



MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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NOTICE OF A MEETING

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

December 4, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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Meeting ID: 254 894 203 368

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AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions – James Young, Chair**
- 9:02 a.m. Approval of November 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes**
- 9:03 a.m. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Maria Schaper, MORPC
Dave Dixon, MORPC**
- 9:10 a.m. Funding Programs**
- Attributable Funds Project Status Update – Thomas Graham, MORPC
 - Resolution T-13-24 Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-2027
Transportation Improvement Program – Thomas Graham, MORPC, Hannah
Ruscin, MORPC

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

9:25 a.m. Resolutions

- Resolution T-14-24 Support the 2025 ODOT Safety Performance Measure Targets – Lauren Cardoni, MORPC

9:35 a.m. Informational Items

- Adjusted Urban Boundary and Functional Class Update – Jon Heider, MORPC
- Air Quality Program Updates – Mauro Diaz-Hernandez, MORPC

9:50 a.m. Other Business

- Four-year Term Membership Appointment

10:00 a.m. Adjourn

PLEASE NOTIFY CHUCK RATLIFF AT 614-233-4115 OR EMAIL cratliff@morpc.org TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

The Attributable Funds Committee meeting will follow this meeting at 10:00 a.m.

**The next TAC meeting is
February 5, 2024, at 9 a.m.**

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: **November 6, 2024**
Time: **9:00 a.m.**
Location: **MORPC**

Members Present

Andrako, Mike
Francis, Corey
Komlanc, Tom
Moss, Kimberly
Risko, Michele (online)
Stargell, Reynaldo
Wilfong, Gary

Cox, Barbara
Jenkins, Tiffany
Lockhart, Josh (online)
Nittle, Tim
Sanders, Scott
Upp, Jeremiah
Young, James

Ferrigno, William
Johnson, Daniel (online)
Moran, Alan (online)
Peoples, Matt
Schamp, Letty
Volenik, Andy

Guests

Avellano, Mike (online)
Elsea, Amy
Hoying, Dan
Owen, Jonathan (online)

Bush, Ryan (online)
Farst, Steve (online)
Hibbard, Tom

Deer, Shane (online)
Howdysell, Jennifer (online)
Maricocchi, Paul (online)

MORPC Staff

Agrawal, Parag
Graham, Tom
Oldroyd, Shelby
Ruscin, Hannah
Turner, Mary (online)

Cardoni, Lauren
Kuenzli, Jessica
Petrov, Jordan (online)
Schaper, Maria

Dixon, Dave
Lewis, Elliott
Ratliff, Chuck
Strange, Emma

I. Welcome & Introductions

- Chair Young called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. There was a quorum present.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Chair Young asked for a motion to approve October 2, 2024 meeting minutes. Mr. Komlanc moved; Mr. Stargell seconded; and the motion passed.

III. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Report – Maria Schaper, MORPC

- Ms. Schaper informed the committee of the following:
 - Columbus City Council is presenting a resolution to the COMTO President and CAC member, Quincy Howard. Council member Barroso de Padillas honors and recognizes COMTO Columbus on their 10-year Anniversary and for advocating for minorities in the transportation field.
 - Applications for the 2025 Technical Assistance Program cycle were due on October 11, 2024. Four applications were received. The evaluation

committee is currently reviewing those applications. Awardees will be notified on November 15, 2024.

- Mr. Dixon informed the committee of the following:
 - Population Growth Trends:
 - The region's population has grown modestly since the 2020 Census, adding approximately 49,000 people by January 2024, with 46,000 of that growth within MORPC member communities.
 - Although growth is slower compared to the 2010s, it remains within forecast confidence intervals.
 - Communities with higher housing development saw the largest increases in assessed dues.
 - Long-term growth is expected to accelerate due to statewide and regional initiatives aimed at attracting businesses, residents, and addressing housing needs.
 - Population Forecast:
 - The regional population is projected to reach 3.15 million by 2050.
 - The 2024 estimate of 2,468,181 is below the nominal forecast but remains within the confidence interval.
 - Updated population forecasts are developed every four years as part of the MTP cycle.
 - Housing Crisis Response:
 - The Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) and MORPC are hosting a webinar titled "Escaping the Housing Trap" on November 15, 2024, from 12:00 to 1:00 PM.
 - The session will feature Chuck Marohn, author and founder of Strong Towns, moderated by Dr. Harvey Miller.
 - Registration is available via the QR code provided on the slide.
 - STEPZ Workshop:
 - MORPC will host the first STEPZ Workshop (Strategic Training on Effective Planning and Zoning) for planning officials on November 19, 2024, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
 - The workshop will focus on the responsibilities of planning officials, legalities, site plan reviews, and public engagement.
 - An interactive session, in collaboration with the Urban Land Institute, will provide hands-on experience in developing site plans.
 - Lunch will be included, and registration is available via the QR code on the slide.
 - 2024 Summit on Sustainability:
 - The 2024 Summit on Sustainability welcomed nearly 700 attendees, the highest attendance on record, with the theme "Growing Better Together."
 - Sessions covered topics such as water reuse, circular economy models, clean energy financing, sustainable development, and passenger rail restoration.
 - The morning plenary featured insights from national experts, including leaders from the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, and the Centralina Regional Council.

- Keynote speaker Jeff Speck discussed the power of walkable cities in creating vibrant, sustainable communities.
- The following awards were presented:
 - Leadership in Sustainability Award: Kristy Hawthorne, Licking County Soil and Water District.
 - Collaborative Achievement in Sustainability Award: Trail Towns Working Group.
 - Leadership in Mobility Award: Mike Andrako, Franklin County Engineers Office.

IV. Funding Programs

- Attributable Funds Project Status Update
 - Mr. Graham provided the following update:
 - No significant new encumbrances have taken place since the TAC last met in October.
 - Updated committed funding amounts approved by the AFC in October are now reflected in this report.

V. Informational Items

- TAC Member Update – Franklin County Engineer's Office
 - Mr. Crosier informed the committee of the following:
 - The Franklin County Engineer's mission is to ensure safe and efficient transportation through the design, construction, and maintenance of roads, bridges, and infrastructure across the county.
 - The 10-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes 75 projects as of May 2024, encompassing intersection and corridor upgrades, bridge rehabilitations, drainage improvements, and pedestrian enhancements.
 - Projected revenue for 2024 is approximately \$54.9 million, with funding sources including gas taxes, vehicle registration fees, and state/federal grants. Revenue for 2025 is projected to increase significantly to \$85.8 million due to additional grant allocations.
 - Historical projects include the \$15.6 million Lane Avenue Bridge, the \$15 million Alum Creek Drive at Groveport Road upgrades, and the \$12 million Hamilton Road improvements, which highlight safety enhancements and collaborative efforts.
 - Modern roundabouts have been a focus for safety improvements, with projects such as Morse Road at Babbitt Road costing \$3.89 million and Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road at Havens Road costing \$6.33 million.
 - Current projects include:
 - The Trabue Road rehabilitation and widening project, with construction scheduled from summer 2024 to fall 2026, costing \$14.8 million.
 - Renner Road widening and bridge improvements, beginning in spring 2025 and concluding in spring 2026, with a cost of \$4.8 million.
 - Cleveland Avenue pedestrian and safety enhancements, starting in spring 2025 and ending in spring 2026, costing \$4.7 million.
 - Future projects include:

- The Cooke Road reconstruction, including sidewalks and shared-use paths, planned for 2026–2027, with an estimated cost of \$6 million.
- The Dublin Road shared-use path, connecting Quarry Trails Metro Park, scheduled for 2028–2029, with an estimated cost of \$10 million.
- Alum Creek Drive expansion, featuring bridge replacements and transit improvements, planned for 2028–2029, with an estimated cost of \$50 million.

