



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

NOTICE OF A MEETING

CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD

January 19, 2022 | 10:00 – 11:30

REMOTE MEETING

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Year End Review / 2022 goals
3. Working Group Reports
 - a. Trail Development
 - i. Regional Trail Vision
 1. Summary of Regional Trail Vision and Trail Definitions
 2. Review proposed Vision Updates
 - b. Marketing & Communications
 - i. Trail Towns
Motion to add River to River Trail, Jefferson Twp Trail, Pickaway County Trail, Lockbourne Trail.
Motion passed.
 - c. Operation & Access
 - i. Wayfinding
 - d. Partnerships
 - i. Working Group Expansion
4. Other Business
5. Adjourn

Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or LKaufman@morpc.org to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

The next Central Ohio Greenways Board Meeting will be
March 9, 2022, 10:00 am.
Location to be Determined.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Karen J. Angelou
Chair

Erik J. Janas
Vice Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Remote Meeting

Central Ohio Greenways Board

January 19, 2022

Members Present

Chair Mike Andrako, Franklin County
Engineer's Office
Laura Ball, City of Westerville
Ariunaa Bayanjargal, Ohio Clinicians for
Climate Action
Kacey Brankamp, Capital Crossroads &
Discovery SID
Bertie Fields, Black Girls do Bike
Catherine Girves, Cycling Advocate
Bill Habig, Granville Township, Licking County

Adrienne Joly, City of New Albany
Alex Nouanesengsy, LCATS
Eric Oberg, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Andrew Overbeck, MKSK
Wayne Roberts, Friends of the Madison
County Park & Trails
Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Kelly Scocco, City of Columbus
Julie Walcoff, Toole Design
Brad Westall, City of Columbus

Public Present

Nina Duerk, Strand Associates

MORPC Staff Present

Lauren Cardoni
Lynn Kaufman

Jennifer Noll
Melinda Vonstein

Jasmine Walker



Central Ohio Greenways

Board Meeting
January 19, 2022



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

COG BOARD MEMBERS



MORPC

- CHAIR Mike Andrako
Franklin County Engineers Office
- Laura Ball, PLA, ASLA – *Chair Trail Development WG*
The City of Westerville
- Kacey Brankamp
Capital Crossroads and Discovery SID
- Alex Nouanesengsy
LCATS
- Eric Oberg
Rails to Trails Conservancy
- Andrew Overbeck, AICP
MKSK
- Tony Slanec
OHM Advisors
- Scott Ulrich, AICP, CNU-A, LCI
Columbus Public Health
- Julie Walcoff
Toole Design
- Brad Westall
Columbus Recreation & Parks
- Ariunaa Bayanjargal
Ohio Clinicians For Climate Action
- Bertie Fields
Black Girls do Bike
- Catherine Girves – *Chair Operations & Access WG*
Cycling Advocate / Yay Bikes / Toole Design
- Autumn Glover
OSU / ULI
- Bill Habig – *Chair Partnerships WG*
Granville
- Adrienne Joly, *Chair - Marketing WG*
New Albany
- Dan Kaderly
Metro Parks
- Wayne Roberts
Friends of the Madison County Parks & Trails
- Letty Schamp, P.E.
The City of Hilliard
- Kelly Scocco
The City of Columbus

4 Open Board Seats

Working Groups:

1. Operations & Access
2. Trail Development
3. Partnerships
4. Marketing & Communications



2022 Goals



MORPC

- ❑ Intentionally focus on **diversity and inclusion** within the Board, working groups, and project steering committees;
- ❑ **Strengthen collaboration** with partner efforts such as RAPID5, LinkUS, Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO), MORPC Technical Assistance, and Ohio to Erie Trail Board;
- ❑ Identify and actively pursue **funding for large projects**;
- ❑ Evaluate the potential of a **levy-funded trail program**;
- ❑ Identify **shovel ready or planning ready projects**;
- ❑ **Inventory local community trail plans, projects, and visions**;



CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD 2021 YEAR END REVIEW & 2022 GOALS

MORPC is a voluntary association of cities, villages, townships, counties, and regional organizations serving Central Ohio. MORPC takes pride in bringing communities of all sizes and interests together to share best practices and plan for our growing region. The Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Board is a MORPC committee with a mission to expand the number of trail miles and increase the use of trails for all people.

2021 COG Board Accomplishments

The Central Ohio Greenways program has come a long way since its formalization in 2015. The focus over the last few years has been the advancement of the 500-mile Regional Trail Vision. Over the past year alone, under leadership of Board Chair Letty Schamp and MORPC staff, many critical steps have been taken to advance the Vision and raise awareness of the Central Ohio Greenways mission. Key accomplishments of 2021 include:

- The completion of an *Impact of Trails Study*, an effort that built on the 2020 Trail Prioritization study using data to quantify the return on investment of building the COG [Vision](#);
- The advancement of cross-jurisdictional partnerships to apply for [funding](#);
- A collaboration with Experience Columbus to release the Outdoor Trails pass virtual [passport](#);
- The development of a Trail Town Planning Project supported by many partner agencies and rural communities; and
- A collaborative trail monitoring pilot project to evaluate new count equipment and technology on trails.

