



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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NOTICE OF A MEETING

REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA WORKSHOP  
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215  
Zoom meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020  
2:00-3:30pm

AGENDA

**2:00** **Welcome** – *Brandi Whetstone, MORPC*

**2:05** **Introductions and Workshop Overview** – *Jason Reece, Consultant and Brandi Whetstone, MORPC*

- Introductions
- Overview of agenda
- Overview of equity recommendations

**2:20** **Small Group Discussion 1** – *Three breakout rooms, facilitated by Brandi Whetstone, Justin Milam, and Alex Slaymaker*

Do the proposed goals encompass top sustainability priorities at a high level? Are there any major omissions or suggestions?

- Improve air quality and reduce energy consumption and emissions to protect public health and reduce the impacts of climate change.
- Protect and preserve natural resources to support healthy and resilient communities, ecosystems and regions.
- Create sustainable neighborhoods and assure access for all residents to sustainable neighborhoods to improve residents' quality of life.

**2:35** **Discussion Ends & Harvest (collect/synthesize notes)**

**2:40** **Small Group Discussion 2** –

What are important equity considerations for the Regional Sustainability Agenda? Can you narrow it down to your top 3?

**2:55** **Discussion Ends & Harvest (collect/synthesize notes)**

- 3:00 Small Group Discussion 3 –**  
Are the equity considerations practical? Can the sustainability-focused goals have an impact on the equity considerations?
- 3:15 Discussion Ends & Harvest (collect/synthesize notes)**
- 3:25 Closing and Next Steps**
- 3:30 Adjourn**

PLEASE NOTIFY LYNN KAUFMAN AT [LKAUFMAN@MORPC.ORG](mailto:LKAUFMAN@MORPC.ORG) TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

# Equity Recommendations for Regional Sustainability Goals & Objectives

A stack of smooth, light-colored stones is positioned on the right side of the page. The stones are stacked vertically, with the largest at the bottom and the smallest at the top. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly sand or gravel.

Review of Regional Sustainability Objectives for Equity Considerations.

Prepared for Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission.

November 2020

Jason Reece, PhD. & Maizie Cheesebrough

# Background

## REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA 2017-2020



ENERGY CONSUMPTION   NATURAL RESOURCES   ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY   SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS   COLLABORATION



### GOAL 1

Reduce per capita **ENERGY CONSUMPTION** and promote alternative fuel resources to increase affordability and resilience of regional energy supplies.

OBJECTIVE	2020 TARGET
1.1 Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).	9,200 VMT per capita (5% reduction)
1.2 Reduce the percentage of commuters driving alone and increase the percentage of commuters riding transit, biking, or walking.	80% of commuters drive alone; 6% of commuters ride transit, bike, or walk
1.3 Increase the percentage of vehicles using alternative fuels.	XX% of registered vehicles use alternative fuels (data and methodology under development)
1.4 Increase the number of trail miles traveled annually.	13 million Central Ohio Greenway trail miles traveled annually
1.5 Increase the number of alternative fuel stations.	220 alternative fuel stations (50% increase)
1.6 Reduce per capita energy consumption across all sectors.	50% reduction in the gap of per capita total energy consumption between Central Ohio and U.S.
1.7 Increase the number of local renewable energy projects and generating capacity.	576 certified renewable energy facilities with 89.4 megawatts of total generating capacity (25% increase)

### GOAL 2

Protect **NATURAL RESOURCES** and mitigate infrastructure vulnerabilities to maintain a healthy ecosystem and community.

