



INTRODUCTION TO 2016-2040 COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

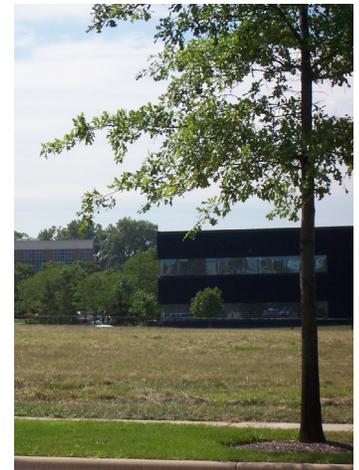
As the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the metropolitan Columbus area, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) conducts a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. Every four years, the results of the process produce a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) that looks at least 20 years into the future.

“The plan provides the basis for how federal transportation funding is spent to improve highways, transit, freight, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities.”

As our region continues to grow and funding availability becomes more limited, Central Ohio must be prepared with innovative transportation solutions to address increasing infrastructure needs. The MTP is a long-range planning document that brings together local governments from around Central Ohio and other local, state, and federal agencies to identify and coordinate transportation goals and policies over the next two decades.

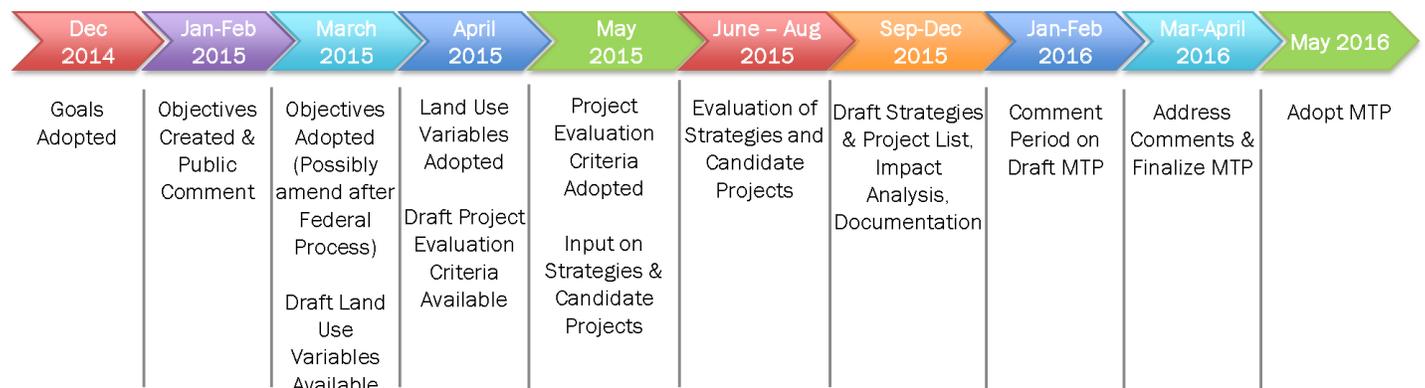
The MTP will identify transportation needs, strategies and projects, and provide the basis for how federal transportation funding will be spent to improve highways, transit, freight, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities.

The planning area for the MTP includes: Franklin and Delaware Counties, the City of New Albany, the City of Pataskala and Etna Township in Licking County, the townships of Violet and Bloom in Fairfield County and Jerome township in Union County.



METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The milestones below will be presented to the public for review and comment during the development of the MTP.





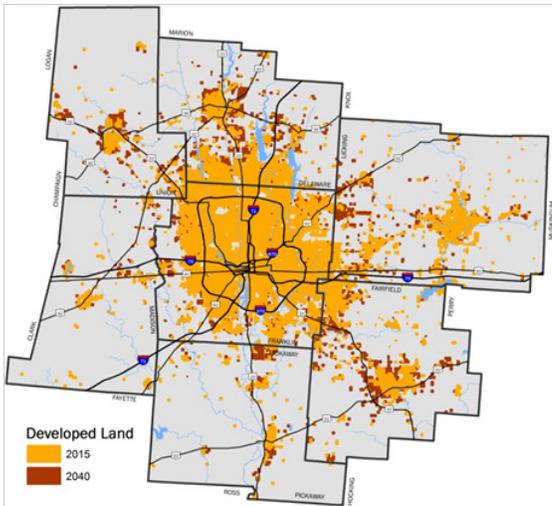
LAND-USE VARIABLES AND FORECASTS

Transportation and land use are interdependent. The transportation system provides a way for people and goods to move, and the development patterns determine the paths they take. As a consequence, projecting future land use, and the number and location of people and jobs helps determine potential deficiencies in the transportation system.

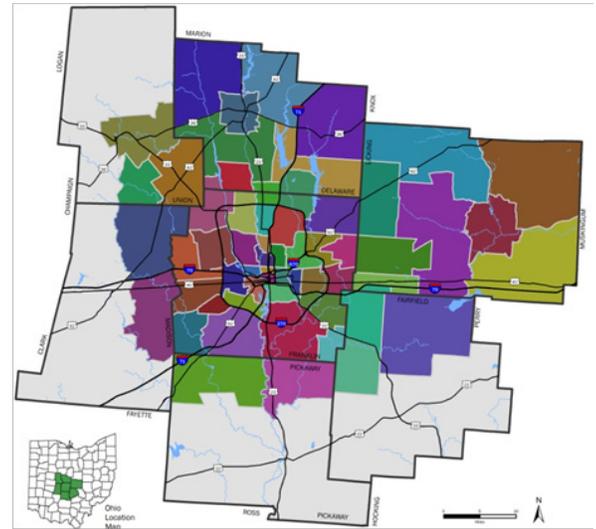
Projections for the year 2040 include 2.2 million people, and 1.1 million jobs. That’s an increase of 400,000 people and 200,000 jobs. MORPC uses a computer model to distribute these new people and jobs into the region. The model depends on future land use plans that communities have in place for identifying the density and type of future development. Using this information, other data about environmental sensitivity, development suitability as measured by access to public services including transportation, transit, sewer and water are considered in determining where future people and jobs will be located. MORPC also tracks development, and the model allocates known housing and employment development to these areas.

Projections for the region are based on population projections prepared for Ohio counties by the Ohio Development Services Agency. The counties were further subdivided into projection areas to assure that development is attributed to each community. Those areas with higher levels of expected densities were given a priority

Future Development Pattern



Projection Sub-Areas



to attract growth.

This way, the projections include choices for residential development. They also reflect an increasing market for mixed land uses that provide residents the option to use modes of transportation other than cars, such as walking, biking, or transit.

As a result, the 2040 land use forecasts for the region consumes approximately 120 square miles of new land, which sounds like a lot. But, compared to previous projections, where 270 square miles were marked for development, these 2040 forecasts are more accommodating to a broader variety of development styles. Results from the model are available on an [interactive map](#). The model results have been aggregated into jurisdictions.

MORPC is accepting comments about the projections through April 3rd. Please forward comments to Nancy Reger, Director of Regional Data & Mapping at nreger@morpc.org.

WHAT’S NEXT?

April 3, 2015: Comments are due on proposed 2040 land-use forecasts by email to mtp@morpc.org or in writing to MORPC, 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH, 43215, Attn: MTP.

April 2015: Adopt 2040 land use forecasts. Provide draft criteria for evaluating MTP candidate projects.

For more information or to sign up for updates on the MTP, visit morpc.org/mtp2040.

