



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

R05-20-A-046

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
morpc.org

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TTY. 1.800.750.0750  
info@morpc.org

**NARRATIVE INFORMATION SHEET**  
**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)**  
**FY2020 EPA Assessment Grant**

1. Applicant Identification:  
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, Ohio 43215
2. Federal Funds Requested:
  - a) Assessment Grant type: Coalition
  - b) Federal Funds Requested: \$600,000
  - c) Contamination: \$500,000 Hazardous Substances; \$100,000 Petroleum
3. Location: Franklin County (Coalition Member) and 14 other counties: Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Hocking, Knox, Licking, Logan, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, Ross, Union
4. Property information for site specific proposal: NA
5. Contacts:
  - a) **Project Director:**  
Ms. Thea Walsh, Transportation and Infrastructure Development Director, MORPC  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614.228.2663, email: [twalsh@morpc.org](mailto:twalsh@morpc.org)
  - b) **Chief Executive:**  
Mr. William Murdock, Executive Director of MORPC  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614.228.2663; E-mail: [wmurdock@morpc.org](mailto:wmurdock@morpc.org)
6. Population (Communities in which Target Areas/Priority Sites are located):  
Franklin Township: 10,349 (*Franklin Township Website - 2017*)  
Columbus: 895,877 (*census.gov – 2018*)  
Hamilton and Madison Townships: 8,770 (*Hamilton Township Website – 2017*) and 25,712 (*Madison Township Website – 2017*)

**William Murdock, AICP**  
Executive Director

**Rory McGuinness**  
Chair

**Karen J. Angelou**  
Vice Chair

**Erik J. Janas**  
Secretary

7. Other Factors Checklist:

Other Factors	Page #
Community population is 10,000 or less.	n/a
The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.	n/a
The priority brownfield site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land.	n/a
The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the border of the priority site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street, road, or other public thoroughfare separating them).	n/a
The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.	n/a
The redevelopment of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy; or any energy efficiency improvement projects.	n/a
30% or more of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse planning activities for priority brownfield site(s) within the target area.	n/a

8. Letter from State or Tribal Environmental Authority: Attached





Department  
of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal

Sheryl Masfield, Director

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor



November 15 , 2019

Matt Didier  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Mail Code SE-7J  
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

**RE: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Community Wide Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant Proposal**

Dear Mr. Didier:

This letter acknowledges that the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, in coalition with the Central Ohio Transit Authority and Franklin County, notified the Office of the Fire Marshal, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) of its plans to use \$100,000 of the larger \$600,000 grant proposal for a community-wide brownfield assessment for petroleum waste. The remainder of the proposed grant amount will be used for hazardous substances investigation. The targeted areas for this grant include the former industrialized South End Corridor, Hilltop Neighborhood in the West Broad Street Corridor, which contains a vacant 88-acre mall and other dilapidated buildings. Goals of the grant include assessment of blighted areas, improving and protecting the environment, the protection of resident populations, job growth and to encourage improvements to regional transit corridors.

I am pleased to offer BUSTR's support for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's Community Wide-Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant proposal. We look forward to working with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, the Central Ohio Transit Authority and Franklin County and the U.S.EPA on this project.

Sincerely,

Verne A. Ord  
Assistant Chief – BUSTR  
Division of State Fire Marshal  
Ohio Department of Commerce

xc: Site File  
William Murdock, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



Mike DeWine, Governor  
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor  
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

November 25, 2019

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5  
ATTN: Matt Didier  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Mail Code SB-5J  
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

**RE: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Community-Wide Coalition Assessment Grant**

Dear Mr. Didier:

I am pleased to offer Ohio EPA's support for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Community Wide Coalition Assessment Grant Proposal. The Coalition, comprised of MORPC, the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), and Franklin County, is applying for a community-wide assessment grant totaling \$600,000. We have worked with the County in the past and hope to provide support to the Coalition under the Assessment, Cleanup and Revolving Loan Fund Grant program established by the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfield Revitalization Act (P.L. 107-118).

