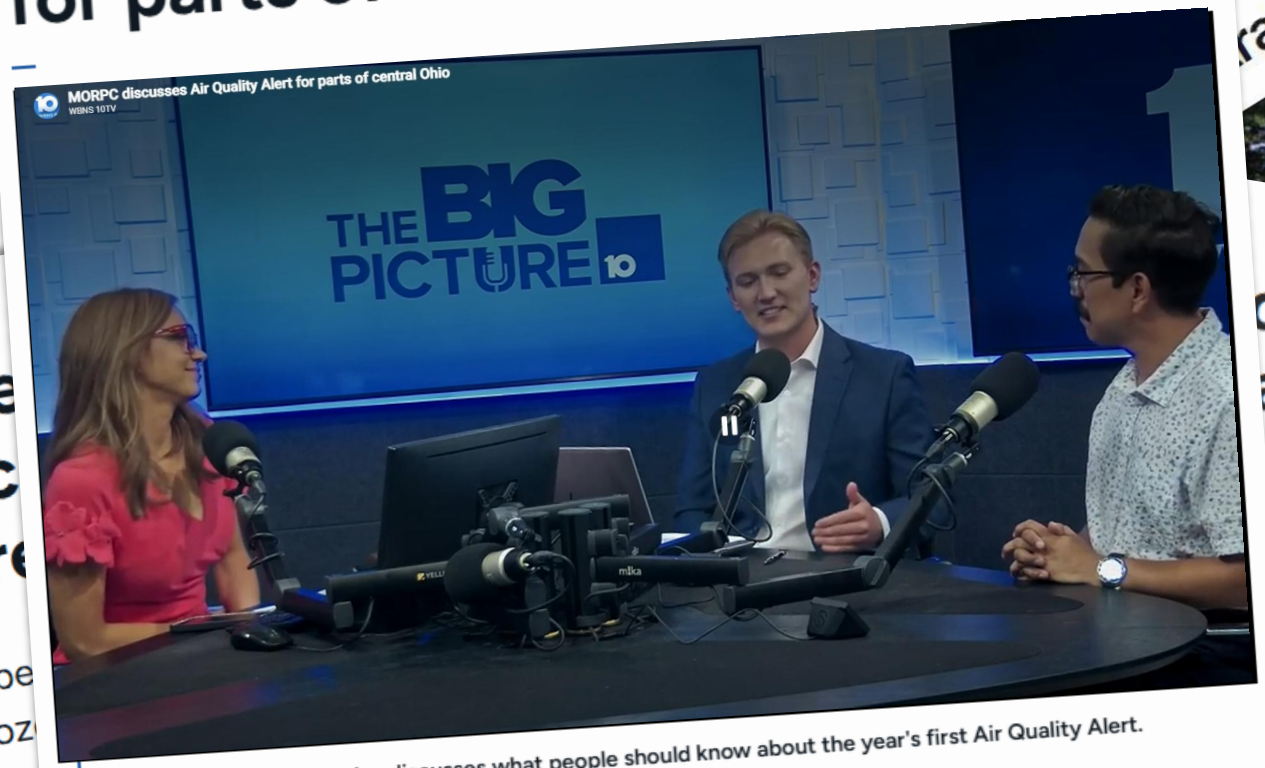
Air Quality Alert Iss
Central Ohio

WEATHER BLOG

Air Quality Ale
central Ohio c
due to wildfire

The air quality index will be
to MORPC. The AQI for oz

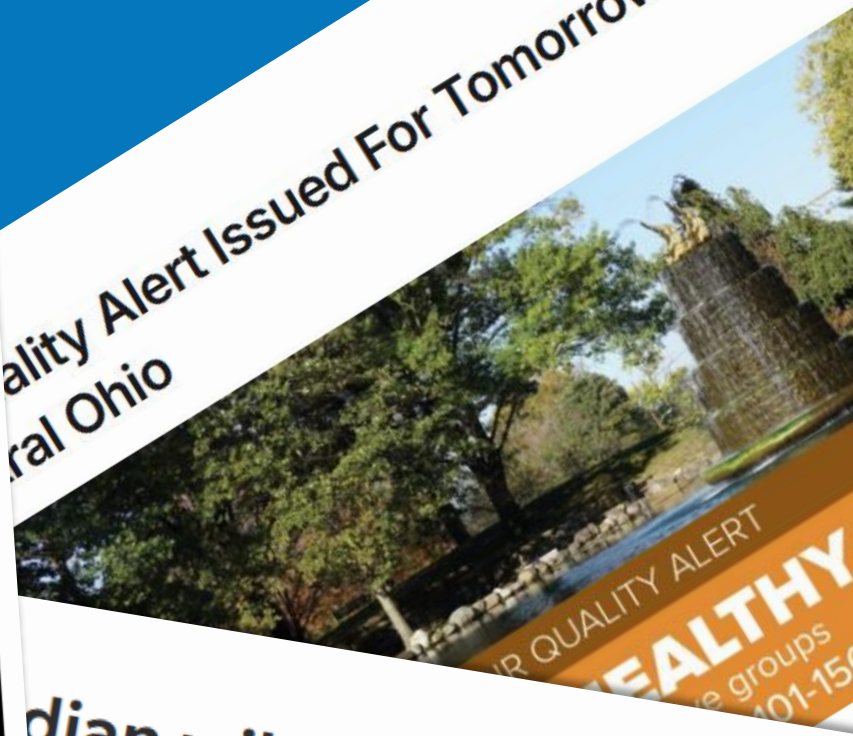
MORPC discusses Air Quality Alert for parts of central Ohio



Mauro "JR" Diaz-Hernandez discusses what people should know about the year's first Air Quality Alert.