OBJECTIVE	2020 TARGET
2.1 Reduce emissions to meet federal air quality standards.	Ozone attainment, PM2.5 attainment
2.2 Increase the number of people receiving air quality information and education.	10% increase in number of people receiving a combination of Air Quality Alerts, Air Quality Alert highway sign exposure, and media marketing exposure
2.3 Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste per capita disposed in the landfill.	4 pounds of waste produced per person per day (6% reduction)
2.4 Minimize greenfield development and promote infill and redevelopment.	50% of development occurred inside the urban area between 2010 and 2020
2.5 Reduce per capita water consumption.	5% reduction in gallons of water per capita consumed
2.6 Improve water quality in the Upper Scioto Watershed.	85% of Upper Scioto sampling sites are in attainment

### GOAL 3

Position Central Ohio to attract and retain **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY** to prosper as a region and compete globally through sustainable practices and solutions.

OBJECTIVE	2020 TARGET
3.1 Increase the number of businesses in Central Ohio with established sustainability policies and practices.	20% increase in the number of GreenSpot businesses
3.2 Increase the number of adopted institutional purchasing policies that support the purchase of local food.	XX% increase in adopted institutional food purchasing policies (data and methodology under development)

### GOAL 4

Create **SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS** to improve residents' quality of life.

OBJECTIVE	2020 TARGET
4.1 Encourage MORPC member communities to adopt complete streets policies or policies that contain those elements.	45% of MORPC member communities have adopted complete streets policies or policies that contain those elements
4.2 Target infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people and jobs, and increase sidewalk coverage of arterials and collectors.	5 people + jobs per acre are within 3/4 mile of arterials; 40% of arterials and collectors have sidewalks
4.3 Reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries from crashes.	0.63 fatalities per 100 million VMT; 5.83 serious injuries per 100 million VMT; 10% reduction in non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries
4.4 Target transit and bikeway infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people.	72% of population live within 3/4 mile of a transit stop; 72% of population live within 3/4 mile of a bikeway
4.5 Increase the annual number of income eligible households receiving free weatherization and safety-related home repairs.	5% increase in the number of households served
4.6 Increase the number of Central Ohio Greenways trail miles.	Build 20 additional miles of Regional Greenways Trails

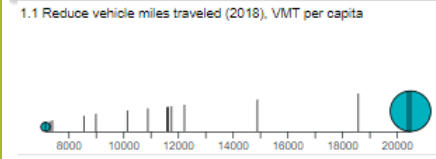
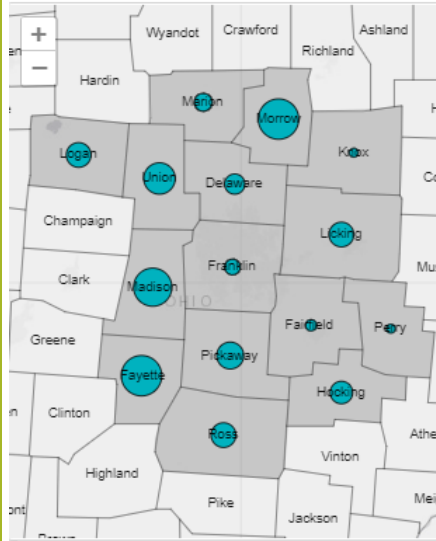
### GOAL 5

Increase regional **COLLABORATION** and educational opportunities to advance innovative sustainability solutions.

OBJECTIVE	2020 TARGET
5.1 Establish the annual Summit on Sustainability as a premiere environmental conference through high participation and visibility.	Increase attendance by 10% annually
5.2 Increase number of local governments committed to sustainability.	100% of MORPC members are committed to sustainability