- Mobility Management Update
 - Ms. Strange provided the following:
 - The 5310 Enhanced Mobility Grant aims to improve mobility for older adults (65+) and individuals with disabilities through capital and operating programs that exceed ADA requirements, improve access to fixed-route transit, and provide alternatives to public transportation.
 - The Regional Mobility Plan (2022-2026) focuses on maintaining and improving service levels, encouraging stakeholders and public support for transit, and increasing awareness of transportation options.
 - Ohio leads the nation in mobility management, with over 66 counties served by mobility managers who provide individual services, promote transportation, and lead committees focused on coordinated plans.
 - Mobility management efforts enhance individual transportation access and promote community-wide initiatives to support and expand transit options.
 - The Gohio Mobility platform, available at morpc.org/gohiomobility, provides tools and resources for enhanced mobility planning.
 - For additional information, contact Emma Strange, Mobility Coordinator, at estrange@morpc.org or 614.233.4181.

VI. Other Business

- The nominating committee brought forth Mr. Crosier for Chair and Mr. Komlanc for Vice-chair for the next term. Both nominees agreed to serve. Chair Young asked for nominations from the floor; none were brought forward. All members in attendance voted in favor of the nominations. Ms. Schaper added that the secretary position is filled by MORPC staff. Ms. Schaper will be the official committee secretary until replaced.

VII. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.





METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION REPORT

November 2024

PROGRAMMING

Parag Agrawal, Chief Mobility and Infrastructure Officer and Senior Director of Programming – pagrawal@morpc.org

Transportation

Maria Schaper, Transportation Study Director – mschaper@morpc.org

Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

- Ensured applications for MORPC Attributable Funds, OPWC, and other infrastructure funding and technical assistance programs were evaluated in congruence with adopted MTP goals.

Transit, Mobility & Human Services:

Mobility Management

- Getting Around Franklin County guides have been completed and physical copies are available to the public and to interested agencies. Those interested in physical copies should contact the Mobility Coordinator.

FTA Section 5310 Designated Recipient

- The 5310 Advisory Committee met to select awards for the 2024 solicitation cycle. In all, fifteen recipients are recommended for a total of \$1,760,329 in federal funding.

Gohio Commute

- Presented the Gohio Commute Program offerings at the Licking County Chamber HR Management meeting.
- The Gohio Commute Program welcomes a new vanpool from Chillicothe, Ohio to the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Clinic.
- Promoted the Gohio Mobility and Gohio Commute programs at the Nationwide Children's Health and Benefits Fair.

Transportation Planning Activities:

LinkUS Mobility Initiative

- With the passage of the transit levy, MORPC continues to work with COTA, the City of Columbus, Franklin County, and other partners to implement the LinkUS initiative, including the formalization of

the transit-supportive infrastructure program, equitable transit-oriented development policies, bus rapid transit corridor planning, and initial fixed-route and COTA\Plus services enhancements.

Passenger Rail

- MORPC continues to work with the City of Fort Wayne on planning for the Midwest Connect corridor between Chicago and Pittsburgh. Staff participated in a Rally for Rail and panel discussion in late October. Representatives from the Central Ohio Passenger Rail Committee (COPRC) also met with Fort Wayne Mayor Sharon Tucker to discuss short- and long-term goals and to strengthen interregional collaboration.
- The Central Ohio Passenger Rail Committee had its quarterly meeting on November 12, 2024. Updates were given by the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC), the Midwest Connect consultant team, and Amtrak.
- ORDC is accepting public comments on the State Rail Plan update, including topics related to passenger rail, through an online survey. You may access the survey at <https://metroquestsurvey.com/isd72>. Alternatively, comments or questions may be submitted to staterailplan@dot.ohio.gov. Comments are being accepted through the end of December.

Central Ohio Rural Planning Organization (CORPO):

- The fall CORPO Committee meeting was held on November 4, 2024. At the meeting, the CORPO Committee appointed a new Chair, Jeff Stauch (Union County Engineer), and Vice Chair, Brian Ball (City of Mount Vernon Engineer).
- The process of drafting the 2026-2029 CORPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) kicked-off with rural consultation at the September CORPO Subcommittee meetings and continued this month with submitting documentation from the rural consultation meetings, attending training sessions for the E-STIP platform, and beginning the drafting of the TIP document.
- The Functional Classification Review process started with a training session at the beginning of the month. CORPO will be coordinating with counties and local jurisdictions to complete the Functional Classification Review process over the next year to be submitted to ODOT and FHWA by August 2025.
- The CORPO quarterly fall newsletter was distributed October 31, 2024.

Active Transportation Planning:

- The 2025 Active Transportation Committee (ATC) meetings have been scheduled for the following dates: Wednesday, Jan 29, Apr 23, Jul 30, and Oct 29. These meetings will be hybrid, held in the MORPC Board Room and on Microsoft Teams. New members are welcome to join the committee at any time. Reach out to Lauren Cardoni (lcardoni@morpc.org) if interested.
- ODOT announced a [special Active Transportation focused funding solicitation](#) toward the end of October 2024. MORPC team members have been sharing information and collaborating with local partners to assist with developing funding applications for this unique opportunity. The funding is available to any political subdivision (government agency) within the state of Ohio, *whether they are within an MPO or not*. Many types of projects, studies, and other initiatives are eligible.
- The MORPC team is also available to assist with upcoming SRTS funding applications and provide letters of support for those applications. Contact Lauren Cardoni (lcardoni@morpc.org) if you need assistance with any of these funding opportunities.
- MORPC continues to host virtual group viewings of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) monthly Professional Development webinars. These webinars are eligible for 1.0 hour of American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Maintenance credit. Contact Jordan Petrov (JPetrov@morpc.org) to attend a MORPC group viewing. The next and final webinar of the year

is on Wednesday, December 18, on the topic of, “*University Transportation Centers 101: An Overview of the UTC Program and Exploring How Practitioners Can Engage the Process.*”

- Team members participated in the following Active Transportation related meetings and events:
 - Gahanna Transportation and Mobility Plan Steering Committee meeting and technical workshops with Jeff Speck on October 30, 2024.
 - ODOT Active Transportation Advisory Committee winter meeting on November 4, 2024.
 - OSU Active Transportation Advisory Group meeting on November 12, 2024.
 - Ohio Statewide Active Transportation Conference Planning Committee meeting on November 18, 2024.

Transportation Safety:

- The MORPC team has been collaborating with the Heart of Ohio Family Health Center since they were awarded an [AARP 2024 Community Challenge Grant](#) to conduct walk audits in the Whitehall community. The MORPC team coordinated and led two walk audits, engaging community members, along with staff from COTA, Franklin County Public Health, the Age Friendly Innovation Center, and the Ohio Traffic Safety Office.
 - The first walk audit was held on November 8, 2024 along the E Main Street corridor and reviewed the walking conditions surrounding the Heart of Ohio Headquarters in Whitehall
 - The second walk audit was held on November 19, 2024 along the Hamilton Road corridor and reviewed the walking conditions surrounding the Whitehall Senior Center, as well as Kae Avenue Elementary School and Rosemore Middle School.
- MORPC team members participated in the following safety committee meetings:
 - Franklin County Traffic Fatality Review Board meeting on November 7, 2024.
 - Central Ohio Alliance for Safe Transportation meeting on November 14, 2024.

Technical Assistance Program:

- Four new Technical Assistance services were awarded on November 5, 2024 for the year 2025 program:
 - Village of Galena, Complete Streets Safety Audit
 - City of Hilliard, Trail Town Visioning & Wayfinding Study
 - City of Gahanna, Capital Improvement Plan Visualization Tool
 - City of Grove City, Transit-Supportive Infrastructure Planning on US-62
- The MORPC team will be working with each local project manager to finalize the scope of services for each activity by the end of the year. Work will begin in earnest on these initiatives in early 2025.

Infrastructure Funding:

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- A TIP amendment was prepared for consideration by CAC, TAC, and the Transportation Policy Committee in December. Additionally, coordination with ODOT is ongoing for smaller administrative modifications to the TIP.

MORPC-Attributable Funding

- Applicants to the MORPC-Attributable Funds program were provided with draft scores for their applications in early November. Applicants were offered the opportunity to discuss their draft scores and provide clarification where needed. Revised draft scores were shared with applicants on November 22, 2024. The AFC will review these scores and discuss funding scenarios at their December 4, 2024 meeting.

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)

- Applicants to District 3 (Franklin County) for FY26 SCIP/LTIP assistance were provided draft scores for their applications in early November. Applicants were then offered the opportunity to meet with MORPC staff, who scored the applications, to discuss their scores and provide clarification to their applications where needed. The District 3 PWIC will review these scores at their December 6, 2024 meeting.

