

MORPC SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Summary

October 18, 2016

2:30-4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Steve Stolte, Jim Schimmer, Erin Miller, Tom Pendrey, Jack Knapp, Tony Collins, Paul Wise, Kate Bartter, Tony Logan, Dale Arnold

MORPC Staff: William Murdock, Kerstin Carr, Brandi Whetstone, Christina O’Keeffe, Brian Williams, Evelyn Ebert, Laura Koprowski, Joe Garrity, Bailey Klimchak, Rachael Beeman.

- 1. Welcome & Introductions, Steve Stolte, Chair** - Tony Logan was introduced as the newest SAC member, who is taking the place of Mark Barbash from the Regional Food Council. Also MORPC staff will be talking to those whose term limits are about to expire to determine next steps.
- 2. Summit on Sustainability Update, Kerstin Carr, Director of Planning & Environment and Christina O’Keeffe, Director of Energy & Air Quality** - MORPC’s Summit on Sustainability is coming up Friday, Oct. 21 at the Hilton Downtown Columbus. There will be a morning keynote program which will be kicked off by Spencer Reeder discussing Vulcan’s support for the Smart Columbus vision related to climate, energy and smart data. Kate Bartter will moderate a panel discussion which will include Representatives from Wendy’s, Scott’s Miracle-Gro, and BrewDog USA. There will be several breakout sessions and a keynote lunch program featuring a Pecha Kucha style format with several experts discussing the topic of local food. We want to thank our sponsors, especially Donato’s and Capitol Waste for being the presenting sponsors. The event is sold out and we expect 550 people.
- 3. Water Resources Working Group Proposal, Kerstin Carr** - The Water Resources Working Group Review Committee finalized a proposal in September. Kerstin presented background information about the Water Quality Working Group, which began in 2000 as the Greenways and Water Quality Working Group. The two groups split in 2013-2014 and the Central Ohio Greenways Board kicked off in 2015. A review committee was formed to consider the focus of the working group. The review process was extensive and resulted in the development of a vision, mission and proposed changes to the working group. The group also proposed a 2016-2020 action plan. (The presentation is attached)

Action item – Chair makes motion to accept recommendations made by the Review Committee. Paul Wise seconds. Motion passes.

- 4. Regional Sustainability Agenda Discussion & Vote, Jim Schimmer, Vice-Chair** - The Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee met earlier this month to wrap up their work on the development of the Regional Sustainability Agenda, and we are excited to bring it forward to the full Committee today for discussion and adoption. We want to thank Karen Angelou, Dale Arnold, Kate Bartter, and Erin Miller for participating in this process. The subcommittee was comprehensive and extensive, and determined that it made sense to integrate with the goals and objectives of the MORPC Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Throughout this process the working groups were invited to provide input. The Subcommittee finalized the draft and the SAC is tasked with adopting the agenda and moving it forward to the MORPC Commission for adoption. (The presentation is attached)

The group reviewed each goal and the related objectives, with opportunity for discussion and questions along the way. Comments included:

- Goal 1: Consider adding telecommuting as a strategy to reduce VMT.
- Goal 2: Revise objective focused on infill and redevelopment to include consideration for greenspace preservation.
- Consider the meaning of sustainable for future reference as it relates to local food. Not asking for specific change to the objective.

Action item – Dale Arnold made a motion to move the proposed Regional Sustainability Agenda forward to Commission with the corrections suggested by the group. The motion was seconded and passed.

MORPC staff will make the updates and send the document to the SAC for final review with a deadline of Nov. 3 for additional input. The document will be shared with the Executive Committee on Nov. 3 and Commission on Nov. 10.

5. Working Group Reports – See the attached working group reports.

6. Adjourn



SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABILITY – OCT. 21, 2016

Hilton Columbus Downtown

PROGRAM SUMMARY (more detailed information is available at www.morpc.org/summit)

MORNING KEYNOTE

9:00 – 10:25



Sustainability: Purpose+Planning+Partnership

Spencer Reeder will kick off the Summit by discussing Vulcan’s support for the Smart Columbus vision related to climate, energy and smart data.

A panel discussion will follow with representatives from The Wendy’s Company, Scott’s Miracle-Gro, and BrewDog USA to share the sustainability practices of their respective businesses. Moderated by Kate Bartter, The Ohio State University.

Spencer Reeder

Sponsored by: AEP-Ohio, Air Force One, The Ohio State University

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

10:45 – 12:15

- Looking Ahead, What Are the Important Sustainability Policy Issues?
- Turning Waste into Wealth; Growing our Circular Economy.
- Driving Down SOV Use: Creative Strategies to Move the Needle on Regional Air Pollution.
- In Collaboration We Trust: Insights From The Field.
- From Farm to Institution.