The funding the Coalition is requesting under their community wide assessment grant proposal will be used to create an inventory priority, conduct environmental assessments and prepare cleanup planning documents. The Coalition will leverage subsequent funding from other sources such as JobsOhio and the Ohio Abandoned Gas Station Fund, as well as federal and private sources. The Coalition will also take advantage of Ohio EPA TBA resources and grant-funded technical assistance. The Insight 2050 Corridor Concepts Study Report identified five transportation corridors that are key to redevelopment, jobs growth and economic growth in the region. One of these corridors is the heavily industrialized "South End Corridor" which is littered with hundreds of acres of brownfields that are vacant or at best vastly underutilized. The "Hilltop Neighborhood" in the West Broad Street Corridor contains an 88-acre vacant mall and numerous blighted buildings. Given their locations in transportation corridors and opportunity zones and the presence of infrastructure, the target areas are a focus of the Coalition to encourage infill redevelopment in and around the corridors and create job opportunities for their citizens.

We look forward to working with the MORPC Coalition and U.S. EPA on this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-644-2295 or via e-mail at [Lisa.Shook@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:Lisa.Shook@epa.ohio.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Shook".

Lisa Shook, Manager  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
Voluntary Action Program

cc: Thea Walsh, MORPC  
Debbie Strayton, Ohio EPA, DERR/CDO

## NARRATIVE/RANKING CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT GRANTS

### 1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

#### a. Target Area and Brownfields

*(i) Background and Description of Target Area:* The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is the lead applicant for a Coalition that includes the Central Ohio Transportation Authority (COTA) and Franklin County (the County). MORPC is Central Ohio's regional council for more than 70 members comprised of counties, cities, villages, townships, and regional organizations. The Coalition's goal is to grow regional capacity to support brownfield redevelopment and economic revitalization of older industrial areas throughout the region with priority given to five corridors described in MORPC's Insight 2050 Corridor Concept Plan (Section 1.b.i). The corridors, three of which contain the target areas (TAs), are in the jurisdictions of all three Coalition Members. The Central Ohio region is centered on the City of Columbus and the inner-ring towns surrounding it. Since the early 1900s, the Region has been a hub for transportation and commerce. By the 1940s, it had also become a major manufacturing hub. The mid-20<sup>th</sup> century construction of Interstate Freeways that crisscross the Region, in particular Columbus and its' inner-ring towns, led to rapid suburban development. It also exacerbated the isolation, and subsequently health and welfare, of minority and sensitive populations who continued to live close to the brownfields. The scale of the brownfields problem is hard to appreciate without driving through neighborhoods and former industrial areas and seeing the seemingly endless number of derelict industrial facilities and vacant, blighted buildings that line roadways. According to a 2017 report by the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio, between 2000 and 2013, the Columbus metro area had the greatest growth in suburban poverty, 113.6%, among all Ohio major metro areas. The Housing Alliance further reported that of the ten occupations in the Columbus metro area with the most annual openings, only one, registered nurses, has a median wage that meets or exceeds the 2016 housing wage (\$15.98/hour).

The Coalition's objective is to focus grant funds on addressing brownfields in three TAs. The **Hilltop TA** (Census Tract (CT) 82.30), in the West Broad Corridor is home to numerous vacant, blighted buildings and impoverished residents living in low-income apartments. The **Linden TA** (CT 75.34), in the Northeast Corridor, primarily residential and commercial, contains several blighted, vacant buildings in its commercial districts. It is home to one of the highest concentrations of minority residents, 76.6% (2013-2017 *American Community Survey (ACS)*), in the Region. The **Rickenbacker TA** (CT 103.00), in the Southeast Corridor, is home to an active warehouse/industrial district, the Rickenbacker International Airport, and hundreds of acres of now-vacant land historically part of the former Rickenbacker Air Force Base. Nearly 90% of dwellings are rentals (2013-2017 *ACS*).