Federal Competitive Programs

- The United States Department of Transportation opened the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) FY25 grant program on November 1, 2024. The current solicitation includes two rounds of funding where only applications that obtained a Project of Merit status in the previous RAISE round can participate in round one. MORPC's application, titled "Trail Towns in the Nation's Heartland Planning Project" was a Project of Merit in the previous RAISE round and was resubmitted into round one of the current RAISE solicitation.
- The United States Department of Transportation opened the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA) program on October 28, 2024. MORPC is interested in participating in this program to assist with delivery of Transit Supportive Infrastructure that is included in LinkUS. The grant could also help inform the implementation of the Central Ohio Greenways (COG) vision. MORPC leadership will be meeting to discuss the next steps.
- MORPC has established a process for Letters of Support requests. The process will not only help Central Ohio communities and other partners receive MORPC's support letters in a timely manner but will also help track and record internally the letters provided for different funding opportunities. You can find the link here: <https://www.morpc.org/tool-resource/funding-opportunities/>.

Money Mondays

- The following Money Mondays sessions were held:
 - Nov. 18: Stacie L. Massey, MBA, CGFM, Deputy Director - Ohio Office of Budget and Management | Grants and Financial Reporting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Padmini Roy-Dixon, Economic Development Director & Regional Innovation Officer – proydixon@morpc.org

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

- The team led a panel on circular economy at this year's Summit on Sustainability. The breakout session brought experts from Charlotte, Advanced Drainage Systems and Axium Packaging, and a student team from Ohio State to demonstrate solution-driven approaches away from disposability and toward sustainability.
- MORPC is hosting a panel, The Future of Infrastructure: Building a Blueprint for Tomorrow, at the upcoming ED411 event on December 6, 2024. Panelists from Nevada, Arizona and Texas will share their lessons learned whilst securing large scale projects, including how they addressed regional challenges and prepared the region for transformative growth.
- In partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation, MORPC's Economic Development team will be hosting a Rickenbacker area Freight Alliance workshop on December 16, 2024. The purpose of the workshop is to create synergies between ongoing economic development initiatives in the area and the planned transportation infrastructure investments to meet the needs of this important regional economic asset.

Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP):

- The relaunch of the Competitive Advantage Projects (CAP) program is on hold. The program will go live once federal funding priorities, particularly those of the US Economic Development Administration, are clear.

Brownfield Assessments:

- The Economic Development team applied to the US EPA's Community Wide Brownfield Assessment grant on November 12, 2024. If successful this grant could fund phase 1, phase 2, hazardous material assessments as well as clean up planning. The grant will target the Linden and South Side Area of Columbus as well as Mt. Vernon in Knox County but all members would be able to utilize funds. The process of structuring projects for the grant application enabled the team to build valuable relationships with neighborhood partners like Nationwide's Health Homes, Healthy Families, the Linden Advisory Council, and Community of Caring CDC. Award announcements are likely in Q2 2025.

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 on the portal and/or a funding opportunity, please contact Preston Frick (pfrick@morpc.org).

PLANNING

Jessica Kuenzli, Chief Regional Planning Officer & Senior Director of Planning – jkuenzli@morpc.org

Community Development

Central Ohio Greenways (COG):

- The COG Board met November 20, 2024 to discuss Working Group updates, hear legislative updates, partner updates, and program updates. Additionally, Board Members discussed the Regional Trail Vision progress, which thanks to Issue 47 and MORPC Attributable Funds will see at least fifty miles built by 2030.
- In 2025, COG will begin adding “Gateways of Regional Significance” to the map to identify existing and proposed locations for premier trail heads that offer the amenities trail users need to travel the trails safely and comfortably.
- The COG Trail Towns Working Group is developing a brand for the program. The Group will continue to build consensus around the brand and is seeking funding to refine the brand with a designer. The Group is continuing to seek funding for a Trail Town Ambassador Training Program, the Trail Towns in the Nation’s Heartland Project, and Operational Funding.
- The Outdoor Trails Pass partnership with Experience Columbus continues to be a popular program with hundreds of new sign-ups and check-ins monthly.
- COG is considering opportunities to utilize a statewide trail mapping platform called Outerspatial that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has recently begun utilizing. Outerspatial is providing a regional pricing schedule for MORPC’s review in November.
- The COG Trail Closure and Detours Steering Committee has 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 kicked off their project in April 2024. A technical working group met throughout July and August to guide the data indexing process. The project is on track to be completed this fall.
- MORPC is offering support to communities interested in implementing the recently released COG Wayfinding Strategy through the MORPC Technical Assistance Program. The City of Hilliard applied for these services during the most recent round.
- A forum will be held in December 2024. The agenda was released in November 2024 and will focus on rural trail expansions.
- MORPC partnered with the City of Columbus on an Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) application to advance trail town program work. The application was submitted on July 17, 2024.
- MORPC resubmitted COG’s “Trail Towns in the Nation’s Heartland” RAISE proposal for reconsideration in the 2025 first round cycle.
- The Greenways Planning Studio (GPS) launched in July 2024 in partnership with RAPID 5. GPS has been 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, 2024. An additional four quadrant meetings will be held in rural quadrants in November and December.

- 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 their goals for 2025.
- The Environmental Stewardship Working Group is focusing on assembling guidance for Onion Bag Projects Installations. The Group is currently reviewing a document outline and identifying areas and details that are needed for communities to advance these projects.
- The User Experience Working Group is continuing to advance the formation of a hazard removal consortium. The Group is currently discussing various details to include in a potential cooperative agreement and trying to identify potential organizations who engage in hazard removal to contact for quotes.
- The Water Trail Designation Working Group is refining an editable field map to distribute to communities along the waterways so that they can provide details on the amenities at access points, and any useful information on the waterways' navigability and seasonality.

Regional Housing Strategy (RHS):

Outreach

- Conversations around housing issues continue with MORPC member communities. The Community Development Team is continuing 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. The MORPC team is working on identifying ways to expand upon the previous work of the Regional Housing Strategy.

Implementation Assistance

- Are you 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 collaborate with you to design the agenda, including recommended speakers and learning objectives. Contact Jonathan Miller for more information (jmiller@morpc.org).

Community Based Planning Assistance:

- The Community-Based Planning Assistance Program (CBPA) continues to be available as a resource. Members may learn more about – or request assistance from – CBPA by visiting <https://www.morpc.org/community-based-planning-assistance>. Please contact Jonathan Miller (jmiller@morpc.org) with any questions or to discuss potential ways that MORPC may assist.
- The Community Development Team is also reviewing the community assistance provided through the Consultant Services and Planner Pool Programs to identify potential additions. If there is any specific topic or area of planning that you think should be included in the community assistance services that MORPC provides, please contact Jonathan Miller at jmiller@morpc.org.

Consultant Services Program

- The Community Development Team is 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 for additional information.

Planner Pool Program

- MORPC is assembling a list of fixed-fee services that relate to the most common issues that communities in Central Ohio are experiencing. Any and all suggestions on potential services are welcomed. If you have suggestions for services that MORPC should be offering through the Planning Pool, contact Jonathan Miller at jmiller@morpc.org.
- Members are invited to submit applications for assistance from the Planner Pool Program. The Community Development Team is accepting projects related to planning, zoning, and sustainability.
- If you are interested in additional staffing assistance, filling staff vacancies during staff vacations, periods of leave, or other planning or pre-planning activities such as guidance with best practices, getting started with a new or updated zoning code or Comprehensive Plan, contact Jonathan Miller (jmiller@morpc.org) to schedule a time to discuss your community's potential needs and ways that MORPC may be able to help.

STEPZ Workshop

- The Community Development Team hosted the Strategic Training for Effective Planning and Zoning (STEPZ) Workshop for Planning Officials which was aimed at training and providing context for elected and appointed planning officials for MORPC's Member Communities. The workshop featured sessions on the roles and responsibilities of planning commissions and zoning boards, connecting the work of these entities to community planning as whole, and discussions around the legalities of zoning and how to interact with engaged members of the public. Also featured was an engaging and interactive element in partnership with the Urban Land Institute where attendees received firsthand experience in the role of a developer. This workshop helped attendees learn more about the legalities and ethics considerations, as well as how to better engage with the public and development applicants.
- Planning Staff will begin organizing the second installment of the STEPZ workshops; STEPZ: Planning Staff. This workshop will be held in May 2025. 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).

