

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

November 12, 2024

Mayor Laurie Jadwin City of Gahanna 200 S Hamilton Road Gahanna OH. 43230

Re: MORPC 2024 Return on Investment

Dear Honorable Jadwin:

I want to thank you and your community for your continued partnership with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). I am pleased to share the results of your support, and the tremendous spirit of collaboration across this region which led to a year of unprecedented achievements.

We delivered on all four core values: Pay It Forward, Drive Investment, Build Value for Our Members, and Create an Environment for Prosperity which led to consecutive 100% member retention and three new governments including the Village of West Jefferson, the Village of Mount Sterling and Brown Township bringing our total membership to 88 governments!

Build Value for Our Members: We set a record attendance at our State of the Region where local government leaders heard from Majora Carter on transportation and housing development strategies. We hope you join us for the Summit on Sustainability on October 29th where Jeff Speck, a renowned city planner who specializes in making our communities more walkable, will be the keynote speaker.

We convened opportunities for board members to hear and meet with regional leaders such as: President of The Ohio State University Ted Carter, CEO of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority Joe Nardone, Intel's Public Affairs Director Emily Smith, and the Commander of the 121st Air Refueling Wing at Rickenbacker Colonel Andrew Powers. These pre-commission lunches continue to demonstrate that Central Ohio is in the midst of transformational change.

Drive Investment: MORPC secured our largest grant to date, a \$15 million dollar investment to expand EV charging capabilities, which helps our goal to secure a more sustainable future for our region. We collaborated with community partners to secure \$141 million of One-Time Strategic Community Investment Funds and Capital Budget funds that will help 80 projects.

Create an Environment for Prosperity: With passenger rail studies underway to identify station locations, to Transit Supportive Infrastructure planning, Central Ohio is about to bring a whole new

mode of mobility to benefit the region. The changes come with opportunities to use our resources to address quality of life issues such as greater mobility options, more housing for all income levels, and a culture that embraces its diversity of people.

Our economic development team moved swiftly to take advantage of the new Economic Development Designation and assisted 23 communities with grant coordination. Simultaneously, the community-based planning assistance program has 17 requests in the works for direct assistance to local governments further demonstrating the need to leverage our resources in a period of rapid growth.

Pay It Forward: MORPC continues to enhance public service leadership and build capacity for communities. We added a dedicated coordinator to strengthen our connection to career centers producing future public service professionals in a broad range of studies and placed 51 college interns in local governments throughout our region. We were able to expand our educational partnerships to include spouses and children of our member governments in certain programs. Visit www.morpc.org insert MORPC Member Benefits in the search to view the full list of benefits.

We are grateful for the dedication of our MORPC Team, Board Members, Committee Members and community partners, who are working together to grow better as we grow bigger.

I am pleased to report your community received \$28 for every \$1 invested in dues.

Feel free to contact me or Member Services Officer Eileen Leuby with questions about the methodology, our services and programs, or any other questions or ideas.

Thanks again for your membership of MORPC and commitment to making Central Ohio get better as we grow bigger!

Kind regards,

William Murdock, AICP

MORPC Executive Director

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November 12, 2024

City Council Member Trenton Weaver City of Gahanna 200 S Hamilton Rd Gahanna OH. 43230-2919

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