LUNCHEON: Green Region Awards & Keynotes

12:30 – 1:50

Sustainability: Local+Food

The Green Region Awards Ceremony will be followed by local entrepreneurs and food experts discussing the various aspects of the regional food supply chain using a Pecha Kucha style format.



Tom Pendrey



Abed Al Shahal



Bryn Bird



Ryan Lang



Matt Habash



Glen Courtright

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

2:00 – 3:30

- How To Be An Effective Advocate.
- A Feast of Food Plans.
- Income Stream: Water as a Community Asset.
- Local Efforts Making a Global Impact: The State of Climate Change and How Central Ohio is Driving Sustainability.
- Leave the Car, Take the Trails.



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For questions please contact Amanda McEldowney at 614.233.4112 or amceldowney@morpc.org

Water Resources Working Group Proposal



Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

Background of Water Quality Working Group

2000 – first meeting of the Greenways & Water Quality Working Group

2013/2014 – split into two working groups

2015 – kick-off of Central Ohio Greenways Board



Review Committee

Berger Health System

City of Columbus

City of Delaware

City of Marysville

City of Westerville

Del-Co Water Company

Franklin County Engineer's Office

Franklin Soil & Water
Conservation District

Friends of the Lower Olentangy
Watershed

Metro Parks

Ohio Department of Agriculture

Ohio Environmental Council

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Preservation Parks of Delaware County

The Nature Conservancy

The Ohio State University

Review Process

- History of the working group
- Related best practices
- Vision and mission statements
- Prioritization of unmet needs
- Goals and objectives
- Structure

Vision: Clean, abundant, healthy, and protected water resources for all in the Central Ohio region.

Mission: To improve and protect water quality and conserve water resources through education, policies, and regional planning and collaboration.



	Current	Proposed
Name	Water Quality Working Group	Central Ohio Water Resources Working Group
Leadership	chair; no election schedule or term limits	chair and vice chair; annual election/1-year term; 2-year term limit
Participants	limited list of contacts; no regular updates; no extended outreach	Expand contact list to include a diverse set of stakeholders
Structure	All participants meet as one group	All participants meet as one group; project or topic-specific subcommittees may be formed
Guidance Document	none	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 – 2020 Action Plan (see attachment) • Public Policy Agenda • Regional Sustainability Agenda
Vision and Mission	none	yes (see below)
Frequency	quarterly	every other month; cancel if not needed
Multi-Media Presence	none	webpage on morpc.org

Proposed Action Plan

Goal 1: Be a forum for regional collaboration and planning with regard to issues related to water supply, water quality, treatment, access, and climate change impacts.

Goal 2: Advocate for, and pursue, the implementation of water resources-related monitoring, planning, and/or best practices implementation projects in Central Ohio.

Goal 3: Be aware of and understand water-related state and federal policies that affect Central Ohio.

Proposed Action Plan (continued)

Goal 4: Support the coordination of collection, storage, and dissemination of regional water resources-related data.

Goal 5: Coordinate water-related outreach and messaging.





Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

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Regional Sustainability Agenda Proposal