Sustainability

Sustainability Advisory Committee:

- The next SAC meeting will take place on December 18, 2024 at 2:15 p.m. at the Jeffrey Mansion in Bexley and will include a special holiday celebration. The MORPC team will also be working to confirm member appointments effective in 2025. If you're interested in being considered or would like to recommend another MORPC member or private sector partner to serve on this committee, please contact Brandi Whetstone (bwhetstone@morpc.org).

Regional Sustainability Agenda (RSA) Sub-committee

- The sub-committee held their third meeting on November 22, 2024 and continued refining goals and objectives to promote sustainable, healthy, and resilient communities throughout Central Ohio. Committee members will next be tasked with reviewing the strategies, which form the basis of the Sustainable2050 certification framework. The next meeting is January 23, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. For more information, please contact Brandi Whetstone (bwhetstone@morpc.org).

Sustainable2050:

- The Q4 Sustainable2050 meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. and will be a hybrid meeting. The agenda will include updates on the Regional Sustainability Agenda and a presentation from Jennie McAdams, Franklin County Public Health, about a recent county-wide tree canopy study in partnership with the City of Columbus.

- Sustainable2050 membership is open to all MORPC members, and current Sustainable2050 members interested in earning their tier status certification should contact Brandi Whetstone (bwhetstone@morpc.org). A certification workbook will be provided, and a kick-off meeting is encouraged to review the process. Once a completed workbook has been submitted and reviewed by the MORPC team, the next step is to present the proposed certification to the SAC for approval at their quarterly meetings.

Water Resources Program:

Sustaining Scioto Board

- The board will meet on December 11, 2024 and will focus on the transition to a Regional Water Advisory Council. The discussion will include proposed by-laws, charter, and scope of work among other details. The proposed Regional Water Advisory Council will continue to advance broad regional water priorities including sustainable water resource management, climate resiliency, and adaptation in the face of growth, development, and changing weather patterns.

Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team

- The November meeting has been rescheduled. Members will reconvene in 2025.

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

- The District 3 Natural Resource Assistance Council met on November 4, 2024 and recommended five projects totaling approximately \$4.9 million for Clean Ohio Funding in the FY 2025 cycle.

Rank by Score	Applicant	Project Name	Total Project Cost	COCF Amount Requested	Total COCF Awarded
1	Prairie Twp.	Hellbranch Preserve	\$1,784,000	\$1,338,000	\$1,338,000
2	Metro Parks	Little Darby Watershed Acquisition	\$2,390,000	\$1,792,500	\$1,792,500
3	Columbus	Cooke Woods Preservation Project	\$1,202,380	\$841,665	\$841,665
4	Metro Parks	Georges Creek Acquisition	\$530,000	\$318,000.00	\$318,000.00
5	Columbus	Whitethorne Woods Protection	\$991,250	\$693,875.00	\$693,875.00
					\$4,984,040

- Preliminary Screeners for FY 2026 are due in June 2025. For more information about Clean Ohio funding for Franklin County, please contact Edwina Teye (eteye@morpc.org) or visit our website at <https://www.morpc.org/program-service/clean-ohio-conservation-fund/>.

Regional Water Study

- The Central Ohio Regional Water Study consultants have requested an extension through February to complete the Water Study. The delay is due to significant modeling efforts to account for numerous growth and weather scenarios over the next few decades. It is expected that the consultants will hold a Licking County Specific Workshop with elected officials in mid-December, with the full report out occurring sometime in February 2025.
- Webinar recordings and slide deck information from prior meetings can be accessed [here](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page to the Regional Water Study section.

208 Planning and Areawide Designation Process

- MORPC continues to engage the ad hoc 208 Review Process Committee to consider the State's request for MORPC to become a designated areawide planning agency. Among other tasks, the Committee continues to review and provide input on key decisions, such as the operational structure and procedures, and funding considerations for standing up a designated areawide planning agency.
- MORPC anticipates completing these initial steps for establishing an Areawide Planning Agency in the first quarter of 2025 for MORPC Board consideration. Following approval, MORPC will work with the Ohio EPA to conduct a public engagement process with affected stakeholders.

Energy Planning:

Energy & Air Quality Working Group

- The Energy and Air Quality Working Group (EAQWG) held its fourth and final meeting of the year on November 20, 2024. The Working Group heard substantial updates from MORPC staff, as well as a featured update on the Central Ohio Climate Action Plan (COCAP) from Sustainable Columbus and MORPC staff. For more information on the COCAP, please see the detailed update below. Finally, the EAQWG is still looking for candidates to serve as the Chair and Vice-Chair. If interested in leading the EAQWG, please email Brian Filiatraut, Senior Energy and Sustainability Program Manager, at bfiliatraut@morpc.org.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure

- MORPC is in the final stages of awarding and contracting out the full scope of work of its \$2M USDOT-FHWA Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator (EVC RAA) award to repair and/or replace non-operational EV chargers throughout the 15-county region. We plan on starting EVC RAA work this month and progressing into 2025 to fulfill the award completion deadline of August 2025. More updates as work gets underway.
- MORPC is moving forward with finalizing the grant agreement with FHWA on its \$15M MORE EVS project award to install over 400 EV charging ports in thirteen counties as part of the USDOT-FHWA's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Round 1B Program. As soon as the grant agreement is completed, MORPC will issue an RFI to set up the RFP process. More details will be forthcoming as the work progresses. Please reach out to Brian Filiatraut (bfiliatraut@morpc.org) for more information.

US EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program

- The core project team, led by Sustainable Columbus, MORPC, and others, continues to develop a more comprehensive climate action plan and pollution reduction strategies through the Central Ohio Climate Action Plan (COCAP) for the 10-county Columbus Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).
- MORPC just completed the regional greenhouse gas inventory (R-GHGI), which will serve as a roadmap and benchmark mitigation strategies that will be developed over the coming months.
- Outreach and education have been ongoing throughout the development of the COCAP through online surveys, in-person meetings, technical working groups with experts, and future opportunities for community members and stakeholders to provide valuable input will be available into 2025. If you'd like more information, please visit the [COCAP website](#) or email Brian Filiatraut (bfiliatraut@morpc.org).

Air Quality:

Air Quality Alerts

- No air quality alerts were issued for the Columbus region in November 2024.

US EPA funded Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project (CLEAN)

- In partnership with Franklin County Public Health, we made substantial progress on the US EPA-funded air monitoring project. Under the advisement of the air quality modeling consultant, Ramboll

Americas Engineering Solutions, the team has created an interactive map of where sensors will be deployed and have been sharing this with local community partners. The team extended the deadline for sensor deployment to the end of 2024 to ensure the best possible placements for analyzing local PM2.5 levels within Franklin County. Of the forty newest PurpleAir sensors, fifteen will be installed by end of November and the other 25 are being scheduled for installation in the upcoming weeks.

Outreach

- Presented to the Clintonville GreenSpot Executive Committee on November 8, 2024 and the Energy and Air Quality Working Group on November 20, 2024.

Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC):

- The RDAC met on October 1, 2024 at MORPC. RDAC continues to focus on the areas of Workforce & Job Quality, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Cybersecurity, and Regional Data Coaching projects and initiatives. Notably, registration was opened for the Data Day 2025 event to be held on February 5, 2025. The call for proposals for Data Day will close on November 30, 2024. The Data Coaches Working Group will hold its second Pop-Up Help Session at the Main Columbus Metropolitan Library on December 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Working Groups & User Groups

- Cybersecurity Working Group
 - The Working Group met on November 19, 2024 to discuss takeaways from the “Cybersecurity for Local Leaders” event held at MORPC on October 31, 2024. Four MORPC member communities and one community stakeholder have signed up to engage with the Working Group for assistance in advancing their cybersecurity objectives. Interested parties should complete a Cybersecurity Working Group Interest Form at the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/fc8qz5y6zh>
- Data Day Working Group
 - The Data Day Working Group sent out a Call for Proposals for Data Day 2025 at the end of September. The Working Group is also focusing their efforts on identifying potential morning and lunch keynote speakers. If you have any suggestions on local leaders in data who would make excellent additions to the Data Day program, please contact Jordan Inskeep (jinskeep@morpc.org).
- DEI & Data Working Group
 - The Working Group met on November 19, 2024 to evaluate progress and identify support needed to complete proposals for DEI-focused sessions to be held at Data Day 2025. The Working Group plans to submit three proposals for the event.
- Regional Data Coaches Working Group
 - The Working Group met on November 21, 2024 to coordinate marketing and coverage for their second pop-up event to be held at the Columbus Metropolitan Main Library on December 7, 2024 at 10 a.m. The first pop-up event was attended by representatives from two community organizations. Working Group members hope to attract an even greater attendance in December 2024. The members also discussed outreach plans to be implemented on Data Day in February 2025 and throughout 2025.
- Workforce and Job Quality Working Group
 - The Working Group met November 21, 2024 and continued to define regional standards associated with five dimensions of job quality: earnings, schedules, benefits, safety / security, and learning / development. The group intends to refine the draft standards with the participation of regional workforce stakeholders. The group continues to participate in the Results for America 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 in the first session.

- Central Ohio GIS User Group (COGUG)

- COGUG held its Q4 2025 on GIS Day, November 20, 2024. Andrew Wilson, City of Hilliard, presented on ArcPro, with discussions on all things GIS, including potential future uses of ESRI AI assistants and the steep data management requirements needed to efficiently leverage some of ESRI's more advanced features.

- Regional Information & Data Group (RIDG)

- The final 2024 meeting for RIDG was held at MORPC on November 13, 2024. During this meeting, MORPC staff discussed Working Group and general MORPC updates provided by Dave Dixon and Adam Porr. The content of the meeting was focused on data privacy. Langdon Sanders, City of Dublin, presented a brief history and current state of data privacy in overview. Ayez Hyder, Smart Columbus, presented his work on developing the Community Information Exchange (CIE). The discussion about the CIE focused on a major tenet of the project, how it ensures and will implement protocols to ensure data privacy.
- The next RIDG meeting will take place during the first quarter of 2025. The RIDG Steering Committee and MORPC staff are working to develop topics for 2025. MORPC and Steering Committee members are currently evaluating the structure and charter of the Committee to assess areas for improvement and streamlining.

Data Management:

- Development continues on the MORPC Insights platform. Insights will be a web application whose purpose is to provide data-derived insights on topics at the regional, county, and community levels. Each insight will be supported by data, visualizations, and expert commentary. Insights is eventually expected to feature content from trusted partners in addition to MORPC-produced content. MORPC staff has completed the development of the user interface for the platform and is developing tools for collection and management of data and expert commentary. The Data team met with MORPC experts on transportation, housing, and sustainability to determine what data related to those subjects should be included in the platform and how it should be presented and will continue to work with these collaborators to produce the content to be hosted in the platform. The first set of insights are expected to be released on the platform in early 2025.
- The team also pursued several continuous improvement efforts:
 - Created script to summarize small-area (TAZ/GridMAZ) forecasts for arbitrary geographies.
 - Created script to summarize county-level forecasts for various regional collections of counties (15-county region, 10-county region, CORPO region, CEDS region, and Columbus MSA) and visualize the summarized data.
 - Expanded script to automatically fetch and standardize data from Census Population Estimates program. This now includes annual estimates for sub-county jurisdictions as well as intercensal estimates.
 - Created a script to collect population facts from several sources and combine them in a standard form.
 - Created script to collect geographies of interest to MORPC members from several sources, combine them in a standard form, and produce a lookup table.

Data Analytics, Mapping, and Research:

- Work continues on the initiative to improve the speed and quality of TAZ-level socioeconomic forecasts for the 2028 MTP cycle. Staff is preparing data and documentation to support the Intel “Get Ready” Area study, which will result in an expansion of the travel demand model to ten counties. Part of this task is updating existing and future land use for ten counties in preparation for the next MTP cycle.

Data & Research Activities

- Questions are completed for the next Leaders Listen Survey and vendor proposals are being reviewed. The Survey is expected to launch in early December. This will be the first of an annual series of comprehensive surveys that cover transportation, housing, sustainability, and other topics.
- Team members continue to manage the organization’s air quality sensors in support of the US EPA Air Quality Monitoring Grant. The team is collaborating with a third-party consultant to develop improved scripts for retrieving, standardizing, and validating PurpleAir data. The team continues to assist with other aspects of the project, such as sensor siting.
- The team is 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 (a.k.a “value per acre”) analysis for parcels in Delaware County. Past studies in other locations have 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 which will end in May 2025. The students are conducting 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.

Mapping Activities

- Updating existing land use as part of Get Ready Intel project.
- Identifying government owned and vacant lands.
- Mapping and Analysis for Rapid 5 Board Meeting.
- Update legislative maps.
- Updated bikeways and sidewalks based on new Delaware County and New Albany information.
- Reworking the ZSED file to new expanded TAZ and MAZ files.
- Finishing 208 data work.
- Starting Green Infrastructure story map design.

Modeling Activities

- Started the Delaware City Thoroughfare plan.
- North Knot trip tables update.
- Finish SR 37 Corridor project.
- Reviewing model of record for an expansion project.
- Processing traffic counts.
- Completed various Traffic Growth rate requests.

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

Ralonda Hampton, Senior Director of Communications & Engagement – rhampton@morpc.org

News Releases:

- [2024 Summit on Sustainability Brings Nearly 700 Community Leaders Together to Advance Sustainable Solutions – MORPC.org](#) (10/29/2024)

MORPC in the News:

- [Confluence Cast: Transit Update with MORPC](#) (10/22/2024)
- [COTA seeking sales tax boost to fund LinkUS projects](#) (10/23/2024)
- [LinkUS Levy: What is Bus Rapid Transit and How Can it Help the Columbus Region?](#) (10/28/2024)
- [Hundreds tackle population growth at Sustainability Summit](#) (10/29/2024)
- [MORPC Summit on Sustainability](#) (10/29/2024)
- [2024 Summit on Sustainability brings nearly 700 community leaders together to advance sustainable initiatives | The Highland County Press](#) (10/30/2024)
- [COTA sales tax levy has lack of opposition, but one group has concerns over transit expansion](#) (10/30/2024)
- [Opinion: A "yes" vote on Issue 47 will ensure region grows in inclusive, equitable ways](#) (10/30/2024)
- [2024 Summit on Sustainability brings nearly 700 community leaders together to advance sustainable initiatives](#) (10/30/2024)
- [Workforce leaders weigh in on why LinkUs is crucial for growth](#) (10/31/2024)
- [COTA's LinkUS levy on the ballot: Video](#) (10/31/2024)
- [Here's what a 'yes' or 'no' vote will mean on Issue 47](#) (10/31/2024)
- [COTA's Linkus Levy on the ballot next week](#) (11/01/2024)
- [Park Plans and New Chief Building Official in Chillicothe Mayor's Briefing - Scioto Post](#) (11/01/2024)
- [Ohio State awarded \\$300K for multimodal safety plan](#) (11/01/2024)
- [ODOT gives update on US 23 study - Delaware Gazette](#) (11/02/2024)
- [ODOT gives update on US 23 study](#) (11/02/2024)
- [Columbus, Franklin County creating regional housing coalition to address affordability crisis](#) (11/04/2024)
- [Election 2024: Here's what happened in the Columbus area](#) (11/05/2024)
- [COTA celebrates voter approval of Issue 47, boosting transit and infrastructure](#) (11/05/24)
- [Ohio COTA levy passes | 10tv.com](#) (11/5/2024)
- [Central Ohio Transit Authority LinkUS sales tax levy increase passes](#) (11/5/2024)
- [Central Ohio voters approve LinkUs transit plan](#) (11/05/2024)
- [Sales tax set to go up in central Ohio after voters give green light to COTA levy](#) (11/06/2024)
- [How COTA LinkUS and Franklin County Children Services will impact Columbus, central Ohio](#) (11/06/2024)
- [Voters pass COTA tax levy. Here's what the money will go toward](#) (11/06/2024)
- [COTA's LinkUS levy passes, leaders talk next steps](#) (11/06/2024)
- [Central Ohio voters approve Issue 47, paving the way for a modernized COTA transit system](#) (11/07/2024)

