



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)

## NOTICE OF A MEETING

COMMISSION MEETING  
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
111 LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 100  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215  
*TOWN HALL*

**Thursday, November 14, 2024**  
**1:30 p.m.**

### *Remote Option*

To join by video and see any screen sharing, click on “Join Microsoft Teams Meeting” below. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams for the link to work.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 268 253 220 749

Passcode: k2XvQr

To participate by phone, use the conference call information below.

[+1 614-362-3056](#) Columbus

[\(888\) 596-2819](#) United States (Toll-free)

Phone conference ID: 356 398 203#

## AGENDA

1:30 p.m.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin, MORPC Chair)
  - **Recognition of Guests and New Members** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer
3. **Executive Director’s Report** – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director
  - **Quarterly Membership Update** – Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Chris Amorose Groomes**  
Chair

**Michelle Crandall**  
Vice Chair

**Ben Kessler**  
Secretary

### Committees

4. **Regional Data Advisory Committee** – Jessica Kuenzli, MORPC Chief Regional Planning Officer & Senior Director of Planning
5. **Regional Policy Roundtable** – Lourdes Barroso de Padilla (City of Columbus), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair
  - **Legislative Update** – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations
6. **Sustainability Advisory Committee** – Ben Kessler (City of Bexley), Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair
7. **Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
  - a. **Call to Order** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
  - b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Report** – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer & Senior Director of Programming
  - c. **Safe Streets – Safer Communities: A Comprehensive Overview of MORPC’s Roadway Safety Program** – Maria Schaper, MORPC Transportation Study Director and Lauren Cardoni, MORPC Active Transportation and Safety Program Manager
  - d. **Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**
    - 1) Approval of **October 10, 2024 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**
  - e. **Adjourn Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)** – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair
8. **Commission Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of **October 10, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes**
  - b. **Proposed Resolution 16-24: “Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding recently awarded Charging**

**and Refueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program funding and enter into related subcontracts”**

- c. Approval of Actions of the Transportation Policy Committee

**9. Other Business**

2:45 p.m. **10. Adjourn** – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair

**PLEASE NOTIFY SHARI SAUNDERS AT 614-233-4169 OR [ssaunders@morpc.org](mailto:ssaunders@morpc.org) IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.**

**The next Commission Meeting is**  
**Thursday, December 12, 2024, 1:30 p.m.**  
*111 Liberty Street, Suite 100*  
*Columbus, Ohio 43215*

**PARKING AND TRANSIT:** When parking in MORPC's parking lot, please be sure to park in a MORPC visitor space or in a space marked with a yellow “M”. Handicapped parking is available at the side of MORPC’s building. On Commission meeting days only, additional parking is available in numbered spaces toward the west end of the parking lot. Electric vehicle charging stations are available for MORPC guests.

Indoor bike parking is available for MORPC guests.

MORPC is accessible by COTA BUS. The closest bus stop to MORPC southbound is High Street & W. Blenkner Street. Buses that accommodate this stop are the 5 - West 5th Ave./Refugee, and the 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons. The closest stop to MORPC northbound is High Street & E. Hoster Street. Buses that accommodate this stop are the 5 - West 5th Avenue/Refugee and the 8 - Karl/S. High/Parsons. Accessible from the Courthouse stop by a quick walk are COTA lines 1, 2, 4, and CMAX.



**MORPC Monthly Agency Report**  
*October 2024*

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**Senior Directors**

**Parag Agrawal** [pagrawal@morpc.org](mailto:pagrawal@morpc.org)  
**Joe Garrity** [kgarrity@morpc.org](mailto:kgarrity@morpc.org)  
**Shawn Hufstedler** [shufstedler@morpc.org](mailto:shufstedler@morpc.org)

**Ralonda Hampton** [rhampton@morpc.org](mailto:rhampton@morpc.org)  
**Jessica Kuenzli** [jkuenzli@morpc.org](mailto:jkuenzli@morpc.org)  
**Robert Williams** [rwilliams@morpc.org](mailto:rwilliams@morpc.org)

**CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PROSPERITY**

Transportation Safety

MORPC collaborated with the Delaware Public Health District (DPHD) for a second semester to teach Public Health Students at Ohio Wesleyan University about the impacts of the built environment on public health. MORPC assisted DPHD to engage the students and City of Delaware Staff in conducting walk audits of the built environment around campus. The students are responsible for creating final recommendations based on their observations and presenting their findings to DPHD and City of Delaware Staff. Past walk audits with the public health students resulted in the City implementing basic infrastructure improvements.

Team Members participated in the following safety committee meetings:

- Franklin County Safe Communities Coalition Meeting
- Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review Board
- ODOT Strategic Highway Safety Plan Steering Committee Meeting
- Crash Research Network Meeting

208 Planning and Areawide Designation Process

MORPC continues to engage the ad hoc 208 committee to consider the State's request for MORPC to become a designated areawide planning agency. The committee will review and make recommendations on the agency's proposed approach to managing modifications to Facility Planning Area boundaries and dispute resolution related to sewer service. MORPC seeks to establish a proactive and collaborative process, with clear guidance and a structured framework for fostering dialogue among local authorities to achieve mutually agreed-upon solutions. The committee will provide input on key decisions, such as the proposed geographic extent of the designated area, the operational structure, and funding considerations for standing up a designated areawide planning agency.

Regional Water Study

The Hazen and Sawyer Consultant Team continues to work through the deliverables of the Regional Water Study. Updates on progress are shared as they become available. Previous webinar recordings and slide deck information can be accessed [here](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page to the Regional Water Study section. If you would like to receive information for future webinars, contact Edwina Teye at [eteve@morpc.org](mailto:eteve@morpc.org).

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Team Members participated in the October 22-23 Franklin County Office of DEI annual Diversity Conference. This year's theme was "Serving Through the Lens of Inclusion: Celebrating Differences & Building Inclusive Futures."

MORPC joined the Columbus Urban League for their annual Empowerment Day on October 22. The signature event celebrates community leaders and businesses who are making a difference in the community and working towards a fully inclusive economy.

Gohio Commute

Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility hosted a webinar with Nationwide Children's Hospital to educate their employees on the benefits of both programs. Team Members participated in various events (Defense Supply Center Columbus, Columbus Metropolitan Library Job & Resource Fair, and the Franklin County Expungement Event) promoting Gohio Commute.

