



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663  
TTY. 1.800.750.0750  
info@morpc.org

**COMMISSION MEETING**  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100**  
**COLUMBUS, OH 43215**  
*TOWN HALL*

**Thursday, April 14, 2022**  
**1:30 p.m.**

***Remote Option***

To join by video and see any screen sharing, click on “Join Microsoft Teams Meeting” below. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams for the link to work.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

To participate by phone, use the conference call information below.

[+1 614-362-3056](#) United States, Columbus  
[\(888\) 596-2819](#) United States (Toll-free)  
Phone Conference ID: 251 947 432#

**AGENDA**

- 1:30 p.m.
- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
  - 2. Welcome and Introductions** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
    - **Nominating Committee Report** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Secretary
    - **Election of Officers and Executive Committee** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
    - **Recognition of Guests and New Members** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
  - 3. Executive Director’s Report** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director
  - 4. 2022 International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference** – Tom Homan, City of Delaware

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Karen J. Angelou**  
Chair

**Erik J. Janas**  
Vice Chair

**Chris Amorose Grooms**  
Secretary

### Committees

5. **Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization** – Mark Forrest (Madison County), Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Chair
6. **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Brad Ebersole (Delaware County), Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair
7. **Regional Policy Roundtable** – David Scheffler (City of Lancaster), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
  - a. **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joe Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations
8. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
9. **Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair
  - a. **Call to Order** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair
  - b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report**
    - Programming – Thea Ewing, MORPC Chief Regional Development Officer & Senior Director of Programming
  - c. **Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**
    - 1) Approval of [March 10, 2022 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
    - 2) [Proposed Resolution T-4-22: “Adoption of Revised Funding Commitment for US 33/SR 161/Post Road Interchange Project”](#)
  - d. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair
10. **Commission Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of [March 10, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)
  - b. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee
11. **Other Business**
12. **Adjourn** – Erik Janas (Franklin County), MORPC Chair

2:45 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR [ssaunders@morpc.org](mailto:ssaunders@morpc.org)  
IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.**

**The next Commission Meeting is**  
**Thursday, May 12, 2022, 1:30 p.m.**  
*111 Liberty Street, Suite 100*  
*Columbus, Ohio 43215*

**PARKING AND TRANSIT:** When parking in MORPC's parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with a yellow "M". Handicapped parking is available at the side of MORPC's building. On Commission meeting days only, additional parking is available in numbered spaces toward the west end of the parking lot. Electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

MORPC is accessible by COTA BUS. The closest bus stop to MORPC is S. Front Street & W. Blenkner St. Buses that accommodate this stop are the Number 61 - Grove City, the Number 5 - West 5th Ave. /Refugee, and the Number 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663  
TTY. 1.800.750.0750  
info@morpc.org

## Memorandum

**TO:** Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Executive Committee  
Officers and Board Members

**FROM:** Chris Amorose Grooms, Nominating Committee Chair

**DATE:** March 10, 2022

**SUBJECT:** **Nomination of Executive Committee Members**

### Background:

In accordance with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Articles of Agreement, the Commission will be notified at least five (5) days prior to the Annual Meeting as to the nominees for MORPC's Officers and Executive Committee members.

The Nominating Committee excerpt from the Articles is as follows:

"At least twenty (20) days prior to the annual meeting, the chair shall appoint the Nominating Committee. Said Nominating Committee having been duly appointed and confirmed shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the annual meeting of the COMMISSION, report the names of the candidates so nominated to the secretary. The secretary shall advise each member of the COMMISSION, in writing, at least five (5) days prior to the annual meeting as to the nominees so selected. At the annual meeting, the chair of the Nominating Committee shall report the names so nominated. After this report is presented, nominations from the floor shall be invited. Such nominations must be seconded. The secretary then shall prepare ballots properly identifying the nominees, said ballots shall be distributed and tallied during the annual meeting by a temporary committee appointed for that purpose."

### The Nominating Committee Members:

As noted at the December 9, 2021 Commission meeting, Commission Chair Karen Angelou has appointed five members of the Nominating Committee.

- Chris Amorose Grooms, Committee Chair, City of Dublin
- Jeff Benton, Delaware County
- Mike Schadek, City of Columbus
- Franklin Christman, Village of Ashville
- Nancy White, Mifflin Township

William Murdock, AICP  
Executive Director

Rory McGuinness  
Chair

Karen J. Angelou  
Vice Chair

Erik J. Janas  
Secretary

### **Review of Current Members of Executive Committee:**

Several Executive Committee positions do not have expiring terms this year and therefore require no action by the Nominating Committee. For information, these are listed below:

- 1) Immediate Past Chair:** Karen Angelou (2014), Council Member, City of Gahanna
  - 2) In second year of current two-year Executive Committee Term (expires 2023)**
    - a) Jeff Benton (2019), Commissioner, Delaware County
    - b) Jennifer Gallagher (2017), Director, Department of Public Service, City of Columbus
    - c) Erik Janas (2017), Deputy County Administrator, Franklin County
    - d) Nancy White (2017), Administrator, Mifflin Township
- 