- [Voters approve Columbus-area transit tax that will back bonds](#) (11/8/2024)
- [This Week in Boomtown: Focus on transportation as LinkUS COTA levy passes](#) (11/8/2024)
- [Changes in Bexley after COTA levy passed | 10tv.com](#) (11/11/2024)
- [Why does it smell like smoke in Columbus?](#) (11/11/2024)
- [Why Did The Air Smell So Bad In Columbus This Weekend?](#) (11/12/2024)
- [What was that smoky smell in Central Ohio this past weekend?](#) (11/12/2024)
- [Confluence Cast: Addressing Growth with MORPC](#) (11/13/2024)
- [This Week in Boomtown: Affordable housing investment; tiny home project; LinkUS community](#) Video (11/15/2024)
- [Confluence Cast: Empowering communities with MORPC](#) (11/15/2024)
- [COTA discusses public transportation changes after levy passes](#) (11/17/2024)
- [Northern suburbs attractive to homebuyers for many reasons | Destination | columbusjewishnews.com](#) (11/18/2024)
- [Dayton passenger rail discussion will explore possible station locations](#) (11/18/2024)
- [Planning for Chicago-Pittsburgh rail corridor gaining steam | News, Sports, Jobs - The Herald Star.](#) (11/19/2024)
- [New Regional Housing Coalition to encourage home development as central Ohio grows](#) (11/19/2024)
- [Timeline: LinkUS transit improvements will start in 2025](#) (11/21/2024)

Digital Content:

Social Media: Instagram, Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Threads

- Air Quality; Blueways; eSource; Trail Pass; Gohio Commute; Housing; LinkUS; Careers; Residential Services; RFPs/RFQs; Summit on Sustainability; CAC Applications; Stepz Workshop; Housing Crisis Series; Veteran's Day; Technical Assistance Program; Diwali, Native American Heritage Month, Election Day, Water Quality, Trails, America Recycles Day, and MORPC News

Reach

- [Instagram](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

Top Posts

- [Instagram](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

Diversity & Inclusion:

- This year, the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) commemorated their 10-year Anniversary. To celebrate, they hosted "COMTO Columbus Week," the first week of November. MORPC joined their signature event as a community partner. Also, Councilmember Barroso de Padilla recognized COMTO at a Columbus City Council meeting with a council resolution.
- MORPC's DE&I Committee organized a guided tour to the National Veterans Memorial & Museum in honor of Veterans Day. This museum is the only site in the country that honors all Veterans from each branch of service, and it is an excellent opportunity to inspire and educate individuals.

- Facilitated a virtual “Coffee and Chat,” hosted by the Central Ohio Diversity Consortium. The purpose of this event was to promote a culture of belonging and to inform attendees how this contributes to higher engagement within the workplace.

Public Involvement & Engagement:

- MORPC participated in COTA’s “Adopt-a-Stop,” which is an initiative to help maintain the COTA bus stops located in Central Ohio. Partners agree to pick up litter and empty the COTA-provided trash receptacles at the adopted location.
- Our Senior Director of Communications & Engagement was honored and recognized at the 18th Edition of “Who’s Who in Black Columbus.” The Director received an award from the organization which strives to elevate professionals, leaders, and thinkers, in their communities.
- Participated and attended the National Center for Urban Solutions “UpliftHer,” community forum. This panel discussion focused on the value of mentorship and strengthening mentor programs within the organization.
- Social Media:
 - Stepz Workshop: [10/27, 11/12](#)
 - Community Advisory Committee Applications: [11/7,](#)
 - CURA & MORPC Housing Forum: [11/13](#)
 - Data Day Registration: [11/14](#)
 - Air Quality Neighborhood Monitoring: [11/16](#)

Marketing Campaigns:

- MORPC’s Residential Services department is currently being promoted to Franklin County residents through billboard advertisements to increase awareness for low-income homeowners and renters.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Eileen Leuby, Member Services Officer – eleuby@morpc.org

Member Visits Completed

- Delaware City 11/4; Delaware County 11/4; City of London 11/12; Madison County 11/12; Logan County 11/12; CMHA 11/19; Village of Granville 11/19; Village of Marble Cliff 11/20; City of Johnstown 11/20; City of Sunbury 11/20.

Upcoming Member Visits

- City of Dublin 12/10; Columbus Metropolitan Library (12/18); Union County (12/18); Marion County (12/19); City of Marion (12/19); Licking County (12/19); Granville Township (12/19); City of Newark 12/19.

Communications

- Produced a monthly newsletter which contains all event links and legislative updates which is issued to all members the day before any commission meeting. Provided a Drive Investment newsletter with grant and resource information.

Member Benefits

- MORPC added two more educational partnerships: Capital University and Columbus College of Art and Design.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

Memorandum

TO: Community Advisory Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM: Maria Schaper, Transportation Director

DATE: November 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-13-24: “**Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program**”

Proposed Resolution T-13-24 will add or modify four (4) projects to the SFY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with commitments totaling over \$96 million. These changes are necessary to enable the projects to advance and to maintain fiscal constraint. In January, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will ask the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to amend the Statewide TIP to include these changes.

Continued maintenance of the TIP is a key element of implementing the strategies in the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation (MTP). The projects included in this amendment specifically relate to implementation of these MTP strategies:

- OP 5: Improve connections and coordination among transit system operators
- OP 7: Improve demand response transit service
- OP 8: Manage, improve and coordinate human service, private and public transportation, to better meet the needs and fill the gaps
- PRES 1: Repair or replace bridges in poor physical condition
- PRES 4: Replace transit vehicles that are beyond their useful life
- TRAN 5: Implement appropriate additional/innovative service to address first/last mile needs
- RDWY 1: Add capacity, where appropriate, to alleviate existing or anticipated congestion along existing freeway and at interchanges

Attachment 1 to the resolution provides a description of the funding and scope of the projects, including a description of the bicycle and pedestrian components. Two projects include MORPC-attributable funding.

An explanation of the proposed changes to the TIP follows.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

Delaware County Transit: The following modification to the TIP is being made for a DCT project:

- PID 118103: DCT 2025 Vehicle Replace. Adjusting funding to allocate for related activities in later years. Total of \$713,167 removed in SFY2025.

Franklin County TID: The following modification to the TIP is being made for a Franklin County TID project:

- PID 115792: Alum Creek Dr from SR 317 to Groveport Rd. Moving \$2.5 million from detailed design to preliminary engineering in SFY 2025.

MORPC: The following addition to the TIP is being made for MORPC's FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program:

- PID Unassigned: This program is funded via FFY2024 Section 5310 funding. Fifteen (15) subrecipients are receiving funding through this program. Attachment 2 to this resolution provides additional detail regarding the awards. Total of \$2,410,943 added in SFY2025.

ODOT: The following additions or modifications to the TIP are being made for ODOT projects:

- PID 105435: I-71 & I-270 (North Outerbelt), Interchange Modification/Bridge Deck Replace. Adjusting funding to reflect updated construction cost estimates. Total of \$13,859,254 added in SFY2025 and SFY2026.

