

Active Transportation Committee

Q3 Meeting – July 21, 2022



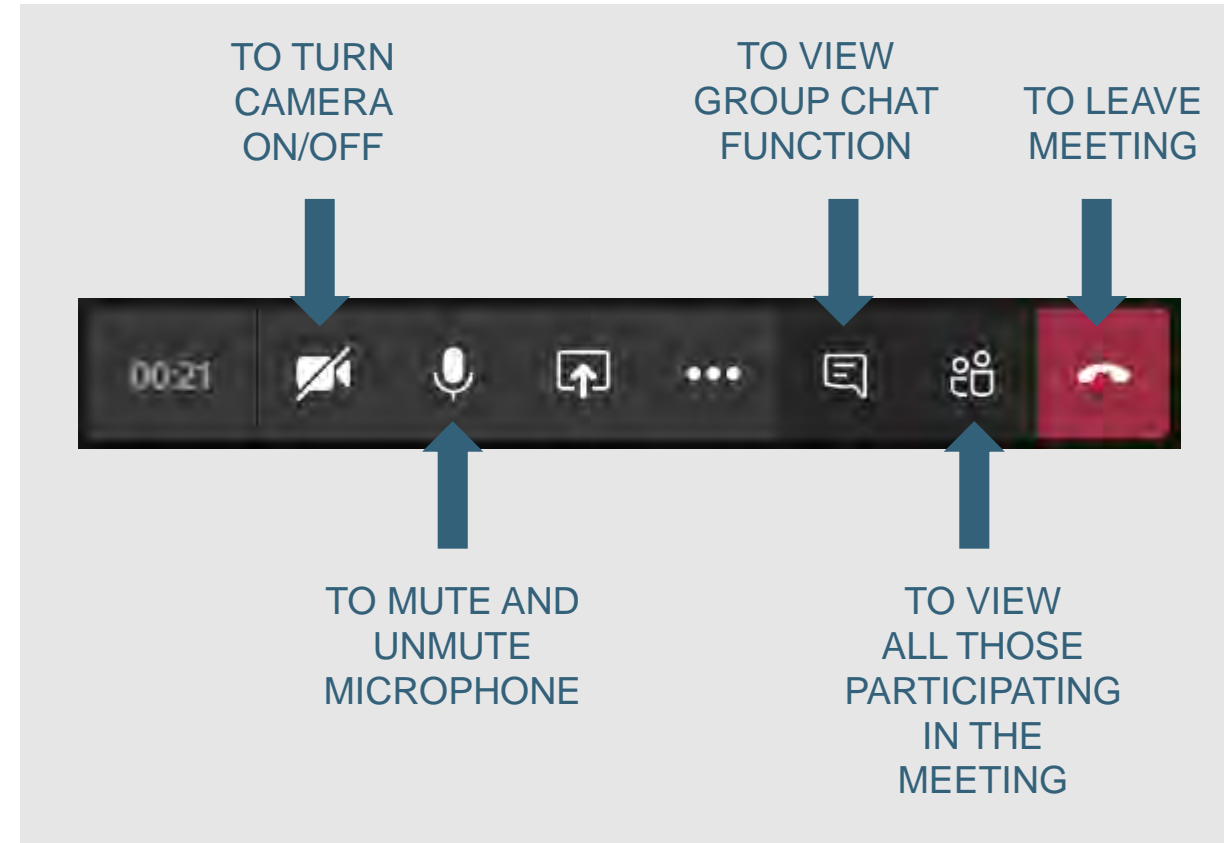
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MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

WELCOME!



The meeting will begin shortly.

- Please **mute** your microphone or telephone unless speaking.
- **If using a phone line** for audio: Mute the microphone on Teams and turn the volume all the way down on your computer (to reduce feedback and echoes).
You may need to press *6 to unmute yourself during the meeting.
- **Questions** can be input into the chat function.



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- ODOT Active Transportation Updates
- LinkUS Updates
- Member Roundtable
- Funding Programs Updates
- Central Ohio Greenways Update
- MORPC Technical Assistance Program
- Other Business



ODOT Active Transportation Updates

Jeremy Thompson, ODOT



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LinkUS Update

Maria Schaper, MORPC



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LinkUS Simplified

Mobility
Infrastructure
Investments

+

Walkable,
Connected
Communities

=

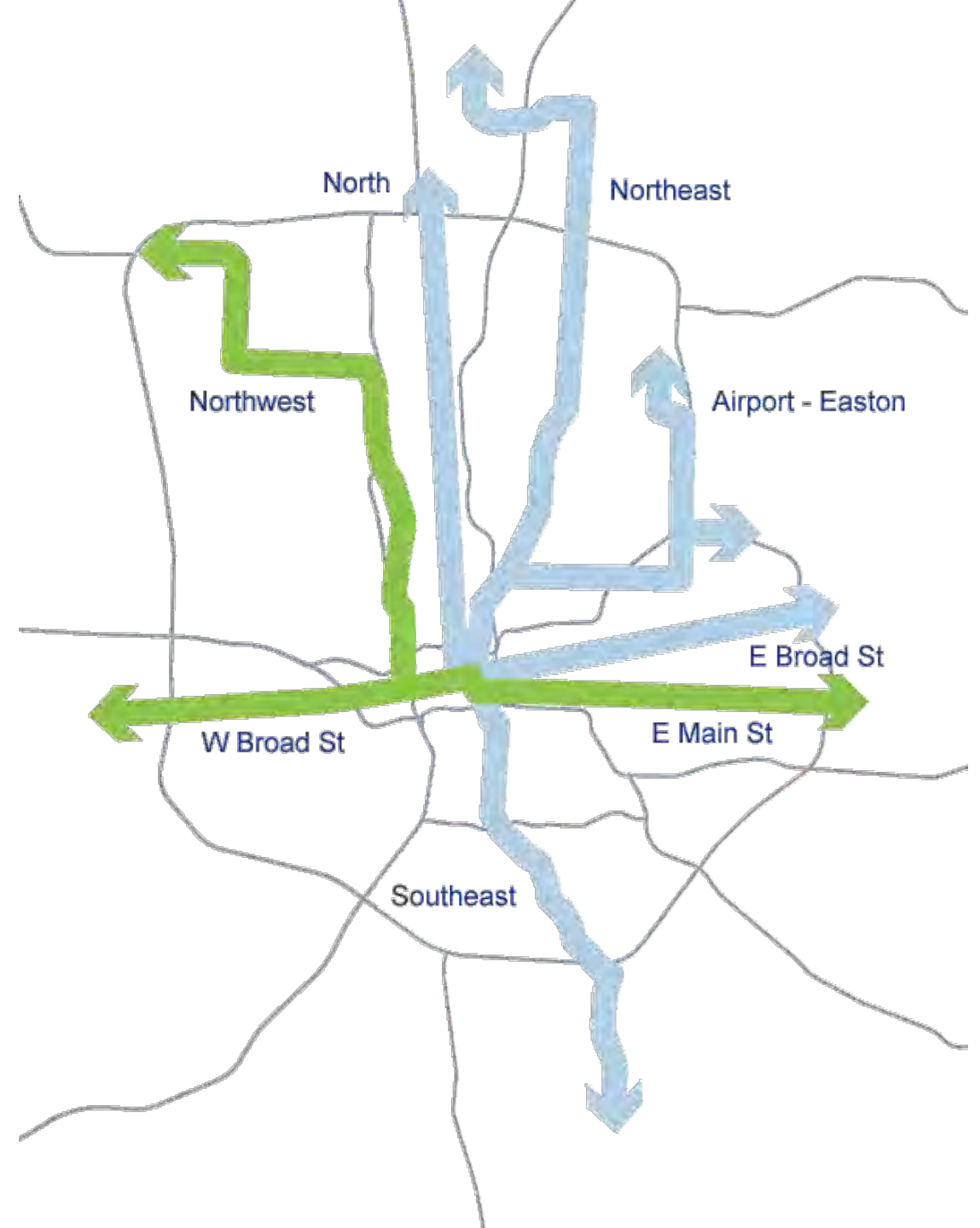
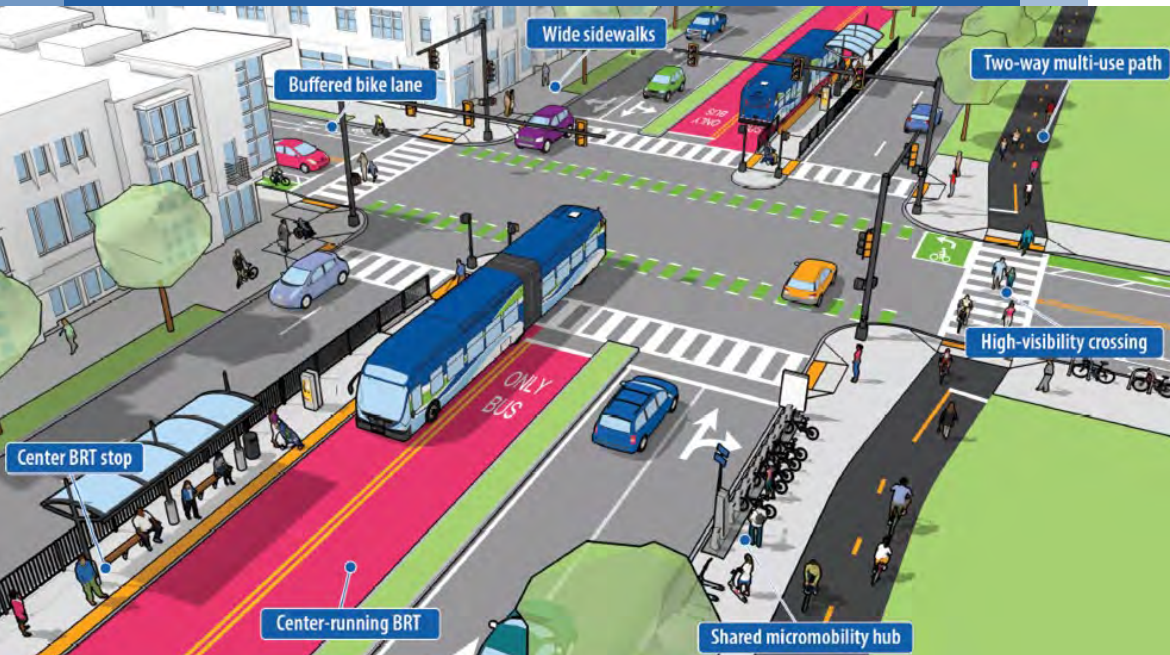
Increased
Opportunities