### **Nominating Committee Recommendations:**

The Nominating Committee convened on January 27, and made the following recommendations for Officer positions and Executive Committee positions, which will be reported at the March 10, 2022 Commission meeting and considered at the April 14, 2022 Commission meeting:

#### **The nominees for Officers for one-year Officer Terms (expires 2023)**

- **Chair:** Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Franklin County
- **Vice-Chair:** Chris Amorose Groomes, Council Member, City of Dublin
- **Secretary:** Michelle Crandall, City Manager, City of Hilliard

#### **The nominees for Executive Committee are:**

##### **1) For renewal of one-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2023)**

- a) Joe Stefanov (2008), Chair of Building Committee, City Manager, City of New Albany
- b) Karen Angelou (2014), Past Chair of MORPC, Council Member, City of Gahanna
- c) Kim Maggard (2015), Chair of Reserve & Investment Advisory Committee, Mayor, City of Whitehall
- d) Rory McGuinness (2012), Chair of Bylaws Committee, Deputy Director, City of Columbus

##### **2) For renewal of two-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2024):**

- a) Michelle Crandall (2020), City Manager, City of Hilliard
  - b) David Scheffler (2020), Mayor, City of Lancaster
  - c) Greg Lestini (2018), Bricker & Eckler LLP, Attorney, Franklin County representative
  - d) Franklin Christman (2018), Administrator, Village of Ashville
  - e) Chris Amorose Groomes (2018), Council Member, City of Dublin
- 

### **Notes:**

- 1) The year after each name refers to the first year of the member's current service on the Executive Committee. For example, Joe Smith (2017) means that Joe Smith's first term began in 2017 and he has served continuously since then.
- 2) Per the bylaws, Executive Committee members may serve up to three consecutive two-year terms. One-year extensions are available if serving as an officer or committee chair.



## MORPC Monthly Agency Report

March 2022

---

### Senior Directors

Kerstin Carr [kcarr@morpc.org](mailto:kcarr@morpc.org)  
Thea Ewing [twalsh@morpc.org](mailto:twalsh@morpc.org)  
Joe Garrity [jgarrity@morpc.org](mailto:jgarrity@morpc.org)

Shawn Hufstedler [shufstedler@morpc.org](mailto:shufstedler@morpc.org)  
Niel M. Jurist [njurist@morpc.org](mailto:njurist@morpc.org)  
Robert Williams [rwilliams@morpc.org](mailto:rwilliams@morpc.org)

### DRIVE INVESTMENT

#### Federal Competitive Programs

Four Central Ohio applications are being submitted for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program:

- MORPC – on behalf of LinkUS
- Licking County Area Transit Service (LCATS) – planning study for a multimodal mobility ecosystem to address growing needs for employment access and commuters in Licking County.
- City of Columbus – planning grant for the Williams Road Corridor Plan project.
- Franklin County – Hubbard Road Connector project which aims to build 2.9 miles of shared-use path along Hubbard and Roberts Road from I-70 to U.S. 40, connecting Prairie Oaks Metro Park and Battelle Darby Metro Park.

On March 23, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity which allows for one application to apply for up to three separate grant opportunities:

- MEGA – new program focused on supporting large, complex projects that are difficult to fund by other means and likely to generate national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits.
- INFRA – existing program that was updated to include new eligibilities, set-asides and other programming changes.
- Rural Surface Transportation Grant – new program that aims to support projects to improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas to increase connectivity, improve the safety and reliability of the movement of people and freight, and generate regional economic growth and improve quality of life.

Applications are due May 23.

#### Advocacy

On March 1, Team Members met with Governor DeWine's legislative staff to provide an update on MORPC and the Columbus Partnership joint effort in working to bring passenger rail back to Central Ohio. On March 2, MORPC hosted an executive network meeting with the Columbus Partnership and Amtrak executives. On March 4, MORPC hosted the Columbus Region Coalition Strategic Meeting with Congressman Mike Carey. Team Members met with the Ohio Department of Development to discuss shared opportunities related to Intel. Team Members attended the Association of Defense Communities Conference in Washington.

#### Interregional Connections Committee

Team Members are writing a request for proposals for a rail station feasibility study for interested parties for future rail services.

#### LinkUs Mobility Initiative

LinkUS partners completed the first round of regional outreach to discuss the overview of the LinkUS mobility initiative with the COTA service area stakeholders. The second round of outreach begins in April.

Northwest corridor planning for the locally preferred alternative (LPA) is ongoing with multiple public engagement opportunities in March. A final LPA will be decided by summer 2022 to find the terminus of the NW Corridor BRT line.

The LinkUS Team is submitting a U.S. Department of Transportation RAISE planning grant for prioritization, feasibility, and engineering for transit-supportive infrastructure elements (sidewalks, greenways, and bikeways).

#### FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient

Team Members continue to monitor the original equipment manufacturer production shortages for active and in-progress purchase orders for the 5310 program. Vendors and ODOT are suggesting that vehicle delivery is likely to slide into 2023 and 2024 with price escalations occurring during the period.