Author: 10tv.com

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ral Ohio



dian wildfires
air quality to worst-

ulted in the worst air quality index
o Regional Planning Commission

LINKUS TRANSIT-SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESS

SAVE THE DATES!

Friday, September 18, 10:00 AM
Washington Township and City of Dublin
Shier Rings Road Shared-Use Path
Groundbreaking Ceremony

Tuesday, November 10, 1:00 PM
Franklin County Engineer's Office
Cooke Road Improvement Project
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

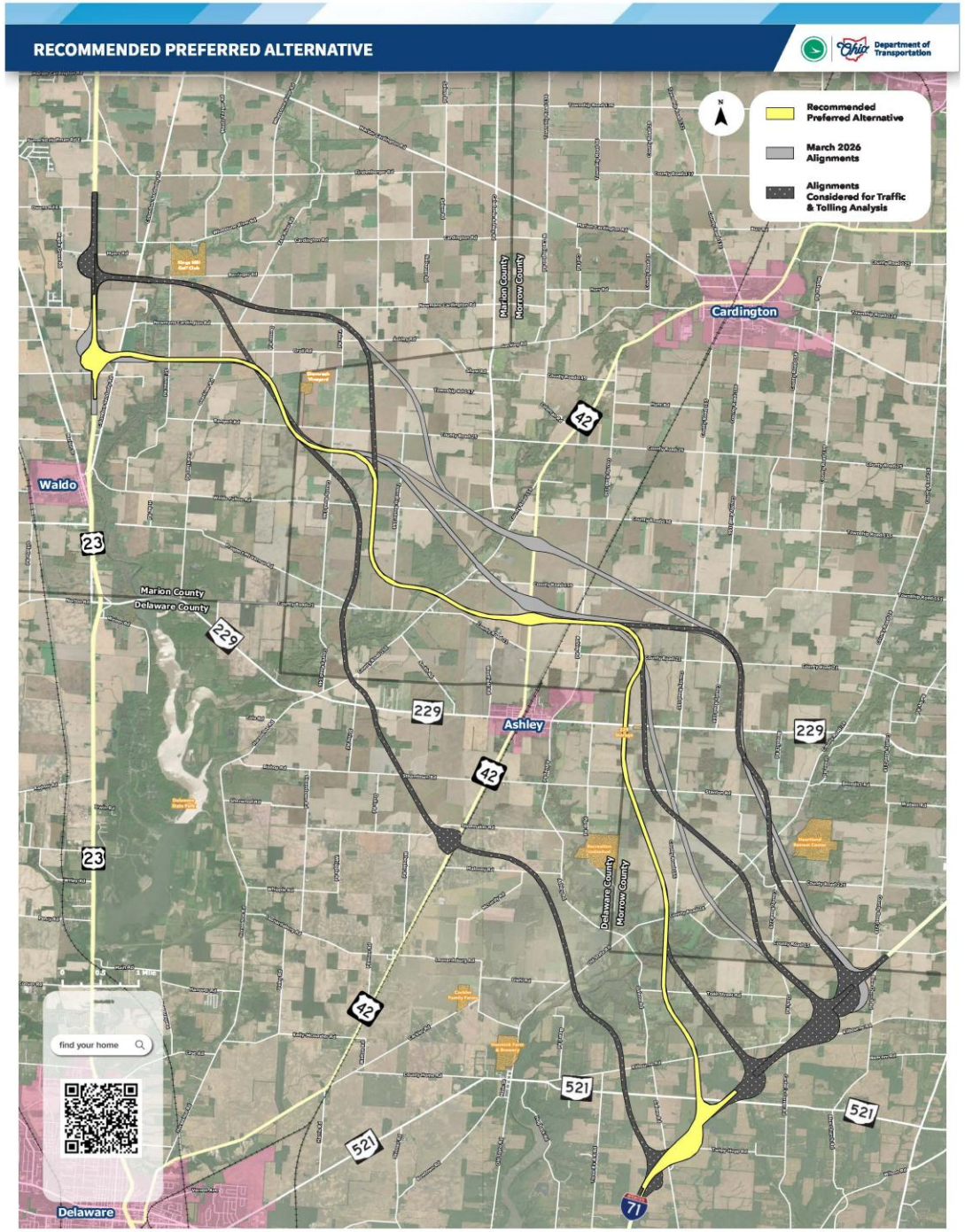
November, Date TBD
City of Westerville
Brooksedge Mobility Project
Groundbreaking Ceremony



PASSENGER RAIL







23/71 CONNECTOR UPDATE

The Ohio Legislature included a provision for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to conduct **a feasibility study** on the potential location of a new freeway connection between US Route 23 and Interstate 71.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE

PLANNING STAGES

STAGE 1: PLANNING STUDY
Completed October 1, 2025

STAGE 2: FEASABILITY STUDY
Expected Completion Date October 1, 2026

MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC PLANNING COMMISSION

Ohio Department of Transportation



OHIO CONFERENCE ON FREIGHT

REGISTER NOW

AUGUST 24-26, 2026
HILTON COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN

ACT
Association for Commuter Transportation
CARPOOL COUNCIL

MORPC AWARDS

NADO
Aliceann Wohlbruck
IMPACT
AWARDS

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NNIP
NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS PARTNERSHIP



AICP

CERTIFICATION

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