

DATA TASK FORCE OVERVIEW: ACTIVITIES AND FINDINGS

JULY 21, 2016



Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

Task Force Timeline

- ❑ In early 2015, MORPC formed the Regional Data Task Force to make recommendations to MORPC leadership and members about creating a regional data site.
- ❑ The Task Force held six meetings from February to October 2015 to discuss site development and content, governance, and funding and maintenance. Task Force findings report published in October.
- ❑ MORPC Commission heard findings and created the Regional Data Advisory Committee in November 2015.
- ❑ In early 2016, MORPC pursued Capital Budget Bill funding for the Regional Data Lab. RDL fell short of the final cut for the central Ohio list.
- ❑ RDL is incorporated into the Columbus Smart Cities application to USDOT.



Regional Data Task Force Members

Name	Affiliation
Anthony Jones, Co-Chair*	City of Gahanna Development
Jung Kim, Co-Chair^	Columbus 2020
Andrew Brush*	City of Delaware / City Council
William Murdock	MORPC
Emily Buser	Columbus Metropolitan Library
Lynnette Cook^	Community Research Partners
Megan Johanson	Community Research Partners
Shoreh Elhami^	City of Columbus / GIS
Bill LaFayette*^	Regionomics, LLC
Devin Keithley	Community Research Partners
David Landsbergen^	Kirwan Institute, OSU
Ty McBee	Adena Health System
Ernest Perry^	HandsOn Central Ohio
Sarah Poe	Columbia Gas of Ohio
Erin Prosser	Campus Partners Community Relations
Jay Ramanathan	John Glenn School of Public Affairs (OSU)
Scott Sanders^	Delaware County Regional Planning Commission
Scott Tourville*	City of Pickerington / City Engineer
Michael Wilkos	The Columbus Foundation / Community Research and Grants Management
Rob Powell	MORPC, Task Force Coordinator
Nancy Reger	MORPC

*MORPC board member, ^Regional Data Advisory Committee member

Review of Other Data Sites and Initiatives



The Task Force's review included:

- Data sites around the country (see left).
- Open data concepts, governance, pitfalls.
- Local initiatives:
 - OSU CURA's City Dashboard (Curio)
 - ESRI Open Data, OGRIP

Regional Data Task Force

Main Findings

Task 1: Affirm or deny the demands and benefits of a regional data site.

Agreed there was a need for a regional data site.

- Demand for data exists.
- Data sites exist.
- Data sharing is already a common practice.
- Data reliability can be an issue.
- Regional data sites are rare.
- Regional data initiatives can help reduce the collective time spent on data collection and processing.
- Opportunity to engage citizens and the technical/entrepreneurial community.

Task 2: Outline a high-level structure and layout for an online data site

Determined initial features for the data site.

- Data Catalog** - collaboration with state GIS office (OGRIP) and local government technical staff member through Central Ohio GIS User Group
- Opportunities for public interaction** – Way for people to ask for help, Request information
- Provide ready-made maps and tables** – Consistent information for varying geographies. Some visualization to help show what is possible.
- Platform for sharing analyses**- Engage the technical community for showcasing projects, apps, etc..

Task 3: Recommend a governance structure for continued maintenance and operation of the site

Require a formalized oversight body to provide credibility.

- ❑ **A new MORPC committee** - Regional Data Advisory Committee to set expectations and provide guidance on public engagement, data quality, partnerships, funding and support.
- ❑ **Additional collaboration from technical staff** that already meets through the Central Ohio GIS User Group MORPC.

Task 4: Recommend a business strategy and financial plan to ensure sustained success of the site

Ways for creating and sustaining the site.

- Regional Data Advisory Committee should play a key role
- Apply to foundation or other single source for initial creation of the site
Estimated Cost = \$250,000 -\$400,000
- Consultant to build site using open source software. Then staff to maintain site in-house.
- Sustain site funding through key stakeholder participation and sponsorships

Regional Data Advisory Committee Purpose

1. Recommend Data Policies to MORPC
2. Identify Leveraging Opportunities
3. Advance Regional Data Sharing
4. Guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team
5. Technical Conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus

RDAC Purpose

1. **Recommend Data Policies to MORPC**
 2. Identify Leveraging Opportunities
 3. Advance Regional Data Sharing
 4. Guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team
 5. Technical Conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus
- Recommend actions to support (or not support) relevant legislation.
 - Guide any data sharing agreements with local governments and other organizations.
 - Monitor and make recommendations on data trends and issues (data quality, privacy, protocols).

RDAC Purpose

1. Recommend Data Policies to MORPC
 2. Identify Leveraging Opportunities
 3. Advance Regional Data Sharing
 4. Guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team
 5. Technical Conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus
- Identify funding sources for the Regional Data Lab site.
 - Identify own or other data initiatives for opportunities to collaborate.
 - Support and advocate efforts to obtain funding or collaborative partnerships.

RDAC Purpose

1. Recommend Data Policies to MORPC
 2. Identify Leveraging Opportunities
 3. **Advance Regional Data Sharing**
 4. Guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team
 5. Technical Conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus
- Identify opportunities to share data and tools.
 - Promote data sharing by reaching out to networks and connections.
 - Promote policies for data sharing.

RDAC Purpose

1. Recommend Data Policies to MORPC
 2. Identify Leveraging Opportunities
 3. Advance Regional Data Sharing
 4. **Guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team**
 5. Technical Conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus
- Guide development and functionality of the Regional Data Lab site.
 - Recommend data standards to advance data interoperability .

RDAC Purpose

1. Recommend Data Policies to MORPC
 2. Identify Leveraging Opportunities
 3. Advance Regional Data Sharing
 4. Guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team
 5. **Technical Conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus**
- Ensure that the Regional Data Lab continues to be a key element of Smart City Columbus.
 - Coordinate RDL with other data elements of Smart City.