#### CORPO

CORPO submitted a draft FY 2023 Planning Work Program to ODOT on March 4. On March 21, CORPO completed its first CORPO Dedicated Funds cycle by passing a resolution committing SFY 2022-2023 CORPO Dedicated Funds to six transportation projects. Nearly \$900,000 was committed to projects in the CORPO study area.

CORPO Team Members met with Knox County transit officials and will be working with them over the next few months to help them prepare for the development of new transit-related infrastructure.

#### MORPC Attributable Funding

The public comment period for the Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds ended March 18. No comments were received. The policies will be considered for final approval by CAC, TAC, and the Transportation Policy Committee in May.

#### Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Team Members are beginning the initial development of the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

#### RAPID 5

Printed copies of the final visions for each corridor are available. Contact Kerstin Carr if interested in obtaining a copy.

## **PAY IT FORWARD**

#### Events

MORPC's annual [State of the Region](#) event was March 16 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center with almost 800 attendees. This year's theme was, *From Possibility To Reality*, and included keynote speaker Andy Berke, Special Representative for Broadband, National Telecommunications and Information Administration. A recording of the event can be found on [MORPC's YouTube Channel](#).

#### Upcoming Events:

- NARC 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Exhibition – June 12-15, Hilton Columbus Downtown
- Ohio Conference on Freight – June 16
- OARC Gubernatorial Luncheon – August 26, Hilton Columbus Downtown
- Summit on Sustainability – October 14, Hilton Columbus Downtown

#### Member Briefings and Visits:

- Voinovich Academy's Governing Essentials for Local Elected Officials Kick-off Event – March 4
- Board Member Lunch with ODOD Director Lydia Mihalik – March 10
- Ohio University Whiteboard Session – March 18
- Regional Collaboration Northeast – March 29
- Attended State of the Cities for Whitehall, Gahanna, Dublin and Marysville
- Five member visits

### Local Government Summer Internship Program

Accomplishments include:

- Completing recruiting and placement agreements.
- Met with Perry County Commissioners to confirm OU Intern.
- Met with the four hosts for the Easton Future Vision Program – confirmed three interns and working to finalize the fourth.

### Public Involvement & Engagement

Team Members participated in the OSU Fisher College of Business panel discussion, an educational session for students who are interested in pursuing future careers in government, business, HR/DE&I, transportation and more.

MORPC is serving as a community ambassador for the Columbus Metropolitan Library's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023.

## CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY

### Regional Housing Strategy (RHS)

MORPC members can look forward to an improved and expanded RHS Resource Hub this spring. Resources will include examples of administrative and policy best practices, templates, and data, and will promote the efforts of MORPC members and partners to advance the goals of the RHS. If your community or organization would like to share resources for inclusion in the Resource Hub, please contact us.

### Technical Assistance Program

Four communities were awarded technical assistance for the 2022 Technical Assistance Program. MORPC Team Members are coordinating with each community to kick-off the following:

- Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks – Scioto Trail Southern Extension
- City of Columbus – Downtown and Near-East Side Trail Access and Connectivity
- City of Dublin – Regional Trail Network Connectivity
- City of Sunbury – Ohio to Erie Trail Access and Connectivity

### Mobility Management

Team Members are meeting with ODOT HSTC Region 6 stakeholders working toward goals and strategies outlined in the regional coordinated plan.

Team Members hosted a Gohio Mobility Specialized Transportation Search Tool Training for Ohio mobility managers.

### Gohio Commute

MORPC, Central Ohio Greenways and Rails to Trails Conservancy is collaborating on the Celebrate Trails event in Genoa Park. The event encourages biking as a form of transportation. As an extension of the event, Team Members are planning a social media campaign called "People Who Bike" for National Bike Month in May.

MORPC added two new vanpools in March: Columbus to Newark and Grove City to Lancaster.

The Gohio Commute program is running a brand awareness campaign from March through June, targeting Central Ohio's workforce. Advertisements are running on local radio stations, Google search and social media.

The Commute Action Fund is extended for another year. MORPC matches funds up to \$5,000 for companies that provide commuter benefits for employees. Learn more about the program [here](#).

### Regional Data Advisory Committee

The Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) met March 1. Meeting materials are available [here](#).



- The Capacity Building & Partnership Working Group is working on two main initiatives this year. The tentative date for Data Day is September 15. The group is also considering a resource for assistance with data this year.
- The Local Government Resources Working Group is establishing a process for selecting/creating data policy resources for MORPC members.
- The Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy Working Group is collecting letters of intent.
- The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) met March 2.

### Data & Mapping

Team Members are evaluating potential improvements to documentation and management of data storage at processing at MORPC.

On March 17, the American Community Survey released the five-year estimate data for 2020. The 2016-2020 data is now available. Team Members updated data sets accordingly.

A draft of existing land use and future land use at the parcel level will be set up for community review via a web map.

### Diversity & Inclusion

MORPC, in partnership with the YWCA Columbus, is offering a DE&I training to staff and members on Tuesday, May 24, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Click [here](#) to register for the training, *Beyond Inclusion: Building a Community of Belonging*.

Team Members participated in the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity's Spring 2022 Forums. One topic included, *Building Equitable and Inclusive Civic Engagement Environments*.

