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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Representative Report to City Council

May 19, 2025

MORPC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

- The Commission met on May 8, 2025. The Commission/Transportation Policy Committee Meeting was live-streamed.
- The Commission's next meeting will be on June 12, 2025
- Results of the Leaders Listen survey are available [here](#).

Agenda Summary

- **Transportation Policy Committee (MPO)**
 - Metropolitan Planning Organization Report
 - Proposed Resolution T-6-25: Adoption of the SFY 2026–2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - Includes more than \$1.5 billion in roadway improvements and \$2.7 billion in transit enhancements, covering more than 360 projects.
 - Proposed Resolution T-8-25: Acceptance of the MORPC Fiscal Year 2026 Planning Work Program
 - Transportation Policy Committee Consent Agenda:
 - Resolution T-7-25: Amending the SFY 2025 Planning Work Program (PWP)
 - Resolution T-9-25: Certification of the MORPC Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process
- **Defense Installations & Regional Partnerships**
 - Proposed Resolution 08-25: Authorizing support for Central Ohio's defense installations and exploration of strategic tools, including Intergovernmental Support Agreements (IGSAs), to strengthen regional partnerships and improve government efficiency
- **Commission Consent Agenda**
 - Resolution 06-25: Authorizing the executive director to file applications with, execute agreements with, and receive funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Transportation

- Resolution 07-25: Authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with Elevate regarding recently awarded Google Grid Innovation grant funding and enter into related subcontracts

SUMMARY OF MORPC'S MONTHLY REPORT: APRIL 2025

- **Transportation & Mobility**

- Register for the Transportation Innovation Forum: *Smart Moves, Efficient Solutions* on Wednesday, June 4, from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m. The forum will focus on innovation in the public sector, supply chain and freight, and transit. Transportation professionals and community leaders will explore forward-thinking, efficient solutions for the region. [Register today.](#)
- Active Transportation: MORPC led sessions at the Ohio Active Transportation Conference and is prepping for the 2025 APBP Virtual Summit.
- Transportation Safety: Co-hosted a traffic safety equity workshop with OSU and Columbus at the Safe Mobility Conference.
- GOHio Commute & Mobility: New rideshare app launches in May 2025, with bike-to-work events, new vanpools, and platform upgrades for GOHio Mobility. Groveport received an accessible vehicle via FTA 5310.
- Passenger Rail: Central Ohio leaders visited Texas; Corridor ID Program, may advance to Step 2 this summer.
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): Work began on 2025 MTP Report Card tools.
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Final TIP aligns with MTP; public comment closed with no changes.
- Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC): Approved final project funding list.
- LinkUS: Finalizing transit infrastructure funding agreements with COTA and partners.

- **Planning & Development**

- Technical Assistance: Provided targeted support to Grove City, Gahanna, Hilliard, and Galena.
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS): Presented bylaws for proposed Economic Development District.
- Regional Housing Strategy: Ongoing community workshops and challenge identification.
- Community-Based Planning (CBPA): Local planning support available; also offering consultant pool, RFP assistance, and staff planners.
- Planner Pool & Consultant Support: Provides zoning, comp plans, public engagement, feasibility studies, and more.

- **Infrastructure & Funding**

- Register for *Securing Our Energy Future: Planning for a High Demand Future*. As part of a new four-part energy forum series, MORPC is bringing together Central Ohio's top energy, regulatory, and economic development experts to help local governments and community leaders navigate the region's evolving energy landscape. Join us on Thursday, June 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., for part II as we continue this important conversation on building a resilient, affordable, and reliable energy future for all. [Register today.](#)
- MORPC-Attributable Funding: Developed a survey to guide policy updates.

- Federal & State Grants: SS4A application for CORPO in development; Brownfield funding application submitted.
 - Ohio Public Works Commission: District 3 discussed SFY 2027 funding updates.
 - Clean Ohio Conservation & Greenspace Funds: \$4.5M (District 3) and \$2.5M (District 17) available; applications due June–September 2025.
 - Money Mondays Series: April topics included grants, state budgets, and banking. May topics: Clean Ohio Fund, federal priorities, and USDA loan programs.
- **Water & Environmental Initiatives**
 - 208 Areawide Water Planning: MORPC advancing toward EPA designation with emphasis on engagement.
 - Regional Water Study: Dashboard launched; May workshop planned with Ohio EPA.
 - Regional Water Advisory Council: First meeting held to prioritize rural/agricultural outreach.
 - Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC): RSA Subcommittee shared strategies and survey; SAC meets in June.
 - Sustainable2050: Welcomed Plain Township; forum planned May 22, 2025.
 - Energy & Air Quality: Upcoming meetings and “Securing Our Energy Future” forum launch; recent air quality webinar hosted.
 - Neighborhood Air Monitoring Project: Public education and outreach underway.
- **Greenways & Outdoor Initiatives**
 - Central Ohio Greenways – BLOOM Project: Submitted green infrastructure expansion proposal using the COG toolkit.
 - Trails & Cycling: Developing a regional cycling guide, leveraging AI for trail safety, and hosting events like Celebrate Trails Day and Outdoor Trails Pass relaunch.
- **Community Engagement & Research**
 - Peer Exchange: Hosted SEMCOG for knowledge sharing April 10–11, 2025.
 - Public Engagement: Promoted regional programs (air quality, trail pass, TIP, etc.); Housing Fair drew hundreds to learn about affordable housing.
 - Regional Data Advisory Committee (RDAC): Preparing for MORPC Insights public launch; collecting feedback and refining educational tools.
 - Data & Research: Enhancing Insights platform and planning public data tools.
 - Building Value & Workshops: STEPZ workshop returns May 20, 2025; service suggestions encouraged.
 - Consultant Services Program: Supporting RFP development and consultant matching for local projects.

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