The additions, removal, and modifications to the TIP via this amendment represent reallocation of existing funding as well as new funding being made available to local agencies. Below is a summary of the funding modifications as part of this TIP amendment:

Funding Source	Funding Change
FTA Section 5310	\$1,760,329
ODOT Transit (STBG)	(\$534,831)
ODOT Labor	\$1,972,950
ODOT Preservation	(\$14,621,530)
ODOT Safety	(\$5,111,001)
ODOT – State	\$1,988,630
ODOT Major Programs (TRAC)	\$29,630,205
Local	\$472,278
Total	\$15,557,030

MS:EL

Attachment: Resolution T-13-24

RESOLUTION T-13-24

“Amending the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program”

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Committee of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) adopted the SFY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by Resolution T-5-23; and

WHEREAS, one project modification to the 2024-2027 TIP has been identified as needed for a Delaware County Transit (DCT) project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project modification to the 2024-2027 TIP has been identified as needed for a Franklin County TID project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, one project modification to the 2024-2027 TIP has been identified as needed for an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) project as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, MORPC completed a solicitation and selection process for FTA Section 5310 Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2024 funds, with projects selected shown in Attachment 2; and

WHEREAS, MORPC has requested the addition of the SFY 2025 Section 5310 program to the 2024-2027 TIP as shown in Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, the projects are consistent with the transportation policies, plans, and programs, including the most recent Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its meeting December 2, 2024, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its meeting on December 4, 2024 recommended approval of this resolution to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Section 1. That the MORPC SFY 2024-2027 TIP be amended to include the project information as shown in Attachment 1.
- Section 2. That it affirms that the fiscal balance of the SFY 2024-2027 TIP is maintained.
- Section 3. That the determination of conformity between the TIP and the State Implementation Plan (SIP) is hereby reaffirmed, as the three projects are exempt from conformity requirements and one non-exempt project was already included in the most recent approved air quality conformity, dated May of 2024.
- Section 4. That it affirms that the amendment was developed in compliance with the transportation performance measures as described in Section 6 of the SFY 2024-2027 TIP as modified.

- Section 5. That this resolution will be transmitted to ODOT and all sponsoring agencies in Attachment 1 for appropriate action.
- Section 6. That this resolution will be transmitted to FTA and all sponsoring agencies in Attachment 2 for appropriate action.
- Section 7. That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date

Prepared by: Transportation Staff

Attachment 1: Amended Project Information for the SFY 2024-2027 TIP
Attachment 2: FTA Section 5310 SFY 2025 Program of Projects

Resolution T-13-24

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: DCT

PID: 118103

TIP ID: 332

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: DEL-DCT-2025 Vehicle Replace

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit

Air Quality: Exempt

Description: DCT 2025 Vehicle Replace, Transit

Bike Components: Bicycle racks.

Ped Components: Not applicable.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>ALI</u>
2025	Transit	CRP-S	\$142,810	11.12.04
2025	Transit	Local	\$35,703	11.12.04
Total:			\$178,513	

Agency: Franklin County TID

PID: 115792

TIP ID: 341

MTP ID: 1182

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-CR122-0.00

Length (mi.): 2.7

Project Type(s): Major Widening/Major Rehabilitation

Air Quality: Non-Exempt (Analyzed)

Description: Alum Creek Dr from SR 317 to Groveort Rd, Major Widening from 4 lanes to 6 lanes & Major Rehabilitation

Bike Components: Multi-use path. 2.7 mi. added to bike network.

Ped Components: Sidewalk on 1 side, multi-use path on 1 side. 2.7 mi. added to ped network.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2024	Detailed Design	State	\$78,133
2024	Detailed Design	Federal	\$312,531
2025	Preliminary Engineering	State	\$490,214
2025	Preliminary Engineering	Federal	\$1,960,858
2025	Right-of-Way	State	\$858,462
2025	Right-of-Way	STBG-M	\$341,538
2025	Right-of-Way	Local	\$300,000
LR	Construction	Local	\$34,008,767
LR	Construction	STBG-M	\$10,158,463
Total:			\$48,508,967

Funds in FYs prior to 2024 are not included in this report nor in the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

LR = Long Range (after SFY 2027, the last year of the TIP). LR funds are shown for information only and are not included in the TIP.

G* indicates a grouped project.

Resolution T-13-24

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: MORPC

PID: NP

TIP ID: 495

MTP ID: 142

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-MORPC 5310 FFY 2024-

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Transit Activity

Air Quality:

Description: MORPC 5310 FFY 2024, Transit Activity

Bike Components: Not applicable.

Ped Components: Not applicable.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>ALI</u>
2025	Transit	Local	\$57,131	11.7A.00
2025	Transit	Sec 5310	\$115,575	11.13.15
2025	Transit	Local	\$89,702	11.7L.00
2025	Transit	Local	\$28,894	11.13.15
2025	Transit	Local	\$474,887	11.71.13
2025	Transit	Sec 5310	\$881,387	11.71.13
2025	Transit	Sec 5310	\$358,809	11.7L.00
2025	Transit	Sec 5310	\$228,526	11.7A.00
2025	Transit	Sec 5310	\$176,033	11.79.00
			Total:	\$2,410,944

Funds in FYs prior to 2024 are not included in this report nor in the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

LR = Long Range (after SFY 2027, the last year of the TIP). LR funds are shown for information only and are not included in the TIP.

G* indicates a grouped project.

Resolution T-13-24

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Agency: ODOT D6

PID: 105435

TIP ID: 68

MTP ID: 1582

Co-Route-Sec: FRA-IR071/270-28.27/25.99A

Length (mi.):

Project Type(s): Interchange Modification/Bridge Deck Replac **Air Quality:** Exempt

Description: I-71 & I-270 (North Outerbelt), Interchange Modification & Bridge Deck Replace

Bike Components: Not applicable.

Ped Components: Not applicable.

<u>State Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	Detailed Design	State	\$274,680
2025	Construction	Federal	\$2,800,080
2025	Construction	State	\$360,000
2025	Construction	Federal	\$500,000
2025	Construction	State	\$500,000
2025	Construction	State	\$326,250
2025	Construction	Federal	\$2,936,250
2025	Construction	HSIP	\$3,240,000
2025	Construction	Federal	\$29,630,205
2025	Construction	State	\$311,120
2025	Construction	State	\$3,292,245
2026	Construction	Federal	\$500,000
2026	Construction	State	\$500,000
Total:			\$45,170,830

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G* indicates a grouped project.

Resolution T-13-24

Attachment 1 - Amended Project Information

Summary of Funding Sources

<u>Source</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
Federal	Labor - Federal	\$2,800,080
State	Labor - State	\$311,120
Local	Local Public Agency	\$34,995,084
Federal	Major/New Program - Federal	\$31,903,594
State	Major/New Program - State	\$4,135,272
STBG-M	Surface Transportation Block Grant, Attributable to MORPC	\$10,500,001
State	Multi-Lane Major Rehab	\$858,462
CRP-S	Carbon Reduction Program, Attributable to the State	\$142,810
Federal	District Preservation (Pv & Br) - Federal	\$3,936,250
State	District Preservation (Pv & Br) - State	\$1,326,250
HSIP	Highway Safety Improvement Program	\$3,240,000
State	State Safety	\$360,000
Sec 5310	Enhanced Mobility - Seniors and Disabilities - Urban	\$1,760,330
Grand Total:		\$96,269,254

Funds in FYs prior to 2024 are not included in this report nor in the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

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G* indicates a grouped project.

Attachment 2 Resolution T-13-24

5310 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

State/Urbanized Area:

Columbus, Ohio UZA

5310: FFY 2024 (DS, DM, DL):

\$1,760,329

(DS = Rural Areas (under 50,000); DM -Small Urbanized Areas (50,000-200,000); DL = Large Urbanized Areas (200,000 or more))

Carryover:

\$0

Transfer Funds (plus or minus):

\$0

Total Funds Available:

\$1,760,329

Number of subrecipients funded in this Program:

15

LIST OF PROJECTS Required subrecipient information includes: name of entity receiving the award, amount of award, location of the entity receiving the award and the primary location of performance under the award, including the city and/or

CAPITAL, OPERATING AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

(Projects may include reasonable contingencies)

(Subrecipient Types may include: a non-profit organization or a local governmental authority).