### Transportation Safety

Team Members are finalizing deliverables for the Franklin County Public Health Complete Streets Safety Audit project with the Cities of Grove City, Reynoldsburg, and Whitehall. The project was substantially complete at the end of March and serves as a model going forward for future pedestrian safety studies and walk audits. MORPC developed templates for these assessments that can be used by/for any community in the region.

### Active Transportation Planning

The next Active Transportation Planning Committee meetings is April 21 at MORPC and includes an update on Columbus Vision Zero, a member roundtable on active transportation highlights, and an update on available funding programs for active transportation projects.

### Sustainability

MORPC hosted the resident-based Environmental Sustainability Forum on March 3 to convene local groups from around the region to share updates on their sustainability efforts. The group plans to meet quarterly moving forward.

### Sustainability Advisory Committee

The next Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is April 20 and includes planning for the Summit on Sustainability. City of Gahanna Mayor Laurie Jadwin was appointed vice chair of the committee.

### Sustainable2050

The next meeting Sustainable2050 meeting is June 17.

### Central Ohio Greenways

Central Ohio Greenways (COG) partners are preparing for Celebrate Trails Day on April 23. Several MORPC member communities are hosting local events across the region. MORPC and COG partners are hosting a Celebrate Trails event at the annual Columbus Earth Day Celebration at Genoa Park. Celebrate Trails Day also marks the re-launch of the Outdoor Trails Passport, a program of Experience Columbus. Trail users are invited to access the passport online and check into locations across the COG network for the opportunity to win prizes.

### Water Resources Program

The Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team met March 17. Meeting materials are available [here](#).

### Energy & Air Quality

The Energy & Air Quality Working Group met March 22. Meeting materials are available [here](#).

March 1 marked the start of ozone monitoring season. Team Members continue to move forward with the neighborhood-level air monitoring program and have been working with Franklin County Public Health to apply for a federal air monitoring grant with a focus on environmental justice and health disparities. COSI is producing signage and will be hosting an air monitor at their facility. The team is also planning for Air Quality Awareness Week May 2-6.

MORPC is leading two solar co-ops that will be made available to its members. The first is the Columbus Area Residential Solar Co-op, which will be open to all residents who live in Franklin County. More information to come this summer. The second is a part of the Regional Schools Energy Strategy or ReSES. It is an opportunity for schools, school districts, and municipalities to purchase solar power through a solar power purchase agreement co-op. MORPC is in discussions with those interested.

The Rickenbacker Energy Consortium reconvened on March 9 and discussed best pathways forward on clean energy solutions for the area. The meeting highlighted an update on COTA's Rickenbacker Area Mobility Center. The consortium meets again in May.

Two members earned new SolSmart designations, which help their communities adopt solar more efficiently. Congratulations to the City of Delaware on its bronze status and to the City of Upper Arlington on achieving gold designation.

### WarmChoice® and HWAP Programs

To encourage more applicants for the Columbia Gas WarmChoice program, a new postcard mailing campaign was initiated, and a radio advertisement campaign commenced with Radio One; radio ads began running March 28 and will continue through the month of April.

Work is ongoing as Residential Services continues to bolster its team to support the housing programs. Team Members recently completed the negotiation phase of the HUD Lead grant for \$2 million. To support next year's HWAP program, Team Members invested in necessary equipment and scheduled training for inspectors to ensure compliance.

HWAP technical monitoring was successful, with no corrective items reported.

Phase One of the Neighborly software implementation is complete.

## **BUILD VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS**

### MORPC in the News

Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at [www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews](http://www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews).

### Excellence in Financial Reporting

For the 33<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, MORPC received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for FY 2020. The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare annual comprehensive financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

### Renovation Updates

The technology upgrades, some of which were on backorder for months, have been installed in the conference rooms. They are now fully functional, creating an enhanced meeting experience for those in person and in hybrid settings. Additional training for Team Members will occur in April.

### Personnel Updates

The following new Team Members recently started at MORPC:

- Graphic Designer Devin Johnson began March 7
- Economic Development Planner Anabel Pederson began March 7
- Grants & Investment Officer Abby Barnes began March 14
- Customer Service Representative Clare DiCuccio began March 14
- Senior Planner Elliot Lewis began March 14
- Temporary ITS Technical Support Michael Wood began March 14
- Data Analyst Sam McLaughlin began March 21

MORPC is currently recruiting for three (3) open positions:

- Director of Data & Geospatial Analysis
- Grants Intern
- Air Quality & Sustainability Coordinator

The following are in the interviewing or offering stage, or onboarding soon:

- Rehab Technician
- HR Director
- Economic Development Officer
- Research & Data Officer
- Programming Intern
- Residential Services Energy Auditor
- Residential Services Housing/Residential Rehab Specialist

The requirements for the posted positions are available for review on the website at <http://www.morpc.org/careers/>.

### RFP/RFQ Postings

The following RFP's/RFQ's were posted:

- RFQ for IT Assessment

The full RFP/RFQs are available at <http://www.morpc.org/rfps-rfqs/>.