The OARC Rideshare Subcommittee is launching a new Commuter Perks program and a branded Gohio Commute app, in the first and second quarters of 2025. MORPC staff is leading the effort.

### Active Transportation Planning

The Active Transportation Committee met October 23 and heard updates on the City of Columbus Shared Mobility Program, the City of Columbus Bike Plus Plan, the Central Ohio Greenways Wayfinding Strategy, and more. Presentation materials are available on the [MORPC website](#).

Team Members are participating in the planning committee for the first statewide Active Transportation conference, hosted by ODOT in Spring 2025.

MORPC collaborated with partners across the region to conduct four Trails and Active Transportation Subregion meetings. At each meeting, participants were invited to discuss sidewalk, bikeway, and trail connectivity in their communities and surrounding subregion. Representatives from the LinkUS Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) Team, the MORPC Active Transportation Program, the Central Ohio Greenways Program, and RAPID 5 also shared relevant updates with attendees. The meetings were an opportunity for neighboring communities to collaborate and discuss their goals, visions, and potential funding strategies for trails and active transportation facilities. The four meetings included:

- Northeast Subregion, Westerville Community Center, October 21
- Northwest Subregion, City of Dublin, October 22
- Southeast Subregion, Wigwam Event Center in Pickerington, October 23
- Southwest Subregion, Scioto Grove Metro Park in Grove City, October 25

MORPC hosts virtual group viewings of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals monthly Professional Development webinars. The webinars are eligible for 1.0 hour of American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Maintenance credit. Contact Jordan Petrov ([jpetrov@morpc.org](mailto:jpetrov@morpc.org)) if you are interested in attending any of the MORPC group viewings. The next webinar is Wednesday, November 20, on: “*Multi-benefit Corridors: Designing Our Streets for Multisystem Benefits.*”

Team Members participated in the following active transportation meetings and events:

- Gahanna Transportation and Mobility Plan Steering Committee Kick-Off Meeting
- OSU Active Transportation Advisory Group meeting

### Technical Assistance Program

The application window for the 2025 Technical Assistance Program closed October 11. MORPC received four applications. The Evaluation Committee is reviewing the applications. Awardees will be notified by November 15.

### Central Ohio Greenways (COG)

The COG Board met October 1 to discuss Working Group updates and review a draft work plan for 2025.

- The COG Trail Towns Working Group is developing a brand for the program. The group continued to build consensus around the brand and introduced concepts of the brand during the Summit on Sustainability. The group continues to seek funding for a Trail Town Ambassador Training Program, the Trail Towns in the Nation's Heartland Project, and Operational Funding.
- The COG Trail Closure and Detours Steering Committee met twice to discuss recommendations for designing and marketing trail detours. They will meet once more to finalize the recommendations.
- The COG Mapping Natural Assets Steering Committee data indexing project is on track for fall completion.

Central Ohio Greenways is considering opportunities to utilize a statewide trail mapping platform, Outerspatial, used by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Outerspatial is providing a regional pricing schedule for MORPC review in November.

The Outdoor Trails Pass partnership with Experience Columbus continues to be a popular program with hundreds of new sign-ups and check-ins monthly.

The Greenways Planning Studio (GPS) is supporting RAPID 5 in technical assistance, strategic planning, and regional collaboration. GPS is interested in collaborations with local government partners to expand greenway planning beyond trails, to conservation, public access, and connectivity of all greenspaces.

GPS hosted regional collaboration meetings in the four quadrants of the MPO area the week of October 21. An additional four quadrant meetings are scheduled in rural quadrants in November.

GPS is developing a strategic plan to leverage existing MORPC and partner resources and is working with RAPID 5 on grant strategies.

#### Central Ohio Blueways

Central Ohio Blueways Working Groups continue to prioritize and define their 2025 goals. The Environmental Stewardship Working Group will focus on invasive and native species guides, and installations of the Onion Bag Project. The User Experience Working Group will focus on assembling a hazard mitigation consortium, assembling a signage package, and creating an access point sponsorship program. The Water Trail Designation Working Group will focus on updating the partnership agreement drafts, updating the required mapping, and will begin meeting with Big Walnut Creek communities.

#### Regional Housing Strategy

MORPC worked with the City of Columbus to include supplemental planning activities in their Pathways to Removing Obstacles in Housing (PRO Housing) grant application. Proposed assistance includes a pilot study to assemble a housing action plan for the City of Reynoldsburg along with public engagement activities over the six-year life of the grant.

Team Members continue having conversations around housing issues with MORPC member communities. Staff continues to promote the identification of barriers and solutions related to housing for members through connections with MORPC's Community Assistance Programs and by giving presentations to councils and other organizations. Team Members continue to identify ways to expand upon the previous work of the regional Housing Strategy.

If you are interested in a housing/growth workshop for your community's elected officials, staff, or community leaders, MORPC is accepting requests for presentations and workshops. Our Team will work with you to design the agenda, including recommended speakers and learning objectives. Contact Jonathan Miller for more information ([JMiller@morpc.org](mailto:JMiller@morpc.org)).

#### Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)

The next Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is December 18 at the Jeffrey Mansion in Bexley and includes a special holiday celebration. Team Members are working to confirm 2025 member appointments. If you are interested in being considered or would like to make a recommendation for SAC membership, contact Brandi Whetstone ([bwhetsone@morpc.org](mailto:bwhetsone@morpc.org)).

- The Regional Sustainability Agenda Subcommittee met October 17 and made progress on reviewing and updating goals and objectives. The next meeting is November 22. For more information, contact Brandi Whetstone ([bwhetstone@morpc.org](mailto:bwhetstone@morpc.org)).

#### Sustainable2050

The next Sustainable2050 meeting is December 5. The agenda includes updates on the Regional Sustainability Agenda and a presentation from Jennie McAdams, Franklin County Public Health, about a recent tree canopy study conducted countywide. Sustainable2050 membership is open to all MORPC members, and current Sustainable2050 members interested in earning their tier status certification should contact Brandi Whetstone at [bwhetstone@morpc.org](mailto:bwhetstone@morpc.org). A certification workbook will be provided, and a kick-off meeting is encouraged to review the process. Once a completed workbook is submitted and reviewed, the next step is to present the proposed certification to the SAC for approval.