# Regional Sustainability Dashboard

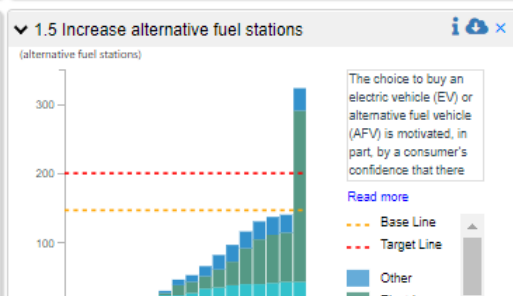
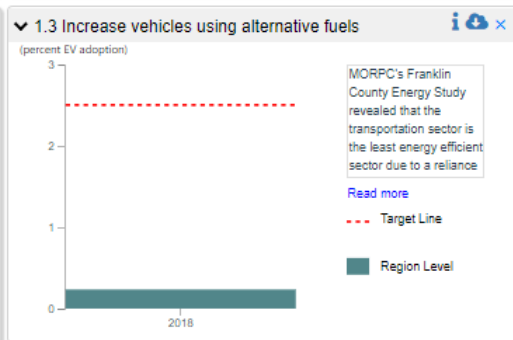
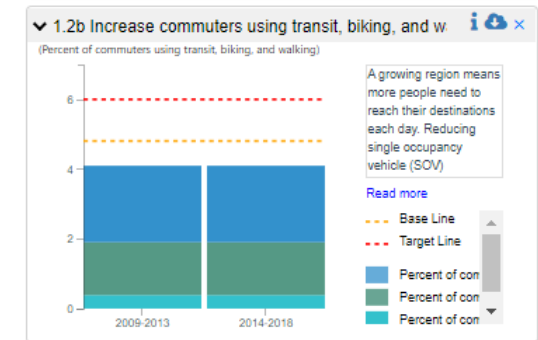
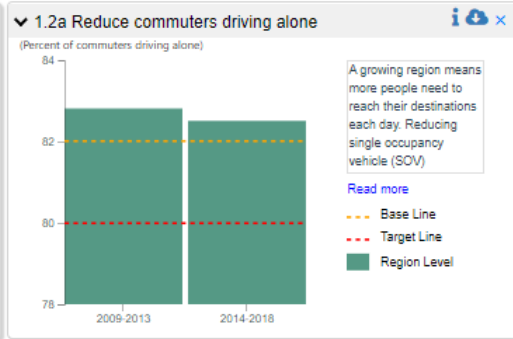
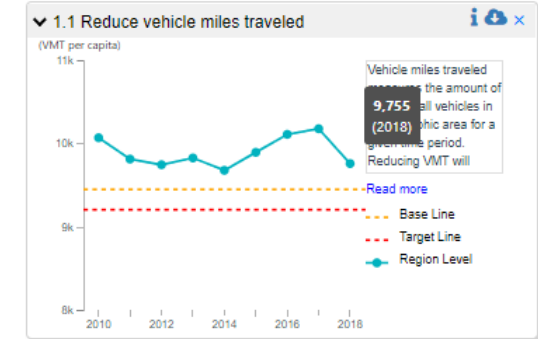
## MORPC Sustainability Dashboard



Options

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
 CENTER FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL ANALYSIS

**MID-OHIO REGIONAL MORPC**  
 PLANNING COMMISSION



# The Process for Updating RSA



- Meeting focus - equity considerations within the context of sustainability
- Capture intent, high level priorities to further shape the RSA framework and the top equity considerations
- There will be other opportunities for review and input along the way

# Scope & Purpose



Review of goals and objectives from the regional sustainability agenda to through the lens of social equity.



Identify a recommendations on additional objectives and considerations in supporting and assessing sustainability in the region.



## REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA REPORT CARD

The 2017-2020 Regional Sustainability Agenda is the guiding document for MORPC's sustainability-focused programming and committees, and provides the framework for members and regional partners to work toward common goals. This report card is intended to measure our region's progress in meeting our 2020 targets.

# Equity and sustainability

## EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Equity is a primary component of sustainability (e.g. the sustainability triangle or triple bottom line).