**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 10, 2022  
Time: 2:28 p.m.  
Location: MORPC Town Hall

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person**

Chris Amorose Grooms	Jennifer Gallagher	Rozland McKee
Karen Angelou	Dave Gulden	John O'Grady
Herb Asher	Matt Huffman	Rod Pritchard
Lee Bodnar	Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Ryan Rivers
Stacey Boumis	Monica Irelan	Cornell Robertson
Michaela Burris	Laurie Jadwin	Mike Schadek
Ben Collins	Erik Janas	Jim Schimmer
Tina Cottone	James Jewell	Elissa Schneider
Michelle Crandall	Emily Keeler	Kent Shafer
Karl Craven	Ben Kesler	Thom Slack
Kristen Easterday	Bill Lafayette	Nancy White
Brad Ebersole	Greg Lestini	Kenneth Wright
Shane Farnsworth	Glenn Marzluf	
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Rory McGuinness	

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely**

Mike Anderson	Eric Meyer	Kim Sharp for Joanna Pinkerton
Susan Brobst	Bryan Rhoads	Steve Schoeny
Mike Ebert	Eric Richter	Alana Shockey
Chris Harkness	Isaac Robinson	Dan Sowry
Tom Homan	Lauren Rummel	Joe Stefanov
Christine Houk	Lori Sanders	

**Commission Members Present in Person**

Joe Antram	Joy Davis	Mitch Noland
Paul Benedetti	Rick Dzik	Jeryne Peterson
Taylor Brill	Jeff Gottke	David Scheffler
Franklin Christman	Bill Habig	Matt Starr

**Commission Members Attending Remotely**

Terry Emery	Bill Pursel	John Trujillo
Luke Feeney	Ben Stahler	Tony Vogel
Herb Koehler	Jim Stanley	RC Wise

**Associate Members Present in Person**

Jennifer Fish	Kristin Sutton
---------------	----------------

**MORPC Staff Present in Person**

Kerstin Carr	Shawn Hufstedler	Shari Saunders
Thea Ewing	Niel Jurist	Maria Schaper
Amanda Frey	Eileen Leuby	Bevan Schneck
Joe Garrity	William Murdock	Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton	Anthony Perry	Robert Williams

**MORPC Staff Attending Remotely**

Ethan Hug	Anabel Pederson
Alisa Obukhova	Alexander Schepflin

**Guests Present in Person**

Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
--	--

**Guests Attending Remotely**

Erin Grushon, Burgess & Niple	Andrew Shepler, ODOT
Shawn Ross, City of Grandview Heights	Nick Soulas, FCEO

### **Meeting Called to Order**

Chair Karen Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:28 p.m.

### **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report**

- **Programming – Thea Ewing, MORPC Chief Regional Development Officer & Senior Director of Programming**

Thea Ewing provided the [Metropolitan Planning Organization Report](#). Ms. Ewing noted the TIP amendment resolution on the consent agenda. Resolution T-3-22 includes improvements for: projects in the COTA service area, ODOT I-71 bridge maintenance, I-270 at U.S. 23 down to Rathmell Road, and Fishinger Road reconstruction.

The following communities/organizations received a MORPC Technical Assistance Program award: City of Columbus, City of Dublin, City of Sunbury and Franklin County Metro Parks. All are working on Central Ohio Greenways vision refinements.

Ms. Ewing encouraged members to start the conversation if going after attributable funds in the fall. It is important for MORPC to understand your needs before the Notices of Funding begin. We have a Team Member dedicated to linking funding opportunities with communities.

RAISE grant applications are due April 14. MORPC is coordinating an application with LinkUS Transit and Transit Supportive Infrastructure Planning and the interrelated opportunities with Central Ohio Greenways. MORPC is also helping with applications from the City of Columbus on the Williams Road project and the Franklin County Engineer's Office on the rural western/Darby Creek trail connections project with Madison County.

The deadline for applications for the Transportation Improvement District grants is the end of March.

The new Interregional Connections Committee has begun. The committee is trying to bring members and other stakeholders around connections (passenger rail, national trail, advanced air mobility, etc.) to and through Central Ohio and communicating with regions outside Central Ohio. All are welcome to join. The next meeting is May 25. The first project is issuing a comprehensive RFP for all rail stations in the region besides the Columbus Convention Center, which is already done.

### **Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**

Jennifer Gallagher made a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Greg Lestini; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663  
TTY. 1.800.750.0750  
info@morpc.org

## Memorandum

**TO:** Transportation Policy Committee  
Transportation Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Nick Gill, Transportation Study Director

**DATE:** March 31, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Resolution T-4-22: “**Adoption of Revised Funding Commitment for US 33/SR 161/Post Road Interchange Project**”

Resolution T-4-22 revises the MORPC-attributable funding commitment towards the US 33/SR 161/Post Road Interchange project, previously approved via Resolution T-2-21. The resolution will increase the MORPC commitment from \$10 million to \$12 million.