#### Sustaining Scioto Board

The Sustaining Scioto Board met October 22 and discussed 2025 priorities including transitioning from a board focused on the Scioto Watershed to a more regional focus under the proposed Regional Water Advisory Council (RWAC). The board is repositioning itself to be a convening body focused on advancing broader regional priorities, including 208 planning, and the recommendations and outcomes of the Regional Water Study upon its completion. MORPC and the Board will continue to work through the components needed for the transition including by-laws and a charter to guide the work of the RWAC.

#### Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team

The next Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team meeting is November 21.

#### Energy & Air Quality

The Energy and Air Quality Working Group meeting is November 20.

MORPC just closed its RFP looking for EV vendors to repair and/or replace broken or non-operational EV charging ports throughout the 15-county region as part of MORPC's \$2 million award from the U.S. DOT-FHWA's Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator (EVC RAA) Program. Over the next few weeks, MORPC will review the proposals and award the best-fit vendor(s) to complete the EVC RAA work as quickly as possible. If you have any questions or need more information, reach out to Brian Filiatraut at [bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org).

Work on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Central Ohio Climate Action Plan (COCAP) continues. COCAP aims to create a unified approach to regional planning and pollution mitigation actions. The COCAP Team, led by Sustainable Columbus, MORPC, and others, just closed its COCAP Community Priorities Survey. The Team conducted technical working sessions in late October with regional stakeholders across public and private sectors providing key information to update the region's pollution reduction strategies. For more information, visit the [COCAP website](#) or email Brian Filiatraut at [bfiliatraut@morpc.org](mailto:bfiliatraut@morpc.org).

MORPC issued no Air Quality Alerts for the Columbus region in October. There was an isolated particulate matter exceedance at the Fairgrounds monitoring station on October 19 which was attributed to activities at the Fairgrounds that increased particulate levels locally. Particulate matter 2.5 levels reached the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups on the national Air Quality Index (AQI) scale on that day.

#### Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project/U.S. EPA Project

Team Members, in partnership with Franklin County Public Health, made great progress on the U.S. EPA funded air monitoring project. Under the advisement of the air quality modeling consultant, Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, MORPC created an interactive map of where sensors should be deployed and began sharing this with local community partners. MORPC extended the deadline for sensor deployment to November 30 to ensure the best possible placements for analyzing local PM2.5 levels within Franklin County.

#### Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC)

The RDAC met October 1 and continues to focus on the areas of Workforce & Job Quality, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Cybersecurity, and Regional Data Coaching projects and initiatives. Notably, the October 31 Cybersecurity for Local Leaders event was held, the call for proposals for Data Day 2025 is open and closes November 30, and the DEI & Data working group held its first pop-up help sessions at the Main Columbus Metropolitan Library.

- Data Day Working Group: The Working Group sent out a Call for Proposals for Data Day 2025. The group is also focusing their efforts on identifying potential morning and lunch speakers. Send speaker suggestions to Jordan Inskip at [jinskeep@morpc.org](mailto:jinskeep@morpc.org).
- Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG): The next RIDG meeting is November 13. The main topic is Data Privacy.
- Central Ohio GIS User Group: The next meeting is November 20, World GIS Day.
- Regional Data Coaching Working Group: The Working Group met October 3 to report out on their first pop-up event held at The Columbus Metropolitan Main Library, which was attended by representatives from two community organizations. The group discussed ways to expand outreach and participation and plan future pop-up events. The group continues planning for the intended soft launch of the persistent online Data Coaches group at Data Day 2025.
- Workforce and Job Quality Working Group: The Working Group continues to participate in the Results for America (RfA) Workforce Fellowship, a free six-month program that includes monthly webinars, office hours with RfA staff, and engagement with other organizations pursuing work related to job quality. The group is considering applying for a follow-up session of the fellowship that is intended to help participants act on the concepts introduced.
- DEI & Data Working Group: The Working Group met October 9 to evaluate progress and identify the support needed to complete content and assure alignment between proposed still-in-development DEI sessions. The group unanimously agreed to pivot the venue for delivering their content from a standalone event to breakout sessions at Data Day 2025. All working group members are engaged in one session and plan to submit proposals before the November 30 deadline.
- Cyber Security Working Group: The Working Group met October 22 to finalize the run of show and joint presentation for the October 31 "Cybersecurity for Local Leaders" event at MORPC.

#### Data & Research Activities

Team Members finished a draft of the next Leader's Listen survey in review for release. This is the first of an annual series of comprehensive surveys covering transportation, housing, sustainability, and other topics.

Population estimates for sub-county jurisdictions as of January 1, 2024, are published on the [Population Hub](#).

Team Members are collaborating with a group of graduate students in The Ohio State University Master of Translational Data Analytics program to conduct a property tax productivity analysis (aka “value per acre”) for parcels in Delaware County. Past studies in other locations revealed that traditional walkable neighborhoods characteristic of those built prior to World War II produce significantly more tax value per acre than automobile-oriented development characteristic of post-WWII development patterns. The project is structured as a two-semester capstone course ending May 2025. The students are carrying out the analysis under supervision from MORPC Staff. A key project goal is that the analysis will be reproducible and easily adaptable to other counties. The processes for working with county parcel data may also facilitate other critical MORPC work including sub-county population estimates.

#### Outreach

Team Members presented on the Air Quality Program to the Ohio Organizing Collaborative, two classes at the Ohio State University, the Clintonville GreenSpot group, and convened air quality practitioners from across the state to present in a breakout session at the Summit on Sustainability.

## DRIVE INVESTMENT

#### LinkUS Mobility Initiative

MORPC continues supporting LinkUS partner agencies through public engagement activities around the region.

#### Passenger Rail

Team Members met with representatives from the City of Fort Wayne, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and the HNTB Consultant Team in early October to begin drafting the vision and scope of planning activities. Step 1 pre-planning activities are expected to wrap up in Spring 2025, with service development planning to begin thereafter.

Local leaders from Central Ohio traveled to Indiana on October 31 to meet with City of Fort Wayne officials.

The next Central Ohio Passenger Rail Committee meeting is November 12.

#### Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)/Economic Development District

The Regional Freight Study grant application to the EDA was not successful. During the debrief call with the EDA, MORPC received feedback to reapply after modifying the project scope. Staff will explore the possibility of rescoping the application with more of an economic development focus.