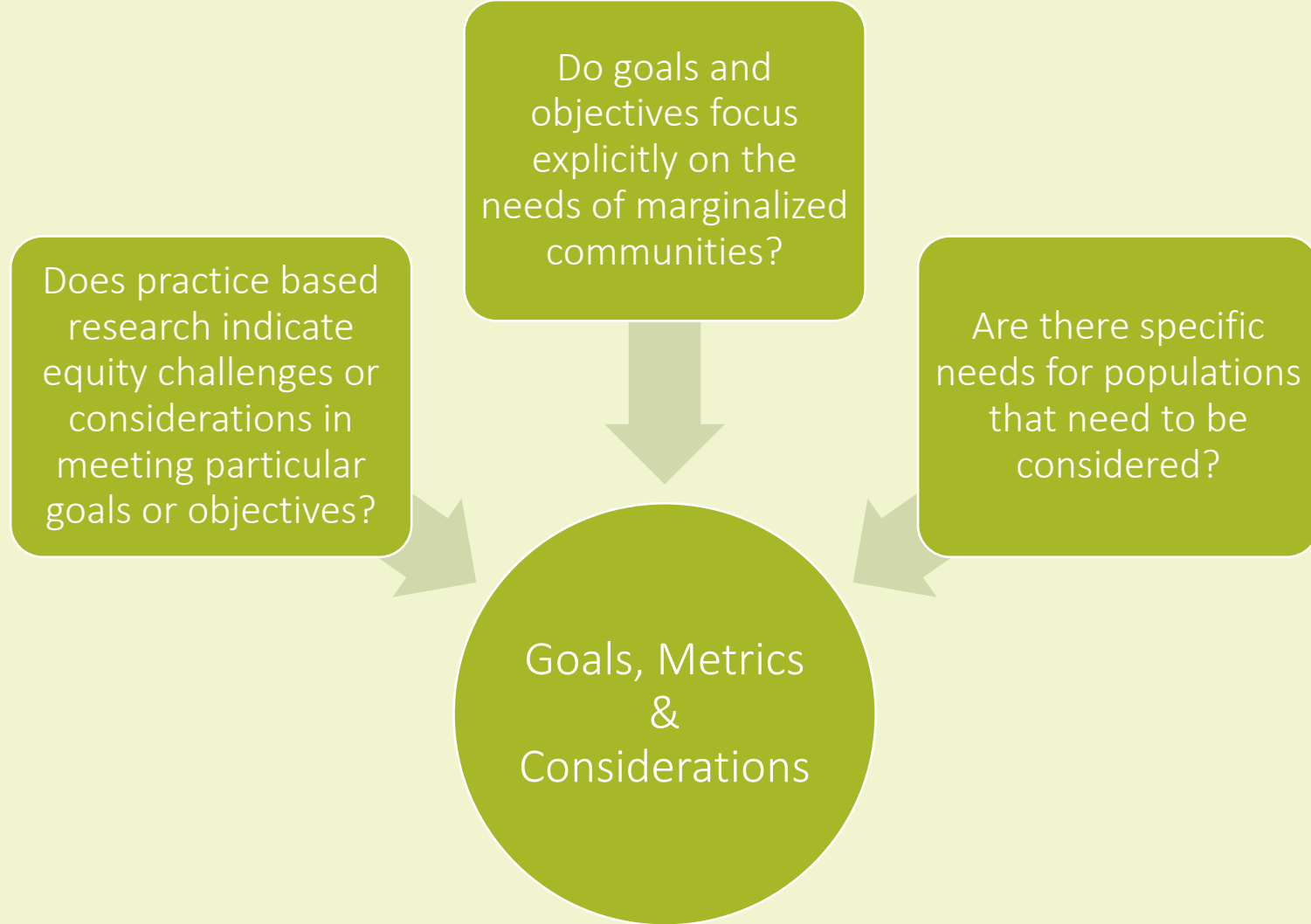
National research has identified limited integration of a robust equity perspective in traditional sustainability efforts

See: Reece (2020) *Supporting Community Development for Marginalized Communities through Regional Sustainability Planning* in the Research Handbook on Community Development.