This action was prompted in response to a request by the Union County Engineer’s Office and the City of Dublin to increase the MORPC funding because of inflation. The construction costs estimate had risen by more than 10% since the estimate developed at the time of our commitment. Furthermore, when the bids were opened on March 10<sup>th</sup>, the best bidder exceeded the final state estimate by approximately 10% more. In response to the higher bid price, the project sponsors have secured an additional \$3.5 million from the Transportation Review and Advisory Council (TRAC) and an additional \$275,000 of ODOT district preservation funding. This increased the commitment from these sources combined from \$12.18 million to \$15.955 million.

The current MORPC funding commitment towards this project is a fixed \$10 million. Per the Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funding, there is an allowance for an increase for most typical funding commitments should bids come in higher than anticipated. However, funding commitments that are a fixed amount have no leeway for allowing for an increase in funding should bids come in higher. As a result, this resolution is necessary to increase the funding commitment for this project and MORPC staff recommends approval of the requested funding commitment increase to \$12 million.

NTG:TG

Attachment: Resolution T-4-22

## RESOLUTION T-4-22

### **“Adoption of Revised Funding Commitment for US 33/SR 161/Post Road Interchange Project”**

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Committee of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Columbus metropolitan planning area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO is responsible for allocating certain federal transportation funds that are attributed to it; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Committee adopted Resolution T-9-97, "Principles for Allocation of MORPC-Attributable Federal Funding," in order to fairly allocate these funds in conformance with federal and state laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, it most recently adopted revised management tools in the Policies by Resolution T-4-20, "Adopting 'Policies for Managing MORPC-Attributable Funds'"; and

WHEREAS, Resolution T-2-21, "Adopting MORPC-Attributable Funding Commitments," included a \$10 million fixed commitment for the US 33/SR 161/Post Road Interchange Project; and

WHEREAS, ongoing inflation has caused significant increases to the cost of construction since MORPC \$10 million funding commitment; and

WHEREAS, the bids for the US 33/ SR 161/Post Road were opened on March 10, 2022, with the best bidder exceeding the final state estimate by approximately 10%, and

WHEREAS, the Union County Engineer's Office and the City of Dublin have successfully secured increased ODOT funding for the project with an increase from the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) of \$3.5 million (from \$11.3 million) and an increase from District 6 of \$275,000 (from \$880,000); and

WHEREAS, the Union County Engineer's Office and the City of Dublin have requested the MORPC-Attributable Funding Commitment for the US 33/SR 161/Post Road Interchange Project be increased from \$10 million to \$12 million; and

WHEREAS, the project remains consistent with the transportation policies, plans, and programs, including the most recent Metropolitan Transportation Plan adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee at its meeting on April 6, 2022, recommended approval of this resolution to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Section 1. That it commits to increasing the funding for the US 33/ SR 161/Post Road interchange from \$10 million to \$12 million.
- Section 2. That it authorizes staff to modify the TIP to reflect the updated MORPC-attributable funding commitment.

Resolution T-4-22

April 14, 2022

Page 2 of 2

- Section 3. That this resolution will be transmitted to ODOT, the Union County Engineer's Office and the City of Dublin for appropriate action.
- Section 4. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

---

Erik J. Janas, Chair  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

---

Date

Prepared by: Transportation Staff





**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Commission Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 10, 2022  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Location: MORPC Town Hall

**Commission Members Present In Person**

Chris Amorose Groomes	Shane Farnsworth	Rory McGuinness
Karen Angelou	Cindi Fitzpatrick	Rozland McKee
Joe Antram	Jennifer Gallagher	Mitch Noland
Herb Asher	Jeff Gottke	John O'Grady
Paul Benedetti	Dave Gulden	Jeryne Peterson
Lee Bodnar	Bill Habig	Rod Pritchard
Stacey Boumis	Matt Huffman	Ryan Rivers
Taylor Brill	Pamela Hykes O'Grady	Cornell Robertson
Michaela Burris	Monica Irelan	Mike Schadek
Franklin Christman	Laurie Jadwin	David Scheffler
Ben Collins	Erik Janas	Jim Schimmer
Tina Cottone	James Jewell	Elissa Schneider
Michelle Crandall	Emily Keeler	Kent Shafer
Karl Craven	Ben Kesler	Matt Starr
Joy Davis	Bill Lafayette	Nancy White
Rick Dzik	Greg Lestini	Kenneth Wright
Brad Ebersole	Glenn Marzluf	

**Commission Members Attending Remotely**

Mike Anderson	Eric Meyer	Ben Stahler
Susan Brobst	Bill Pursel	Jim Stanley
Mike Ebert	Bryan Rhoads	Joe Stefanov
Terry Emery	Eric Richter	John Trujillo
Luke Feeney	Lauren Rummel	Tony Vogel
Tom Homan	Lori Sanders	RC Wise
Christine Houk	Steve Schoeny	
Herb Koehler	Alana Shockey	

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Present In Person**

Kristen Easterday	Thom Slack
-------------------	------------

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely**

Chris Harkness	Kim Sharp for Joanna	Dan Sowry
Isaac Robinson	Pinkerton	

**Associate Members Present In Person**

Jennifer Fish	Kristin Sutton
---------------	----------------

**MORPC Staff Present in Person**

Kerstin Carr	Shawn Hufstедler	Shari Saunders
Thea Ewing	Niel Jurist	Maria Schaper
Amanda Frey	Eileen Leuby	Bevan Schneck
Joe Garrity	William Murdock	Brandi Whetstone
Ralonda Hampton	Anthony Perry	Robert Williams