2022 COG Board Goals

MORPC is excited about the momentum that COG efforts are gaining and is preparing to take bold steps towards a major implementation effort. The recent robust Infrastructure spending bill signed by Congress will provide significant funding opportunities for active transportation and trail-related projects. MORPC and COG intend to support communities across Central Ohio in accessing these funding opportunities and will serve as a leading regional resource for grant and project development.

Additionally in 2022, COG will complete a Trail Town Framework to support rural communities in trail tourism and quality of life efforts; strengthen partnerships with related efforts, including RAPID 5, [LinkUS](#), and other park and transportation efforts; and evaluate the COG Strategic Plan.

MORPC will continue to support the collaborative efforts of four working groups, host [Greenways](#) forums, and participate in local and regional efforts to elevate the mission of COG and shape policies that affect trail building efforts.

Also in 2022, we will welcome new COG Board Chair, Mike Andrako of Franklin County Engineer's Office. Mike is a dedicated supporter of trails and is passionate about fostering regional collaborations to build connectivity. We look forward to his leadership, especially as we prepare to leverage large funding sources to boldly advance the Regional Trail Vision.



2022 Goals

- ❑ **Meet with area communities** to support advancement of plan to feasibility phases;
- ❑ **Conduct a legal analysis** to better understand possibility for trail building that may require some property acquisition;
- ❑ **Draft Maintenance Memorandum of Understandings** to support collaborative efforts among trail managers;
- ❑ Prepare a **COG statement for trail-related Capital Budget** requests;
- ❑ Prepare a **COG statement to the MORPC Attributable Funds Committee** detailing desired requirements for granting federal funds; and
- ❑ Host a **Board Member retreat** to evaluate the short and long-term goals of the COG program.



MORPC



CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD 2021 YEAR END REVIEW & 2022 GOALS

MORPC is a voluntary association of cities, villages, townships, counties, and regional organizations serving Central Ohio. MORPC takes pride in bringing communities of all sizes and interests together to share best practices and plan for our growing region. The Central Ohio Greenways (COG) Board is a MORPC committee with a mission to expand the number of trail miles and increase the use of trails for all people.

2021 COG Board Accomplishments

The Central Ohio Greenways program has come a long way since its formalization in 2015. The focus over the last few years has been the advancement of the 500-mile Regional Trail Vision. Over the past year alone, under leadership of Board Chair Letty Schamp and MORPC staff, many critical steps have been taken to advance the Vision and raise awareness of the Central Ohio Greenways mission. Key accomplishments of 2021 include:

- The completion of an *Impact of Trails Study*, an effort that built on the 2020 Trail Prioritization study using data to quantify the return on investment of building the COG [Vision](#);
- The advancement of cross-jurisdictional partnerships to apply for [funding](#);
- A collaboration with Experience Columbus to release the Outdoor Trails pass virtual [passport](#);
- The development of a Trail Town Planning Project supported by many partner agencies and rural communities; and
- A collaborative trail monitoring pilot project to evaluate new count equipment and technology on trails.

2022 COG Board Goals

MORPC is excited about the momentum that COG efforts are gaining and is preparing to take bold steps towards a major implementation effort. The recent robust Infrastructure spending bill signed by Congress will provide significant funding opportunities for active transportation and trail-related projects. MORPC and COG intend to support communities across Central Ohio in accessing these funding opportunities and will serve as a leading regional resource for grant and project development.

Additionally in 2022, COG will complete a Trail Town Framework to support rural communities in trail tourism and quality of life efforts; strengthen partnerships with related efforts, including RAPID 5, [LinkUS](#), and other park and transportation efforts; and evaluate the COG Strategic Plan.

MORPC will continue to support the collaborative efforts of four working groups, host [Greenways](#) forums, and participate in local and regional efforts to elevate the mission of COG and shape policies that affect trail building efforts.

Also in 2022, we will welcome new COG Board Chair, Mike Andracko of Franklin County Engineer's Office. Mike is a dedicated supporter of trails and is passionate about fostering regional collaborations to build connectivity. We look forward to his leadership, especially as we prepare to leverage large funding sources to boldly advance the Regional Trail Vision.





