



Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

T 614.228.2663
TTY 800.750.0750

www.morpc.org

NOTICE OF A MEETING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100
COLUMBUS, OH 43215
SCIOTO CONFERENCE ROOM

Monday, January 5, 2015
1:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. **Welcome** – Matt Greeson, Chair
2. **Consent Agenda**
 - Approval of [December 4, 2014 Minutes](#)
3. **Executive Director's Report** – William Murdock
4. **Committee Updates**
 - **Nominating Committee**
 - **Transportation Policy Committee** – Thea Walsh
5. **Proposed Resolution 01-15: "AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT WITH COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO FOR THE WARMCHOICE PROGRAM AND TO EXTEND AND/OR ENTER INTO SUBCONTRACTS FOR RESIDENTIAL ENERGY CONSERVATION HEATING AND WEATHERIZATION SERVICES"** – Christina O'Keeffe
6. **Quarterly Membership Update** – Eileen Leuby
7. **November 6, 2014 Executive Committee Retreat**
8. **State of Region Award Vote** – Laura Koprowski
9. **Draft Commission Agenda**
10. **Other Business**

**PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR
ssaunders@morpc.org IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.**

The next Executive Committee Meeting is
Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Eric S. Phillips
Chair

Matt Greeson
Vice Chair

Rory McGuiness
Secretary

When parking in MORPC's parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with an "M". Handicapped parking is available at the side of MORPC's building. MORPC is accessible by C-Bus.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 4, 2014
1:30 p.m.

Members Present

Karen Angelou
Marilyn Brown
Derrick Clay

Tracie Davies
Michael Ebert
Matt Greeson

Marsha Grigsby
Rob Platte

MORPC Staff Present

Bernice Cage
Kerstin Carr
Shawn Hufstedler
Ciel Klein
Laura Koprowski

William Murdock
Deborah Murphy
Christina O'Keeffe
Nancy Reger
Shari Saunders

Susan Tsien
Thea Walsh
Kathy Werkmeister

Welcome – Matt Greeson

Chair Matt Greeson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Marilyn Brown made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Rob Platte; motion passed.

Executive Director's Report – William Murdock

William Murdock recognized and expressed his appreciation for Housing & Community Services Director Kathy Werkmeister who is leaving MORPC December 12, 2014. Matt Greeson and Marilyn Brown thanked Ms. Werkmeister for her professionalism and her service as a public servant; MORPC and the community are better off for her service. Ms. Werkmeister, who worked for MORPC for a combined total of 30 years, thanked the Committee for their kind comments and support. She has enjoyed working with the Commission; it has been a great experience for her.

Mr. Murdock shared the upcoming transitions for the Housing & Community Services Department due to reduced funding. MORPC has contacted most of the funders and stakeholders, as well as the Housing & Community Services Working Group members to make them aware of the changes. The response has been helpful and supportive. Seven staff are affected and will be laid off in mid-December based upon seniority, function, and funding. All have been offered job placement assistance and a severance package to assist in the personal transition. One of them applied for, competed for, and ultimately was hired in the Transportation Systems & Funding Department. The affected staff have been professional and helpful in the transition. The housing counseling and outreach functions are going to the Public & Government Affairs Department. The housing repair functions are going to the Energy & Air Quality Department.

Mr. Murdock reported that the budget being presented later in the meeting, is a fiscally sound and conservative budget.

Return on Investment information was mailed to members this week. This is the first time the information has been provided in this format and feedback is appreciated.

Mr. Murdock reminded members that the State of the Region awards nominations are now open and can be made online at www.morpc.org/sotrawards. The nomination deadline is Friday, December 19, 2014.

Mr. Murdock handed out copies of the [November 26, 2014 Columbus Dispatch Editorial “Plan the Future Today.”](#) The article shed a favorable light on insight2050. Mr. Murdock and MORPC team members are in the process of sharing insight2050 with member communities. Team members are working with a consultant to create an insight2050 PowerPoint template for members’ use.

