



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 111  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)

## NOTICE OF A MEETING

### CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS DETOURS AND CLOSURES STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING 1

Virtual Meeting  
April 25, 2024  
10:00 – 10:50

1. **Introductions**
2. **Committee Purpose, Goals, and Timelines**
3. **Existing Resources**
  - a. COG Wayfinding Strategy
  - b. COG Detours and Closures Website
  - c. Metro Parks Text Alerts
  - d. Other Partner Efforts
4. **Case Study:**
  - a. Recommendations
5. **Next Steps**

**William Murdock, AICP**  
*Executive Director*

**Chris Amorose Grooms**  
*Chair*

**Michelle Crandall**  
*Vice Chair*

**Ben Kessler**  
*Secretary*

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Detours & Closures Steering Committee  
Attendance

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April 25, 2024, 10:00 am

Members Present

Mike Andrako, Franklin County Engineer's Ofc.

Laura Ball, City of Westerville

Tricia Kovacs, Ohio Bicycle Federation

Michael Lentz, City of Hilliard

David Roseman, FACT

MORPC Staff Present

Lynn Kaufman

Melinda Vonstein



# CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

## Detours and Closures

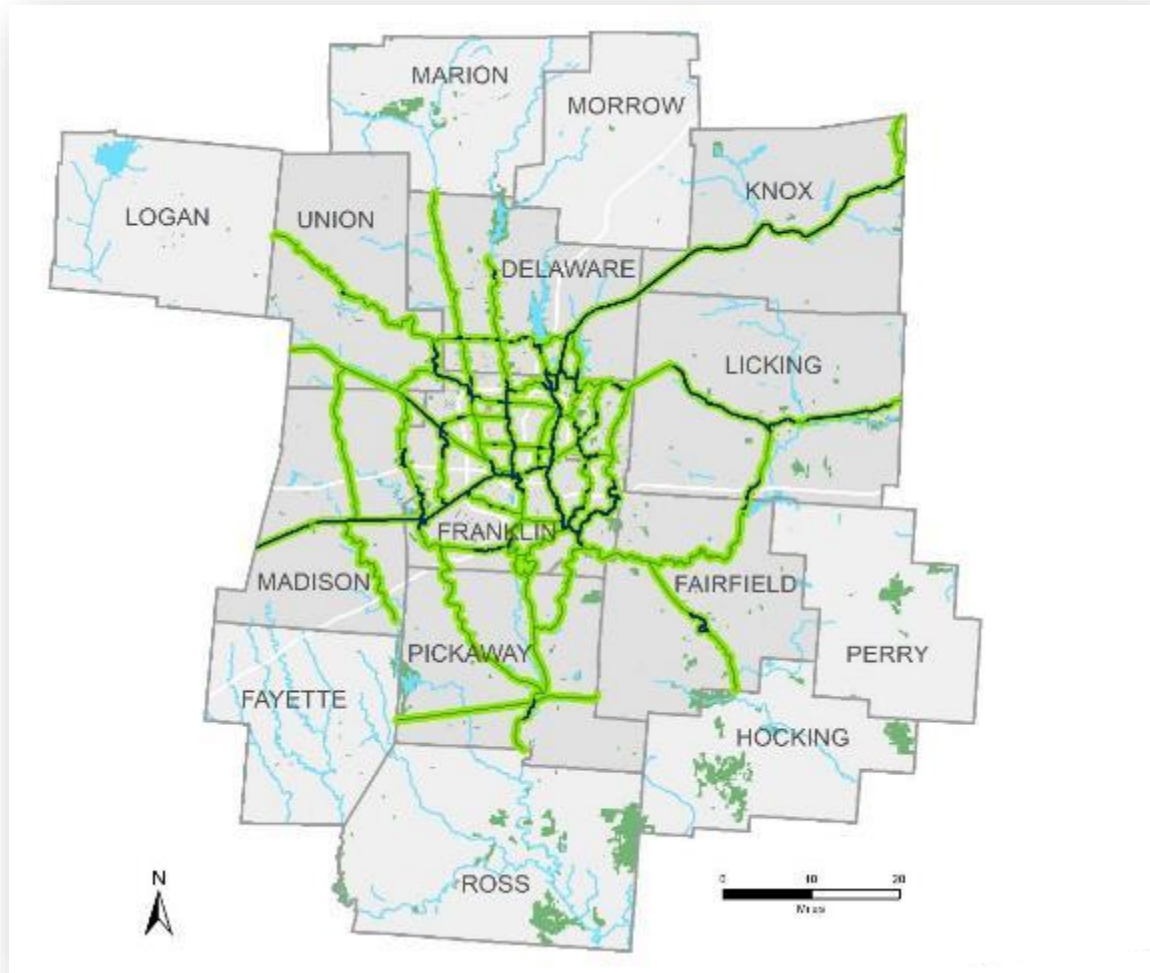
### Steering Committee Meeting 1

APRIL 25, 2024



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# CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAY— Advancing access, connectivity, health, and more



## VISION

*A world-class network of trails easily accessible to every Central Ohioan*

## MISSION

*Increase Greenways trails mileage and usage for recreation and transportation needs*



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# CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS: opening access to the Communities



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# GREAT AMERICAN RAIL TRAIL

This independent economic analysis finds that the Great American Rail-Trail® could generate annually:

**25.6M TRIPS**

**\$229.4M**  
IN VISITOR SPENDING

**2,500**  
NEW JOBS

**\$22.8M**  
IN NEW TAX REVENUE

**\$104M**  
IN LABOR INCOME

**\$161M**  
GDP CONTRIBUTION





# ENCOURAGING TRAIL USE



### Get Moving. Check In. Get Rewards.

Experience Columbus has teamed up with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission for a great outdoor trail pass program to enjoy with friends or family. These trails are perfect for hiking, biking, jogging, and even paddling! Try them all now—what are you waiting for?

Check out these links for more information and directions!  
[Central Ohio Greenways Map](#)  
[Central Ohio Biking Map](#)  
[Rapid 5](#)

