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MORPC Draft Active Transportation Plan provides new tools for Communities

(Columbus – November 5, 2015) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC's) draft 2016-2040 Active Transportation Plan (ATP) was created as a component of the 2016-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan to improve pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities around Central Ohio. The ATP draws attention to regional transportation corridors and projects of regional significance.

The draft ATP focuses on the transportation planning area of Delaware and Franklin counties and parts of Fairfield, Licking and Union counties. The draft ATP was created as a useful resource for communities to use in their planning efforts to ensure efficient and safe access and movement between all active transportation facilities. The draft plan features a Cost Estimator tool to help communities identify the range of costs for building bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities, and a Story Map that describes the process and provides information on best practices that communities might consider incorporating into their infrastructure and development projects.

"The ATP is a resource and tool for our local government staff and leaders," says Amelia Costanzo, MORPC Principal Planner. "The new user-friendly online format allows planners and engineers to have this information at their fingertips where they can easily refer to it at a meeting, on a site visit, or at the drawing board. Information can also be updated on a regular basis, rather than with a static plan that eventually ends up becoming obsolete while sitting on a shelf."

"Creating a transportation system that provides access and options to everyone is at the forefront of MORPC," says Kerstin Carr, MORPC Director of Planning & Environment. "This plan, by focusing on regionally significant corridors that cross multiple jurisdictions, will draw attention to the opportunities for communities to come together and build a connected multi-modal transportation network."

The Story Map and Cost Estimator are available on MORPC's website at www.morpc.org/ATP. Comments or questions on the draft plan should be submitted through January 2016 to Amelia Costanzo at aconstanzo@morpc.org or by calling 614.233.4161.

The Active Transportation Plan will be submitted for adoption in May 2016 as a component of the 2016-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

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.