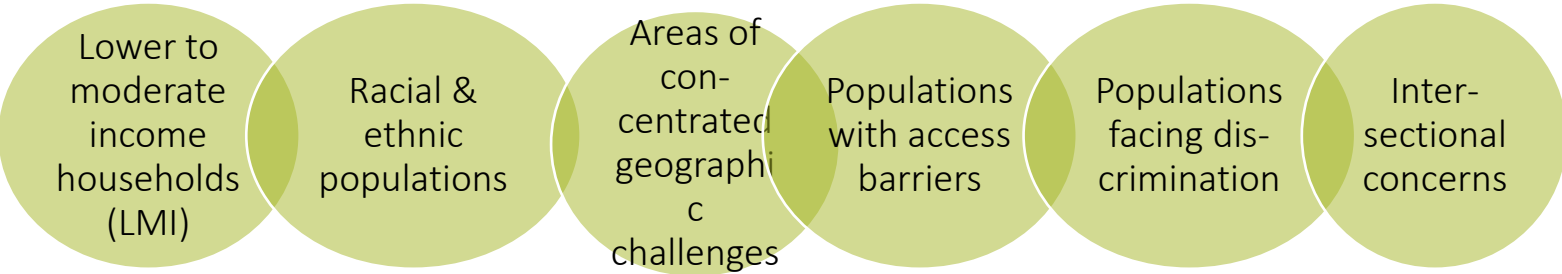
Best practices suggest additional attention should be focused on assuring equity concerns are integrated into sustainability planning efforts.







Integrating equity into sustainability goals and objectives.  
Considerations and questions to pose.



Lower to moderate income households (LMI)

Racial & ethnic populations

Areas of concentrated geographic challenges

Populations with access barriers

Populations facing discrimination

Intersectional concerns

## Who are populations of concern from an equity perspective?

What population are most important to focus on from an equity perspective?

Who faces forms of discrimination (historical or contemporary) that impact quality of life and access.

Who has barriers to opportunity?

There is no simple answer to this question, it requires a robust view of how each goal or objective may intersect with specific community conditions and needs.



# Structure of Recommendations



# Goal 1: Proposed Goal Statement

Improve air quality and reduce energy consumption and emissions to protect public health and reduce the impacts of climate change.



# Objective 1

## OBJECTIVE

Reduce vehicle miles traveled.

### Potential Strategies:

Through infill and mixed-use development, transit-oriented development, transportation investments, travel demand management and encouraging telework.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Expand broadband connectivity in LMI communities to assure LMI households have adequate connectivity to support telework.
  - Support inclusionary housing options in infill development, redevelopment and transit-oriented development areas.
- **Alignment with regional affordable housing strategy goals.**

# Objective 1 (cont.)

## OBJECTIVE

Reduce vehicle miles traveled.

### Potential Strategies:

Through infill and mixed-use development, transit-oriented development, transportation investments, travel demand management and encouraging telework.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Reduce travel times for LMI households utilizing public transit.

# Objective 2

## OBJECTIVE

Increase the proportion of commuters using alternative forms of transportation.

### Additional Objectives:

Reduce the cost of commuting.

Reduce the percentage of commuters driving alone

Increase the percentage of commuters riding transit, bicycle or walking.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure reduction in commute time disparities between equity populations (LMI and racial/ethnic groups) who utilize transit.
- Assure equitable access to non-motorized and transit infrastructure in LMI areas.

# Objective 3

## OBJECTIVE

Increase the percentage of vehicles using alternative fuels (or focus explicitly on electric vehicles).

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Encourage EV use in core urban neighborhoods with more air quality challenges.
- Expand access to charging stations; seek to resolve neighborhood charging deserts.



# Objective 4

## OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of trail miles and trail miles traveled within the region.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Support safe accessibility to trails for LMI communities and those with barriers.

# Objective 5

## OBJECTIVE

Reduce per capita energy consumption in all sectors (residential, commercial, industrial, transportation).

### Residential Strategy: additional objectives

- Increase the annual number of income eligible households receiving free weatherization and safety-related home repairs.
- Reduce household energy burden where energy costs are considered unaffordable.