Trail Development



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

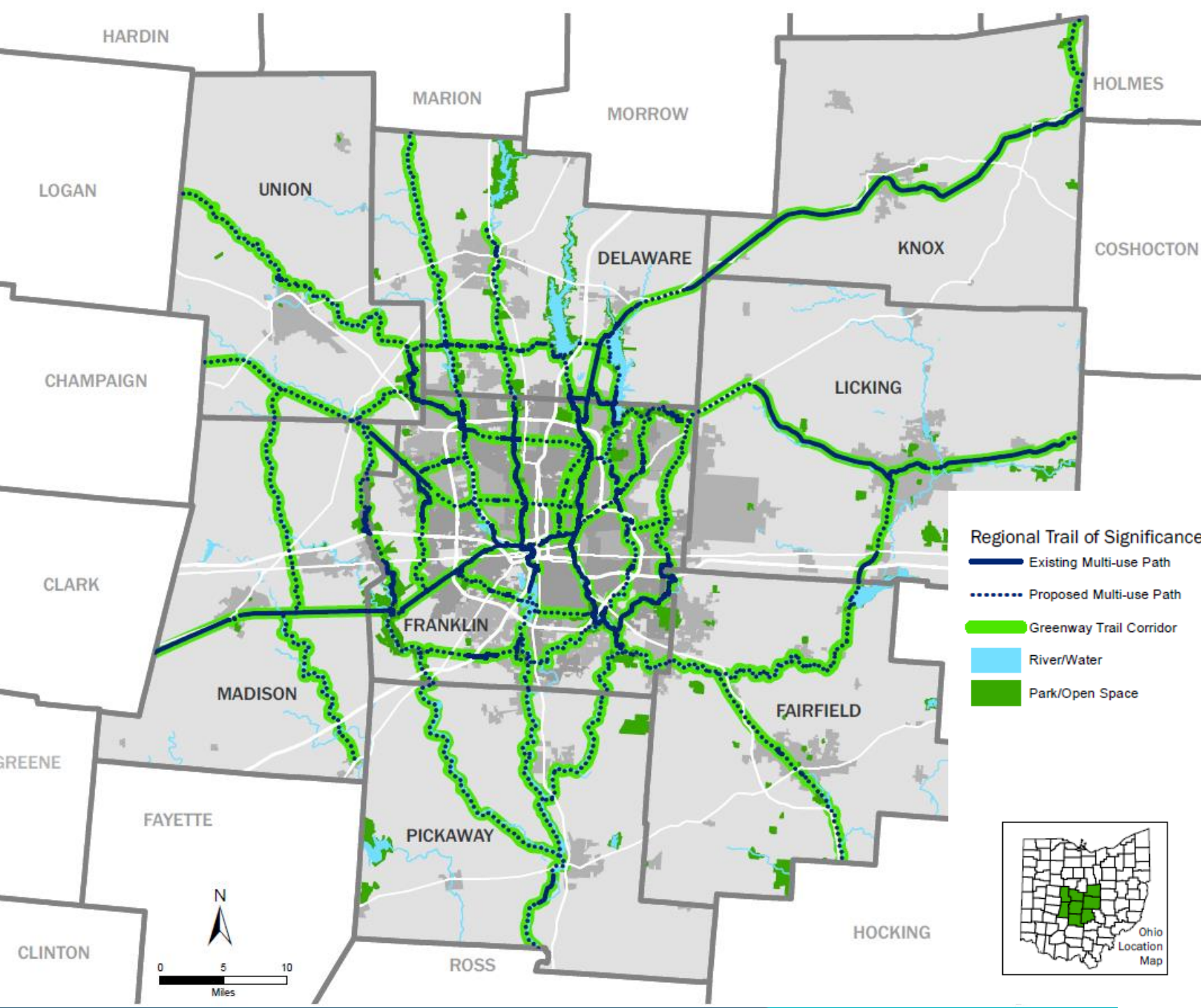


MORPC

Regional Trail Vision

500+ Proposed Trail
Miles

230+ Existing Trail
Miles



Trail Definitions



MORPC

A Trail of Regional Significance is a primary trail, predominantly off-street, that is multi-jurisdictional and connects people to major destination points. These trails have a well maintained, improved surface and should prioritize comfort and safety for trail users. In locations where Trails of Regional Significance intersect or conflict with vehicular traffic, the trail should be emphasized as highly as practicable. Landscaping and buffering should be incorporated into the design of these trails. Access to amenities, such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and parking, should be provided periodically. Wayfinding, snow & ice removal, maintenance, and 24/7 access of Trails of Regional Significance are critical to ensure that reliable and equitable access is provided to all users.

Community COG Trail Connectors are secondary on-and-off street pedestrian and bicycle facilities that provide access from a community to the Trails of Regional Significance