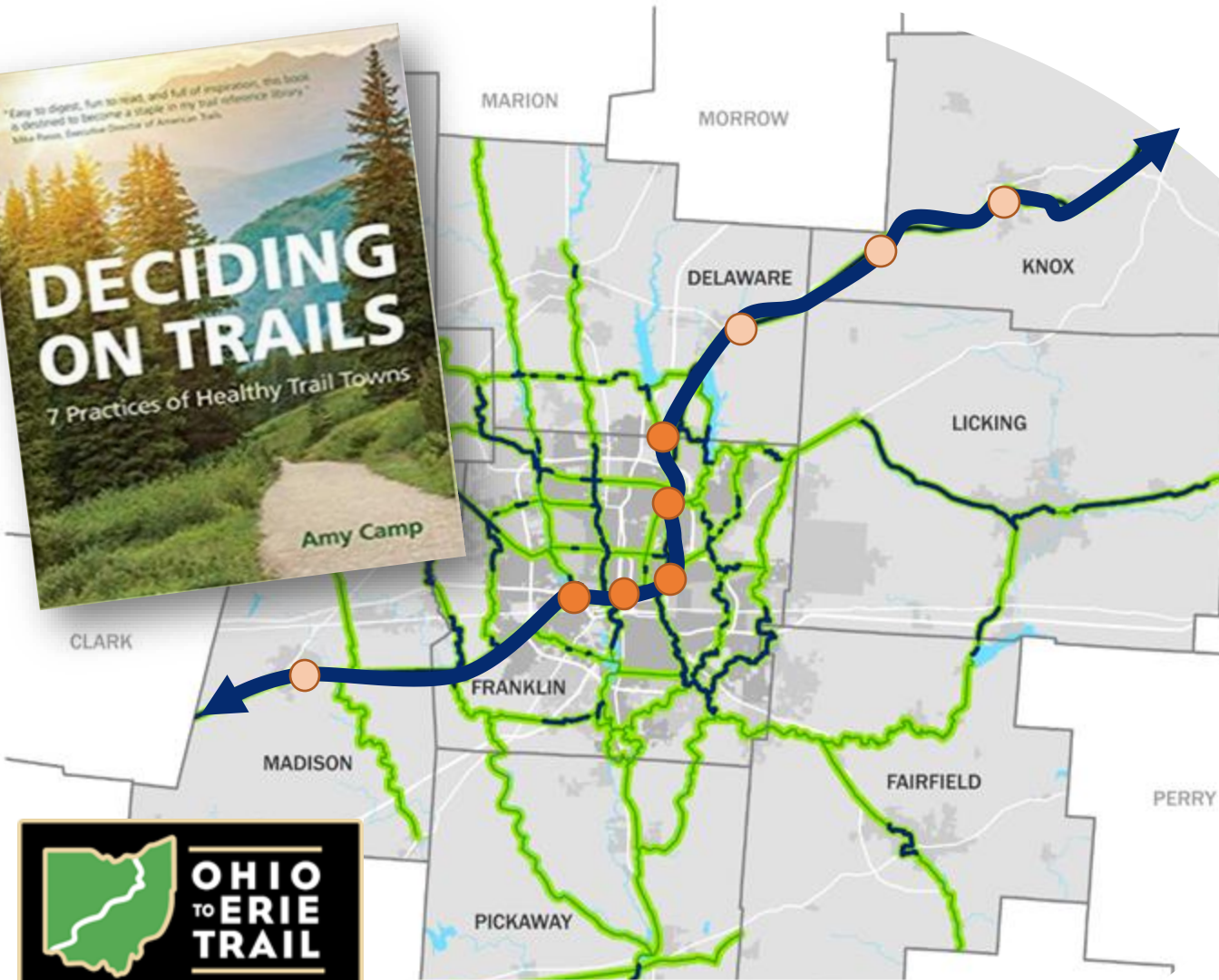
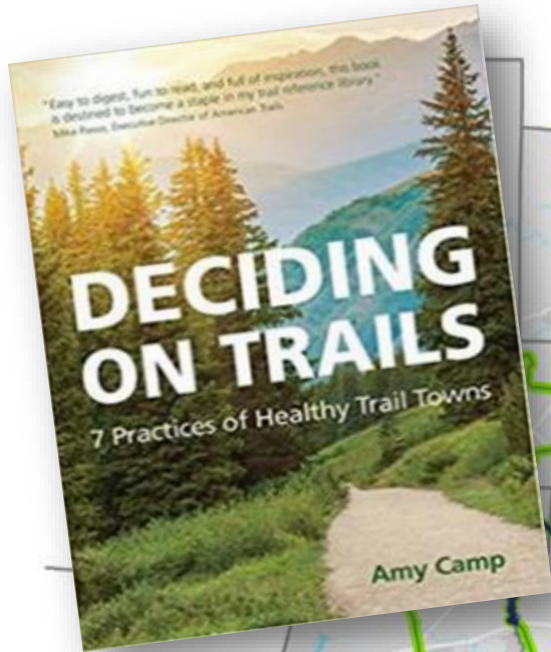
**COLUMBUS OUTDOOR TRAILS PASS**

**Hike, Bike and Paddle Trail**

- Mobile exclusive
- Instantly delivered via text and email
- No apps to download
- Experience the nature of Central Ohio

[Explore Now](#)

*“To be a Trail Town is to make the decision to pay attention to trails” – and invest in them.*



- Mt Vernon
- Centerburg
- Sunbury
- Westerville
- Easton
- Bexley
- Columbus Neighborhoods
- London