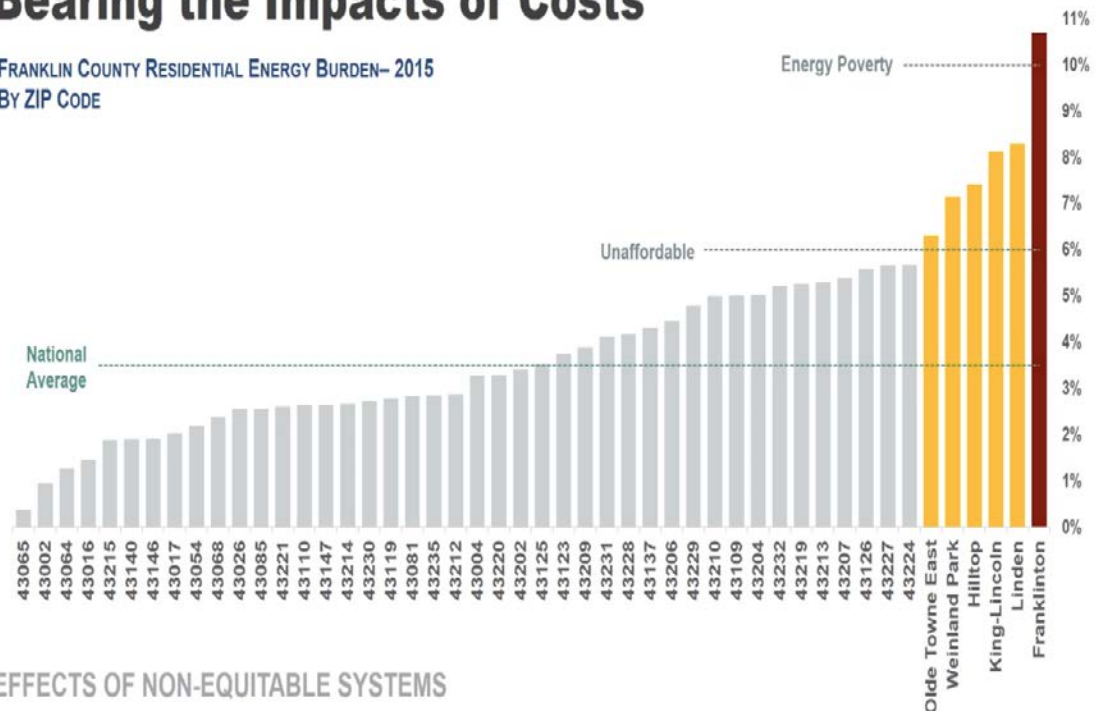
## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Reduce per capita energy consumption and costs for LMI populations. Target resources to reduce energy cost burden for LMI households and areas.



## Bearing the Impacts of Costs

FRANKLIN COUNTY RESIDENTIAL ENERGY BURDEN— 2015  
By ZIP CODE



# Objective 6

## OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of local renewable energy projects and generating capacity.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Increase the number of workers from equity populations (LMI and/or racial and ethnic populations) employed by renewable energy projects across the region.

# Objective 7

## OBJECTIVE

Reduce emissions to meet federal air quality standards.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Reduce disparities in exposure to air pollution for LMI populations and racial and ethnic populations.

# Objective 8

## **OBJECTIVE**

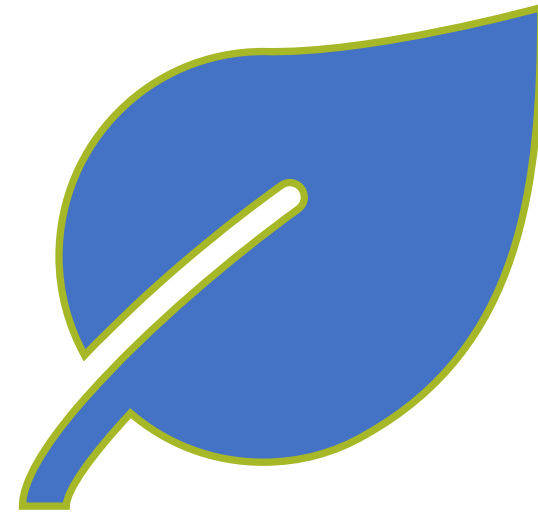
Increase the number of people receiving Air Quality information and education.