Community Action Plan Recommendations

- Champion transformative infrastructure investment (align capital budgets)
- Provide sustainable funding for LinkUS
- Advocate for regional prosperity outcomes
- Create a regional transit-oriented development strategy
- Designate a leadership committee to oversee allocation of Transit Supportive Infrastructure Funding (MORPC)



LinkUS High Capacity Transit Corridors



Northwest Corridor



Phase One Decisions

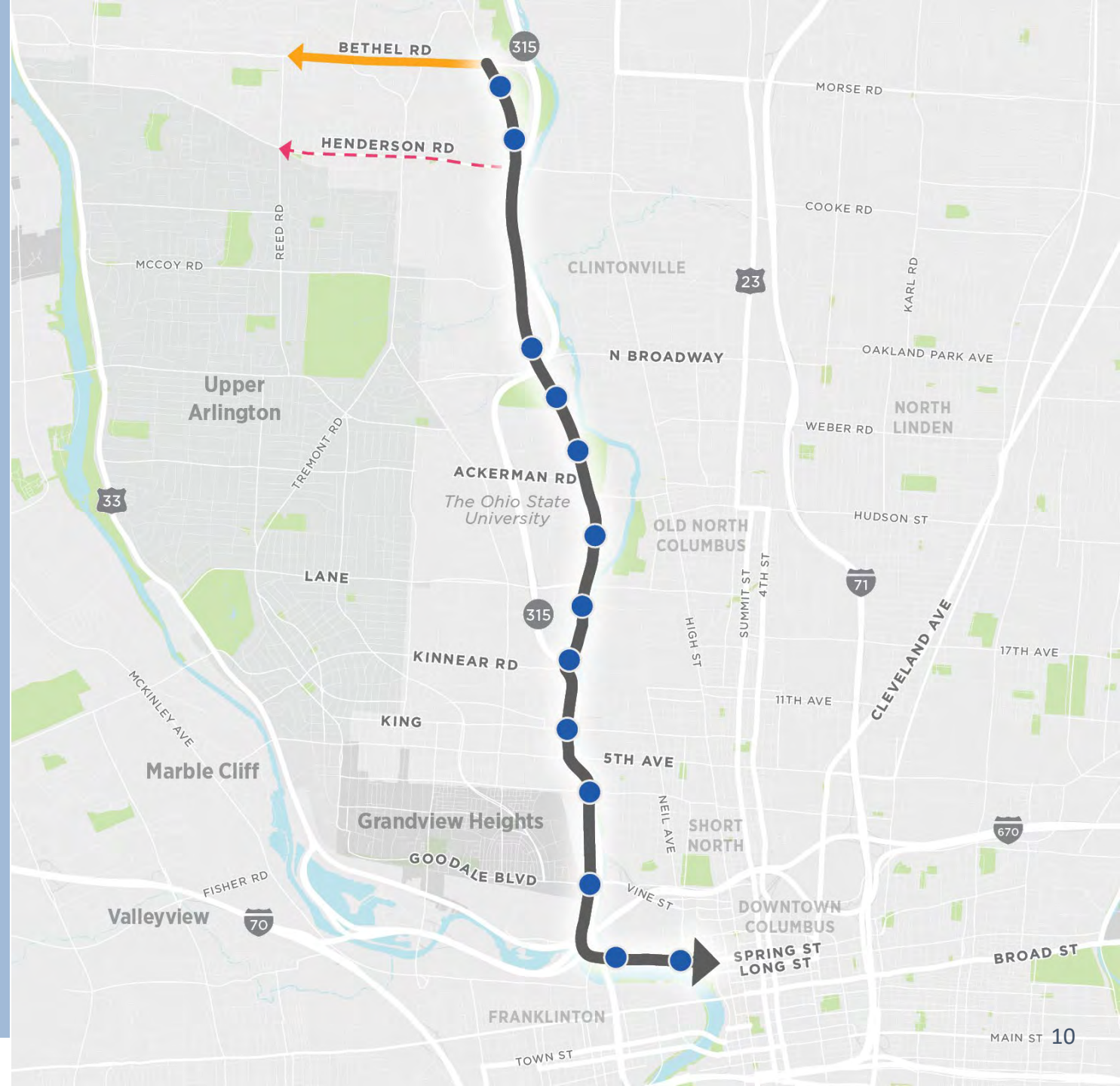
Bus Rapid Transit

Olentangy

River Road

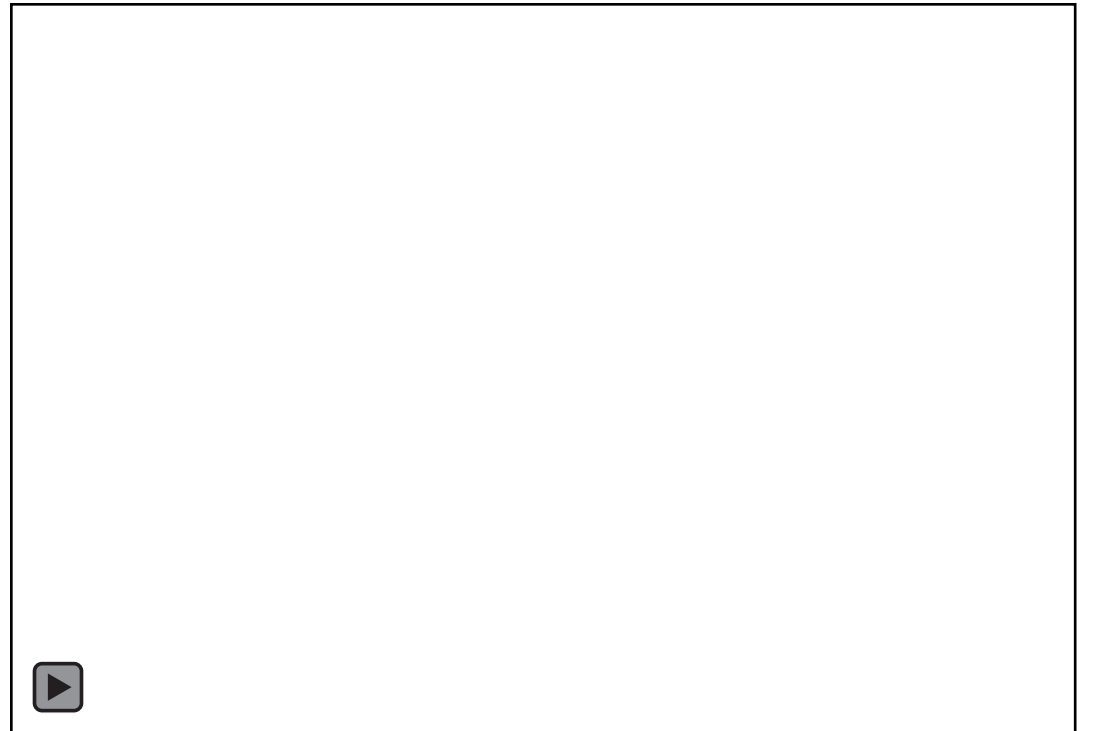
Spring and Long

to Downtown



Phase Two

Select locally preferred alternative from
Downtown to Dublin
Refine station locations
Identify right-of-way requirements
Establish traffic analysis methodology