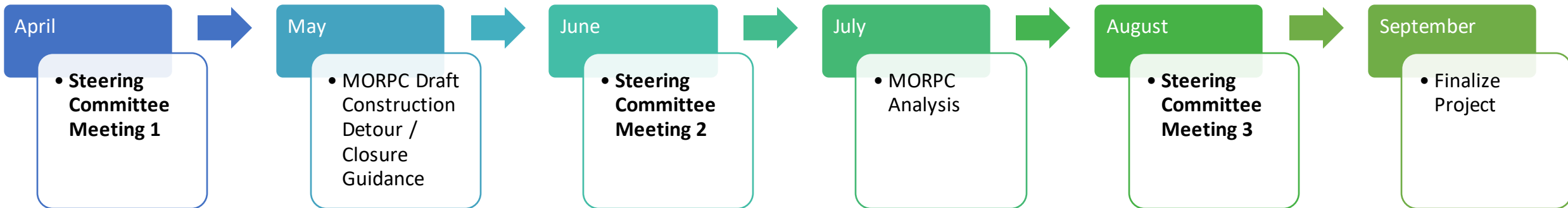


# STEERING COMMITTEE ROLE



Steering Committee Role: Develop guidelines to support Central Ohio communities' **planning and communication** of detours and closures occurring roadways because of construction, events, or weather related conditions.

Goal: The guidelines will support safe travel of pedestrians and cyclists without limiting development and maintenance of the region's transportation system.



**Goals:**

- 1) Affirm Steering Committee Purpose and Goals
- 2) Provide input on Construction Detour and Closure Designs

**Goals:**

- 1) Review Detour and Closure Design Guidance
- 2) Provide input on Detour and Closure Communications Guidelines

**Goals:**

- 1) Provide final feedback


# Existing Detour and Closure Resources



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A long-term trail detour during construction at The Ohio State University was communicated with trail stickers and a green dashed line that made following the route a seamless experience.



## Central Ohio Greenways (COG): Alerts and Closures


Central Ohio Greenways Alerts and Closures is your reliable source for bike trail alerts and closures in the region. Keep yourself informed on the latest developments, closures, and detours to ensure a safe and pleasant biking or walking experience on the trails and greenways. Kindly report any unlisted trail disruptions to our Facebook or Instagram, as closures and restrictions across Central Ohio may change, and we aim to update our information as soon as possible.

### Current Alerts and Closures:

[Olentangy Trail Section Closure \(May 2023 through Summer of 2024\)](#)  
The Olentangy Trail adjacent to Ohio State University will be closed; this closure includes a detour around Ohio Stadium, Morrill Tower, and Lincoln Tower to rejoin the original trail near West 12th Avenue.

[Scioto Trail Construction \(August 2023 through Summer 2024\)](#)  
Attention Scioto Trail users! Columbus Recreation and Parks is thrilled to announce the start of an essential pedestrian bridge project for the Scioto Trail near Souder Avenue.  
Starting in August, 2023, the trail will undergo construction to build a new pedestrian bridge parallel to Souder Avenue. Additionally, the Department is building a new shared use path along Souder Avenue to Broad Street. Construction will be complete in Summer of 2024.  
For everyone's safety, the affected trail section will be temporarily closed during the construction period. Please adhere to the designated detour route provided on-site for a seamless journey to your favorite outdoor activities. We appreciate your cooperation.



## Greenway Trails

### ALERTS

Sign up to get text alerts on your cell phone for Greenway Trail closings, hazards and construction information.  
Text "Greenways" to **1-781-728-9542** or go to <https://mobile-text-alerts.com/metroparks> and select "Greenways"

The Central Ohio Greenways are multi-use trails used for recreation and alternative transportation. Greenways connect parks and preserve open space to promote air and water quality. Metro Parks works with several agencies and communities to create and maintain greenways. (More information from MORPC at: [morpc.org/central-ohio-greenways](http://morpc.org/central-ohio-greenways)).





# What should we be considering when developing guidelines for designing trail detours?



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- Duration of Closure
- Proximity to alternative safe/low stress routes
- # of daily trail users
- Impact
- What else?



# THANK YOU!

**MELINDA VONSTEIN, AICP**

*Central Ohio Greenways Program Manager*

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**

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