Team Members completed MORPC’s first Performance Progress and Federal Financial reports as an Economic Development District. The reports are required to comply with EDA’s Partnership Planning Grant award.

The next CEDS Committee meeting is November 21.

#### Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Team Members are working with the “*Get Ready Initiative*” to plan for communities within a 40-minute drive time of the Intel development. The Consultant Team developed and distributed a survey to local governments within the study area. The survey is intended to learn how development pressures and desired land uses have changed in the last three years and what assistance communities need as they plan for growth. Team Members continue to work with the Consultant Team on expansion of the travel demand model.

#### Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP)

MORPC is relaunching the Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP) program to increase its breadth and deepen its reach. Staff shared a draft proposal with MORPC leadership.

#### Brownfield Assessments

MORPC is applying to U.S. EPA’s Community Wide Assessment Grant to support brownfield redevelopment projects. Linden, South Side, and Mt. Vernon are target areas for the grant, but all MORPC members are eligible for assistance. Grant funds totaling \$500,000 can pay for phase 1&2 assessments, hazardous



material assessments, community engagement efforts, and site reuse or clean up planning. The application is due November 14.

#### Federal Competitive Programs

Team Members met with JobsOhio to discuss its federal priorities for 2025 -- innovation districts; space, defense, and aerospace; and alignment with biomanufacturing, next generation technology. This conversation allows MORPC to work more strategically with JobsOhio and One Columbus going into 2025.

MORPC Staff established a process for Letters of Support requests. The process will help Central Ohio communities and MORPC partners receive MORPC's support letter in a timely manner and simultaneously track and record internally all the letters provided for different funding opportunities. You can find the link [here](#).

Team Members met with Marion County staff and the All Ohio Future Fund (AOFF) program administrators to discuss a site development project. If funded, the grant will pay for a sewer line extension to a key industrial park in the region.

MORPC's Economic Development District provided two Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Letters of Alignment to support the EDA Build to Scale grant. Providing these letters confirm the application's alignment with CEDS, the regional blueprint for economic development.

#### Drive Investment Portal

The Drive Investment Portal is a free member resource with up-to-date information on active and proposed funding opportunities to help finance regional priorities. For any questions, contact Preston Frick at [pfrick@morpc.org](mailto:pfrick@morpc.org).

#### Mobility Management

Team Members created a "Getting Around Franklin County" guide to highlight the available transportation options for seniors and people with disabilities. The guide will be available by the end of November.

The Central Ohio Mobility Management Working Group met October 1.

Team Members continue to present to multiple interest groups and organizations on mobility management services and mobility planning activities.

#### FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient

The fiscal year 2024 Section 5310 application period was September 25-October 25. Approximately \$1.7 million is available for eligible activities. Team Members are reviewing applications. Award notifications are expected later this year.

#### Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO)

The CORPO September subcommittee meetings also served as Rural Consultation Meetings to kick-off the development of the 2026-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP/TIP).

Team Members developed an interactive, online dashboard for the CORPO Safety Action Plan. The dashboard will be complete and available to use in November for the public and CORPO community stakeholders. The dashboard will be updated annually as new crash data is available.

MORPC Staff will attend an ODOT workshop to prepare for the Functional Classification Review process, then will coordinate with CORPO counties starting in November to complete the review. The full review is due August 2025.

#### Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Team Members are preparing for the SFY 2026-2029 TIP, including integration with ODOT's new E-STIP platform being rolled out this fall.

#### MORPC-Attributable Funding

Staff reviewed the final applications received at the end of September and provided draft scoring to the Attributable Funds Committee.

#### Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)

MORPC presented the regional priority list of applications to TRAC members at the Central Ohio Regional Public Hearing on October 16.

### Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)

The Public Works Integrating Committee for District 3 (Franklin County) held an applicant presentations meeting on October 18. Applications for SFY 26 SCIP/LTIP funding are being evaluated.

### Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

The Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) met October 7 to review and approve scoring completed by MORPC for components of the applications, including the Local Coordination and Support. The Committee also voted on the cost effectiveness of each proposed project based on Clean Ohio criteria for cost per acre/cost per linear feet. The Committee met November 4 to vote and approve projects for funding. For more information, contact Edwina Teye at ([ETeye@morpc.org](mailto:ETeye@morpc.org)) or visit MORPC's Clean Ohio Conservation Fund [website](#).

### Money Mondays

MORPC hosted the following Money Monday sessions:

- October 7 – Affordable Housing with Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority
- October 21 – Financing Options with Columbus Franklin County Finance Authority
- October 28 – Childcare Resources with Groundwork Ohio

Upcoming sessions:

- November 18 – Grants and Financial Reporting

## **PAY IT FORWARD**

### Membership Services

Team Members completed four member visits.

### Events

MORPC hosted/held the following events:

- October 23 – Zoning for the Future, Opportunity Center, New Lexington
- October 29 – Summit on Sustainability, Columbus Hilton Downtown

Upcoming Events:

- November 14 – Pre-Commission Luncheon with Stephen Steinour, at MORPC, 12 p.m.
- November 19 – STEPZ Workshop, at MORPC, 8 a.m.

### Public Involvement & Engagement

Team Members participated in the following opportunities:

- LinkUS Town Hall

MORPC promoted the following through social media and on our website: Air Quality, Blueways, eSource, Trail Pass, Gohio Commute, Housing, LinkUS, Careers, Residential Services, RFPs/RFQs, Summit on Sustainability, Voter Education, CAC Applications, STEPZ Workshop, Housing Crisis Series, Indigenous Peoples Day, Technical Assistance Program, Pedestrian Safety Month, Safe Streets Central Ohio, Global Diversity Month, Stormwater Awareness, Big Table, World Rivers Day Clean Up, 5310 applications.

## **BUILD VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS**

### Planner Pool Program

MORPC is hosting the first workshop aimed at training and providing context for elected and appointed planning officials for MORPC's Member Communities on November 19, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Strategic Training for Effective Planning and Zoning (STEPZ) Workshop for Planning Officials features sessions on the roles and responsibilities of planning commissions and zoning boards, connecting the work of these entities to community planning as a whole, and discussions around the legalities of zoning and how to interact with engaged members of the public. The workshop also features an interactive element in partnership with the Urban Land Institute where attendees will get hands on experience in the role of a developer. If you have any questions about the event and how it can assist your community's planning commissions and boards of zoning appeals, contact Tunazzina Alam ([talam@morpc.org](mailto:talam@morpc.org)). Learn more and register [here](#).