**MORPC Staff Attending Remotely**

Ethan Hug	Anabel Pederson
Alisa Obukhova	Alexander Schepflin

**Guests Present in Person**

Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
--	--

**Guests Attending Remotely**

Erin Grushon, Burgess & Niple	Andrew Shepler, ODOT
Shawn Ross, City of Grandview Heights	Nick Soulas, FCEO

**Meeting Called to Order – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair**

Chair Karen Angelou called the Commission meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

In honor of Women’s History Month, Chair Angelou shared the story of Jen Malenke who overcame personal challenges to begin a successful musical and acting career. The song of the month, [Bridge Over Troubled Water](#), featured Ms. Malenke and her mentor Josh Groban.

Chair Angelou congratulated SWACO’s Ty Marsh on his retirement at the end of March.

**Nominating Committee Report – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Secretary**

Chris Amorose Grooms thanked Nominating Committee members Jeff Benton, Mike Schadek, Franklin Christman, and Nancy White for their participation on this year’s committee. The Nominating Committee makes the following recommendations:

- Nominees for Officers for one-year Officer Terms (expires 2023)
  - Chair: Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Franklin County
  - Vice Chair: Chris Amorose Grooms, Council Member, City of Dublin
  - Secretary: Michelle Crandall, City Manager, City of Hilliard
- Nominees for Executive Committee
  - Renewal of one-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2023)
    - Joe Stefanov, Chair of Building Committee, City Manager, City of New Albany
    - Karen Angelou, Immediate Past Chair of MORPC, Council Member, City of Gahanna
    - Kim Maggard, Chair of Reserve & Investment Advisory Committee, Mayor, City of Whitehall
    - Rory McGuinness, Chair of Bylaws Committee, Deputy Director, City of Columbus
  - Renewal of two-year Executive Committee Terms (expires 2024)
    - Michelle Crandall, City Manager, City of Hilliard
    - David Scheffler, Mayor, City of Lancaster
    - Greg Lestini, Attorney, Bricker & Eckler LLP, Franklin County Representative
    - Franklin Christman, Administrator, Village of Ashville
    - Chris Amorose Grooms, Council Member, City of Dublin

The recommendations will be presented for adoption at the April Commission meeting.

**Recognition of Guests – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer**

Eileen Leuby welcomed new members and representatives:

- Matt Starr, City of Mount Vernon
- Shane Farnsworth, Jackson Township
- Rod Pritchard, Prairie Township
- James Jewell, Prairie Township
- Monica Irelan, City of Westerville
- Michaela Burris, City of Upper Arlington
- Tina Cottone, City of Hilliard

Ms. Leuby welcomed guests:

- Shawn Ross, City of Grandview Heights Intern

**Executive Director's Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

William Murdock welcomed members and guests. The state legislature is allowing remote voting for public meetings through June of this year. Members attending remotely can vote online using the Microsoft Teams Chat function.

Mr. Murdock thanked those that attended the session with Director Mihalik. More of these sessions will be offered throughout the year. Contact MORPC Team Members with suggested guests. The sessions give the opportunity to hear from and engage with important community leaders, participate in more intimate networking, and make the Commission meeting a more succinct business meeting.

Mr. Murdock and Eileen Leuby continue with membership visits. There is so much going on in Central Ohio. While we have been planning a long time for the current investment and economic development happening, we may need to plan a little faster, invest a little more and work together a little tighter during this incredible time in Central Ohio.

Over one hundred people attended the February 24 Intel Project Listening Session with an additional fifty plus online. The first part of the session provided information and then we just listened and received an incredible amount of feedback. MORPC has a great partnership with Licking County Regional Planning. Kerstin Carr and Thea Ewing are going to give more information on the listening session later in today's meeting.

One of MORPC's goal is to drive investment to members. Our full-time Grants Officer is starting Monday. Her job is to review the opportunities from the bipartisan infrastructure law and connect those funds to the region and help members apply for grants.

MORPC met with the Columbus Partnership and Amtrak on March 2. There is significant interest and a broad spectrum of support in restoring Columbus and Central Ohio to the nation's passenger rail map. Team Members are trying to identify the best opportunities. Let Mr. Murdock know if you are interested in being more involved.

MORPC, ULI Columbus and Metro Parks are working to setup the Rapid 5 project as a nonprofit organization to carry the mission forward.

Upcoming events:

- Northeast Regional Collaboration – March 29, 9 a.m., Village of Galena
- Mid-Ohio Finance Administrators – March 21, 11 a.m., Virtual
- Smart Cities Connect – April 4-7, Columbus – registration is free for local governments
- Beyond Inclusion: Building a Community of Belonging – May 24, 10 a.m., MORPC – in partnership with the YWCA
- MORPC's State of the Region – March 16, 11:30 a.m., Greater Columbus Convention Center – keynote speaker Andy Berke

Mr. Murdock congratulated Niel Jurist for being named a Diversity Champion in Central Ohio by Columbus Business First

- **Intel Update – Kerstin Carr, MORPC Chief Regional Strategy Officer & Senior Director of Planning and Thea Ewing, MORPC Chief Regional Development Officer & Senior Director of Programming**

Kerstin Carr and Thea Ewing gave an [Update on the Regional Intel Listening Session](#). The session, hosted by MORPC in partnership with Licking County Planning, allowed One Columbus to give a more in-depth overview of the Intel project and gave community leaders the chance to ask questions and share concerns.