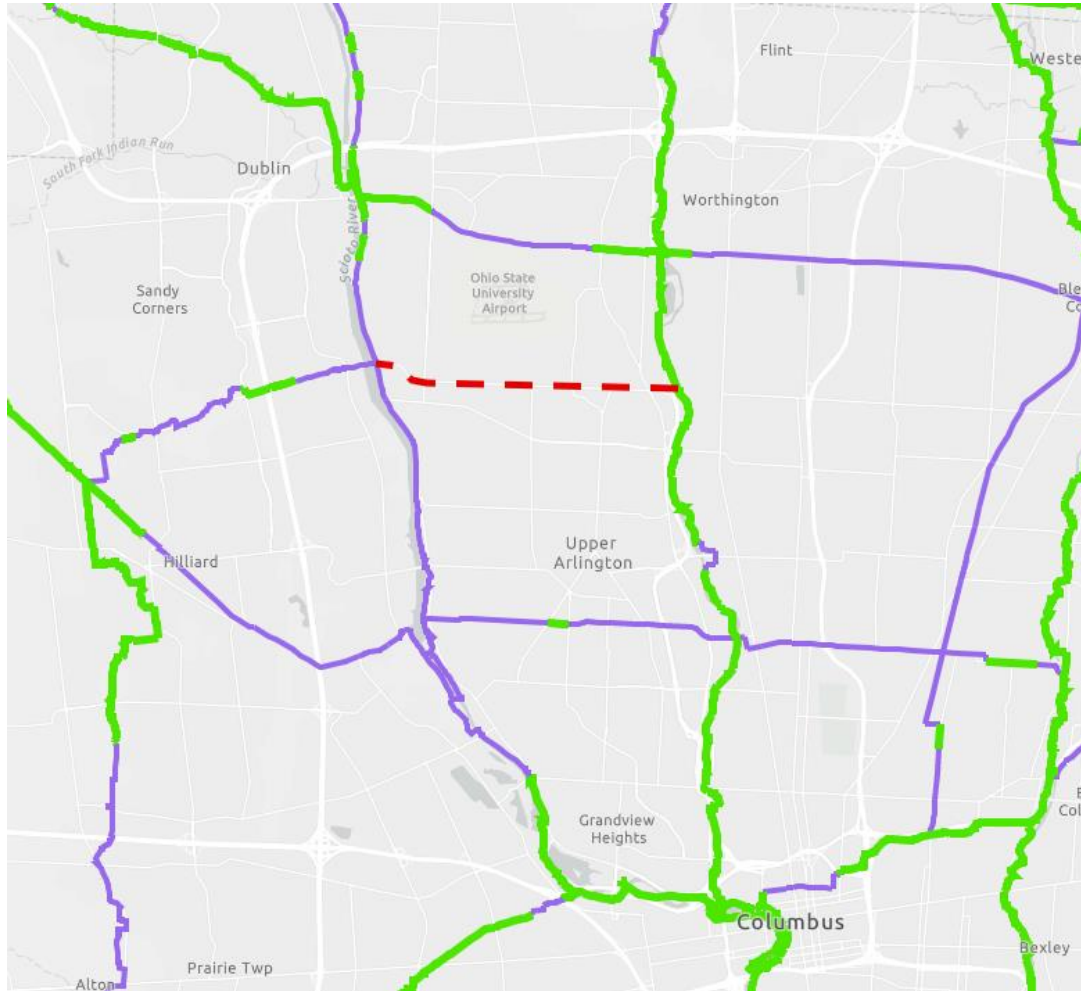
- Community COG Trail Connectors are not identified on the Regional Trail Vision Map, but they have a secondary designation in GIS mapping maintained by MORPC. Community COG Trail Connector locations are to be determined at the discretion of local governments and must provide a connection into to the Trails of Regional Significance.



Proposed Addition: River to River Trail (Bethel)