Sustainability Advisory Committee
October 18, 2016



Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

Subcommittee Members

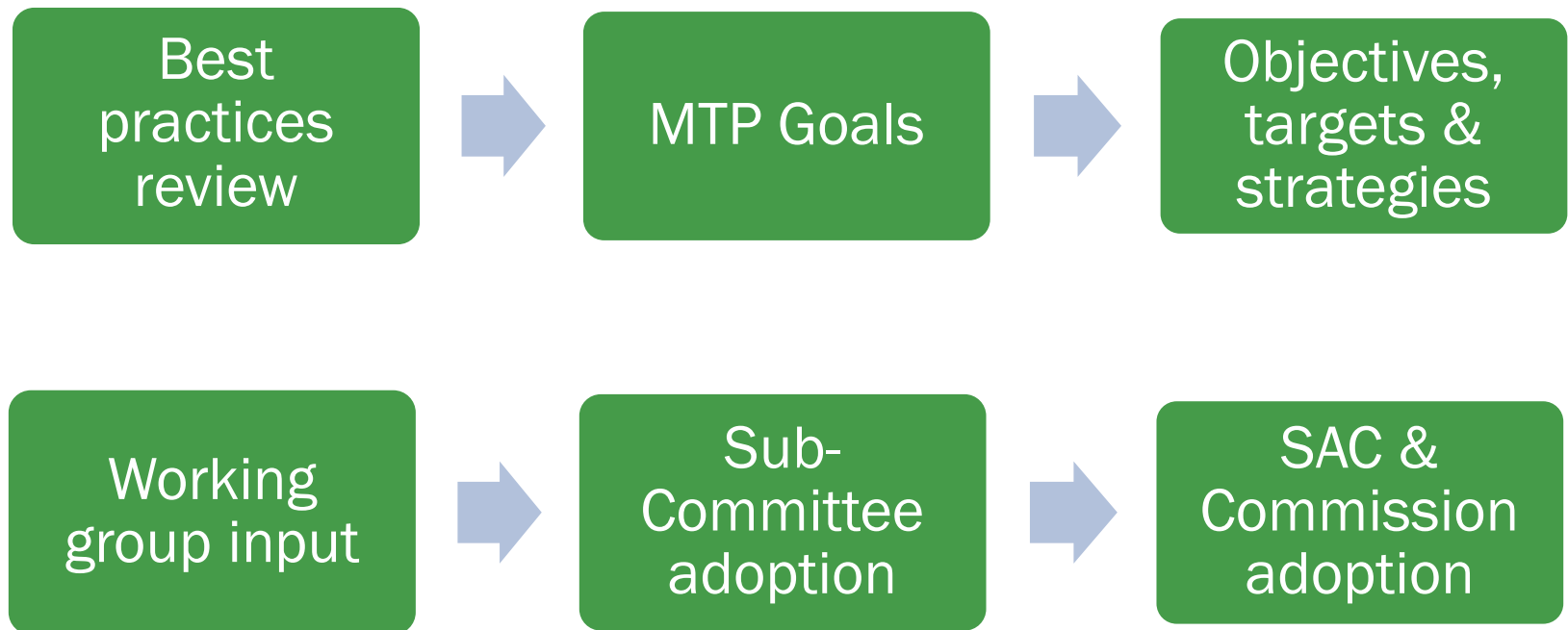
- Jim Schimmer, Chair
- Karen Angelou
- Dale Arnold
- Kate Bartter
- Erin Miller

2015 - 2016

REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA



Process



Key Components

- Aligned with existing plans (e.g. MTP)
- Proposed update every 4 years, with flexibility to update sooner with approval
- Goals, objectives, targets and strategies
- Annual reporting on progress

5 Goals

- Reduce energy consumption
- Protect natural resources
- Attract and retain economic opportunity
- Create sustainable neighborhoods
- Increase collaboration and education

24 Objectives

- Specific
- Measurable - Available metrics
- Achievable - Using strategies
- Relevant - Tied to goals and programs
- Time-oriented - Year: 2020



Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission

Jim Schimmer
Vice-Chair

MORPC Sustainability
Advisory Committee

JRSchimmer@franklincounty
ohio.gov



Central Ohio Greenways Board (Chair: Tony Collins)

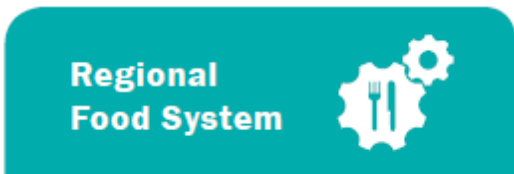
Next meeting: October 26, 2016

As part of the 5 Year Strategic Plan, the COG Board tasked the Trail Development Working Team to develop a trail corridor plan for each county in the initial focus area.

Franklin County is complete and is scheduled to be adopted by the Board at the October 26 meeting. In addition, the Working Team met with community leaders, trail builders, and advocates to begin the development of the trail corridor plan in Delaware County.

On behalf of COG, the City of Columbus Recreation & Parks Department is working to hire a consultant who can design a new COG website. A Steering Committee with members of the COG are currently reviewing 12 proposals.

The Marketing Working Team is working with Ibel Agency to design an updated brochure for COG. The timeline for completion is December 31.



Central Ohio Regional Food Council (Co - Chairs: Cheryl Graffagnino, Tony Logan)

Next meeting: November 9, 2016

The Central Ohio Regional Food Council is creating a Logistics Task Force in addition to its Council's Meat Industry Task Force. The Logistics team will look into the needs of local-food processing and distribution businesses, as an anticipated increase in local-food purchases by anchor institutions will likely create more demand for processing services. Many institutions want food that has already been sliced, diced, spiced, frozen, or packaged. The Logistics team will explore workforce challenges, collaboration among new and existing businesses, and fuel- and cost-efficiency in distribution.

The Council's Meat Industry Task Force, which includes area meat processors, Ohio Farm Bureau, beef and pork commodity organizations, OSU, and others, is working out details and an agenda for a planned meat-marketing forum in late January aimed at developing markets for lesser-used cuts, parts, and byproducts. That strategy is a priority of many grocers and institutions in the region.