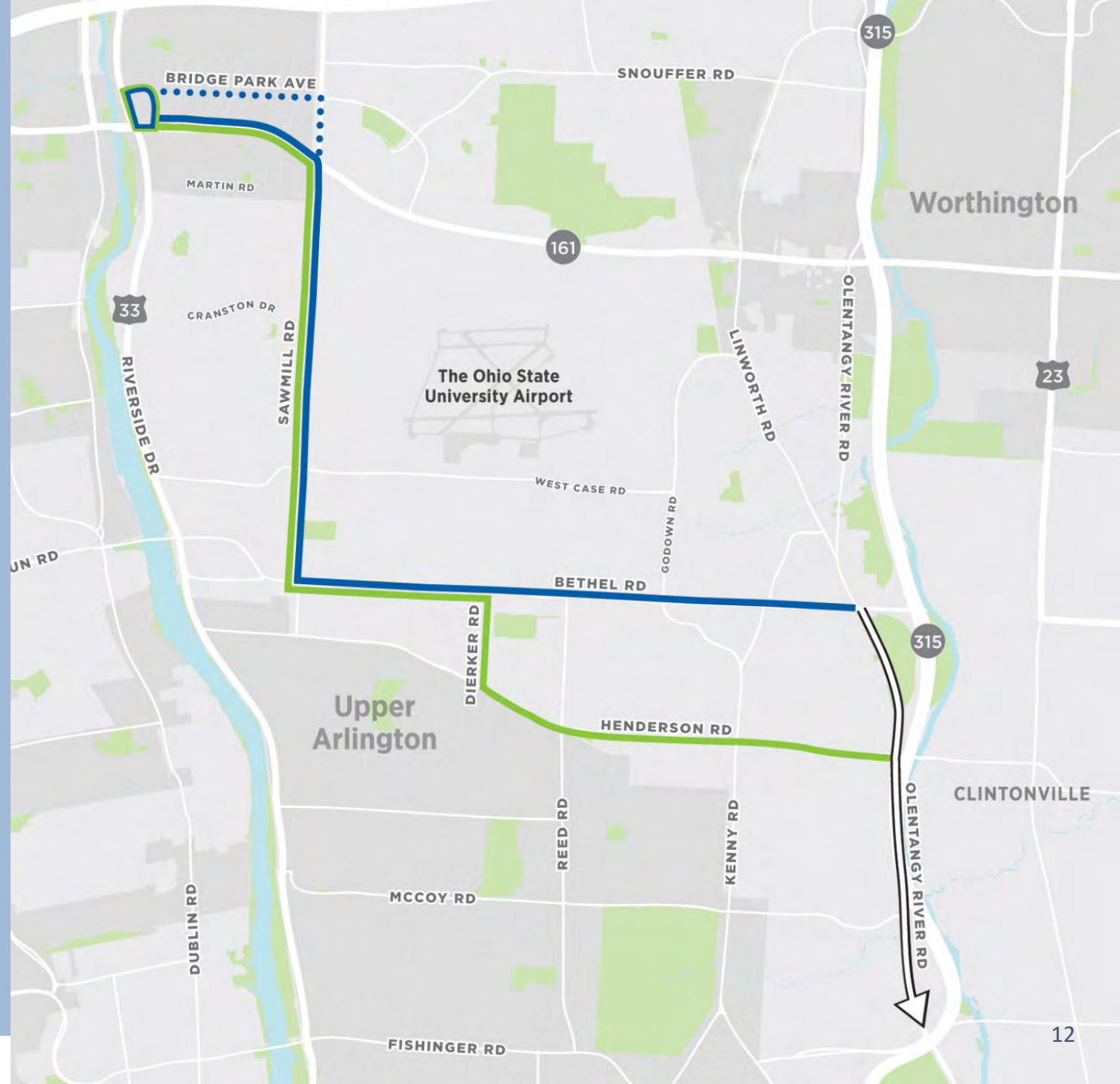


Route Options

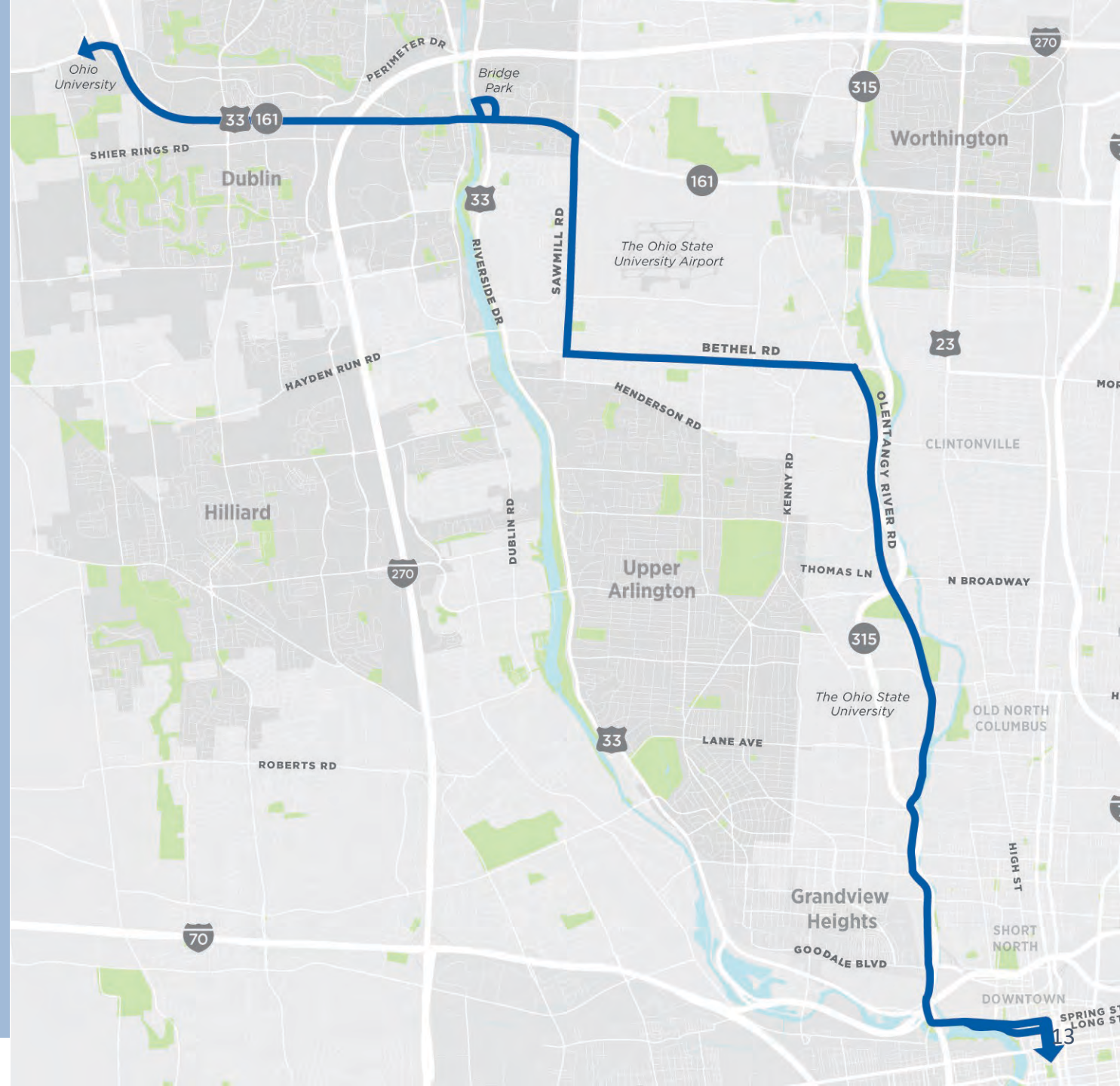
Initial screening narrowed to Bethel or Henderson

Secondary screening considered:

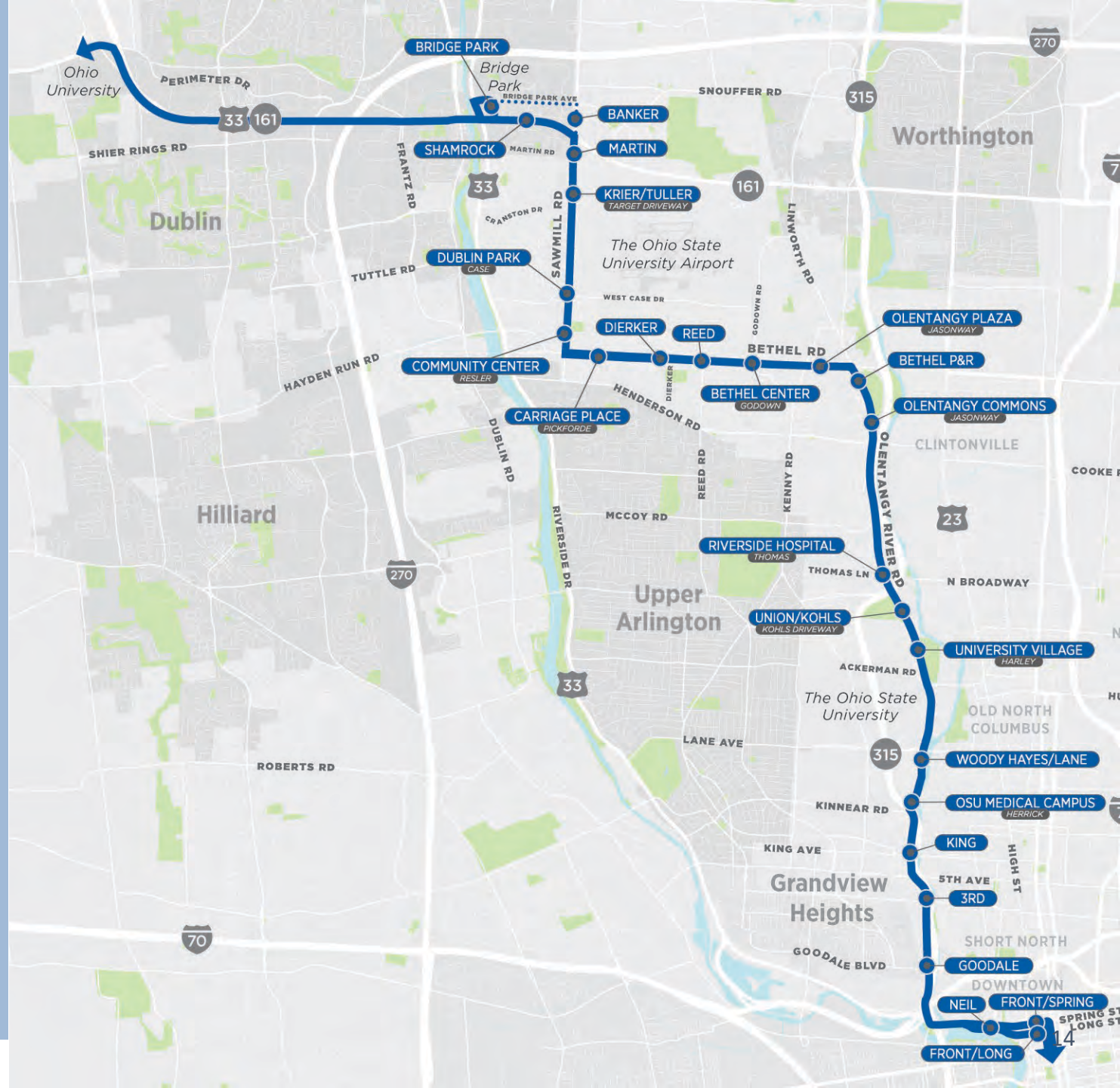
- Service operations
- Development opportunities
- Public input
- **Recommend: Bethel route**



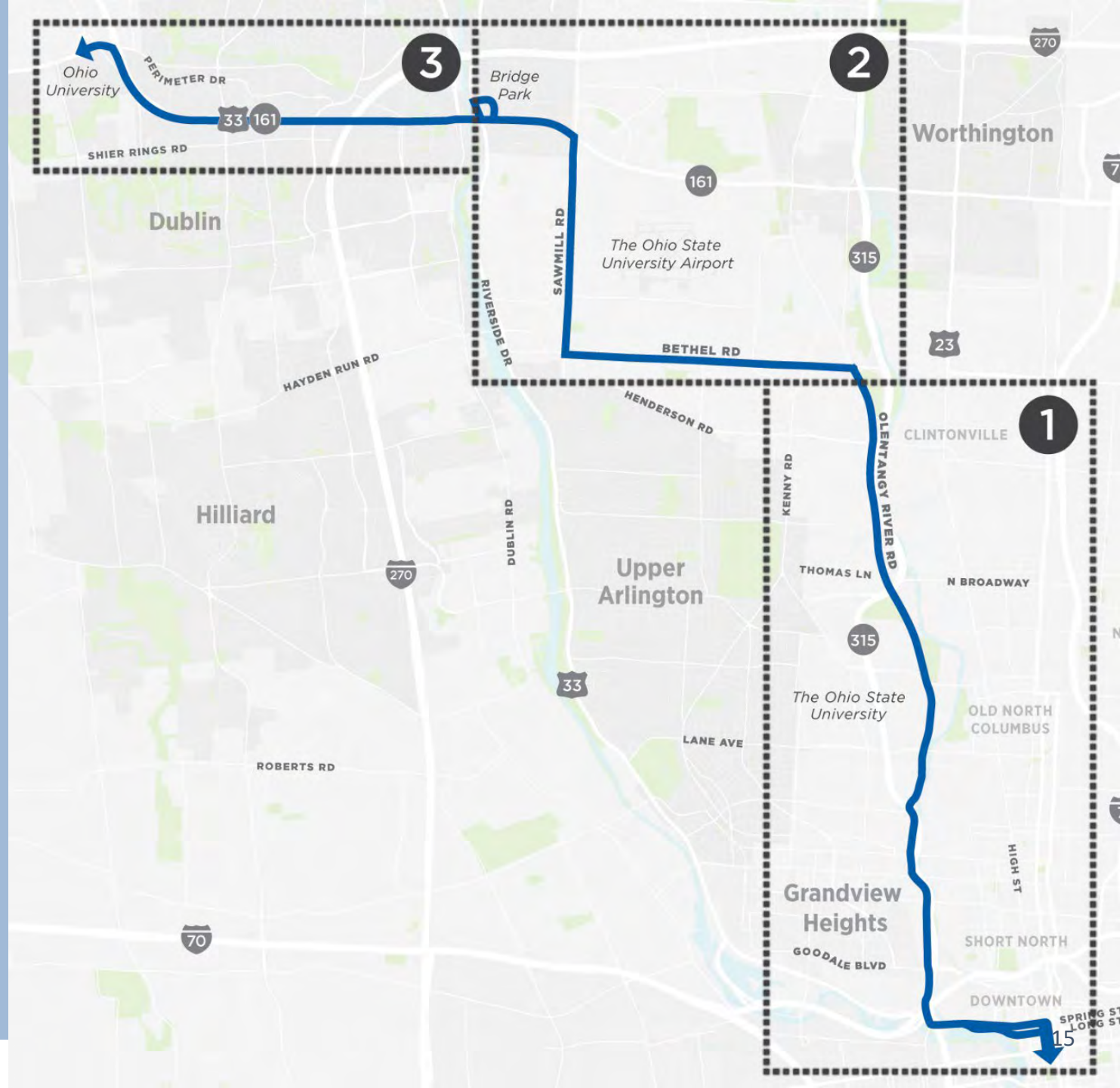
Recommended Locally Preferred Alternative



LPA with Station Locations



Recommended Phasing



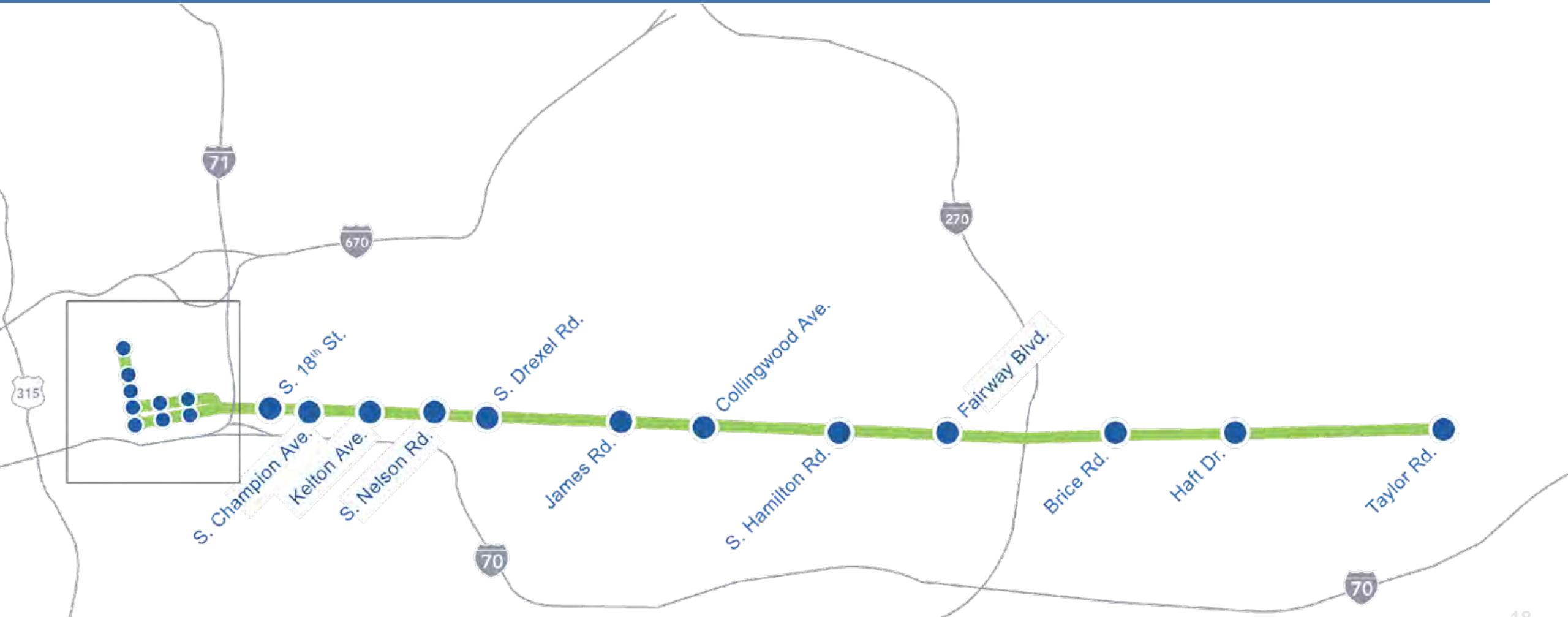
East Main and West Broad Street Corridors



