



Trenton I. Weaver

Councilmember, Ward 4

Vice President of Council

trenton.weaver@gahanna.gov

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MORPC)
REPRESENTATIVE REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 01, 2025

MORPC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

- The Commission met on November 13, 2025. The meeting was live-streamed.
- [Upcoming Commission Meeting will be held on December 11, 2025.](#)

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

[Read MORPC's full November legislative summary here.](#)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **2025 SALARY SURVEY RESULTS**

MORPC's annual salary survey, featuring data from member governments, is now available.
[View 2025 salary survey results here.](#)

- **AIR QUALITY ALERTS**

MORPC continues to issue alerts during high-pollution days and partners with communities like Gahanna to reduce emissions. [Read more about air quality alerts here.](#)

- **GOHIO COMMUTE**

GOhio Commute supports regional workforce mobility through rideshare programs. [Employers and commuters can learn more about GOhio here.](#)

- **FREE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES**

MORPC provides no-cost home repair and weatherization programs to income-eligible Franklin County residents. 268 homes in the county received free weatherization improvements this year! [Read more about MORPC weatherization and apply here.](#)

- **MIDWEST CONNECT PASSENGER RAIL CORRIDOR ADVANCING TO STEP 2**

MORPC, the City of Fort Wayne, and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission committed \$650,000 in local funds to advance the *Midwest Connect Passenger Rail Corridor*. Approximately \$400,000 of the match was contributed by Ohio communities to support the Chicago–Columbus–Pittsburgh route. [Learn more about passenger rail here.](#)

- **MORPC INSIGHTS DATA PLATFORM**

[Click here to learn more about presentation-ready data and tools on Central Ohio's transportation, sustainability, and housing trends.](#)

- **PODCAST:**

- **GROWING BETTER TOGETHER**

A new podcast explores how Central Ohio can grow better as it gets bigger. [Watch *Growing Better Together* on YouTube or listen wherever you get your podcasts.](#)

- **CONFLUENCE CAST**

MORPC Executive Director William Murdock joined Tim Fulton on the *Confluence Cast* to discuss *LinkUS* implementation, the potential impact of passenger rail, and how communities can manage rapid growth with limited resources. [View Confluence Cast here.](#)

- **REGIONAL CYCLING GUIDE**

Help shape the new cycling guide! MORPC and *Central Ohio Greenways* are updating the regional bikeways map and creating a new 15-county Cycling Guide. They want public input to help shape routes and improve the trail-user experience. [All community members are encouraged to share their thoughts here.](#)

- **SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS**

Switch Together Columbus is a group-buying program for solar and battery systems, open to Central Ohio residents. Registration is free and non-obligatory. [Interested residents can sign up to be notified when the program launches in their area, here.](#)

- **WINTER SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK**

Winter Safety Awareness Week highlights the importance of early preparation for cold-weather hazards. November is an ideal time for Ohioans to assemble emergency kits, create safety plans, and practice winter-readiness measures. [You can learn more about how to prepare for winter here.](#)

KEY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **DRIVE INVESTMENT**

MORPC supports member communities in securing federal funding through tools like the [Drive Investment Portal](#) (curated funding notices and deadlines) and *GrantFinder* (a real-time database of grants). MORPC also partners on regionwide applications. [Please use this form to request a letter of support.](#) Contact Eileen Leuby (eleuby@morpc.org) for more information.

UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

- **OHIO UNIVERSITY MASTER OF SUSTAINABILITY, SECURITY & RESILIENCE – VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE**

December 2, 2025 – Ohio University will host a virtual open house from 12–1 p.m. to share information about its online *Master of Sustainability, Security, and Resilience* and related certificate programs. MORPC member employees receive a 15% tuition discount. [You can learn more about Ohio University's program webinar.](#)

- **DATA FOR ACCESS & OPPORTUNITY WEBINAR SERIES**

December 5, 2025 – This webinar highlights how data can meaningfully drive action in health and human services, featuring practice-based analytics and modeling from the *Community Information Exchange Initiative*. [You can register for the next online session here.](#)

- **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

December 8, 2025 – MORPC's *Public Participation Plan* is open for public comment. You are invited to share your thoughts on transportation planning. Comments may be submitted by email to info@morpc.org or in writing to MORPC by 5 p.m. on Monday, December 8, 2025. [You can learn more about public participation opportunities here.](#)

- RESIDENTIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (REDD) GRANT

The Ohio Department of Development released guidance for the new *REDD Grant Program*, which supports residential development in communities within 20 miles of major economic projects that have adopted pro-housing policies. [Learn more about REDD here.](#)

Key Dates:

- December 16, 10 a.m. – Application Opens
- January 16, 5 p.m. – Application Closes

- REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

December 17, 2025 – MORPC’s academy capstone will examine the pros and cons of Ohio’s economic development tools, including TIF, CRA, EZ, JEDD, and NCA, and how communities can use them to finance infrastructure and support sustainable growth. [Register for the academy here.](#)

- DATA DAY 2026

February 10, 2026 – *Data Day 2026* will be at Columbus State Community College, which will convene 200+ participants on regional data and equity initiatives. [For more information on Data Day or to register, click here](#) or contact Padmini Roy-Dixon at proydixon@morpc.org.

MEMBER BENEFITS

MORPC’s *Community-Based Planning Assistance* program helps member communities plan for the future through tailored support and resources. This service streamlines access to planning tools and expertise. [Complete the Request Form to discuss your community’s needs.](#)

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.](#)

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