Upcoming events include:

- Meet the Class – Tuesday, December 9, 2014, 5:30 p.m., The Renaissance Columbus Downtown
- ED 411 – Friday, December 5, 2014, 8:00 a.m., the Ohio Union at OSU
- Development in a Changing & Growing Region: Choices for Ohio Cities – Thursday, February 5, 2015, 11:30 a.m., McConnell Arts Center, Worthington, Keynote Speaker – Ken Danter

Boundaries Discussion Task Force Update – Thea Walsh

After following the Task Force's guidance on invitations about potential expansion to the MPO boundary, Mr. Murdock and Ms. Walsh reported that Pickaway County declined the invitation. As a result, the recommendation on the MPO boundary expansion from the Task Force will be updated. The other invited communities accepted the invitation. We still meet the federal requirements that 75 percent of the urbanized area must be in the MPO boundary. The boundary recommendations are being brought through the resolution process this month.

Transportation Policy Committee Update – Thea Walsh

Ms. Walsh reported the FHWA/FTA recertification in November went well. Approximately 40 people attended the public meeting. A favorable report is anticipated.

The attributable funds process is winding down. The final list will be out for comment December 5, 2014 through January 5, 2015. Nineteen projects (sixteen are new projects) are being considered for \$59 million. The average cost per project is \$3.7 million.

Scoring for Ohio Public Works Commission Round 29 is in process. Thirty-three projects are being reviewed for \$23 million available funding. Scoring should be complete by the end of December.

Team members met in Lima with cities on the proposed Columbus to Chicago rail project. A task force is working on the formation of a management entity for the project as well as to reach out to counties and MPOs along the route to sign on to the project.

Proposed Resolution 33-14: “AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH A GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & ADVOCACY CONSULTANT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC POLICY GUIDANCE, EDUCATION AND REPRESENTATION OF THE CENTRAL OHIO REGION TO STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT” – Laura Koprowski

The RFP evaluation committee selected Kegler, Brown, Hill, & Ritter to continue to serve as MORPC's legislative consultant. Derrick Clay made a motion to approve Resolution 33-14, second by Marilyn Brown; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution 34-14: “ADOPTION OF MORPC'S 2015 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA” – Laura Koprowski

While no significant changes were made, some wording/phrasing was tightened after receiving feedback from members. Derrick Clay made a motion to approve Resolution 34-14, second by Rob Platte; motion passed.

Legislative Update – Laura Koprowski

Laura Koprowski reported that Commission members are being kept up-to-date on the lame duck session via email. Ms. Koprowski highlighted the following:

- HB 5 – municipal income tax uniformity
- SB 342 – traffic cameras

Sustainability Advisory Committee Update – Marilyn Brown, Committee Co-Chair

A survey will be sent to MORPC members on December 8 regarding how their communities are working on sustainability issues. The draft agenda for the next two years is being finalized and will be consistent with the 2015 work of the working groups. The draft agenda will be presented at the March 2015 meeting. MORPC team member David Rutter recently completed a water trail inventory of Franklin County and small portions of Delaware and Pickaway Counties. Mr. Rutter paddled nearly 100 miles of waterways to assess river conditions and access points as a first step in getting the rivers designated as water trails. The next step is to enter data into GIS and complete assessment forms for each access site. MORPC will create draft maps of the trails and seek local government support for the water trail.

Proposed Resolution 35-14: “TO UTILIZE THE DATA AND KEY TRENDS RESULTING OUT OF THE INSIGHT2050 PROJECT INTO MORPC, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES” – William Murdock

While Proposed Resolution 35-14 accepts the findings of the insight2050 project, it does not select a preferred scenario. The findings will be used in developing the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Marilyn Brown made a motion to approve Resolution 35-14, second by Karen Angelou; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution 36-14: “ACCEPTING LIBERTY TOWNSHIP (DELAWARE COUNTY) AS A MEMBER OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MORPC)” – William Murdock

Rob Platte made a motion to approve Resolution 36-14, second by Derrick Clay; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution 37-14: “ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL BUDGET AND FUND ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR 2015” – Shawn Hufstedler

Shawn Hufstedler gave a presentation on the [proposed 2015 budget](#). Mr. Hufstedler thanked MORPC Team Member Susan Tsen for her work on preparing the 2015 budget. The Committee is being asked to approve the budget which is on page 4.