West Broad Street LPA



East Main Street LPA



LinkUS Thinks Big

It combines high-capacity corridors with regionwide improvements in transit, sidewalks and bike trails, and other transit-supportive infrastructure and development



Premium High Capacity Rapid Transit



Transit Service Enhancements



Bikeways



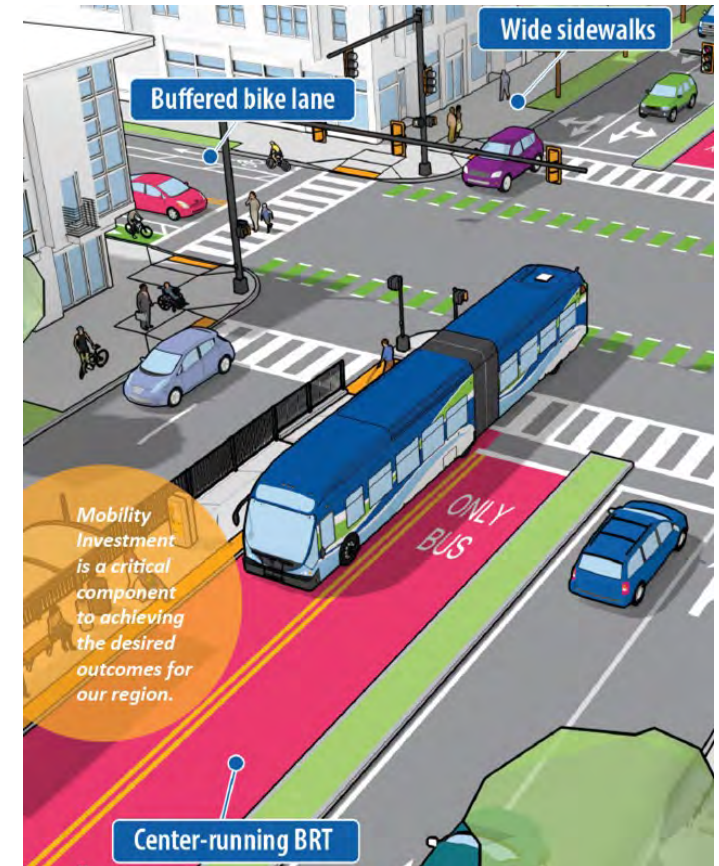
Green ways



Sidewalks



Road ways



Transit Supportive Infrastructure



We are designing a process, to be administered by MORPC, to allocate Transit Supportive Infrastructure Funds for sidewalks, trails, transit-supportive roadway improvements

Follow LinkUS on Social Media



Facebook | Instagram | Twitter



@LinkUScolumbus

Or visit linkUScolumbus.com

Member Roundtable

Tell us what you have planned!



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Regional Grant and Investment Opportunities

Abby Barnes, MORPC



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RAISE Discretionary Grant program



- Originally created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as TIGER grants, and rebranded as BUILD grants, RAISE grants support surface transportation projects of local and/or regional significance
- FY2022 RAISE grants continue to align with the Department's strategic goals to improve safety, economic strength and global competitiveness, equity, and climate and sustainability
- Awardees will be notified by Aug. 12.
- Four Central Ohio applications:
 - MORPC – LinkUS
 - Licking County – Multimodal center
 - Franklin County - Trailways
 - City of Columbus – Williams Road

Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG)



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- Allows applicants to use one application to apply for up to three separate grant opportunities:
- Mega: \$1 billion of FY2022 funding available
- INFRA: ~\$1.55 billion in FY2022 funding available (Columbus Crossroads)
- Rural: \$300 million in FY2022 funding available
- MORPC supported ODOT's MEGA application to make major improvements to the Brent Spence Bridge in Cincinnati. Applications were due in May, so awardees will be notified likely in the fall.

Safe Streets and Roads for All



- The program is centered around the prevention of roadway deaths and serious injuries.
- Up to \$1 billion is available in FY2022
- Action Plan Grants and Implementation Grants will be awarded to the following activities:
 - Develop or update a comprehensive safety action plan (Action Plan).
 - Conduct planning, design, and development activities in support of an Action Plan.
 - Carry out projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan.
- Applications are due Sept. 15.
- MORPC is working with regional colleagues to collaborate on possible grant applications.

Bridge Investment Program



- USDOT opened applications for the first round of funding from the Bridge Investment Program, with nearly \$2.4 billion available in Fiscal Year 2022 to help plan, replace, rehabilitate, protect, and preserve some of the nation’s largest bridges.
- The program includes the following:
- Allows multi-year grant agreements to fund large projects by making it possible to take a project through pre-construction activities and into construction.
- Offers grants that help fund the planning process, including planning, feasibility analysis and revenue forecasting associated with the development of a project that would subsequently be eligible to apply for the Bridge Investment Program.
- Offers two types of construction grants, covering “large” projects over \$100 million and “bridge projects” at up to \$100 million.
- Applications are due Sept. 8.
- At this time, MORPC is not aware of any regional applications.

Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program



- This new program provides \$1 billion in funding over five years and is dedicated to reconnecting communities that were previously cut off from economic opportunities by transportation infrastructure.
- Funding supports planning grants and capital construction grants, as well as technical assistance, to restore community connectivity through removal, retrofit, mitigation, or replacement of eligible transportation infrastructure facilities.
- Eligible facilities include a road, street, or parkway or other transportation facilities such as a rail line that creates barriers mentioned above.
- Eligible applicants are MPOs, units of local government, states, and nonprofit organizations.
- The Department wants applicants to prioritize barriers that have strong community support to mitigate and the intent to collaborate.
- Email updates available through USDOT website.
- Applications are due Oct. 13.

USDOT Expected NOFO Dates



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Month	NOFO	Operating Administration/Office
May	Transit-Oriented Development Pilot Program	Federal Transit Administration
May	University Transportation Centers Program	Office of the Secretary
May	Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Program	Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
May	Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program	Office of the Secretary
May	Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Project Program	Federal Highway Administration
May	Bridge Investment Program	Federal Highway Administration
June	Railroad Crossing Elimination Program	Federal Railroad Administration

USDOT Expected NOFO Dates (contd)



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Month	NOFO	Operating Administration/Office
June	Ferry Programs: Electric or Low Emitting Ferry Program; Ferry Service for Rural Communities Program; Passenger Ferry Grant Program	Federal Transit Administration
June	Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program	Office of the Secretary
July	All Stations Accessibility Program	Federal Transit Administration
July	Rail Vehicle Replacement Program	Federal Transit Administration
Summer	National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program	Federal Highway Administration
August	Consolidated Rail Infrastructure & Safety Improvements Grant Program	Federal Railroad Administration
September	Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant Program	Office of the Secretary

Abby Barnes

Grants and Investment Officer
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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MORPC – Attributable Funds

Elliott Lewis, MORPC



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Funding Available by Category

