



Central Ohio  
Rural Planning  
Organization



# CORPO QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Commissioner Mark Forrest, Chair   Jeff Harris, Vice Chair   Loudan Klein, Secretary

July 2019

## HELLO CORPO MEMBERS!

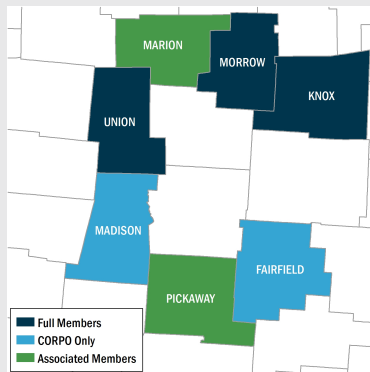
CORPO addresses the unique needs of each member county. This newsletter outlines products, services, news and events CORPO is providing its member counties.

### COUNTY MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Full Member  
(MORPC and CORPO):  
Knox, Morrow, Union &  
Fairfield (2020).

CORPO Members:  
Madison

Associated Members:  
Marion and Pickaway



### SUBCOMMITTEE / RURAL CONSULTATION

Traditionally, ODOT has engaged with non-metropolitan area officials to develop the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), plans, studies, project selection and funding through the Rural Consultation Process. ODOT will continue this process but will be doing so via CORPO's member county subcommittee meetings. These meetings have been scheduled in each county for September and October. This process is a crucial first step to developing the STIP.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) related tasks will begin Fall of 2019. In the meantime, CORPO staff will be working on short-range planning tasks outlined in the CORPO Planning Work Program (PWP) including condition reports, safety planning and active transportation initiatives.

### CORPO MEETINGS

The next CORPO Committee meeting is scheduled for January 6th at 2pm at MORPC. A proposed change to the bylaws to standardize future CORPO Committee Meetings to occur at a regular meeting time is on the agenda. This will be further discussed at upcoming subcommittee meetings.

## RTPO PEER REVIEW WORKSHOP - UPDATE

Following ODOT Statewide Planning's RTPO Peer Review Workshop in April, ODOT tasked RTPOs in the state to provide additional data on the projects. This data and metrics may assist ODOT in their funding and project selection process. Staff completed this for the projects in the CORPO Transportation Plan (CTP) and provided it to ODOT.

## UNION COUNTY US-33 CORRIDOR PLAN - UPDATE

Since the ODOT-hosted kick-off meeting in March 2019, CORPO has provided ODOT and consultants with requested data for the US 33 Corridor Plan. Stakeholders, including CORPO staff, have been participating in regular conference calls since the kick-off meeting. The plan will take 18 months to complete and will examine potential scenarios of development for the corridor as well as a list of relevant transportation projects.

## KNOX- MORROW COUNTY

MORPC Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director, Thea Walsh, recently discussed with both Knox and Morrow counties their access issues and other challenges transportation system users in both counties experience. CORPO is now working on a proposal for a corridor study that would document existing travel conditions and examine potential improvement concepts to better access Interstate 71 and US-23. Details to come on this.

## IMPORTANT NEWS AND EVENTS

CORPO staff keeps members up to date on a diverse array of topics. The following topics include upcoming events, news, deadlines, policy and funding.

### BROADBAND

Connect Ohio, a subsidiary of Connected Nation, has served as a technology advocate and the state's resource for broadband leadership since 2007. Throughout July, they will be hosting seven Regional Broadband Forums in various locations across the state. Please visit: [www.connectednation.org/ohio](http://www.connectednation.org/ohio) for info.

### Rural Transportation Funding

"Only 3% of the earth's surface is covered by cities. So what about the other 97%?" A question asked by Feonix Mobility Rising, a mobility solutions company that provides training and technology support in rural areas. They recently unveiled a "Mobility Accelerator" which provides training on identifying rural funding options for rural communities. This site is not Ohio specific but there is some helpful information in the training. Please visit: [www.mobilityaccelerator.org/feonixmobility-workshop3/](http://www.mobilityaccelerator.org/feonixmobility-workshop3/) for info.

### OTEC CONFERENCE

The annual Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference (OTEC) will be held October 29 - 30, 2019 in Columbus. OTEC is the place for transportation professionals to learn and discuss safe, innovative and efficient transportation planning, both statewide and nationally. Early bird registration is from July 15 - September 13, 2019 Luncheon Speaker will be Aron Ralston, the Ohio native who inspired the film *127 Hours*. Please visit [www.otec.transportation.ohio.gov](http://www.otec.transportation.ohio.gov) for info.

### BUILD Application

The Village of West Jefferson submitted an application to the 2019 funding cycle of U.S. DOT's BUILD discretionary grant program for the I-70 and SR 29 interchange. The project will add a roundabout on the south side of the interchange and additional lanes over I-70. The application requests \$7.5 million to be matched with \$2.5 million from ODOT, \$2.9 million from developers and \$1.2 million from the Village. Both CORPO and MORPC have documented support for the project and application.

## FUNDING APPLICATIONS

- SCIP and LTIP applications for (roads, bridges, water, sewer and drainage) for OPWC's District 17 (Fairfield, Knox, Morrow, Pickaway) are due by 10/4/19 by 4:30 pm.
- District 17's (see counties above) deadline for Clean Ohio Conservation grants is 9/27/2019 by 4:30 pm.
- In District 11 (Madison and Union), pre-applications for SCIP and LTIP are due by 8/5/2019
- ODOT Highway Safety Program applications are due by 9/30/2019

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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