Overall the budget is slightly lower than last year at 13.4 million vs. 13.6 million in 2014. The Housing budget is down approximately one million dollars and incorporates the change in staffing and the reduced funding. The federal funding for the agency is down about three quarters of a million dollars and is mostly compensated by local and utility funding.

The Fringe rate increased to 68.5% to reflect increasing fringe costs. Additional benefits were added in 2013 and 2014, some of which were expected to result in more people electing alternative health care plans but the experience shows more employees staying on MORPC’s plan instead. The employee portion of the health care premium will be increased from 13.7% to 18% to take effect in April 2015 with the new plan year as another benefit cost control measure. In order to not negatively impact the current employees with this change, they will receive a salary increase making them whole in 2015 but this will help with long-term sustainability and cost control.

The 2015 overhead rate is 55.5%. Labor and non-labor cuts made to the budget kept the overhead rate from going up by more. This included cutting budgets in certain areas by 10%, by reducing travel costs, and by eliminating a position in overhead. This rate is not comparable to an administrative or G&A rate – our nonprofit administrative rate is around 15%.

Dues are higher this year as a result of the 1.5 cent per capita increase in the MPO member dues rate, and projected new members. The majority of the increase goes back into member services.

Keeping the indirect rate down will continue to be an area of focus. Mr. Hufstedler will report on this quarterly. Marsha Grigsby made a motion to approve Resolution 37-14, second by Tracie Davies; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution 38-14: “ACCEPTANCE OF REVISION TO FUND ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR 2014” – Shawn Hufstedler

This resolution requests authorization for an additional \$400,000 to be transferred from the building sale fund to the main operating account. With the passage of this resolution, the total transfer authorization is \$800,000. This assists with cash flow for the agency, specifically at year-end and the beginning of the next year as funder payments are historically slow during this period. Some funds related to collection of fringe and overhead payments will not be received until 2016 as well. Concern was raised by team members and Executive Committee members on using the building fund as a contingency; should we have an operations reserve fund. William Murdock and Shawn Hufstedler will report back to the committee on possible long term solutions to create an operating or working capital reserve. Karen Angelou made a motion to approve Resolution 38-14, second by Derrick Clay; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution EC-14-14: "TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FY 2014 COLUMBUS NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM 2 (NSP 2) FOR UP TO \$315,000" – Kathy Werkmeister

Marilyn Brown made a motion to approve Resolution EC-14-14, second by Marsha Grigsby; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution EC-16-14: "TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS FOR 2015 WITH THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR URGENT REPAIR UP TO \$900,000, JOINT COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD UP TO \$10,000 PLUS UP TO \$10,500 IN ISSUER FEES, AND HOUSING COUNSELING UP TO \$25,000" – Kathy Werkmeister

Karen Angelou made a motion to approve Resolution EC-16-14, second by Tracie Davies; motion passed. Marilyn Brown abstained.

Proposed Resolution EC-15-14: "AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CONTRACT WITH SONOMA TECHNOLOGY, INC. TO PROVIDE AIR QUALITY FORECAST SERVICES" – Christina O’Keeffe

Energy & Air Quality Team Members are working with Sonoma Technology to increase their involvement with local partners in their air quality forecasting. Derrick Clay made a motion to approve Resolution EC-15-14, second by Marilyn Brown; motion passed.

Proposed Resolution EC-17-14: "TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PARTNER WITH PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP IN THEIR APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION FUND AND ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR UP TO \$50,000 WITH PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A ‘GIS PRIMER FOR SMALL GOVERNMENTS’" – Nancy Reger

Rob Platte made a motion to approve Resolution EC-17-14, second by Marsha Grigsby; motion passed.

Draft Commission Agenda

The Executive Committee reviewed the draft December 11, 2014 Commission Meeting Agenda.

Other Business

Chair Greeson reminded members that the next Executive Committee Meeting is Monday, January 5, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Matt Greeson, Chair
Executive Committee