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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MORPC Announces Retirement of Regional Data and Mapping Director Nancy Reger**

**(Columbus – December 21, 2016)** The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) announces the retirement of its regional data and mapping director, Nancy Reger, in early March, 2017. Reger started her career with MORPC in 1984 as an intern in the Developmental Controls program and two years later was hired to conduct land-use forecasting in transportation. In the late 1980’s, Reger began her work in Geographic Information System (GIS) and data management during the 1990 Decennial Census.

“Nancy’s legacy at MORPC is one that touched lives throughout Central Ohio through better communities, better transportation, better data, and more,” states MORPC Executive Director William Murdock. “In recent years, she envisioned and implemented a high-level regional effort on connecting local governments around data, mapping, and technology. Nancy’s expertise and good character have been critical to MORPC’s success in serving local governments. Just like many people around Central Ohio, I’ll miss her on our MORPC team, but wish her a fun and well-deserved retirement.”

Reger developed the land-use forecasts used for regional projects such as insight2050, as well as for planning transportation facilities and various public infrastructure projects in Central Ohio. Under her guidance, her team developed a host of online interactive maps and a data catalog to assist the public in accessing data. Her tenacity to compile and share data has allowed MORPC to become one of the most sought after agencies for regional data.

Through her leadership, Reger oversaw the creation of MORPC’s first online interactive transportation map that allowed the public to review proposed regional transportation improvements and provide comments without leaving the screen. Reger is also accredited with developing a multi-jurisdictional shared system for editing GIS files which received numerous national awards for MORPC. Starting with roads and addresses, the system has been expanded to include bikeways and sidewalks.

“I’ve been lucky to have had the support of MORPC’s leaders and an extraordinary team to grow our GIS department,” states Nancy Reger. “A picture is worth a thousand words. It’s a lot easier to get an idea across by using colors on a map to explain trends than to tell the story using a column of numbers.”

Reger has been instrumental in developing a Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) that will guide the creation and operation of the Regional Data Lab, an initiative started in 2016 that aims to provide high-quality data and tools, and create a community around data for Central Ohio.

Reger, a resident of the city of Delaware, has a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University. She plans to volunteer in the field of horticulture, travel, spend time with her grand child and complete her first fictional adventure novel.

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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.*