

**CENTRAL OHIO RURAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
BYLAWS**

A. NAME

The name of this committee shall be the Rural Planning Committee for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning COMMISSION.

B. ORIGIN

The Rural Planning Committee is provided for in the federally and state sponsored Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) program and is administered by an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) approved planning work program (PWP).

C. PURPOSE

The Rural Planning Committee is designated as the "Rural Planning Organization" (RPO) for the counties surrounding the Columbus metropolitan planning area in the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's area of interest and designated by a COMMISSION agreement with ODOT. The Rural Planning Committee is the forum for cooperative decision-making that will be taking the required approval actions as the RPO. The goal is for the State of Ohio is to designate the Rural Planning Committee as an RTPO, per 23 USC § 135(m), as amended, to enhance the planning, coordination, and implementation of statewide strategic long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs, with an emphasis on addressing the needs of non-metropolitan areas of the State.

D. MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

Each County Board of Commissioners must execute an agreement and resolution declaring membership in the Rural Planning Committee and the creation of a County Subcommittee. A resolution by the County Board of Commissioners is required to cease membership of the Rural Planning Committee. All terms of Rural Planning Committee membership are managed by the Memorandum of Understanding.

E. QUORUM

A quorum shall be defined as at least one representative from at least five of the seven member counties in the RPO. When a quorum is present, an affirmative vote of a majority of the representatives present is necessary for any action taken.

F. MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTATION

Representatives on the Rural Planning Committee shall consist of two local elected officials or their designee selected by the County Board of Commissioners for their respective county. These representatives are called county appointed representatives. These representatives shall also serve on the County Subcommittee. Additional representatives on the Rural Planning Committee shall consist of one representative from each County Subcommittee selected by all of the county appointed representatives of the Rural Planning Committee. These representatives must be appointed biennially by their appointing authority. Additional ex-officio representatives shall include appropriate State and Federal transportation officials.

G. OFFICERS

The officers of the **Rural Planning Committee** shall be selected from the **Rural Planning Committee** membership and announced at the first official meeting of the **Rural Planning Committee** on odd numbered years. The committee shall select the following officers: a Chairperson to preside over meetings, a Vice-Chairperson to act on the Chairperson's behalf in his or her absence, and a Secretary to certify all minutes of **Rural Planning Committee** meetings.

H. MEETINGS

The Rural Planning Committee will meet at a minimum of once annually. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, fulfilling the Chair's duties, or by any three (3) members of the Rural Planning Committee.

I. NOTICE

Notice of meetings shall be mailed and/or electronically mailed at least one week in advance of the meeting date, whenever practical.

J. COUNTY SUBCOMMITTEES

The **Rural Planning Committee** is advised by **County Subcommittees**. One **County Subcommittee** represents each county.

Required and suggested representation on the County Subcommittee shall be determined as follows:

Required:

1. Two County Appointed Rural Planning Committee representatives.
2. One member of the County Board of Commissioners or designee.
3. The County Engineer
4. A representative of the City with the largest number of people residing within the boundaries of the county, as determined by the decennial census of the United States.
5. A representative of full members the COMMISSION with the majority of its population located within the boundaries of the county.

Other representatives on County Subcommittee could include:

1. Representation of other municipalities and townships that are located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the county.
2. Representation of any local or regional planning commission that is serving the county wholly or partially.
3. Representation of agencies that provide transportation services to the county wholly or partially, including:
 - a) Transit Agencies
 - b) Vehicle for Hire Companies
 - c) Providers serving individuals with disabilities
 - d) Providers serving seniors
 - e) Providers serving at-risk populations
4. Representation of the ODOT District Office or the ODOT County Garage.
5. Representation of business and general citizenry.
6. Any other representative that the County Board of Commissioners invites to participate.