MORPC



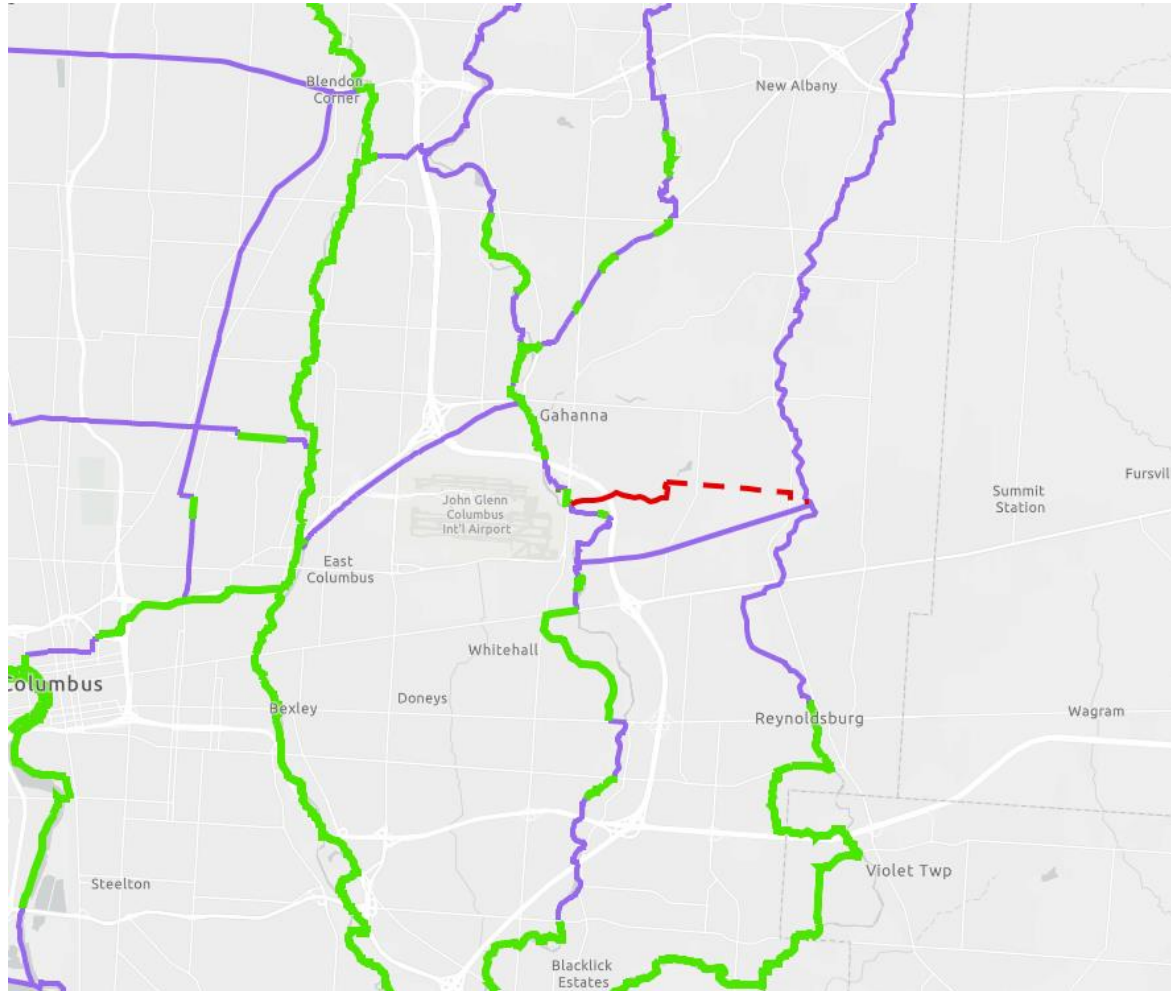
- Bethel Road from Scioto to Olentangy
- LinkUs Connection



Proposed Alternative: Jefferson Township



MORPC



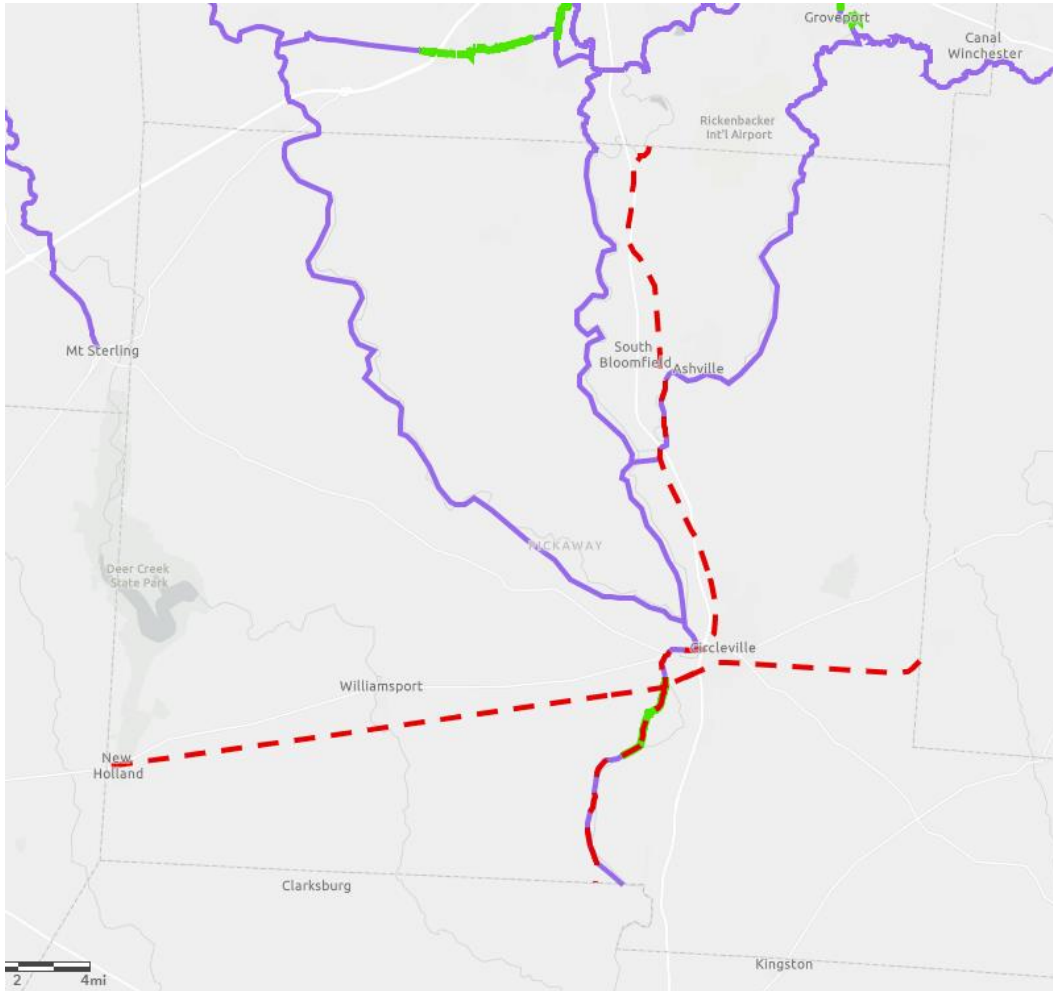
- Remove the proposed trail along active rail
- Add trail along Taylor Road and Tech Center Dr (partially existing)



