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

July 1, 2024

Highlights

MORPC Commission/Committee Meeting:

- MORPC held its monthly commission and committee meetings on Thursday, June 13, 2024. The full meeting packet is available for review [here](#).
- There will not be a monthly commission meeting for July, however, the next meeting will be on Thursday, August 8, 2024.

Join the Public Policy Agenda Working Group:

- MORPC'S Government Affairs team is seeking MORPC members to participate on the 2025-2026 Public Policy Agenda Working Group. This group discusses key policy issues affecting Central Ohio local governments and produces our Public Policy Agenda, which guides our advocacy before the Statehouse and Congress.
- The PPA Working Group will meet monthly from July to September. Click the link to fill out an interest form. [More information here](#).

Legislative Update:

- State lawmakers in both houses have passed a \$6.2 billion Capital Budget, HB 2, which includes appropriating \$700 million in One-Time Strategic Community Investment Funds.
- The Bill also reappropriates nearly \$595 million for the Ohio Public Works Commission. It also imposes a 10% cap on annual funds that district public works integrating committees can give to political subdivisions seeking interest-free or low-interest loans under the State Capital Improvement Program.
- HB 2 will immediately go into effect upon Governor DeWine's signature.

Money Mondays Archive & Upcoming Sessions:

- You can view previous MORPC "Money Mondays" with Regional Investment Officer, Dr. Todd Bradley, on the MORPC YouTube Channel [here](#). These sessions are an opportunity for members to learn more about key funding opportunities. To sign up for upcoming webinars, complete this [registration here](#). Upcoming Money Monday sessions include:

- July 8 – Affordable Housing and Rural Housing Efforts in Lancaster
- July 15 – Working with the Chamber
- July 22 – Village of Somerset Tom Johnson and Trace Johnson
- July 29 – MORPC Planner/Consultant Pool for Members

Upcoming Events

Rural Forum: Housing for All Generations

Wednesday, July 17 at Flying Horse Farms (5260 SR-95, Mount Gilead, OH 43338)

- This forum will focus on changing demographics and the need to expand housing options by having discussions about the convergence of issues contributing to current housing challenges. The agenda will include an examination of the options presented by MORPC's Strategic Initiatives, US RDA, and other subject matter experts. Lunch is included but all participants must register in advance. For more information, contact Eileen Leuby, MORPC Membership Services Officer, eleuby@morpc.org.

Social Media Summit:

Tuesday, August 6 at MORPC (111 Liberty St., Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215)

- Save the date for MORPC's annual Social Media Summit. This year's Summit will focus on a variety of topics related to social media, including misinformation and compelling storytelling through social media. More details are forthcoming and will be posted in the coming weeks.

Safe Streets Central Ohio: Creating Vibrant Communities:

Thursday, September 26 at MORPC at Wigwam Event Center (10190 Blacklick Eastern Rd. Pickerington, OH 43147)

- Safe Streets Central Ohio is an annual event hosted by MORPC in collaboration with key partners to highlight efforts throughout the region to reduce the number of traffic fatalities and severe injuries occurring on our roadways. This event provides an opportunity for local decision-makers, transportation professionals, and public health practitioners, advocates, and other partners to come together to share, learn, and network with a focus on transportation safety. [More information here](#).