



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

## NOTICE OF A MEETING

### CENTRAL OHIO BLUEWAYS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUP

### MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION VIRTUAL MEETING

November 25th, 2024, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

## AGENDA

### 1. Welcome & Purpose

### 2. Onion Bag Project Implementation Plan Outline

#### a. Review

The group discussed the purpose and structure of the implementation plan – the primary goal is to create a guidance document that can be shared with communities. The plan should remain flexible to accommodate community needs.

#### Role of MORPC

#### b. Facilitator vs Implementor

Members discussed whether the the Working Group and MORPC should act as facilitators or implementers in the Onion Bag Project.

- Facilitator role: Develop a guidance document and make it available to communities without direct involvement.
- Implementer role: Take a more active role, assisting in coordination and advocating for installation.

A Member noted that MORPC's available resources and personnel might limit direct implementation. General consensus leaned towards an initial facilitator role, with the potential to reevaluate implementation efforts later.

### 3. Onion Bag Project Pilot Locations

#### c. Targeted vs Blanket Approach

Two potential approaches to choosing locations were considered:

- Targeted Approach: Identifying specific high-traffic access points for installation.
- Blanket Approach: Providing information broadly and allowing communities to decide on adoption.

Members and staff discussed prioritizing locations based on areas with higher waterway recreation usage and common start and end points of paddling segments. Another consideration is the importance of user volume in determining installation

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Chris Amorose Groomes**  
Chair

**Michelle Crandall**  
Vice Chair

**Ben Kessler**  
Secretary

priorities. Members also discussed integrating the Onion Bag Project into organized cleanups and events (e.g., Earth Day, Sierra Club cleanups, corporate volunteer efforts), and collaborating with canoe liveries and rental services to distribute onion bags alongside other equipment.

#### **4. Next Steps**

- Staff will review and finalize the Onion Bag Project Implementation Plan outline, and develop initial language for the plan and circulate it.
- Members will continue promoting the project through community outreach and waterway stewardship discussions.
- Members and staff will consider the feasibility of mapping access points to identify potential installation sites. They also plan to reassess the role of COBWG in late 2025, determining whether to transition from facilitator to implementer.

#### **5. Adjourn**

Please notify Darcy Maas at [dmaas@morpc.org](mailto:dmaas@morpc.org) to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

The next Environmental Stewardship Working Group Meeting is December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
This Meeting will be virtual; details to follow.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Remote Meeting

Environmental Stewardship Working Group Meeting

November 25, 2024

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Members Present

- Doug Crandall
- Elizabeth Ellman, City of Bexley
- Dan Kaderly, Metro Parks
- Broc Sehen, Madison Soil & Water Conservation District
- Pamela Steck, City of Columbus

Staff Present

- Lynn Kaufman
  - Jonathan Miller
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