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

*February 17, 2025*

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**MORPC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

- The Commission met on [February 13, 2025](#)
  - [The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2025](#)
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**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- **2025 STATE OF THE REGION**
  - Mark your calendars for the 2025 State of the Region, to be held on Friday, March 21, 2025, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown. During the State of the Region MORPC will highlight community accomplishments and showcase plans for leading the region into the future. Join the region's top political, business and civic leaders at the year's premier event. [Registration is open. Secure your tickets today.](#)
- **STAKEHOLDER SURVEY: CENTRAL OHIO REGIONAL HOUSING COALITION**
  - The Central Ohio Regional Housing Coalition aims to empower stakeholders to address the region's dynamic housing needs and increase the quality of life for both existing and new residents. The purpose of this survey is to allow stakeholders to identify their level of interest and potential role in the work of the Regional Housing Coalition. Click below to take the survey! [Take the Central Ohio Regional Housing Coalition Survey](#)
- **2025-2026 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA**
  - MORPC has released its 2025-2026 Public Policy Agenda, which will guide the agency's advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels. Approved by the Commission in December, this ambitious new agenda was created through a member-driven, collaborative process led by New Albany Mayor Sloan Spalding and the Public Policy [Agenda Working Group. Access the Public Policy Agenda here.](#)
- **FEBRUARY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**
  - Both Congress and the Ohio General Assembly are ramping up activity as both face budget deadlines in the coming months. Meanwhile, executive orders from the White House have paused billions in discretionary grant funding from federal agencies. [Read more in this month's legislative update.](#)
- **JOIN MORPC'S REGIONAL BIKE-TO-WORK DAY COMPETITION**

MORPC Representative Report to City Council

- In celebration of Bike Month, MORPC invites all member governments to participate in a regional Bike-to-Work Day competition on Wednesday, May 14. Participating members will host their own Bike-to-Work Day events at their local offices, with MORPC providing a comprehensive toolkit—featuring marketing materials, bike safety tips, and additional resources—to make your planning efforts a breeze. Fill out this form to provide MORPC with additional information by Feb. 19, 2025. [Once your form is complete, a MORPC staff member will reach out to confirm your participation.](#)
- **2025 SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM ACCEPTING REQUESTS**
  - MORPC provides members with the opportunity to secure talented college students in a variety of majors to complete projects and gain practical work experience in the public sector. MORPC coordinates the recruitment and screening process, orientation, mentor pairings, and supplemental activities, while hosts provide intern(s) an hourly wage. Hosts can request multiple interns and choose how many hours they prefer their intern(s) to work, ranging from 16 to 40 hours a week. [For more information, contact Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer at \[eleuby@morpc.org\]\(mailto:eleuby@morpc.org\) or \(614\) 233-4135, or Alli Mancz, MORPC Intern Program Coordinator, at \[amancz@morpc.org\]\(mailto:amancz@morpc.org\) or \(614\) 233-4164.](#)
- **GOVERNING ESSENTIALS FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS**
  - Ohio University's Voinovich Academy is accepting applications for its Governing Essentials, an introductory course that promotes a high-level understanding of topics essential to effective service at the municipal, township and county levels. Classes begin Friday, Feb. 28. [Learn more here.](#)
- **WEATHERIZATION SERVICES**
  - Did you know that MORPC provides free weatherization services to income-eligible residents in Central Ohio? Customers can access repairs or replacements of furnaces and water heaters, insulation, air sealing, and more. As temperatures drop, access this critical resource to keep warm and safe in your homes this winter. [Learn more here.](#)

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

- **GRANT OF THE MONTH: FEMA BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES (BRIC)**
    - The FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program provides support for state and local governments to reduce hazard risks. \$750 million is available for the current round of funding. [Learn more.](#)
  - **DRIVE INVESTMENT PORTAL**
    - [Visit the Drive Investment Portal for more opportunities.](#)
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## **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.

- **February 24** – U.S. DOT’s Rural and Tribal Community Technical Assistance Grants
- **March 3** – Gohio Commute Program

[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.](#)

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- OHIO UNIVERSITY MASTER OF SUSTAINABILITY, SECURITY, AND RESILIENCE VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
    - Online: Friday, Feb. 22, 12 to 1 p.m.  
Join this virtual open house to discuss the online Master of Sustainability, Security and Resilience degree and environmental studies graduate certificate programs at Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service. Participants can learn about the curriculum, ask questions, and meet Environmental Studies Director Dr. Natalie Kruse. [Register today.](#)
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