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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Summit Workshops Feature Central Ohio's Energy Future

(Columbus – September 2, 2015) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's 2015 Summit on Sustainability will take place Friday, October 2 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Hilton Columbus Downtown, 401 North High Street, Columbus. The Summit on Sustainability is MORPC's signature environmental conference, bringing hundreds of community leaders together to explore and share sustainable ideas and solutions. This year's theme, *Regions Matter*, will focus on sharing best practices that can be applied by local governments, businesses and residents to improve the environment in which we live.

The region is forecasted to grow by 25 percent by the year 2050, yet recent studies have illustrated inefficiency in the regional use of energy in the transportation, industrial, commercial and residential sectors. Meanwhile, many companies are investing in cleaner, smarter uses of energy to improve operational excellence and reduce environmental impacts.

A variety of breakout sessions will focus on four main categories: Policy, Energy & Environment, Land-Use, and Transportation. Session topics include:

9–10:30 a.m.

It's More than What you Think: How Weatherization Can Open the Door to Community Revitalization
Insightful Planning (pun intended)
Sustainable Health
Energy Policy & Current Issues

10:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m.

The 3 R's of GIS Data – Reduce, Reuse, Redistribute
Safer Streets, More Trails, For a Healthier More Active Region
Fuels & Transportation
Change is in the Air: Sustainable Energy and Air Quality for a Growing and Changing Region

2–3:30 p.m.

Looking ahead, what are the important Sustainability Policy Issues?
Rivers and Recreation: Central Ohio's Natural Playground
Transportation Demand Management
Strategies for Organic Waste Recycling

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Working to Build a Better Region

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The sessions will feature presenters from a variety of backgrounds including speakers from the business community, government agencies and universities.

An agenda for the 2015 Summit can be found at www.morpc.org/summit. Early bird registration is \$85 until September 4. Registrations can be made online at www.morpc.org/summit.

– 30 –

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.