## **POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Increase Air Quality information and education in low to moderate income areas and racial and ethnic communities.

# Goal 2: Proposed Goal Statement

Protect and preserve natural resources to support healthy and resilient communities, ecosystems and region.



# Objective 1

## **OBJECTIVE**

Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste per capita disposed in the landfill.

## **POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Assuring equitable access to recycling programs and drop off locations in the region.
- Reducing food waste and donating consumable food to reduce food insecurity.
- Creation of job opportunities for LMI communities through recycling programs.

# Objective 2

## OBJECTIVE

Minimize greenfield development and promote infill and redevelopment.

*Note this objective is already is reflected in Objective 1 under Energy.*

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

**Alignment with goal 1, objective 1 equity recommendation (Infill/Redevelopment/TOD).**

- Support inclusionary housing options in infill development, redevelopment and transit-oriented development areas.

**Alignment with regional affordable housing strategy goals.**



# Objective 3 (New)

## OBJECTIVE

Preservation of vital ecosystem resources and tree canopy.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure equitable access to greenspace and parks in the region for LMI households and racial/ethnic communities. Rationale: Create more equitable distribution and access to ecosystem resources and greenspace/park space.

# Objective 4 (New)

## OBJECTIVE

Increase the use of green stormwater infrastructure utilizing natural systems to reduce runoff and prevent erosion and flooding.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Equity considerations would be primarily concerned with equitable implementation of these projects (and reduction of flooding/prevention of erosion) within LMI communities.

# Goal 3: Proposed Goal Statement

Create sustainable neighborhoods and assure access for all residents to sustainable neighborhoods to improve residents' quality of life.



# Objective 1

## OBJECTIVE

Assure safe and sustainable streets for all; with street design focused on the needs of all users.

### Strategies:

- Reduce the number of fatalities, serious injuries and property loss through safer transportation networks. Provide safe access to a variety of transportation options for all users.
- Encourage MORPC member communities to adopt complete streets policies or policies that contain those elements.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure Complete Street programs and improvements are directed to LMI and racial and ethnic communities, particularly those neighborhoods with higher volumes of traffic fatalities and non-motorized victims of traffic accidents.

# Objective 2

## OBJECTIVE

Target infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people and jobs and increase sidewalk coverage of arterials and collectors.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure equitable infrastructure for pedestrians and non motorized travelers in LMI communities.

# Objective 3

## OBJECTIVE

Target transit and bikeway infrastructure development to serve a higher number of people.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

**Aligned with equity objectives for Goal 1, objectives 1 and 2).**

- Assure reduction in commute time disparities between equity populations (LMI and racial/ethnic groups) who utilize transit. Assure equitable access to non-motorized and transit infrastructure in LMI areas.

# Objective 4

## OBJECTIVE

Increase the number of Central Ohio Greenways trail miles.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

**Aligned with equity objectives for Goal 1, objective 4).**

- Support safe accessibility to trails for LMI communities and those with barriers.

# Objective 5 (New)

## OBJECTIVE

Assure access to recreational space and infrastructure.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure equitable access to greenspace and parks in the region for LMI households and racial/ethnic communities.



# Objective 6 (New)

## OBJECTIVE

Provision of safe, healthy and affordable housing in all central Ohio communities.

## POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Assure affordable, safe and healthy housing access for LMI and other equity populations.
- **Alignment with regional affordable housing strategy goals.**

# Objective 7 (New)

## **OBJECTIVE**

Remove environmental hazards and unsafe land uses that pose health risks to neighborhoods.

## **POTENTIAL EQUITY GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS**

- Assure LMI and racial/ethnic communities are not overburdened with blighted and unsafe land uses