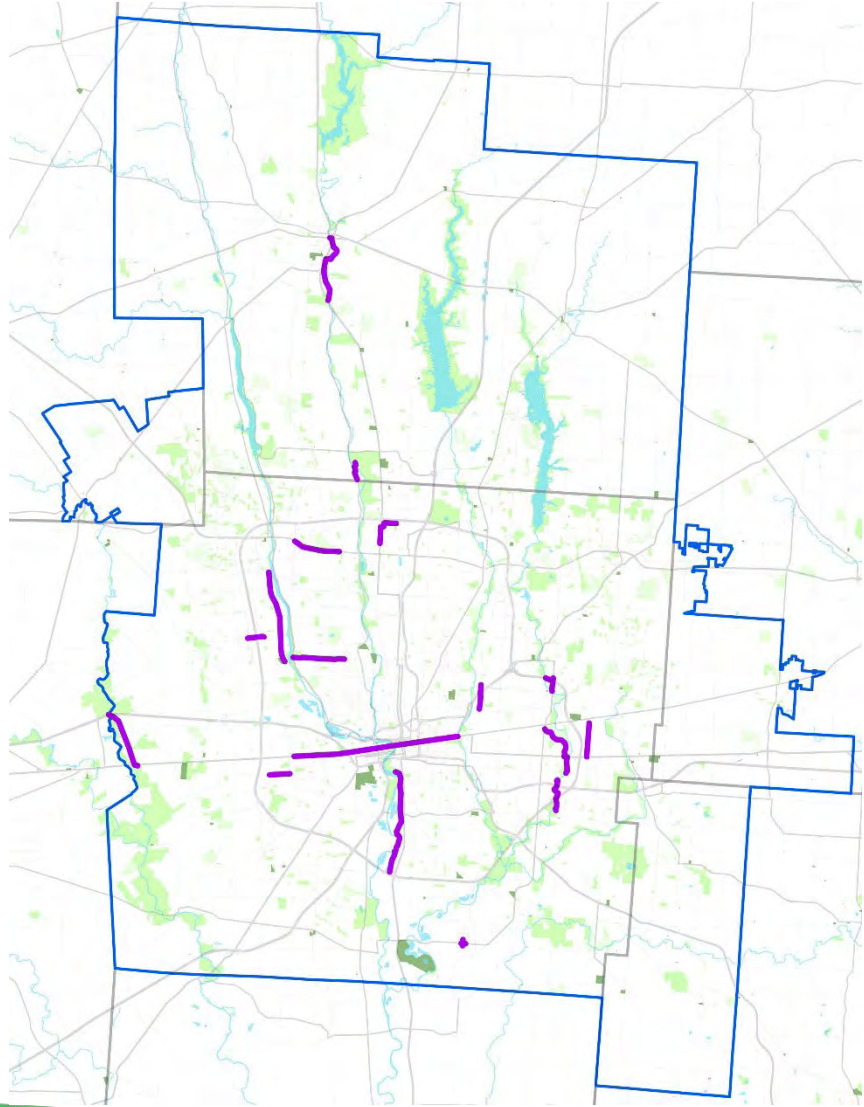


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Category	Min. %	Max. %	Min. Allocation (Alloc. × Min. %)	Max. Allocation (Alloc. × Max. %)	Updated Commitments Requested for SFYs 2023-29	Updated Commitments Requested for SFYs 2030+	Range Available for New Projects
Roadway Capacity & Operational Changes	40%	60%	\$118.2M	\$177.4M	\$103.8M	\$0	\$15M to \$75M
Preservation	10%	15%	\$29.6M	\$44.3M	\$13.3M	\$0	\$15M to \$30M
Bike & Ped	15%	25%	\$44.3M	\$73.9M	\$27.6M	\$0	\$15M to \$45M
Transit	5%	15%	\$14.8M	\$44.36M	\$10.9M	\$0	\$4M to \$30M

- Available funding for new commitments: **\$126.1M**

Summary of Applications



- Total of 19 bicycle/pedestrian *screening* applications submitted
 - 41% of all applications
- \$81.2M in Attributable Funds requested for bike/ped projects
 - 33% of total Attributable Funds requested
 - Contributing to an estimated \$187M of total project costs
 - \$15M – \$45M available for new commitments
- Subject to change between now and submission of final applications

Application Timeline 2022-2023



- ~~May: MORPC adopted Policies~~
- ~~May 18: MORPC hosts applicant workshop at 2:30~~
- ~~July 8: Commitment Update Form due~~
- ~~July 15: Screening Applications for new funding due~~
- **Early August:** Staff completes review of Updates. Provide feedback to applicants and revised forecast of available funding
- **September 28:** Final Applications due
- **October 5:** Ad-interim AFC members change
- **October – December:** Staff review and score applications & AFC review and recommends funding commitments
- **January 2023:** Draft list of funding commitments available for public review and comment
- **March 2023:** MORPC Adopts list of attributable funding commitments

Elliott Lewis

Senior Planner

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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Attributable Funding Background

- Approximately \$47 Million Annual Budget
 - Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) ~\$27M
 - Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) ~\$14M
 - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) ~\$3M
 - New: Carbon Reduction Program (CARBON) ~\$3M
- Solicit Project Applications Every Two Years
 - Updates to previous funding commitments
 - Applications for new commitments
- New for 2022:
 - Adjusting the application schedule
 - Combined the Major and Minor categories
 - Adjusted goal weighting and various criteria
 - Revised funding target ranges to allocate additional funding towards bike and pedestrian projects

Central Ohio Greenways Update

Melinda Vonstein, MORPC



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MORPC Technical Assistance Program 2022

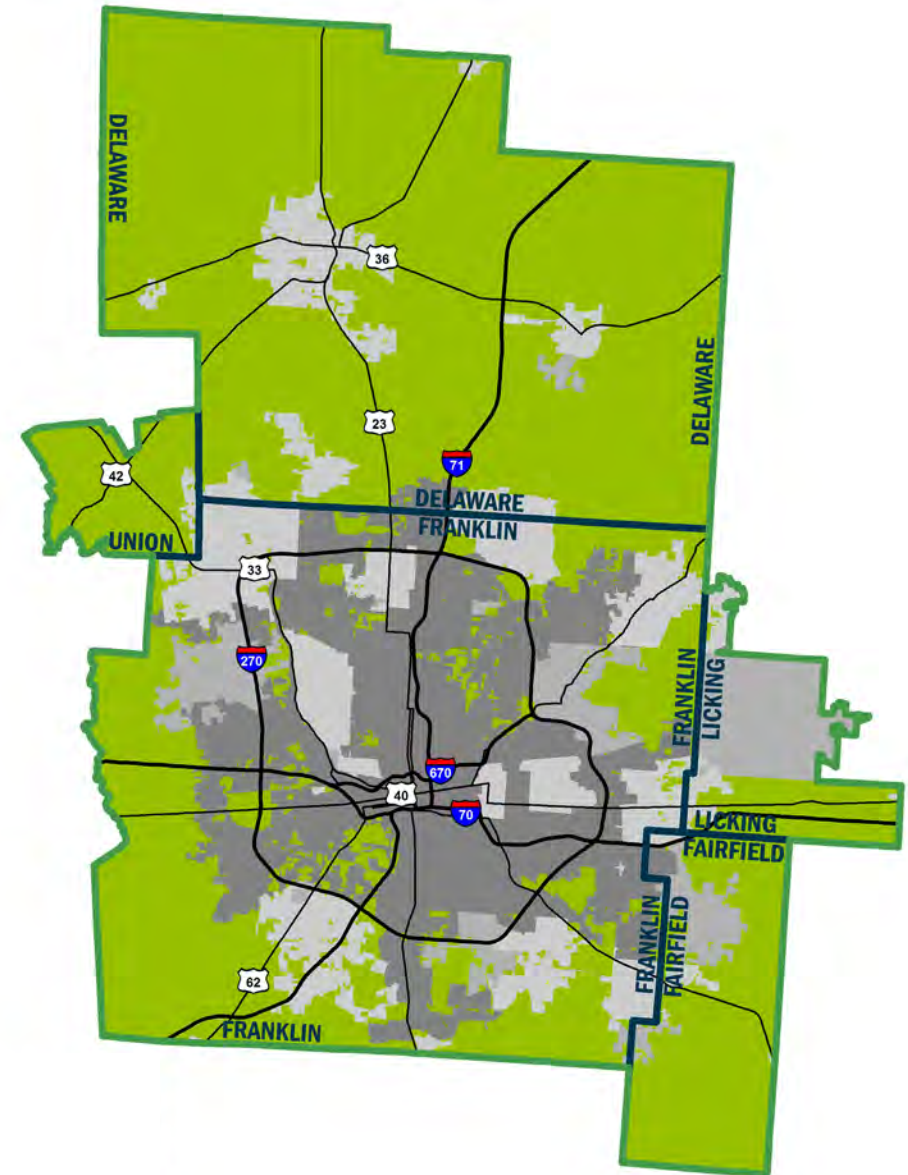
Updates from MORPC Staff



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Technical Assistance Program

- Technical Assistance Program (TA Program) **provides MORPC staff assistance** to local government members within the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Community-based **planning services that advance the goals in the MTP** through implementation of specific MTP strategies
- **Awarded through a competitive application process**, evaluated by committee
- Services **completed within 6-9 months**