Members are invited to submit applications for assistance from the Planner Pool Program. MORPC is accepting projects related to planning, zoning, and sustainability.

If you are interested in additional staffing assistance, filling staff vacancies during vacation, assistance with gaps in staffing, or other planning or pre-planning activities such as guidance with best practices, contact Jonathan Miller ([jmiller@morpc.org](mailto:jmiller@morpc.org)) to schedule a time to discuss your communities potential needs and ways that MORPC may be able to help.

#### Community-Based Planning Assistance

The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program (CBPA) continues to be available for community assistance requests. Members may learn more about, or request assistance from, CBPA by visiting <https://www.morpc.org/community-based-planning-assistance>. Contact Jonathan Miller ([jmiller@morpc.org](mailto:jmiller@morpc.org)) with questions or to discuss potential ways that MORPC may assist.

#### Consultant Services Program

Team Members are working on opening prequalification for 2025. New eligible services will include cost estimating and feasibility studies.

If you have a Request for Proposal (RFP) you would like advertised through the Consultant Services Program or need assistance with writing an RFP, reach out to [consultantservices@morpc.org](mailto:consultantservices@morpc.org) for additional information.

#### Finance Updates

The annual budget and the Indirect Cost Allocation Plan (ICAP) for 2025 are being prepared. The ICAP is expected to be submitted to the state for approval in November and the budget will be presented for Commission approval in December.

#### MORPC in the News

Links to press releases and news article for the month are available at [www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews](http://www.morpc.org/MORPCInTheNews)

#### Personnel Updates

The following new Team Members recently started at MORPC:

- Economic Development Intern Devarth Patel began October 1
- Communications & Engagement Intern Avery Watkins began October 1
- Central Ohio Greenways Intern Morgan Fuller began October 15

MORPC is currently recruiting for open positions:

- Programming Executive Assistant
- Programming Intern
- Energy Auditor

The requirements for the posted positions are available for review on the website at <http://www.morpc.org/careers/>.

#### RFP/RFQ Postings

The following RFP's/RFQ's were posted:

- Leaders Listen: Economic Development – Public Opinion Survey
- Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator - Revised (closed October 25)
- HVAC Contractor for Residential Energy Programs
- Insulation Contractor for Residential Energy Programs

The full RFP/RFQs are available at <http://www.morpc.org/rfps-rfq/>.



**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**  
**Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date: October 10, 2024  
Time: 2:31 p.m.  
Location: MORPC Town Hall

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person**

LaGrieta Acheampong	Brad Foster	Kelly Scocco
Chris Amorose Groomes	James Jewell	Kimberly Sharp
Lourdes Barroso De Padilla	Ben Kessler	Alana Shockey
Lee Bodnar	Nate Lang	Joe Steager
Tracie Davies	Steve Mazer	Joe Stefanov
Christina Drummond	Rory McGuinness	Robyn Stewart
Kristen Easterday	Erin Prosser	Christie Ward
Dave Efland	Eric Richter	Andrew Williams

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Attending Remotely**

Herb Asher	Dave Gulden	Dave Medley
Kristen Atha	Daryl Hennessy	Heidi Munc
Michael Bivens	Rebecca Hermann	Megan O'Callaghan
Paul Brake	Christine Houk	Elissa Schneider
Ron Bullard	Pam Hykes O'Grady	Brandon Standley
Gary Burkholder	Laurie Jadwin	Andy Volenik
Ben Collins	Carol Kauffman	Trenton Weaver
Brad Ebersole	Emily Keeler	Tim Wilson
Jennifer Fening	Bill LaFayette	Kenneth Wright
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Joe Long	
Jeremiah Gracia	Glenn Marzluf	

**Commission Members Present in Person**

Joe Antram	Jamie Brucker	RC Wise
Stephanie Bosco		

**Commission Members Attending Remotely**

Michelle Blanton	Tom Hale	Tony Vogel
Terry Emery	Mark Mauter	Hannah Wynne
Sam Filkins	Bill Narducci	
Bill Habig	Eric Phillips	

**Associate Members Attending Remotely**

Kristin Sutton	Kyle Wilson for Jennifer Fish
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**MORPC Staff Present in Person**

Parag Agrawal	Aubrey Hauter	Kyle Probert
Todd Bradley	Shawn Hufstedler	Padmini Roy-Dixon
Dave Dixon	Jessica Keunzli	Shari Saunders
Preston Frick	Eileen Leuby	Maria Schaper
Matika Garrison	Kelsey Matson	Brandi Whetstone
Joe Garrity	Amanda McEldowney	Robert Williams
Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	

**MORPC Staff Attending Remotely**

Thomas Graham	Adam Porr
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**Guests Present in Person**

Grace Byler, Morrow County	Jeff Stauch, CORPO Vice Chair (Union County)
Luke Messinger, RAPID 5	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Cornell Robertson, Mannik & Smith Group	

**Guests Attending Remotely**

Mark Funkhouser  
Anthony Sgro  
Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter

Nick Soulas, FCEO  
Brent Welch, FCEO

**Meeting Called to Order – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**

Chair Chris Amorose Grooms called the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer & Senior Director of Programming**

Parag Agrawal presented the [Metropolitan Planning Organization Report](#). Mr. Agrawal provided an overview of funding cycles underway. Last month, the Transportation Policy Committee adopted the five central projects prioritized to present to the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC). The TRAC public hearing is October 16 when Mr. Agrawal will present the MORPC priorities.

MORPC received approximately 20 applications seeking \$167 million for the \$50.4 million Attributable Funds available. Team Members are reviewing and evaluating the applications to present to the Attributable Funds Committee in November.

Section 5310 funding is available to enhance the mobility of senior citizens and residents with disabilities. Approximately \$1.7 million is available this round. The application deadline is October 25. This program has invested approximately \$8.5 million in Central Ohio in the last five years.

MORPC offers technical assistance to member communities to enhance their active transportation network. The deadline to submit applications for the 2025 Technical Assistance Program is October 11.

MORPC manages the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) funding for Franklin County (District 3). We received 21 applications requesting \$49 million for the \$32 million available this funding cycle. The OPWC District 3 Committee will make the awards in early December.

