



CORPO QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Mark Forrest, Chair Jeff Stauch, Vice Chair

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CORPO addresses the unique transportation planning needs of each member county and facilitates regional coordination. This newsletter outlines products, services, news, and events that CORPO provides its member counties.

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CORPO TRAC Projects

Two projects from the CORPO transportation planning area were submitted to the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) during the 2024 application period. Funded through ODOT's Major New Capacity Program, TRAC transportation projects have a total cost greater than \$12 million, add capacity to the transportation system, and support economic development. The proposed projects seeking funding for this cycle in the CORPO area include the [SR 13 Relocation project](#) in Knox County and the [US 23 & SR 762 Interchange project](#) in Pickaway County. CORPO is receiving comments from the public on these projects through August 16th at trac@morpc.org. More information on the projects and submitting comments can be found [here](#). More information will be shared with CORPO subcommittees during the first week of September ahead of the TRAC regional hearing in October.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ CORPO County Subcommittee Meetings are scheduled and will be held between September 16th - 30th in-person at each of the CORPO counties.
- ❖ [Southwest Area Update Luncheon](#) for communities located in and around the Southwest side of the metro area is September 25th. [Register here](#).
- ❖ [Safe Streets Central Ohio: Creating Vibrant Communities](#) is September 26th and is an annual event hosted by MORPC in collaboration with key partners to highlight efforts throughout the region to reduce the number of traffic fatalities and severe injuries occurring on our roadways. [Register here](#).
- ❖ [Rural Forum: Zoning for the Future](#) is October 23rd at the Perry County Opportunity Center and will be focused on how to start a zoning process in communities that have little to no zoning plans. [Register here](#).
- ❖ The next CORPO Committee meeting is scheduled for November 4th at 2:00 p.m. and will be held in-person at MORPC.

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Fairfield, Knox, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway & Union Counties



Funding Applications and Opportunities Update

CORPO Staff are available to assist with funding applications and technical assistance.

- ❖ [Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program, USDOT-](#) This program focuses on improving access to daily needs with planning grant awards of up to \$2 million and construct grant awards at a minimum of \$5 million to fund studies and construction grants for removing, retrofitting, or mitigating an existing facility to restore community connectivity; public, engagement; and other transportation planning activities. The application closes **September 30th**.
- ❖ [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\), USDOT-](#) 1 deadline remains for application for Planning & Demonstration grants. Planning & Demonstration funds action plans, as well as supplemental planning activities and demonstration activities in support of an action plan. The deadline for Planning & Demonstration grants is **August 29th**.
- ❖ [HSIP Formal Safety Application, ODOT-](#) The formal HISP application process is for more complex safety improvements and is meant to address locations with a history of fatal or injury crashes. Scoring criteria gives higher priority to projects that address crash severity. A minimum of 3 crashes per year and 30% injury crashes are required to apply. The next application window closes **August 31st**.
- ❖ [Highway Safety Improvement Program \(HSIP\) Abbreviated Safety Funding Application, ODOT-](#) The program is intended to fund potentially less complex safety improvements quickly. Eligible projects need to be simple (under \$500,000 and must be constructed within 2 years), utilize proven safety countermeasures, and be in a location with 3 crashes per year. The next application window closes **September 30th**.
- ❖ [Local Major Bridge Program, ODOT-](#) This program provides federal funds to counties and municipalities for Local Major Bridge replacement, rehabilitation, major preventative maintenance, and demolition projects. The program provides up to 80% of eligible costs and there is a maximum award of \$20 million per project. The project solicitation process **will begin September 1st and is due October 15th**.
- ❖ [Transportation Alternatives Program \(TAP\), ODOT-](#) TAP provides funding for transportation alternatives projects, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; and safe routes to school projects. The LOI form for the next round of TAP funding will be available on **October 1st**.

CORPO Quick Updates

- ❖ ODOT continues work of the **Route 23 Connect Study** to evaluate enhancements along U.S. 23 corridor to improve traffic flow between the Columbus and Toledo regions. The study is now focusing on improvements along the U.S. 23 corridor between I-270 and Waldo. More information about the study and **public meetings to be held throughout August** can be found [here](#).
- ❖ Proposed revisions for the **Urban Area Boundary review** are being reviewed by the ODOT Functional Classification Committee and will be submitted to FWHA next. Then, ODOT will coordinate with CORPO and County Engineers to revise Functional Classification and NHS beginning in November.
- ❖ The process to develop the **2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** and the Statewide TIP will kick-off at the September subcommittee meetings. [More info on the TIP here](#).