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MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MORPC)
REPRESENTATIVE REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 16, 2026

2026 MORPC MEETING SCHEDULE

[The 2026 MORPC meeting calendar is attached.](#)

MORPC Board of Commissioners Meeting

- The Commission met on March 12, 2026; the meeting was live-streamed
- No anticipated Commission meeting in April. Rather, there will be four area meetings throughout the month.

[Click here for more information on upcoming Commission meetings.](#)

A CLOSER LOOK

MORPC LEGISLATION:

- T-04-26: Amends the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026–2029 Transportation Improvement Program
- T-05-26: Adopts policies for managing MPO funds
- T-06-26: Adopts the MORPC Complete Streets Policy
- T-07-26: Adopts the SFY 2026–2027 Technical Assistance Grants Program Guide
- T-08-26: Amends the State Fiscal Year 2026 Planning Work Program
- Resolution 04-26: Accepts Sharon Township (Franklin County) as a member of MORPC

NEED ASSISTANCE? CALL 614-342-4090 OR USE OHIO RELAY 7-1-1.

MONTHLY AGENCY REPORT SUMMARY

- **Transit & Mobility:** Staff advanced goal-setting with county partners for the 2026–2030 Regional Mobility Plan.
- **Sustainable Transportation:** MORPC launched the Make Your Miles Matter Winter Challenge, promoting alternative commuting options.
- **Housing & Residential Services:** Staff supported 400+ households with home repair, safety, and weatherization services and a Westerville home repair pilot program.
- **Data & Mapping:** MORPC released the Future Land Use Map on the [Mid-Ohio Open Data \(M.O.O.D.\)](#) data portal, with 800,000+ planning records.
- **Regional Events:** MORPC highlighted the upcoming [State of the Region](#) (March 20) and regional leadership engagement.

BOARD & ROUNDTABLES ACTION SUMMARY

- **Regional Policy Roundtable:** Members received a legislative update covering current state and federal policy developments affecting Central Ohio.
- **Regional Sustainability Roundtable:** Staff provided a sustainability program update, initiated contact on water quality management and shared an Annual Air Quality Report.
- **Central Ohio Economic Development District Board:** Leaders shared updates on economic priorities and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs).
- **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):** The board received updates on regional transportation planning and LinkUS implementation.

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

- **March Update:** State and federal lawmakers will soon begin reviewing community project proposals for funding. Federal lawmakers introduced a surface transportation reauthorization bill, including significant opportunities for planning organizations. [Read MORPC's full March legislative update here.](#)
- **Property Tax Update:** [Read MORPC's policy update on recent legislation and statewide initiatives related to property taxes in Ohio here.](#)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Age-Friendly Innovation Center:** [Opportunities for older adults](#)
- **Free Residential Services:** [No-cost home repair weatherization program.](#)
- **Gohio Commute Winter Challenge:** [Win gift cards by using sustainable travel options.](#)
- **Insights Data Platform:** [Explore this interactive data platform.](#)

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- Local Economic Assistance Program (LEAP): [A new technical assistance initiative.](#)
- MORPC Podcast: [Find episodes on YouTube, Spotify, and Apple Music, or click here.](#)
- Public Engagement: [Access MORPC press releases and news articles here.](#)
- Regional Housing Strategy: Contact Juliana Silveira at jsilveira@morpc.org, with MORPC, to develop a housing or growth workshop.
- Consultant Services Program: [Learn about MORPC's list of 39 prequalified consultants available to support member community projects, here.](#)
- Recorded Webinar on Federal Community Project Funding: [Watch now.](#)

KEY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

Opportunities to secure local capital and infrastructure funding can be found here:

- [The deadline for Senator Husted for FY27 was extended \(Due 3.20\)](#)
- [Senator Moreno \(Due 3/30\)](#)
- [House Appropriations Committee Guidance](#)

DRIVE INVESTMENT

- **Corridor Identification and Development (CID) program:** passenger rail planning
 - MORPC provides a template letter to anyone willing to support their grant application for passenger rail efforts in central Ohio.
- **Grants:** MORPC partners with agencies on several grant opportunities
- **Supportive Infrastructure:** Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and LinkUS Transit
- **Transportation safety initiatives:** Including Safe Streets and Roads for All implementation, & Coalition for Integrated Roads User Safety (CIRUS)
- **State & federal infrastructure funding coordination:** Ohio Public Works Commission (OWPC), Clean Ohio, Transportation Review Advisory Council
- **Economic development strategy:** [Competitive Advantage Projects \(CAP\) Program](#)
- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):** Recently convened to review strategies for economic and community development across the region.
- [Learn more about investment opportunities here.](#)

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UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENT

STATE OF THE REGION | FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Premier annual event highlighting regional plans and achievements. Keynote speaker Greg Lindsay, an urban innovation leader. Also included, a fireside chat with special guest Ray LaHood, Former United States Secretary of Transportation, moderated by Marcia Hale, a nationally recognized infrastructure leader. [Click here to learn more about the 2026 State of the Region.](#)

WATER REUSE FORUM | MARCH 31

A Forum focused on advancing water reuse strategies in Central Ohio as the region experiences increasing demand. [Click here to learn more about the Water Reuse Forum.](#)

BIKE TO WORK DAY | MAY 13

The second annual Regional Bike to Work Day on May 13, encourages participants to host their own Bike to Work Day events at their local offices, supporting employees in biking to work. Questions? Contact MORPC's Gohio Commute Team at gohio@morpc.org.

REGIONAL PLANNING UPDATE LUNCHEONS

MORPC will host luncheons for public service professionals in transportation, infrastructure, land use, economic development, and sustainability.

This year, all four meetings will be in April:

- [Northwest Area: Wednesday, April 8th at Jerome Township](#)
- [Northeast Area: Thursday, April 16th at the City of Johnstown](#)
- [Southwest Area: Wednesday, April 22nd at Prairie Township Community Center](#)
- [Southeast Area: Thursday, April 23rd at Lockbourne Event Center](#)

MONEY MONDAYS

Every Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., MORPC hosts **Money Mondays** virtual presentations. These sessions are an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about key funding opportunities.

- [Click here to register for Money Mondays and be added to our calendar invite list.](#)

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- [Click here to view the video archive of past Money Mondays webinars.](#)



Regional Policy Roundtable meeting
Photo credit MORPC