



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

MORPC IN THE NEWS

February 2023

AMTRAK

OHIO PUBLIC RADIO/TV

[Ohio takes first step to get feds on board with expanding passenger rail](#)

Advocates for high-speed trains are celebrating that the state will apply for federal funds to pay for a study on the feasibility of passenger rail service in Ohio. They're hoping Ohio can benefit from the \$2.3 billion in grant for passenger rail in the 2021 federal infrastructure law, the largest investment in passenger rail Amtrak's history. But William Murdock with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission said it's an exciting first step, though they'll have to wait till next year to find out if the funds are approved. (2/8/2023)

WCMH-NBC4

[Ohio seeks federal funding to study Amtrak passenger route](#)

We thank the Governor for his leadership in starting this critical process for the 3C+D, and we support advancement of the Cleveland-Toledo-Detroit Corridor," wrote the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission in a statement to NBC4. "MORPC stands ready to compete for this investment in our growing region and we look forward to working in partnership with and be a resource to the Ohio Rail Development Commission in this effort. (2/8/2023)

BUSINESS FIRST OF COLUMBUS

[Gov. DeWine on board with first step toward Amtrak expansion in Ohio](#)

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission has worked with regional governments for two years to prepare for bringing passenger rail to Central Ohio. Although its highest priority is the 3C line, MORPC also advocates a Chicago-Pittsburgh route through Columbus; it's already done feasibility and environmental studies. (2/8/2023)

NEW JERSEY LOCAL NEWS

[When It Comes to Passenger Rail Expansion, Ohio is the First State to Take the Initiative](#)

Although the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's William Murdock called it "an exciting first step," the organization won't know whether or not the allocated funds are approved until next year. (2/10/2023)

DATA & MAPPING

COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

[Central Ohio's population now projected to exceed 3 million by 2050, boosted by new economic development projects](#)

The Central Ohio region now is expected to grow to more than 3 million residents by 2050, based on the most recent data from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. (2/2/2023)

WOSU PUBLIC RADIO

[Report predicts 750,000 new Central Ohio residents by 2048](#)

Central Ohio is expected to grow by more than 700,000 additional people in the next 25 years, which would push the population over 3 million by 2050. [The projection for the 15 counties in the areas](#) was released by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and indicates a lot of the growth will be based on people moving into the region, especially in Franklin and Delaware counties. (2/3/2023)

SCIOTO POST

[Central Ohio region continues to grow at accelerated pace as new economic projects come online](#)

The Central Ohio region continues to grow and is on track to exceed 3 million residents by 2050, based on the most recent data from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). (2/2/2023)

COLUMBUS UNDERGROUND

[Updated projection sets expectation for 3.15 million Central Ohio residents in 2050](#)

Columbus is growing, and according to the latest data from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), it's actually expected to grow a bit faster than previously thought. The latest population modeling now indicates that the Central Ohio region will surpass the 3 million mark before the year 2050, likely hitting a population total of 3.15 million that year. (2/6/2023)

UNION COUNTY DAILY DIGITAL

[Central Ohio continues to grow at accelerated pace](#)

The Central Ohio region continues to grow and is on track to exceed 3 million residents by 2050, based on the most recent data from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). (2/9/2023)

COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

[MORPC raises estimate of Columbus regions population growth](#)

MORPC last week revised its population projection for the region slightly upward from its previous estimate, predicting Central Ohio will now reach 3.147 million residents by 2050. That means about 726,000 new residents in the next 27 years, or 26,888 each year. (2/10/2023)

WBNS-10TV

[New Delaware apartment project taps into city's history](#)

Central Ohio's population is increasing at a faster rate than previously thought. According to the [Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's latest report](#), Delaware County's relative growth is expected to soar by 80% by 2050. Amid the urgent need for more housing options, the city of Delaware is turning to the past to make room for the future.

NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS PARTNERSHIP (NNIP)

[MORPC hosts regional Data Day to promote data-informed decisionmaking](#)

As part of the Regional Data Agenda with the Regional Data Advisory Committee, MORPC and Ohio University are partnering to present Data Day: Driving the Region Forward with Data on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Data Day will be a one day event held at Ohio University Dublin Integrated Education Center in Dublin, Ohio.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LOGAN DAILY NEWS

[Commission names Dr. Todd Bradley as new Regional Investment Officer](#)

Dr. Todd Bradley, who, for nearly two decades taught political science at the Indiana University Kokomo and most recently served as policy director for the Ohio Mayors Alliance, has been tapped to serve as MORPC's new Regional Investment Officer. In this role, he is responsible for seeking and attracting federal and state investment opportunities back to Central Ohio. These critical funds will help advance regional infrastructure, plan for growth, and cultivate job creating projects for communities. (2/11/2023)

ATHENS MESSENGER

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MEMBER NEWS

DELAWARE GAZETTE

[Galena gets organized for 2023](#)

Also at that meeting, Love said she presented a grant request to the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission for a proposed Big Walnut Bridge project. (2/14/2023)

SUSTAINABILITY

SPECTRUM NEWS 1

[New report on air quality in Central Ohio](#)

Do you ever wonder what an Air Quality Alert Day is, or who activates these alerts that track ground level ozone and particle pollution? The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission looks at air quality data for central Ohio and they just released their end of season report. (2/10/2023)

LOGAN DAILY NEWS

[MORPC releases end of season report on Central Ohio air quality](#)

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission has released its annual Air Quality Report, summarizing air quality data from November 2021 to October 2022. (2/9/2023)

COLUMBUS DISPATCH

[Columbus utilities: Drinking water safe from East Palestine train toxins](#)

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) forecasts and issues alerts in central Ohio based on Ohio EPA air monitoring information for ozone and particulate pollution, according to the city of Columbus. (2/13/2023)

TRANSPORTATION

LANCASTER EAGLE GAZETTE

[Fairfield County and Ohio State partnering to update Active Transportation Plan](#)

As Fairfield County prepares for future growth, the Knowlton School of Architecture within the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University, has partnered with Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and Fairfield County to update and revise the Fairfield County Active Transportation Plan. (2/4/2023)

LOOKING FORWARD OUR WAY with Carol Ventresca and Brett Johnson

[Central Ohio Infrastructure: Good News From MORPC](#)

Continued growth in Central Ohio calls for research, planning, and execution of strategies for the infrastructure of the region. An update on transportation in Central Ohio from Thea Ewing, Chief Regional Development Office and Senior Director of Programming at the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. (2/06/2023)

BUSINESS FIRST

[The Future of Downtown: COTA, others look to solve the transit puzzle](#)

“There’s an urgency to seize the moment to make these changes now,” said William Murdock, executive director of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. “Prosperity is not guaranteed. ... Without that focus and investment now, we very well could miss the moment.” (2/16/2023)

NRDC BLOG, Deron Lovaas

[Saving lives by delivering safe streets for all](#)

I was born and raised in Ohio, so I’ll focus on the measures my home state is taking. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) was given a grant toward its safety action plan for the Columbus area. In 2020 alone, there were 228 fatalities and 1,484 serious injuries reported in the central Ohio area, a surprising statistic for the year since the number of cars on the road in 2020 decreased dramatically with the pandemic. (2/17/2023)

COLUMBUS DISPATCH

[COTA pays Licking County transit director’s salary as it struggles with route cuts](#)

Nick Gill, transportation director for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, said COTA has been working with other counties to make better transit connections. That’s important, he said, as the regional planning commission updates its [Metropolitan Transportation Plan](#) that identifies problems in transportation systems here while laying out strategies for dealing with projected population increases. The population in the central Ohio region is expected to exceed 3 million people by 2050. (2/20/2023)

HANNAH NEWS SERVICE

[Transit agencies, railroad unions testify in support of transportation Sub Bill changes](#)

At the subcommittee meeting, legislators also heard from William Murdock, the executive director of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), who urged the General Assembly to maintain or expand investments in roadway safety, public transit and trails. (2/22/2023)

DELAWARE GAZETTE

[Route 23 design request on list](#)

ODOT District 6 and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission have provided letters of support for the project, the application said. The nine-member TRAC was established in 1997 to help ODOT in selecting major projects to fund around the state. It operates on an annual cycle. The public can comment on the draft list at trac@dot.ohio.gov until March 23. TRAC will vote on a final list on March 29. (2/24/2023)

COLUMBUS DISPATCH

[Columbus plans more safety improvements at new Olentangy Trail crossing](#)

The daily vehicle traffic count just west of the intersection on West North Broadway was 24,765 in 2016, according to the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. The daily vehicle traffic count just west of the OhioHealth campus on West North Broadway was 22,502 in 2016. (2/25/2023)