Mr. Agrawal reported that MORPC hosted the first in-person safety summit in Central Ohio on September 26. Every year Central Ohio averages 200 fatalities and 1,200 serious injuries on our roadways. More than 150 people participated in the event. The 2024 Safety Awards were presented to the Village of Richwood, The City of Columbus, and Jean-Ellen Willis, Director of Transportation and Mobility for the City of Dublin. All participants signed a safety pledge which is available for members to sign.

MORPC continues to work with partners to bring passenger rail to Central Ohio. The Cities of Fort Wayne and Pittsburgh continue to work with MORPC and HNTB on the Midwest Connect project connecting Chicago, Fort Wayne, Columbus, and Pittsburgh. The partners held a visioning workshop October 3 and are planning a North Indiana Rail Planning Organization (NIPRO) Rally to Rail event on October 27. On October 31, a group of Central Ohio residents, including MORPC's Chair and Vice Chair, are going to Fort Wayne for a Mayor's Summit. The mayors of communities along the Midwest Connect corridor will discuss ways we can connect through a passenger rail network. Amtrak will give a presentation at the second Passenger Rail Committee meeting on November 12.

More than ninety percent of all travel in Central Ohio uses single occupancy vehicles. The Ohio Commuter Challenge encourages alternate modes of transportation. MPOs across Ohio held their second commuter challenge September 9-22. The Ohio Commuter Challenge had a ninety percent

increase in participation with an over sixty-three percent increase in alternate modes of transportation trips.

**Title VI Update – Parag Agrawal, MORPC Chief Mobility & Infrastructure Officer & Senior Director of Programming**

Parag Agrawal presented [MORPC's Title VI and Non-Discrimination Program](#). As a recipient of federal transportation dollars, MORPC is required to submit an updated plan every three years. Ralonda Hampton serves as MORPC's Chief Diversity Officer. The full document, which includes fourteen appendices and is over 200 pages, is available on MORPC's [website](#). Mr. Agrawal shared how MORPC encourages diversity and equity through our major programs.

**Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda**

LaGrieta Acheampong made a motion to accept the Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda, second by Lourdes Barroso de Padilla; motion passed.

The Transportation Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

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Ben Kessler, Secretary

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**



Date: October 10, 2024  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Location: MORPC Town Hall

**Commission Members Present in Person**

LaGrieta Acheampong	Dave Efland	Kelly Scocco
Chris Amorose Grooms	Brad Foster	Alana Shockey
Joe Antram	James Jewell	Joe Steager
Lourdes Barroso De Padilla	Ben Kessler	Joe Stefanov
Lee Bodnar	Nate Lang	Robyn Stewart
Stephanie Bosco	Steve Mazer	Christie Ward
Jamie Brucker	Rory McGuinness	Andrew Williams
Tracie Davies	Erin Prosser	RC Wise
Christina Drummond	Eric Richter	

**Commission Members Attending Remotely**

Herb Asher	Dave Gulden	Dave Medley
Kristen Atha	Bill Habig	Heidi Munc
Michael Bivens	Tom Hale	Bill Narducci
Michelle Blanton	Daryl Hennessy	Megan O'Callaghan
Paul Brake	Rebecca Hermann	Eric Phillips
Ron Bullard	Christine Houk	Elissa Schneider
Gary Burkholder	Pam Hykes O'Grady	Brandon Standley
Ben Collins	Laurie Jadwin	Tony Vogel
Brad Ebersole	Carol Kauffman	Andy Volenik
Terry Emery	Emily Keeler	Trenton Weaver
Jennifer Fening	Bill LaFayette	Tim Wilson
Sam Filkins	Joe Long	Kenneth Wright
Cindi Fitzpatrick	Glenn Marzluf	Hannah Wynne
Jeremiah Gracia	Mark Mauter	

**Transportation Policy Committee Members Present in Person**

Kristen Easterday	Kimberly Sharp
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**Associate Members Attending Remotely**

Kristin Sutton	Kyle Wilson for Jennifer Fish
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**MORPC Staff Present in Person**

Parag Agrawal	Aubrey Hauter	Kyle Probert
Todd Bradley	Shawn Hufstedler	Padmini Roy-Dixon
Dave Dixon	Jessica Keunzli	Shari Saunders
Preston Frick	Eileen Leuby	Maria Schaper
Matika Garrison	Kelsey Matson	Brandi Whetstone
Joe Garrity	Amanda McEldowney	Robert Williams
Ralonda Hampton	William Murdock	

**MORPC Staff Attending Remotely**

Thomas Graham	Adam Porr
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**Guests Present in Person**

Grace Byler, Morrow County	Jeff Stauch, CORPO Vice Chair (Union County)
Luke Messinger, RAPID 5	Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
Cornell Robertson, Mannik & Smith Group	

**Guests Attending Remotely**

Mark Funkhouser	Nick Soulas, FCEO
Anthony Sgro	Brent Welch, FCEO
Andy Shifflett, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter	

**Meeting Called to Order – Chris Amorose Groomes (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**

Chair Chris Amorose Groomes called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RAPID 5 Update – Luke Messinger, RAPID 5 Chief Executive Officer**

Luke Messinger gave an update on [RAPID 5](#). Mr. Messinger has been with RAPID 5 for about five months. RAPID 5 is an offshoot of the Urban Land Institute and MORPC to fill in the gaps with green space initiatives throughout Central Ohio. It focuses on the five major waterways in Central Ohio (Darby, Scioto, Olentangy, Alum Creek, Big Walnut) and includes the tributaries that go beyond Franklin County. Their mission is to connect people with nature. How do they do that?

- Get people to green spaces and then connect those to other green spaces.
- Preserve the conservation aspect including habitats and rural character.
- Use the Land Trust to preserve open lands.
- Continue to build out trail systems.

RAPID 5 is available to work with communities to see where they need assistance and help fill the gaps.

**Executive Director's Report – William Murdock, MORPC Executive Director**

William Murdock gave the [Executive's Director Report](#). Mr. Murdock welcomed and introduced MORPC's new Strategic Director of Technology Matika Garrison. Ms. Garrison comes to MORPC from OPERS and has been in IT over 25 years. She has a vast amount of experience in data networking and looks forward to working together. She is happy and proud to be a part of MORPC.