The CHIPS Act will provide significant funding and incentives for additional investment. Preconstruction activities to prepare the site and transportation network will start this spring. There are about twenty counties within a 60-minute drive of the Intel site.

Session participants were asked to describe in three words how they are feeling. They are full of excitement and optimism but also showed anxiety and uncertainty. The four main concerns raised were:

- Where are people going to live?
- How will this impact traffic and commute patterns?
- How are we attracting the right workforce to our region? What educational or career-oriented programs do we need to create?
- How are we handling the immense water needs while ensuring good quality and abundant water?

The main opportunities listed were:

- Economic development.
- High-paying jobs.
- Workforce preparation.

Next steps include:

- Starting in May, MORPC will host regular Listening & Best Practices Sessions around specific topics.
- Create a National Advisory Team and a Local Consultancy Team.
- Regional coordination and deployment on housing, infrastructure & mobility, resource consumption and workforce.

**Proposed Resolution 04-22: “Accepting the City of Mount Vernon as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)” – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

Joe Antram made a motion to approve Resolution 04-22, second by Ben Kessler; motion passed.

**Proposed Resolution 05-22: “Accepting Jackson Township (Franklin County) as a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)” – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

Emily Keeler made a motion to approve Resolution 05-22, second by Nancy White; motion passed.

**Committees**

**Regional Data Advisory Committee – Brad Ebersole (Delaware County), Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair**

Brad Ebersole presented the [Regional Data Advisory Committee Update](#). The mission of the Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC) is to advance data policies and strategic actions to

increase access to open data in Central Ohio. RDAC created three working groups to help move the mission forward.

- A large focus for the Local Government Resources group is creating a resource library.
- The Partnerships & Capacity Building group is setting up a Data Day that will focus on the 2020 Census and labor statistics. The group is also exploring a project providing data resources training.
- The Municipal Fiber Strategy group is interested in developing a regional fiber network.

The Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) and the Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) meet regularly to share information and best practices. The user groups are open to all members and are well attended (typically 40+ people participating each time).

Let Brad Ebersole or Kerstin Carr know if you are interested in participating on a working or user group.

### **Regional Policy Roundtable – David Scheffler (City of Lancaster), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair**

David Scheffler presented the [Regional Policy Roundtable Update](#). The Roundtable met in-person February 22. New vice chair Lourdes Barroso is leading the Public Policy Agenda Working Group. Contact Joe Garrity if you are interested in serving on the working group. Mayor Scheffler thanked those serving on the Roundtable. State capital budget submissions are due March 18. Joe Garrity and Steve Tugend are available to help.

- **Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joe Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Engagement**  
Joe Garrity and Steve Tugend gave the legislative update highlighting the following:
  - Association of Defense Communities Conference
  - Federal funding package
  - Member directed spending
  - State Capital Budget
  - HB 283 – distracted driving
  - Central Ohio Defense Group – May 10 fly-in

See the [March 2022 Monthly Legislative Update](#) for other legislative news.

### **Sustainability Advisory Committee – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair**

Ben Kessler presented the [Sustainability Advisory Committee Report](#). The Sustainability Advisory Committee welcomed new committee members at their February 16 meeting.

MORPC released its annual air quality report. The air quality in Central Ohio continues to improve. For the first time since air quality record-keeping began in 1980, no Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups days for ozone were observed in Central Ohio during the ozone forecast season. The 2022 ozone monitoring season began March 1. Visit [morpc.org/airquality](http://morpc.org/airquality) to sign up for air quality forecasts and alerts.

The City of Upper Arlington is the first municipality in Ohio to earn the Gold SolSmart designation. SolSmart is a U.S. DOE-sponsored designation program that helps streamline local government processes to make doing solar easier and more efficient for residents and

businesses. In Central Ohio, Franklin County and the Village of Somerset previously earned the Bronze designation. We expect more designations in Central Ohio this year.

The consultants for the Central Ohio Greenways Trail Town Framework are Toole Design and Cycle Forward. We completed government leader interview meetings with four communities along the Ohio to Erie Trails and heard an overwhelming desire to actively participate in a regional trail town program that will provide branding and marketing guidance. Communities are also interested in an improved trail infrastructure to benefit residents and draw tourists. The results of a community survey sent to residents in the four communities show that residents are highly invested in the trail. The next phase of the project focuses on establishing a trail town framework including operations cost estimates, certification requirements, and other details.

**Transportation Policy Committee – Karen Angelou (City of Gahanna), MORPC Chair**

Chair Angelou called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:28 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:36 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

**Commission Consent Agenda**

David Scheffler made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Brad Ebersole; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

---

Chris Amorose Groomes, Secretary  
**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**