Program of Projects & Subrecipients	Direct and Sub-recipients	City	Service Area Urban / Rural	Sub Type Private Public	Project Description/ALI	Quantity	FTA Amount	Local Amount	Total Amount	Coordination Plan Date & Page	Eligible Project Type*	Capital/ Operating	Description
FY 2024 5310													
Sub A	Canal Winchester Human Services Inc	Canal Winchester, OH	Urban	Non Profit	11.7A.00	1	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Capital	Preventive Maintenance
Sub B	City of Dublin	Dublin, OH	Urban	Public	11.71.13	1	\$120,000	\$30,000	\$150,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(A)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub C	City of Groveport	Groveport, OH	Urban	Public	11.13.15	1	\$60,811	\$15,203	\$76,014	June 2024 / Page 39	(A)	Capital	Vehicle Purchase (expansion, vans)
Sub D	City of Hilliard	Hilliard, OH	Urban	Public	11.71.13	1	\$72,000	\$18,000	\$90,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(A)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub E	City of Reynoldsburg	Reynoldsburg, OH	Urban	Public	11.71.13	1	\$115,200	\$28,800	\$144,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(A)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub F	Clintonville-Beechwood CRC	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non Profit	11.71.13	1	\$50,800	\$12,700	\$63,500	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub F	Clintonville-Beechwood CRC	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non-Profit	11.7A.00	1	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$20,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Capital	Preventive Maintenance
Sub G	COTA	Columbus, OH	Urban	Public	11.71.13	1	\$339,387	\$339,387	\$678,774	June 2024 / Page 39	(B)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub H	DCTB	Delaware, OH	Urban	Public	11.7L.00	1	\$198,809	\$49,702	\$248,511	June 2024 / Page 12	(A)	Capital	Mobility Management
Sub H	DCTB	Delaware, OH	Urban	Public	11.7A.00	1	\$148,690	\$37,172	\$185,862	June 2024 / Page 12	(A)	Capital	Preventive Maintenance
Sub I	LifeCare Alliance	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non-Profit	11.7A.00	1	\$19,280	\$4,820	\$24,100	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Capital	Preventive Maintenance
Sub J	MORPC	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non Profit - Public	11.7L.00	1	\$160,000	\$40,000	\$200,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(A)	Capital	Mobility Management
Sub K	Netcare Corporation	Columbus, OH	Urban	Private For Profit	11.7A.00	1	\$20,236	\$5,059	\$25,295	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Capital	Preventive Maintenance
Sub L	Open Door Columbus	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non Profit	11.7A.00	1	\$4,320	\$1,080	\$5,400	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Capital	Preventive Maintenance
Sub M	SourcePoint	Delaware, OH	Urban	Non-Profit	11.71.13	1	\$160,000	\$40,000	\$200,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub N	St. Vincent Family Services	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non Profit	11.71.13	1	\$24,000	\$6,000	\$30,000	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Operating	Contracted Transportation
Sub O	Tristar Transportation	Columbus, OH	Urban	Private For Profit	11.13.15	1	\$54,764	\$13,691	\$68,455	June 2024 / Page 39	(D)	Capital	Vehicle Purchase (expansion, vans)
<i>Subtotal</i>						<i>17</i>	<i>\$1,584,296</i>	<i>\$650,614</i>	<i>\$2,234,910</i>				
Program Admin	MORPC	Columbus, OH	Urban	Non Profit - Public	11.79.00	1	\$176,033	\$0	\$176,033				Program Administration
Grand Total						18	\$1,760,329	\$650,614	\$2,410,943				

Total Traditional 5310 Capital Amount (at least 55%) **\$1,760,329**
 Total Other Capital Amount (up to 45%) **\$0**

* Eligibility Project Type refers to 49 U.S.C. 5310 (b)(1) criteria

STATE ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Not to exceed 10 percent of Section 5310 apportionment and any flex funds transferred to the Section 5310 account may be used to provide a 100 percent Federal share.

Subtotal State or Designated Recipient Administration (funded at 100 percent) **\$176,033**

SUBTOTAL DESIGNATED RECIPIENT ADMINISTRATION **\$176,033**



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

Memorandum

TO: Transportation Policy Committee
Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Maria Schaper, Transportation Director

DATE: November 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution T-14-24: "**Support the 2025 Ohio Department of Transportation Safety Performance Measure Targets**"

The 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) includes strategies specifically related to enhancing the safety of the transportation system, with many of the strategies and projects included in the MTP advancing this objective in some way. Furthermore, the MTP includes specific performance measures as required by the federal Transportation Performance Management Program. The program is defined by a series of rulemakings that delineate a process in which MPO's and State Departments of Transportation coordinate on target-setting and reporting for a series of federal transportation performance measures.

Safety is one area in which states and MPOs are required to set targets. The rule requires state DOTs to set targets for five safety performance measures by August 31 each year. The five measures are:

- number of fatalities
- number of serious injuries
- fatality rate
- serious injury rate
- number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

In July 2024, ODOT reestablished their annual statewide safety targets as a 2% annual reduction for each of the five measures. This was based on many factors, including a review of recent trends in safety statistics and an ongoing record level of safety investments statewide.


Each MPO across the state is subsequently required to establish safety targets for their respective planning areas by February 26 each year. Resolution T-14-24 is necessary to explicitly meet these federal planning regulations to establish safety performance measures for the MPO area.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary



MORPC was a leader in the U.S. when performance measures were first incorporated into the 2012-2035 MTP in 2012. As part of the 2024-2050 MTP that was adopted in May 2024, these performance measures were reestablished via resolution T-3-24, and the 2025 ODOT targets are consistent with these adopted regional targets.

RESOLUTION T-14-24

“SUPPORTING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S 2025 SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURE TARGETS”

WHEREAS, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is designated as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) by the governor acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and in cooperation with locally elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is the federal transportation legislation with which MORPC's transportation planning must comply including performance measures; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has established transportation performance management rules and processes to be incorporated into metropolitan transportation planning, which includes state and MPO adoption of certain performance measures; and

WHEREAS, MORPC adopted the 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) which includes strategies with regard to enhancing the safety of the transportation system along with safety performance measures; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT rules require the states to set targets for five safety performance measures (number of fatalities, number of serious injuries, fatality rate, serious injury rate and number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries) annually by August 31 each year, and that MPOs set targets for the five measures annually by February 26 each year; and

WHEREAS, in August 2024 ODOT, in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Public Safety, established a 2% annual reduction as the statewide target for each of the five safety performance measures for calendar year 2025; and

WHEREAS, these targets established by ODOT are consistent with the targets for the five safety performance measures included in the 2024-2050 MTP, adopted via Resolution T-3-24; and

WHEREAS, the Community Advisory Committee at its meeting on December 2, 2024, and the Transportation Advisory Committee at its meeting on December 4, 2024, recommended approval of this resolution to the Transportation Policy Committee; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Section 1. That it supports ODOT's safety targets established in August 2024 as described above.
- Section 2. That it will plan and program projects that contribute toward the achievement of the ODOT targets.
- Section 3: That it directs staff to establish safety targets in the 2024-2050 Columbus Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan that are consistent with the ODOT targets.
- Section 4: That the Transportation Policy Committee finds and determines that all formal deliberations and actions of this committee concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in open meetings of this committee.

Chris Amorose Groomes, Chair
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Date

Prepared by: Programming Department Staff



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

Memorandum

TO: Transportation Advisory Committee
Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Jon Heider, Senior Planner

DATE: November 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Informational Item – Functional Classification Review

After each decennial census, FHWA leads a process with state departments of transportation and MPOs to review urban area boundaries and roadway functional classifications. MORPC completed review of the urban area boundaries over the summer of 2024. In November 2024, MORPC began its review of the functional classification of all roadways within the MPO area. CORPO counties roadways outside the MPO will also be reviewed during the same period.

Roadway functional classification is important because it defines the role that a roadway has in the transportation network, and it has implications for a roadway's federal aid status. Roadways are classified into 7 categories, ranging from interstate freeways to local neighborhood streets. In urban areas, all roadways classified as Minor Collectors or above are federal aid eligible. In rural areas, all roadways classified as a Major Collector or above are eligible. The functional class also has implications for roadway design, speed limits, and intersection design.

Each classification has quantitative guidelines regarding lane width, AADT, shoulder width, access control, and other engineering aspects of the roadway. Additionally, the review looks at qualitative factors including proximity to major activity centers, interconnectivity with higher classified roads, and population/travel density.

Stakeholder review of functional classifications began on 11/1/24 with MORPC staff collecting and organizing the data needed for review. After data collection is finished, and recommended changes are proposed, MORPC staff will review the proposed changes with all appropriate local government stakeholders. Stakeholder review will continue until 8/31/25, when proposed changes will be submitted for ODOT's review. FHWA will review ODOT's approved changes beginning in September of 2025 before the final changes are adopted by FHWA before the end of 2025.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary