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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC Seeks Comments on TRAC Projects

(Columbus–August 10, 2015) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is soliciting comments on four projects seeking funding from the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The TRAC has accepted Major/New Project applications for their 2015 project selection round. Major/New Projects are transportation projects that have a total project cost greater than \$12 million and which “add transportation capacity, and are critical to the mobility, economic development, and quality of life of the citizens of Ohio.”

The four TRAC projects from the MORPC area include:

- **ODOT District 6: Far East Freeway: I-270 & Brice Road Phase 1**
The project will replace the southbound I-270 to eastbound I-70 loop ramp with a flyover ramp and construct auxiliary lanes along eastbound I-70 between I-270 and Brice Road.
Requesting \$90.5 million for right-of-way and construction
- **ODOT District 6: Far East Freeway: I-270 & Brice Road Phase 2 & 3**
Phase 2 reconfigures the north half of the Brice Road Interchange, construction of westbound ramps to the I-270 Interchange, and includes the replacement of the Brice Road Bridge. Phase 3 constructs the south half of the Brice Road Interchange.
Requesting \$7 million for detailed design for Phase 2 & 3
- **ODOT District 6: South Outerbelt: I-270 & US-23 Interchange Phase 2**
This project includes the removal of two low-speed loop ramps, the addition of two new signalized ramps, and a superstructure replacement of a flyover ramp.
Requesting \$14.1 million for right-of-way and construction
- **ODOT District 6: Columbus Crossroads, East Freeway I-70/I-71 Phase 5**
Phase 5 will widen I-70 between 18th Street and Fairwood Avenue from four lanes to six lanes in each direction, and replace five overhead bridges. This funding request is to replace three bridges (Ohio, Champion and Linwood Avenues). The new bridges of Ohio and Champion will accommodate bike lanes, while all three bridges will include sidewalks on both sides. The remaining improvements of Phase 5 will be a future TRAC request.
Requesting \$13.1 million for construction of a portion of Phase 5 improvements

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Please provide comments or any additional information to set the priorities, including advantages and/or disadvantages of particular projects. MORPC will review and consider comments during the prioritization. We anticipate recommending regional priorities for adoption during the October business meetings (starting September 28 with the Community Advisory Committee). These priorities will be transmitted to TRAC by October 14.

Please send your comments in writing to the attention of Dina López by letter, fax (614-233-0750), or e-mail (dlopez@morpc.org) to arrive by Friday, September 11, 2015. If you have questions please contact López at 614-233-4149.

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The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments and regional organizations which envisions and embraces innovative directions in economic prosperity, energy, the environment, housing, land use, and transportation. Our transformative programming, services and innovative public policy are designed to promote and support the vitality and growth in the region.