Proposed Alternative: Pickaway County



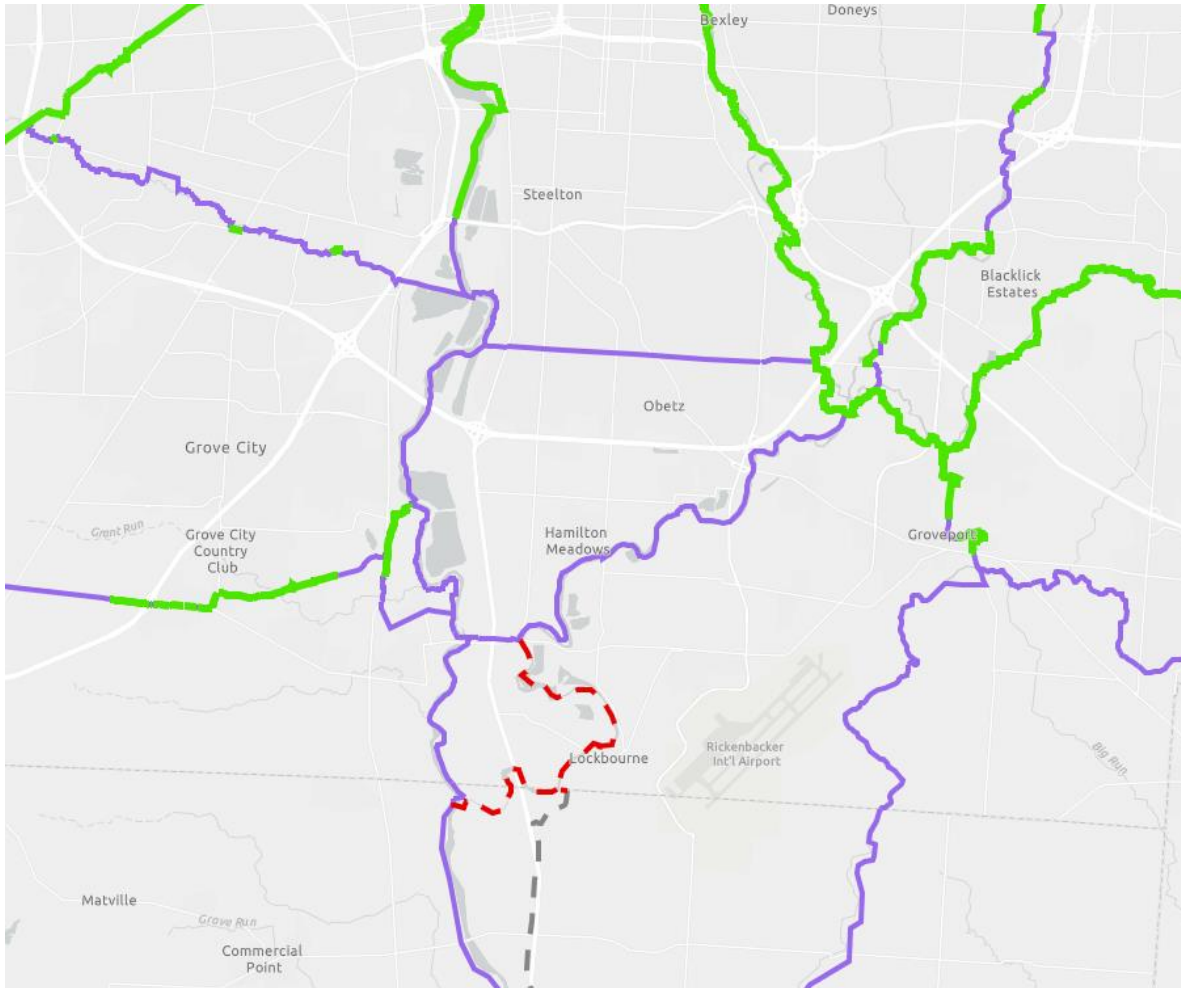
MORPC



- Remove Scioto trail through Pickaway County
- Add Ohio to Erie Canal Way
- Add east/west connection from New Holland - Circleville
- Added trails are identified on Pickaway County's Trail Plan.