Mr. Murdock announced two recent promotions. Ralonda Hampton is the new Senior Director of Communications & Engagement and Brandi Whetstone is now the Director of Sustainability.

Mr. Murdock highlighted other MORPC leadership. Parag Agrawal is leading regional and national discussions on rail and safety. Robert Williams and his team have gone from covering five zip codes in Franklin County with weatherization to three quarters of the county while running other home repair programs helping a lot more people. Jessica Kuenzli and Maria Schaper are in their first month in their new roles. Joe Garrity is leading on the Columbus Region Coalition and drive investment. Dave Dixon started a new partnership with Ohio State. Padmini Roy-Dixon launched an assertive and creative approach to economic development.

Mr. Murdock shared big events MORPC hosted in September.

- Over 150 people attended the Safety Summit in Violet Township discussing ways to make our roads and pathways safer.
- The Long Street & Cultural Wall 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration honored the legacy of the neighborhood.
- Launched an online series with Ohio State on the housing crisis.
- Held a Big Table Event on housing and transportation.

Team Members gave presentations at various conferences including most recently to the Ohio Engineers Conference and the National Association of Regional Council's Executive Directors Conference.

The 208 Process Review Committee met this morning. The ad hoc committee is the wastewater facility planning effort working with Ohio EPA trying to set up a regional process on everything from endorsing plans, helping define and serve areas with technical expertise, to creating a dispute resolution process. Committee recommendations will come before the Commission in 2025.



Mr. Murdock thanked all those working on the LinkUS community engagement and education. Not only have we shared information in the COTA service area, but also the region and other national regions took notice. Virtual presentations were given to Detroit, Raleigh, and soon to Memphis. LinkUS is important to the region as it could impact the regional housing market, it could help rural transit systems better connect to jobs, and it will take our trail and sidewalk system to a different level benefiting the entire region.

The Grant Opportunity of the Month is the Bridge Investment Program. The application deadline is November 1. There was a major push from our Ohio Senators to make the federal program possible.

The Member Benefit of the Month is the partnership with Ohio University. There is an Open House for their Master of Sustainability, Security and Resilience program for which Commission members employees are able to obtain discounts. There is also the Ohio Online program which includes a full range of studies. A course for newly elected office holders is held in the spring and includes a mix of online and in-person classes at locations in Central Ohio.

Mr. Murdock shared upcoming events:

- Rural Four: Zoning in the Future – October 23, Perry County Opportunity Center
- Summit on Sustainability – October 29, Hilton Columbus Downtown
- Pre-Commission Luncheon with Stephen Steinour – November 14, MORPC

### **Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization – Jeff Stauch (Union County), Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization Vice Chair**

Jeff Stauch presented the [Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization \(CORPO\) Update](#). CORPO county subcommittee meetings are held twice a year and serve a dual purpose. They are not only the subcommittee meeting for the county, but they kick-off the process of developing the 2026-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Each CORPO county received a draft list of projects in the STIP for their county. The feedback received at the subcommittee meetings is important to the development of the 2026-2029 STIP which is submitted to ODOT in January 2025. Other items discussed at the subcommittee meetings include the TRAC draft prioritization, safety action plan webpage, funding status and opportunities, and regional long-range plans and studies updates.

The next CORPO Administrative Update Meeting is November 4 at MORPC. Agenda items include the FY 24 Planning Work Program Completion Report, Bylaws revisions, new MOUs, and Committee Appointments.

CORPO adopted the final [CORPO Safety Action Plan](#) at the May 6 meeting. That included the adoption of a target to reduce fatalities and serious injuries by two percent each year across the CORPO planning area. Since the adoption of the plan in May, the MORPC Team has been working to create an interactive, online resource to highlight key data points and information from the plan and provide the ability to share the latest updates to that data and information on an annual basis. The [dashboard](#) is a continued resource for CORPO communities and the public to track progress toward reducing fatal and serious injury crashes, as well as identify, develop, and implement transportation safety projects.

### **Regional Data Advisory Committee – Christina Drummond (City of Powell), Regional Data Advisory Committee Chair**

Christina Drummond presented the [Regional Data Advisory Committee Update](#). MORPC and the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) at The Ohio State University are hosting the second session of the Responding to the Housing Crisis series on October 18. *A Conversation on Evictions in Central Ohio* features Journalist Mya Frazier and Legal Aid Attorney Jyoshu Tsushima.

The October 31 Cybersecurity for Local Leaders features a panel of experts from CyberOhio, Ohio Cyber Reserve, and Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Administration. The in-person member only event covers new and significant cyber threats and share services and resources available to local governments to help keep their communities safe. Special thanks to the City of Worthington for offering to share their journey with other members.

Data Day 2025 is February 5, 2025, at Columbus State Community College's Workforce Development Center. The theme is *Making Impacts through Trust in Data*. Data Day brings together data innovators, analysts, and data consumers from the Central Ohio community to share their experiences, innovative uses of tools, analyses, and research that are moving the region forward. The call for proposals closes November 30. Contact Jordan Inskeep at [jinskeep@morpc.org](mailto:jinskeep@morpc.org) with questions.

- **Proposed Resolution 14-24: "Establishing population estimates as a basis for 2025 annual participation fees to be assessed members"** – Jessica Kuenzli, MORPC Chief Regional Planning Officer & Senior Director of Planning  
Jessica Kuenzli thanked members for reviewing the 2024 population estimates sent to communities last month. MORPC received feedback from thirty members. The regional and county level estimates are unchanged. Twelve communities had notable increases or decreases (a change of greater than two percent). No communities crossed the 5,000 threshold required to become eligible for city status. The City of Newark crossed the 50,000 threshold required to become eligible for HUD Entitled Community Status. Two members are eligible for additional representatives: Etna Township and Union County. The final estimates are available at <https://tinyurl.com/2024PopEstPreview>.

Christina Drummond made a motion to approve Resolution 14-24, second by Joe Stefanov; motion passed.

### **Regional Policy Roundtable – Lourdes Barroso de Padilla (City of Columbus), Regional Policy Roundtable Chair**

Lourdes Barroso de Padilla presented the [Regional Policy Roundtable Update](#). The Public Policy Agenda Working Group is formed every two years to update the policy agency used when advocating to state and federal government. The group's last meeting was earlier this month. The Regional Policy Roundtable will review and adopt the updated Public Policy Agenda at the November 21 meeting. The agenda will be presented to the Commission in December for adoption. Councilmember Barroso de Padilla thanked Sloan Spalding for leading the group and Kyle Probert for keeping them on track.

