

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Remote Meeting

Regional Data Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes

May 25, 2021, 10:30 am

Members Present

Charlie Burks, Columbus Metropolitan Library
Christina Drummond, Educopia
Chair Brad Ebersole, Consolidated Electric
Cooperative, Inc.
Shoreh Elhami, City of Columbus
Vice-Chair Jung Kim, One Columbus
Tom Kneeland
Bill LaFayette, Regionomics®
David Landsbergen, OSU John Glenn College

Doug McCollough, City of Dublin
Jonathan Miller, Delaware County Regional
Planning Commission
Gene Oliver, City of Worthington
Tom Reed, Educational Service Center of
Central Ohio
Rick Stein, Urban Decision Group
Drew Williams, City of Columbus

MORPC Staff Present

Joe Garrity
Lynn Kaufman

Cheri Mansperger
Aaron Schill

Liz Whelan-Jackson

Meeting Called to Order at 10:35 am.

2021-2022 RDAC Priorities & Working Groups – Brad Ebersole & Aaron Schill

Background of Priorities

Prior to the April 6, 2021, RDAC meeting, Members identified 22 potential priority projects from the 2021-2022 Regional Data Agenda. At the April 6 meeting this list was narrowed to seven:

- 1.2.5 ... Provide guidance to local governments in the creation and management of open data resources
- 1.3.5 ... Build partnerships with associations of Central Ohio data leaders
- 1.4.1 ... Develop best-practice case studies on how data can be used to make better policy decisions
- 2.3 Establish a regional Data Day to promote data education and access throughout Central Ohio
- 3.1.3 ... Compile best practices for data governance
- 5.3 Build capacity and collaboration in Central Ohio to address digital equity needs
- 6.2.4 ... Create community partnerships to provide free/reduced cost data and mapping services to underserved populations

RDAC leadership and Staff proposed addressing these seven priorities by the creation of three new Working Groups:

Partnership & Capacity-Building Working Group

This Group will address many of the objectives & action items of Goals 1 and 2. Examples of the duties of this Working Group include guidance for RIDG & COGUG, advancing MORPC's data partnerships, and overseeing capacity-building efforts like a Data Academy or Data Day Conference.

Local Government Resources Working Group

This Group will address objectives and action items under several goals, with focus on the development of specific data-related supports and resources for MORPC Members. An example would include the current project to develop the Data Policy Survey & Toolkit.

Broadband & Digital Equity Working Group

This Group will primarily address Goal 5, which is a high-priority, emerging area of work for MORPC. Directional guidance from RDAC on this topic will be important.

Each of these Working Groups will have objectives and deliverables. As these objectives and deliverables are met / have been completed, the Group will move on to the next priority within that Group's scope. The Working Groups will also be flexible, with the ability to adjust Group membership to include non-RDAC members and to adjust membership upon completion of initiatives.

In June, Members will receive meeting notes and a form to return to Staff, expressing their preference of which Working Group to join. Staff and Working Group Members will create meeting schedules after the assignments have been completed.

Regional Public Policy Update – Joe Garrity

Click [here](#) for the presentation.

Working Group Reports

Data Policy Needs Survey & Toolkit – Aaron Schill

The Survey should be distributed in June, and will go to every top level administrator, technology director and law director at each MORPC Member government. MORPC has 75 Members, so there will be several hundred surveys distributed. The goal is to gather different perspectives from each organization.

Regional Municipal Fiber Strategy – Gene Oliver

The Group is finalizing a non-binding letter of intent to present to city leaders. Working Group Members will also be researching grant funding to finalizing the design and implementation plans.

Initially, nine communities will be invited to participate in the project. Those communities were identified by having significant fiber assets built in the region and being immediately adjacent to pop locations (where the fiber can be tied into the network). The focus is on public service and operational efficiency. A use case for local government would be the sharing of secure data between police departments.

COVID-19 Policy Briefs – Liz Whelan-Jackson

Click [here](#) to see the presentation, and click [here](#) to view the Policy Briefs.

Aaron Schill asked that RDAC Members:

- Encourage others to internalize these briefs in their work.
- Share the briefs with their contacts.
- Encourage additional dialogue with community leaders and anyone that this info will help – MORPC Staff will be happy to present at public meetings.

MORPC Staff Updates

2020 Census – *Aaron Schill*

- The Census reapportionment data was delivered to the President and to Congress; Ohio lost one Congressional seat
- The Census Bureau has proposed a change to the urbanized area designation. This will directly impact the definition of Metropolitan Planning Organizations and how transportation funding is allocated to regions, which is the core of MORPC's work. Staff is still researching what this will mean to MORPC and to the region. MORPC sent a comment letter to the Census Bureau expressing concerns, which is available to RDAC Members upon request.

Central Ohio GIS User Group – *Cheri Mansperger*

The Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG) met on May 19 with 45 attendees, and discussed the 2021 ESRI User Conference and the 2021 Ohio GIS Conference. Adam Ingram, Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security, gave a presentation regarding GIS & Emergency Management. The next COGUG meeting will be on August 11.

Regional Information & Data Group – *Liz Whelan-Jackson*

The Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG) met on May 5 with 43 attendees. Members heard presentations from Dave Van Riper of the National Historical Geographic Information System, which is a data product that conforms historical Census data to current geographic boundaries and population classifications. Vice-Chair Langdon Sanders gave an overview of Jupyter Notebook. RIDG will meet again on August 4.

Other Business

Aaron announced that he will be leaving MORPC later this summer or fall. Chair Ebersole Brad noted Aaron's excellent leadership and work and that he will be missed by MORPC and RDAC Members.

Adjourned at 12:03 pm.