MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

THE CENTRAL OHIO ADVANCE FUND

9/3/2026

THE WHY – ENSURING ALL COMMUNITIES CAN BENEFIT FROM GRANT OPPURTUNITIES

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, including OPWC funding and MORPC MPO Funds.

THE WHAT -- A MECHANISM TO ASSIST WITH PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The Central Ohio Advance Fund:

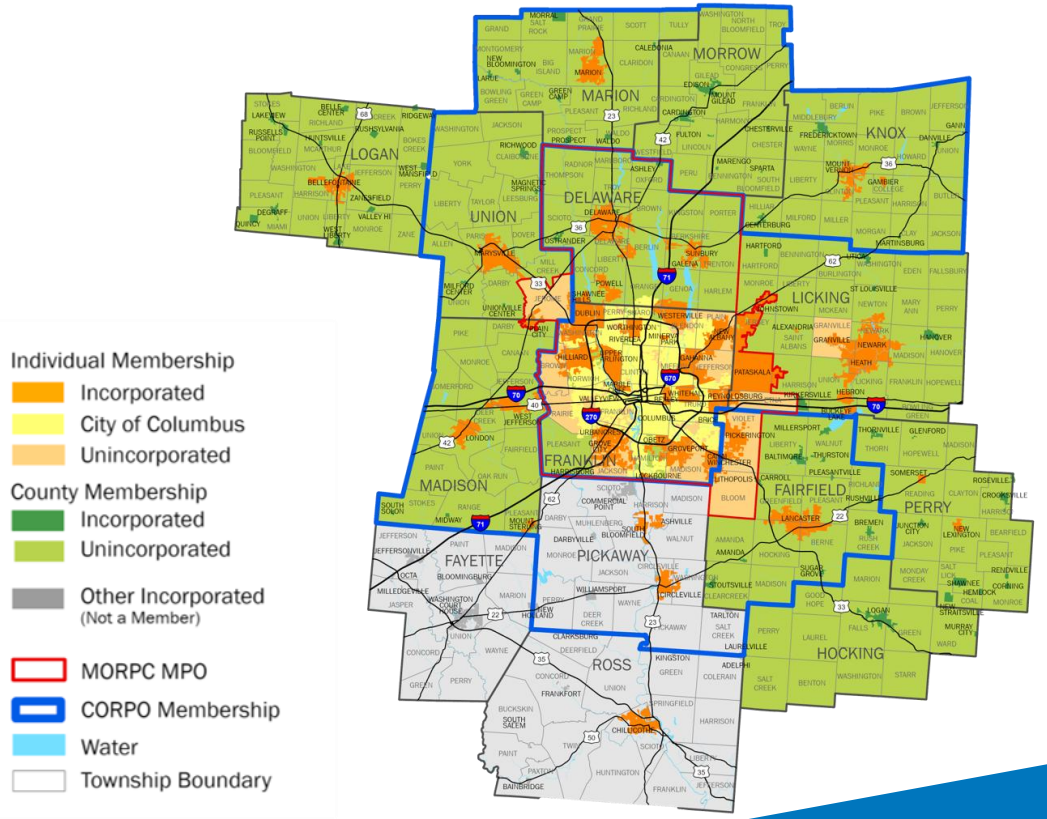
- **A New Tool for Advancing Infrastructure Projects**
  - A tool for cash-flowing projects which have received reimbursement-based grants
  - MORPC is in the process of securing $5 million to seed this fund
  - Not a new grant program, but rather a tool to ensure all communities can access existing grants

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants – All MORPC member jurisdictions, in addition to non-member jurisdictions within the MPO boundary, are eligible to apply to the Fund for assistance.

Projects - Applicants can apply to the Fund to assist with the implementation of transportation infrastructure projects which have secured grant funding from a program which disburses awarded funds on a reimbursement basis.

Requests – Requested Advance amounts are limited to $2 million with a maximum outstanding term of 24 months.



APPLICATION PROCESS AND EVALUATION

- **Online Application Form** – A Formstack application will be developed.
- **Timeline**
  - Applications accepted on a rolling basis.
  - MORPC will evaluate and select projects once a quarter.
- **Evaluation and Selection**
  - MORPC may award all eligible applications received if the Fund has available capacity.
  - When MORPC receives requests which exceed the capacity of the Fund the following criterion will be utilized to prioritize applications:
    - Local Financial Capacity – Applications from jurisdictions with limited financial capacity to advance the infrastructure project will be prioritized. Projects which would be unable to advance without assistance from the Advance Fund will be prioritized highest.
  - Additional criteria are outlined in the Policies for use when the above criterion is insufficient for differentiating applications.

NEXT STEPS – LAUNCHING THE CENTRAL OHIO ADVANCE FUND

Timeline:

- **Commission Approval**
  - The Policies for Managing the Central Ohio Advance Fund will be considered by MORPC's Commission on September 10th
- **Opening of Applications**
  - MORPC intends to open applications to the Central Ohio Advance Fund in October.
- **Application Evaluation and Selection**
  - The first quarterly application deadline will be December 31, 2026
  - MORPC will evaluate and select application in early 2027
  - We hope to have the first Advance Agreements executed in Q1 2027