Proposed Alternative: Lockbourne



- Connect to Proposed Ohio Canal Way Trail
- Remove proposed trail on London Groveport Road
- Add east/west trail along Big Walnut Creek to connect canal to Scioto trail in Franklin County
- Connects Lockbourne to the COG network

MORPC 2022 Technical Assistance Program Applicants

| Applicant Agency | Requested Activity |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Violet Township - Pickerington, OH | Active Transportation Project Prioritization |
| Franklin Township | Active Transportation Project Prioritization |
| Franklin County Metro Parks | Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement |
| City of Sunbury | Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement |
| City of Columbus | Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement |
| City of Dublin | Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement |





Marketing & Communications



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Central Ohio Greenways Trail Town Framework



MORPC



PART 1

- Asset inventory and trail town visioning



PART 2

- Develop a general framework for a long-term trail town guide in



PART 3

- Short-term local community implementation strategies



Trail Town Definition

A Trail Town is a community through which a trail passes that supports trail users with services, promotes the trail to its residents, and embraces the trail as a resource to be protected and celebrated.

--North Country Trail Coalition (adapted)



Project Purpose

- To develop a Central Ohio Trail Town Framework and related resources that will guide development of a regional trail town initiative.
- This is in support of the larger purposes of:
 - Supporting local quality of life by addressing **active transportation** options for residents
 - Making communities more walkable and bikeable to **maximize trail user visits and trail user spending.**
- Both local and visiting trail users are being considered in all tasks.



December Meeting Takeaways

- The committee wants to be able to see and share trail town success stories.
- Committee members have questions about how the program will be funded and what will be expected of local governments.
- The economic benefit is the hook, but not the only reason to pursue trail towns.
- Branding and wayfinding are top of mind.
- We're not selling trails, we're selling experiences.
- A trail town "vibe" is typically fostered by local people, but a regional effort can help to jumpstart trail culture



What would it mean to be a Central Ohio Trail Town?

- By location
- In the way of services
- By local contribution
- Attitudinally



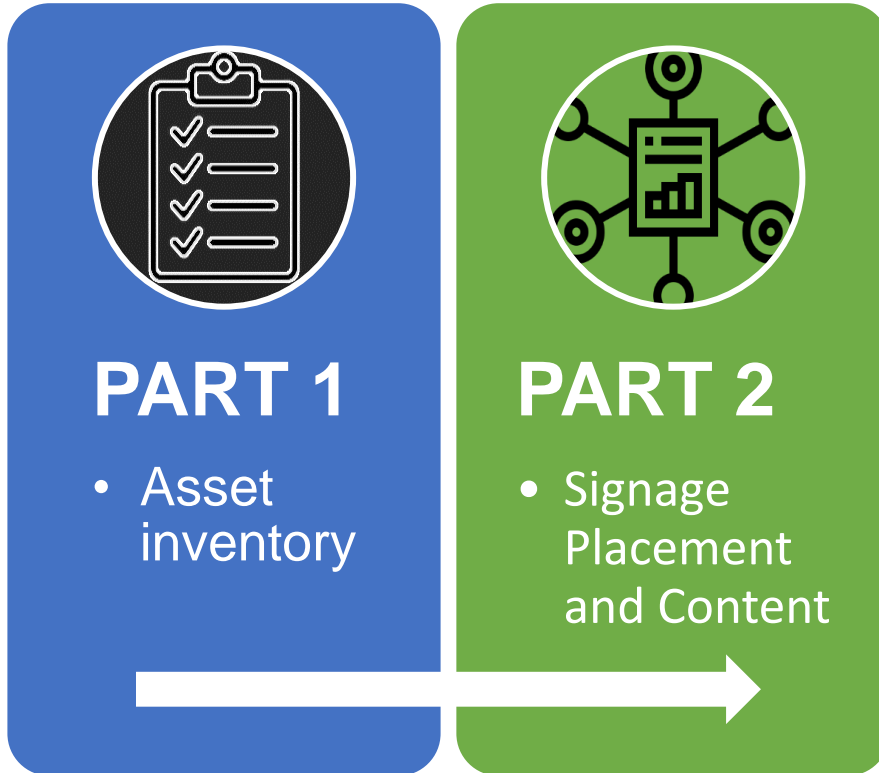


Operations & Access



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Wayfinding Scope of Work



- Focus on one segment of the COG network – OTET;
- Serve as an extension or next phase of the COG Trail Town Effort;
- Identify an asset inventory collection strategy that is replicable throughout the entire region and state;
- Wayfinding is consistently identified as a top requested amenity in trail user surveys;
- Focus on identifying where people want to go, not branding or signage design;
- MORPC will apply for ODOT SRP Grant
- Other Funding ideas?

