

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Regional Data Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 21, 2017
1:30 p.m.

Members Present

Victor Paini	Randy Bowman	Bill Lafayette
Jung Kim	Shoreh Elhami	Ernest Perry
Jennifer Anderson	Tom Goodney	Scott Sanders
Jeff Biehl	Tom Kneeland	

MORPC Staff Present

William Murdock	Nancy Reger
Rob Powell	Bevan Schneck

Guests

Thea Walsh, MORPC Director of Transportation Systems and Funding

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Paini welcomed the committee members and shared with them that is a new top level standing committee at MORPC that will be a line item on Commission agendas.

II. Regional Data Task Force Overview and RDAC Purpose

Vice Chair Kim presented an overview of the Regional Data Task Force that was conducted in 2015. He thanked Task Force members Shoreh Elhami, Ernest Perry, Bill Lafayette, and Scott Sanders, for their continued participation with this effort.

Kim reviewed the process the Task Force followed and noted its 3 general outcomes:

- 1) Affirmed the need for a regional data site (website)
- 2) Identified and prioritized the basic features of the site, including:
 - Data Catalog
 - Opportunities for public interaction
 - Provide ready-made maps and tables
 - Platform for sharing analyses
- 3) Form a governance committee to set expectations and provide guidance on public engagement, data quality, partnerships, funding and support.

Kim noted the process included reviewing several sites currently in place. Paini asked that MORPC staff reach out to those communities the Task Force thought to be of best practice and set up a conference call between representatives from those sites and interested parties from the RDAC. Kim then reviewed the role of the RDAC.

- 1) Recommend Data Policies to MORPC
- 2) Identify leveraging opportunities for policy, analysis and portal development
- 3) Advance regional data sharing through a regional data catalog and promote data standards

- 4) Provide guidance to MORPC Data & Mapping Team on issues relating to data coordination
- 5) Act as a technical conduit between MORPC and Smart Columbus with regards to the Information Data Exchange (IDE) aspect of the Smart Columbus proposal.

III. Overview of Other Data Initiatives

Reger reviewed the status of two statewide data initiatives and Thea Walsh, MORPC's Director of Transportation Systems and Funding presented an overview of the SmartColumbus application. The link to Ms. Walsh's presentation was subsequently shared with committee members via email.

Statewide Initiatives:

- House Bill 130: Public Records Data Board (Duffey, Hagan)

The bill includes similar initiatives as those recommended by the Data Task Force. It creates a DataOhio Board to specify requirements for posting public records, and establishes an on-line catalog at a new website data.ohio.gov. The bill passed the house unanimously and is being carried with minimal fanfare or support in the Senate by Sen. Frank LaRosa of Summit County.

- Ohio Department of Administrative Services Strategic Plan
Released in January of 2016, this plan recommends creating a state managed master catalog including basic metadata standards for GIS data included in the catalog. This effort is not regionally focused and relies on local participation for the catalog to be populated.

IV. Committee Discussion of Expectations and Summary of Next Steps

Chairman Paini led the discussion. Thoughts were shared regarding the need to form Sub-Committees around topics identified by the Task Force, specifically:

- Evangelizing the committee purpose and goals and to create an "Elevator Speech"
- Around technology and data content for the catalog and website
- Identifying funding for the website

The committee agreed to first meet as a whole to formulate a charter including goals before forming sub-committees for advancing detailed steps. A meeting was set for August 11th at 1:30.

Paini asked for a conference call with Best Practice communities to better understand their challenges and ideals. MORPC staff was tasked with setting up the calls. MORPC is working on that now.

V. Other Business

Chairman Paini asked about communication tools for sharing information. He asked MORPC staff to investigate using Dropbox for sharing documents, and establishing a common email for the committee.

The Dropbox account was created and shared with Kim and Paini. Committee members were asked to check the email we have on file to use for sharing the Dropbox account.

MORPC's IT Department determined a share email account could not be used outside of MORPC at this time. This will need further discussion between staff and the RDAC leadership.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 4:30

**Next meeting is August 11, 2016
1:30 - 3:00**