Technical Assistance Program 2022 Activities

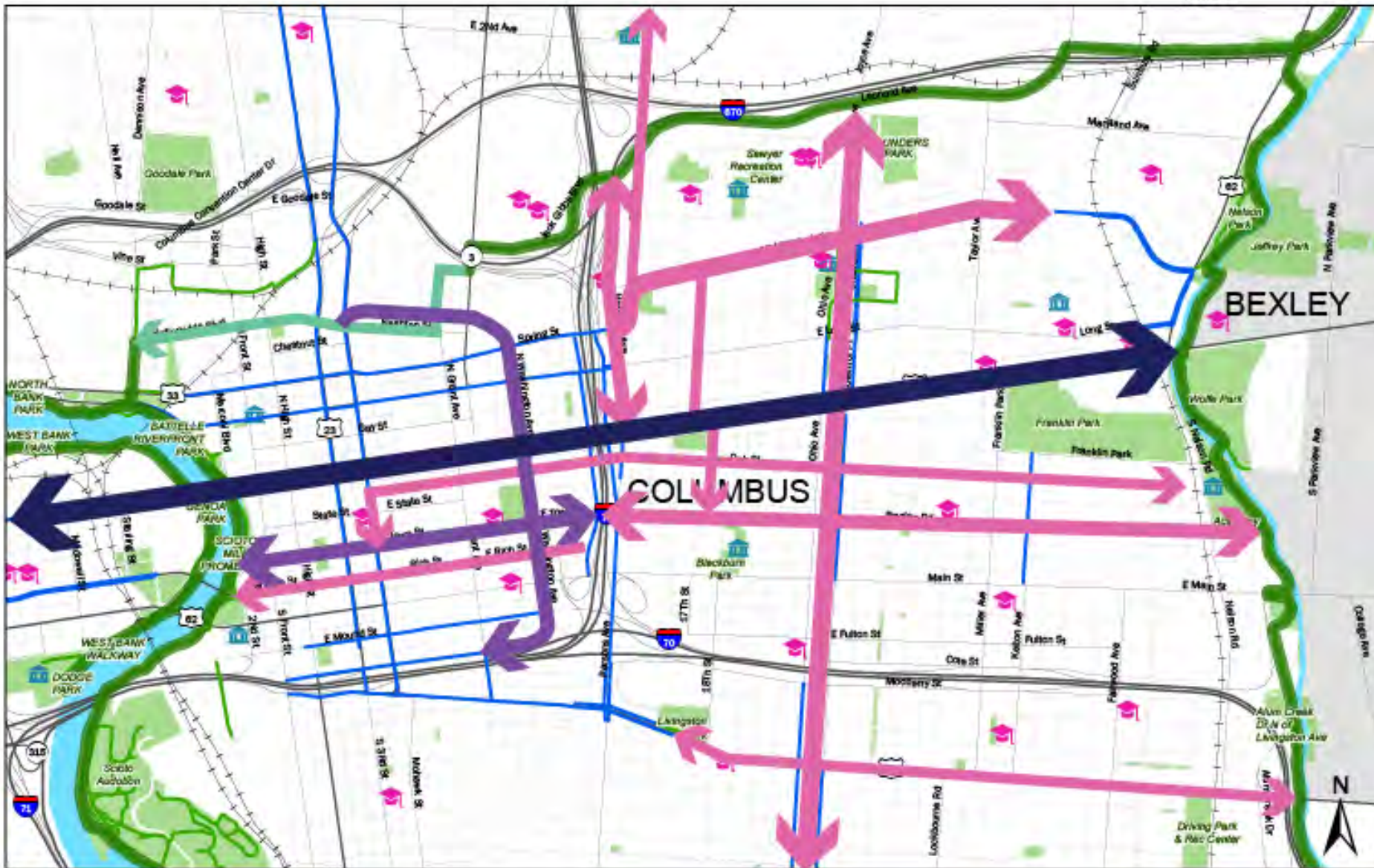
Applicant Agency	Requested Activity	Focus Area
Franklin County Metro Parks	Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement	Scioto Trail Southern Extension
City of Sunbury	Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement	Ohio to Erie Trail Access and Connections
City of Columbus	Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement	Downtown Connector Access and Connections
City of Dublin	Central Ohio Greenways Vision Refinement	Cross-Jurisdictional Connections

City of Columbus – Downtown Connector Access/Connectivity



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- Intended outcomes of activity
 - Recommendations regarding integration of Mt. Vernon Avenue corridor into Regional Trail Vision
 - Coordination with LinkUS TSI and Downtown Strategic Plan
 - Refinement of priority downtown & near-east side linkages
- Activity progress
 - May – Stakeholder Workshop
 - June/July – Site Visits
 - July – Stakeholder Workshop #2 & Alternatives Analysis
 - August – Implementation Plan development and wrap-up



Stakeholder Workshop Priority Alignments



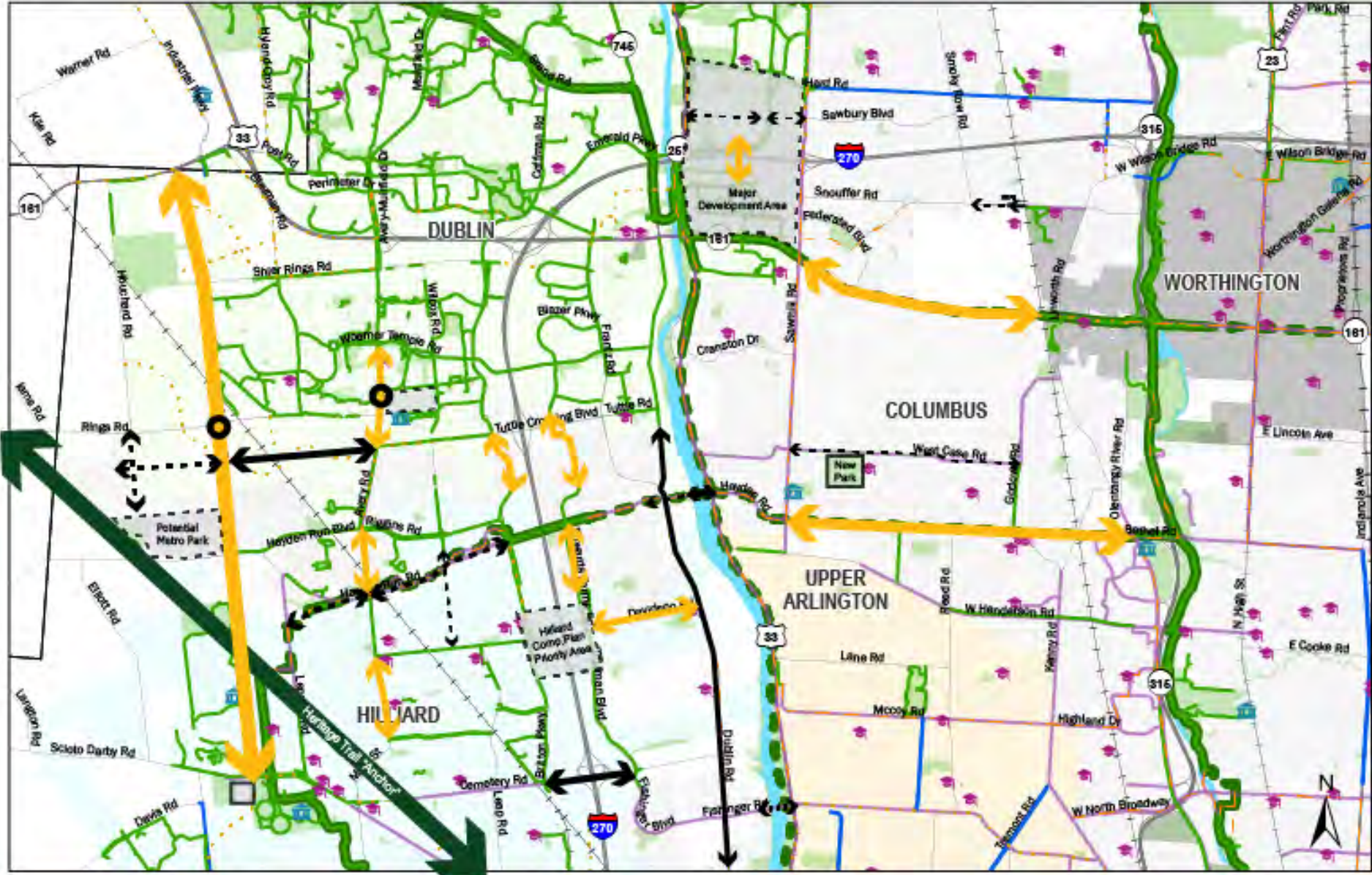
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City of Dublin – Cross-Jurisdictional Connections



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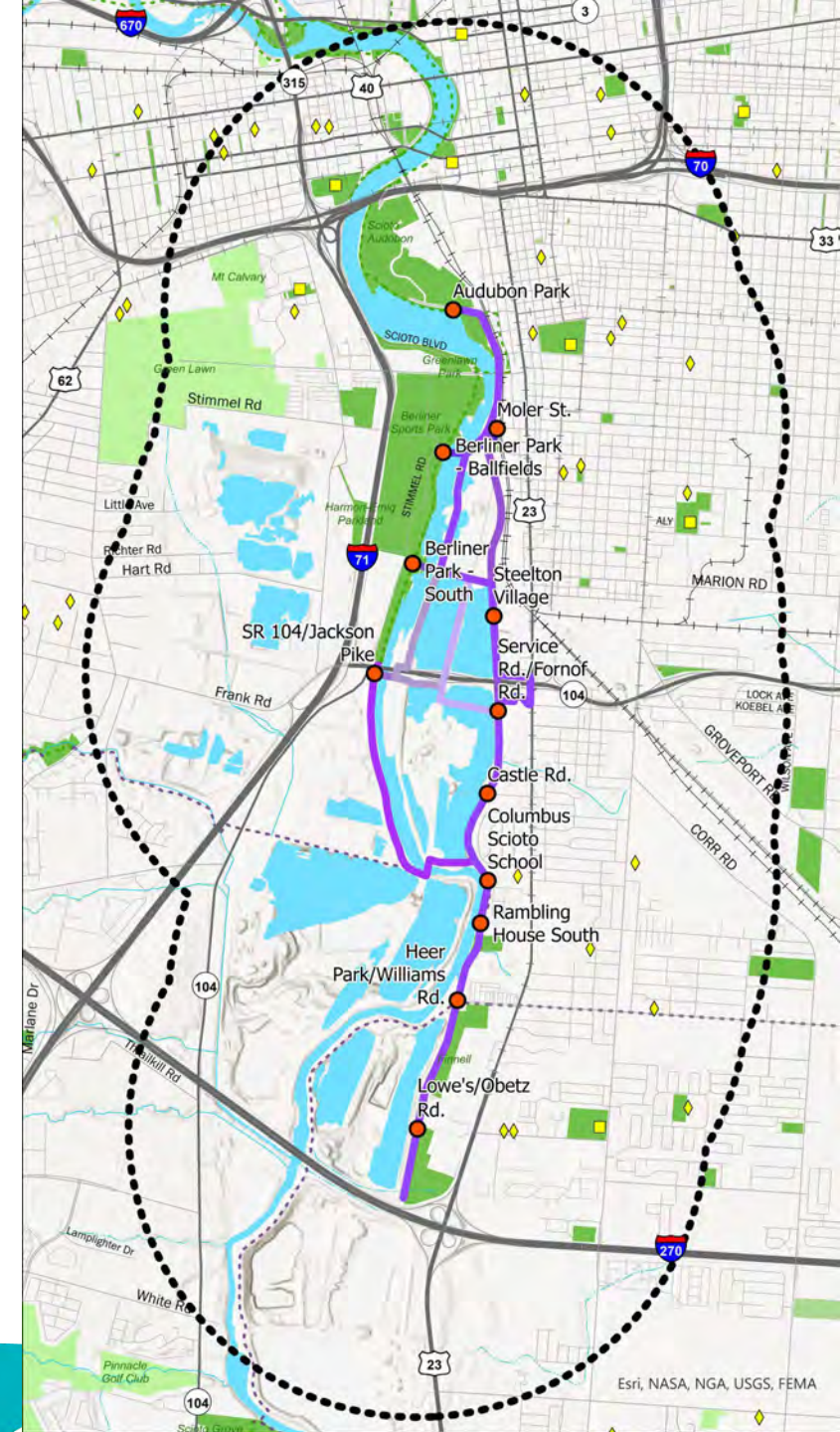
- Intended outcomes of activity
 - Recommendations regarding connections between Dublin and neighboring jurisdictions
 - Ongoing framework for coordination of paths & trails in Northwest Area
- Activity progress
 - June – Stakeholder Workshop
 - July – Site Visits & Alternatives Analysis
 - Aug – Stakeholder Workshop #2, Implementation Plan development, and wrap-up