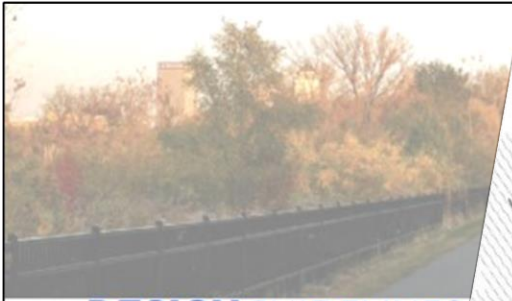


Partnership



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

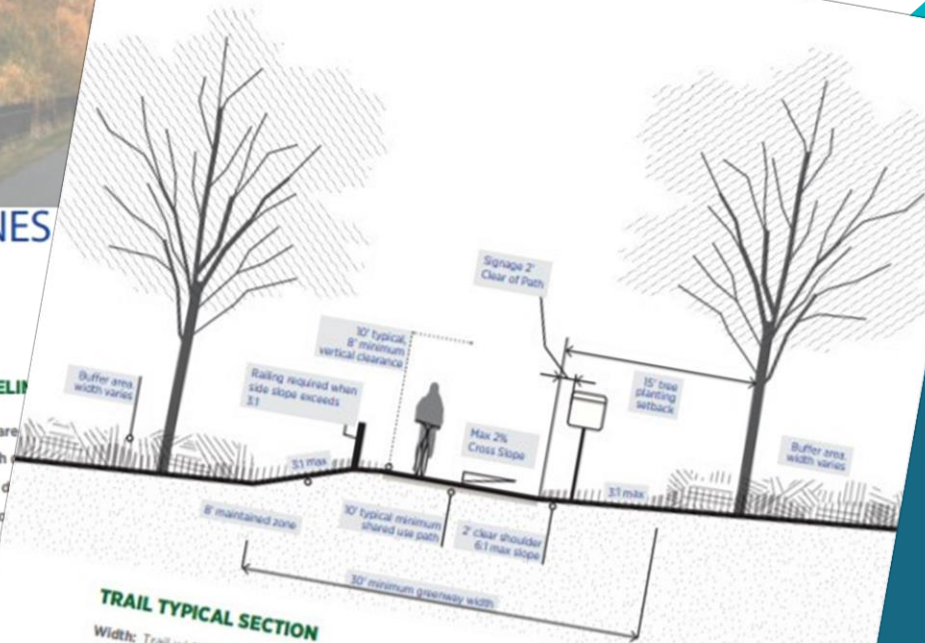
Trail Design Guidelines – Environmental Considerations



DESIGNGUIDELINES

DESIGN GUIDELINE

These guidelines are of shared-use paths some of the basic d can be screened fo they may be exclu expenditures. Th professional eng the path satisfie Transportation Bicycle Facilit standards. Th adopted des offices, Pari



TRAIL TYPICAL SECTION

Width: Trail width should typically be 10-foot minimum. In cases of limited right-of-way, an 8 foot wide trail may be used. A wider trail may be necessary in areas that are expected to have a high number of users and/or a greater mix of user types (cyclists, walkers, in-line skaters, etc.) that require more horizontal space for passing.

Paths should have a maximum of a 2 percent cross slope. The maximum horizontal grade for paths (grades steeper than 5 percent are permitted, but should be limited to 10 percent maximum) should be limited to 10 percent maximum. The maximum horizontal grade for paths should be limited to 10 percent maximum.

Clear Zone: A clear zone should occur on both sides of the shared-use path at a minimum of 2-feet wide. Area should be graded at a maximum slope of 6:1. Additionally, a minimum 1-foot buffer zone between the edge of the graded clear zone and any fixed objects such as signs, mile markers, lighting, or plantings should occur. On bridges this guideline does not apply. The clear zone should include shoulder height obstructions such as pathway signage or fences.

Vertical Clearance: Clear height zone should be a minimum of 8 feet.

Drainage: Path drainage should be a minimum of 1 percent.

Vertical Clearance: Clear height zone should be a minimum of 8 feet, with 10 feet being typical.

Drainage: Path drainage should be addressed to ensure safe passage for users during moderate rain events.

Drainage: Path drainage should be addressed to ensure safe passage.



CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

Urban Greenway Design Guide



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION



Environmental Trail Design



While there are clear environmental benefits of trails and increased trail use; design choices have an impact.

Topics:

- Vegetation, Tree Plantings, etc.
- Trail Material
- Bridges / Boardwalks
- Wetlands
- Slopes
- Closures
- Proximity to sensitive environments
- Others?

THANK YOU!

Mike Andrako, P.E.

Central Ohio Greenways Board

Chair Mobility Engineer

Franklin County Engineers' Office

mandrako@franklincountyengineer.org

Melinda Vonstein, AICP

Central Ohio Greenways Program Manager

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

mvonstein@morpc.org



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