Energy & Air Quality Working Group (Chair: Dale Arnold)

Next meeting: November 29, 2016

The Working Group met at John Glenn Columbus International Airport on September 27. This allowed the group to view the installations made possible by a Voluntary Airport Low Emissions (VALE) grant awarded to Columbus

Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) by the Federal Aviation Administration. Installations included pre-conditioned air (PCA) units that replaced fuel-powered generators that contributed to harmful ground-level emissions. At the meeting, the working group members also reviewed and provided input on sections of the Regional Sustainability Agenda addressing energy and air quality.

MORPC air quality staff hosted a visit from Patrick Zahn, the region's air quality forecaster from Sonoma Technology, Inc. MORPC stakeholders and working group members were invited to attend a Meet and Greet prior to the October 13 Commission meeting. Mr. Zahn gave a presentation at Commission titled "Central Ohio Ozone Pollution: Looking back at the 2016 Season." The presentation included preliminary analysis of the 2016 ozone season, which highlighted the overall trend of air quality improvement and impacts of the new ozone standard. During the 2016 ozone season, there have been 10 ozone exceedances under the new standard (70 ppb). Mr. Zahn also joined MORPC Energy & Air Quality staff at a meeting with The Ohio State University Byrd Polar Research Center to share information and discuss opportunities for future collaboration.

Ohio EPA submitted a nonattainment area recommendation for the 2015 Ozone standard (70 ppb) to U.S. EPA on September 30th. Delaware, Fairfield and Franklin, and Licking counties are the areas being recommended for the Columbus nonattainment area. This is smaller than previous years, as Knox and Madison counties were not included in this recommendation. There is one violating monitor, located in Franklin County. U.S. EPA should have a response by June 2, 2017. Ohio EPA will have the opportunity to reply or provide more information if needed before final designations are made in October 2017.



Water Quality Working Group (Chair: Maryellen O'Shaugnessy)

Next meeting: December 2, 2016

The Water Quality Working Group Review Committee finalized a proposal in September that recommends changes to the structure and focus of the current Water Quality Working Group

in an effort to best serve the water resources needs of Central Ohio's communities and constituents.

The Water Quality Working Group met on September 9th. The group received updates on two bills: H.R. 5303, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016; and SB 333, a Mid-Biennium Review Bill. The group also provided input on the objectives of the draft Regional Sustainability Agenda and received updates from its community partners on their efforts and initiatives.

Materials Management



Materials Management Working Group (Chair: Jack Knapp)

Next meeting: November 16, 2016

The Materials Management Working Group met on September 28 to continue discussion of the group's role, value, and priorities as they work to shape the group's future direction. The group discussed the results of a survey sent to the working group members and Green Pact group, which provided a good starting point for future meeting topics. The group also agreed on a meeting agenda format that will better facilitate information sharing on focused meeting topics. The group continues to find value in sharing new data and best practices.

Food waste reduction and recycling continues to be the top issue for most working group members, and there is continued interest in exploring ways to improve education and infrastructure. The next meeting will include a speaker from OSU to address new data about food waste reduction and recycling.

The group discussed and agreed on the Materials Management objective and target proposed for the Regional Sustainability Agenda. SWACO recently awarded MORPC a grant for \$8,000 to support the continuation of the Materials Management Working Group into 2017.



Green Pact

Next meeting: November 3, 2016

At the September meeting, Brandi Whetstone shared MORPC Energy Program Updates. This included updates on the weatherization programs for income-eligible residents of Franklin County; an encouragement for member governments to pass a proclamation recognizing October as National Energy Action Month; and updates on MORPC's position on Energy Policy.

Roy Dotson, Facilities Systems Specialist with Dublin, treated the Green Pact group to a presentation and tour of the Dublin Community Recreation Center. Highlights included the green roof; the geothermal system which replaced two large cooling towers; and the combined heat and power system, which is projected to save Dublin over \$200,000 in utility bills over 15 years.

Member updates included Columbus' Branch Out Columbus tree give away, in partnership with Kurtz Bros; Marysville is conducting a tree canopy survey; Genoa Township, completed a township wide survey as part of the process of updating the Township comprehensive Plan and recently made site improvements to the township recycling facility; Dublin has joined the Urban Sustainability Directors Network and Dublin hosted a PARK[ing] Day on High Street, on September 16th, focused on sustainable efforts at home ; Westerville held a Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection day September 10th and is exploring the expansion of the household composting program; and Upper Arlington's Green Team Resident Group has expressed interest in reconvening.