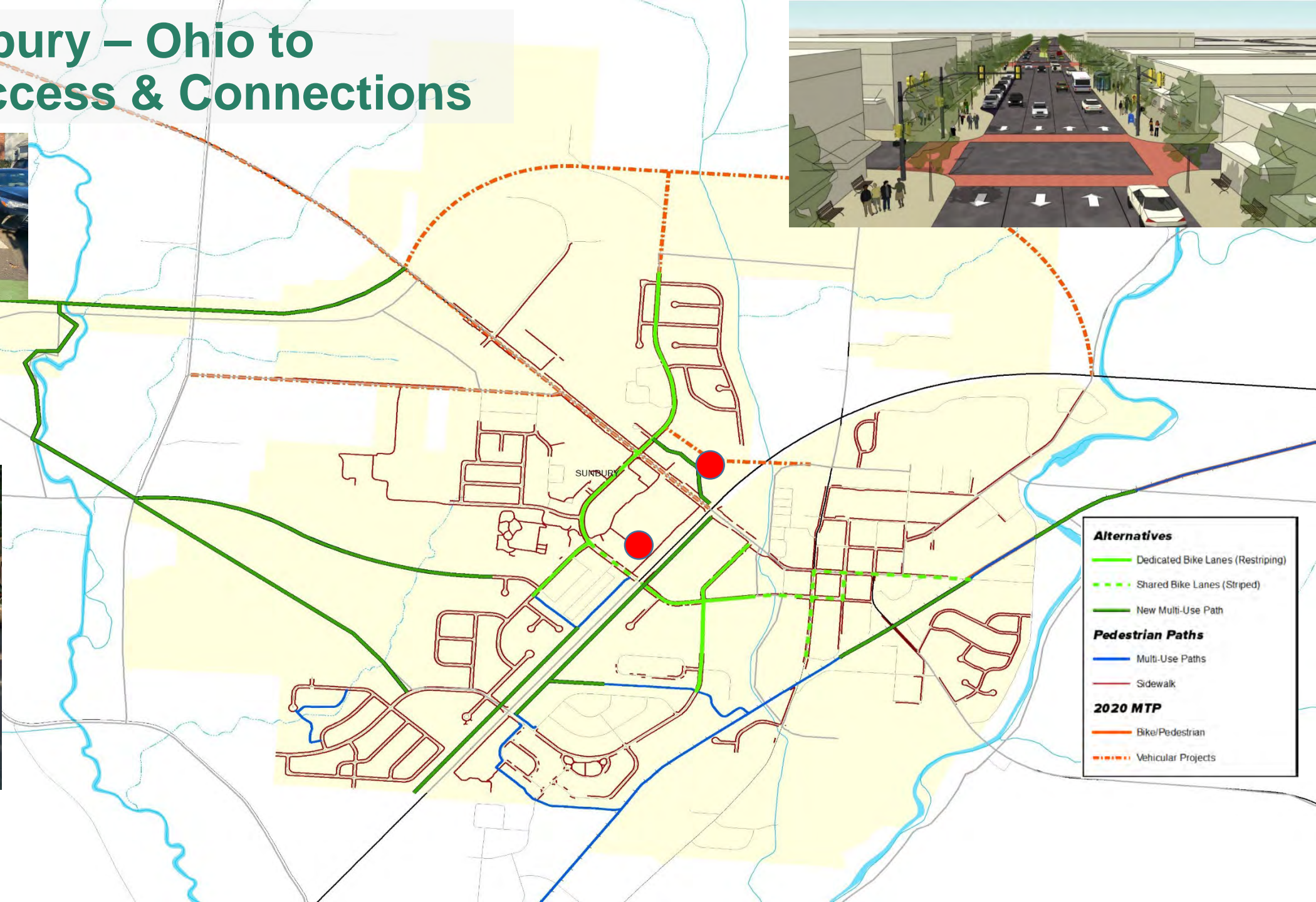
- Priority alignments
 - Cosgray Rd
 - Avery Rd
 - Britton Pkwy
 - Tuttle Mall Corridor
 - Davidson Rd
 - Bethel Rd
 - 161

Metro Parks – Scioto Trail Extension

- Stakeholder engagement
 - Focused, individual conversations with each property owner/leaseholder and other key agencies
- Alternatives analysis
 - 19 routes based on combinations of barrier eliminations, suitable properties, and potential access points
 - Weighted evaluation criteria; flexible as project evolves
- Documentation and Implementation Plan
 - Expected to wrap up by the end of the month



City of Sunbury – Ohio to Erie Trail Access & Connections



Alternatives	
	Dedicated Bike Lanes (Restriping)
	Shared Bike Lanes (Striped)
	New Multi-Use Path

Pedestrian Paths	
	Multi-Use Paths
	Sidewalk

2020 MTP	
	Bike/Pedestrian
	Vehicular Projects

Other Business



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SAVE THE DATE

2022 SOCIAL MEDIA SUMMIT

August 2, 2022 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
visit morpc.org for more information



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Save the Date for MORPC's annual Summit on Sustainability!

October 14, 2022 | Hilton Columbus Downtown | 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

More information can be found at www.morpc.org/summit.

RURAL FORUM SERIES

HOMETOWN REVITALIZATIONS – HAPPEN HERE

Thursday Oct 27

10:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.

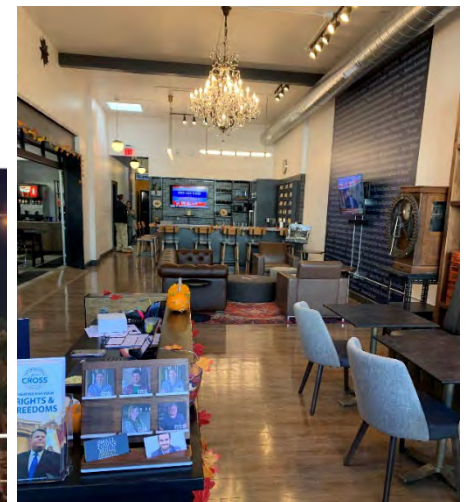
Bellefontaine

**Jobs!
Entrepreneurs!**

**Apartments!
Condos!
Offices!
Co-Work Space!**

**Events!
Pedestrians!
Private investment!**

**Remodeled!
Reinvented!
Renewed!**



Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) 2022 Webinars



- MORPC to continue hosting APBP Monthly Webinar viewings in 2022
- All APBP webinars begin at 3:00 pm ET on the 3rd Wednesday of each month
- Monthly webinars are eligible for 1.0 hour of AICP Certification Maintenance credit

→ Email jpetrov@morpc.org to attend

- Upcoming:
 - **August 17, 2022** | Data Don't Drive: The Limitations of Crash Data
 - **September 21, 2022** | Youth voices: Partnering with Youth in the Community
 - **October 19, 2022** | Assessment of Bicycle Detection Confirmation & Countdown Devices
 - **November 16, 2022** | Centering Equity in Transportation Planning and Design
 - **December 14, 2022** | Schools Streets: Testing Car-free Zones Around Schools



THANK YOU!

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 20
10:00 am



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