The last LinkUS Town Hall was October 9 in Reynoldsburg. LinkUS is Issue 47 on the ballot.

- **Legislative Update – Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter and Joseph Garrity, MORPC Senior Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations**  
Joe Garrity and Steve Tugend gave the legislative update highlighting the following:
  - Federal appropriations and reauthorizations
  - HB 315 – Housing technical assistance fund included in the Township cleanup bill
  - Rail advocacy
  - House Bill 331 – expect an amendment to work out unintended consequences
  - Lame Duck priorities
  - Ohio Public Works Commission funding
  - Central Ohio Defense Group

**Sustainability Advisory Committee – Ben, Kessler (City of Bexley), MORPC Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair**

Ben Kessler presented the [Sustainability Advisory Committee Report](#). The deadline to register for the October 29 Summit on Sustainability is October 15. The morning plenary features LisaBeth Brajas, Executive Director of Community Development with the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities; Chuck Wemple, Executive Director of the Houston-Galveston Area Council; and Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director of the Centralina Regional Council. The lunch session includes keynote speaker Jeff Speck, award winning planner and author, and Pecha Kucha speakers Carlie Boos with the Affordable Housing Alliance, Bernita Reese with Columbus Recreation and Parks, Elizabeth Ellman with City of Bexley, and Natalie Kruse-Daniels with Ohio University.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee met September 18 at NBBJ and saw examples of sustainable building design. The Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Subcommittee plans to conclude updating the RSA by April 2025 for Commission adoption. The boards and working groups provided updates on their meetings and activities.

In September, MORPC, working with several partners including Prologis, local governments, Smart Columbus and others, submitted another EV charging grant to propose the Electric Vehicle Ecosystem for Central Ohio (EV ECO) project. The project would establish a network of 13 publicly accessible EV charging hubs in and around Columbus, focused on locations along the designated Alternative Fuel Corridors. Local government partners include Columbus, Fairfield County, Gahanna, Groveport, Hebron, Hilliard, Marysville, Mt. Vernon, Newark, Pickerington, and Reynoldsburg. The proposal includes coordination with workforce development partners to advance a trained workforce.

On September 28, Central Ohio Blueways completed a coordinated River Cleanup with ten other partners at eight different locations along the Scioto, Olentangy, Alum Creek, and Big Walnut. Mayor Kessler thanked everyone who supported and volunteered for this effort that pulled an estimated 3,750 pounds of trash from the waterways.

Central Ohio Blueways created three working groups on Environmental Stewardship, User Experience, and Water Trail Designation. Among their goals, they will start updating the mapping for water trail designation and more. Reach out to MORPC's Jonathan Miller with questions.

The next Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is December 18 at the Jeffrey Mansion in Bexley.

**Transportation Policy Committee – Chris Amorose Grooms (City of Dublin), MORPC Chair**  
Chair Amorose Grooms called the Transportation Policy Committee Session to order at 2:31 p.m. The session adjourned at 2:54 p.m. Separate minutes are attached.

**Commission Consent Agenda**

Rory McGuinness made a motion to approve the Commission Consent Agenda, second by Erin Prosser; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

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Ben Kessler, Secretary

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

## Memorandum

**TO:** Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Executive Committee  
Officers and Board Members

**FROM:** Jessica Kuenzli  
Chief Regional Planning Officer and Sr. Director of Planning

**DATE:** November 1, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Resolution 16-24: **“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding recently awarded Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) funding and enter into related subcontracts”**

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) recently applied for and was awarded \$15,000,000 via the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (CFI Program). The CFI Program is a competitive grant program created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to strategically deploy publicly accessible electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in the places people live and work – urban and rural areas alike – in addition to along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). MORPC’s project, MORE EVS, will focus on Community Charging.

MORPC will lead an effort to build a mix of Level 2 and DC Fast Charging stations in safe, accessible locations in Central Ohio’s urban and rural underserved communities. The project will be enhanced by education and engagement opportunities and support from workforce development partners. It is a collaborative effort with 62 site hosts and partners including Smart Columbus, AEP Ohio, Central Ohio Transit Authority, local governments, public agencies, non-profits, and the private sector. MORPC Staff will develop a competitive process for securing charging infrastructure vendors and other contractual support for the project.

Attachment: Resolution 16-24

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

**Chris Amorose Groomes**  
*Interim Chair*

**Michelle Crandall**  
*Interim Vice Chair*

**Ben Kessler**  
*Interim Secretary*

RESOLUTION 16-24

**“Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding recently awarded Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program funding and enter into related subcontracts”**

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) seeks to contract with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to implement a competitive grant application to build a mix of Level 2 and DC Fast Charging stations in over 60 sites across Central Ohio with a focus on underserved areas; and

WHEREAS, the project will be enhanced by education and outreach activities to increase the awareness of EV charging infrastructure, and will involve workforce development partners to promote the training necessary for addressing an emerging workforce demand; and

WHEREAS, the FHWA grant award of \$15,000,000, which includes a minimum 20% match requirement, will be utilized to cover MORPC staff time and hire subcontractors to implement the program; and

WHEREAS, the services performed pursuant to this contract will be under the oversight of MORPC and be implemented through a combination of MORPC staff and subcontracted organizations and local businesses; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Section 1. That the executive director is authorized to enter into an agreement with FHWA for up to eight years to utilize Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grant funds totaling \$15,000,000 and enter into related subcontracts.
- Section 2. That the executive director is authorized to approve one or more extensions for performance of services under the foregoing agreements and change orders for amounts up to the financial authorization levels in the MORPC bylaws without further authorization from this Commission.
- Section 3. That the executive director is authorized to take such other action and execute and deliver such other documents as, acting with the advice of legal counsel, he shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.
- Section 4. That this Commission finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this Commission concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this Commission.

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Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair  
**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Effective date: November 14, 2024  
Submitted by: Jessica Kuenzli, Chief Regional Strategy Officer and Sr. Director of Planning  
Prepared by: Brandi Whetstone, Director of Sustainability  
Authority: Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21  
For action date: November 14, 2024