*(ii) Description of the Priority Brownfield Sites(s):* The **Hilltop TA** is in Franklin Township, immediately west of the Columbus city limits and proximate to the former GM Delphi Plant. **The former Westland Mall** is the **priority site** in this TA. It is an 88-acre site constructed in the 1960s that has been vacant since mall operations ended in 2012. The mall included a Sears Auto Center and Firestone Auto Center. Because the mall was constructed in 1961, it likely contains asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). Former auto center operations likely resulted in the release of oils, solvents and lubricating fluids to soil and groundwater. Contaminants likely include volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and metals. The site is adjacent to a low-income apartment complex. Westland Mall was chosen as a Priority Site because it is within a district targeted for redevelopment as new retail and commercial uses that will be supported and accessed by existing and planned mass transit in the corridor.

The **Linden TA** began to experience the effects of depopulation in the 1960s and as a result, many buildings were demolished and became vacant land or parking lots. The **priority site** in

this area is a blighted and vacant 5-acre parcel most recently used as a retail **Distribution Center** that was constructed in 1969. Historical uses are not known. It is adjacent to light industrial / warehousing and a low-income, majority minority neighborhood. This site was chosen as a Priority Site because it provides a setting for new businesses to which local residents can walk or drive to for jobs.

The ***Rickenbacker TA*** is at the southern terminal point of the Southeast Corridor. The **priority site** consists of approximately 100 acres of now vacant land historically occupied by Rickenbacker Air Force Base (AFB). Specifically, a **Munitions Bunker and Target Ranges** occupied the site. Likely contaminants from large-scale munitions storage and discharge of shell casings include antimony, arsenic, copper, lead, mercury and PAHs. This site was chosen as a Priority Site because it is adjacent to the Rickenbacker Airport, a key midwest air cargo and intermodal hub and will provide space for new logistics centers and provide good-paying job opportunities for its nearby low-income residents who live in rental properties.

#### **b. Revitalization of the Target Area**

**(i) Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans:** Working groups comprised of over 80 local representatives participated in a series of project wide and corridor-specific workshop sessions to provide input on local and regional priorities, highlighting community needs and visions for new development as part of the **Insight 2050 Corridor Concept Plan (CCP)**.

Working group members guided the creation of detailed growth options for each of the five corridors, where new high-capacity transit is already in place and/or planned. The plan envisions new growth as compact, walkable, mixed use development, with moderate to high densities along the corridors. Residential growth will take place in mixed use centers and neighborhoods along the corridors and throughout the region, answering market demand for walkable access to amenities. New employment growth will be focused in mixed-use centers along the corridors, and infill locations in and around neighborhoods, cities and towns.

Franklin County also has a Strategic Plan (County SP). Its primary goals are to assist Franklin County's communities prepare for anticipated job and population change, promote quality work opportunities in the County, reduce disparities and expand economic inclusion among County residents and create an environment that encourages commercial activities, and increase the tax base. To support these Plans' goals, the Coalition will use grant funds to assess **priority sites** in the TAs as summarized below.

The projected redevelopment for the **Westland Mall** priority site includes new retail and/or commercial businesses. The proposed redevelopment aligns with the CCP goal to support employment growth in mixed-use centers and the County's goals to expand economic inclusion for County residents.

The **Distribution Center** priority site will be put into reuse as a warehouse or distribution center. This directly aligns with the CCP goal to promote employment opportunities in neighborhood infill locations and the County's goal to expand economic inclusion among County residents.

The proposed redevelopment for the former **Munitions Bunker and Target Ranges** priority site is as a "shovel ready" site for modern logistics centers. This aligns with the CCP goals to support moderate density redevelopment in the corridors and the County's objective to establish a thriving business environment that provides employment opportunities and enhances County and local tax bases.

**(ii) Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy:** The priority sites (Franklin County CTs 75.34, 82.30, and 103.00), as well as large portions of the TAs are in Opportunity Zones (OZs). Ohio has created a web-based portal for communities to post information about sites available for redevelopment in their OZs. The County (Coalition Member) will post data to the State website about priority sites and other assessed sites to connect potential investors to the communities and sites.

According to CCP projections for 2050, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields in corridors, including the TAs, will result in additional annual average tax revenues (local income taxes,

property taxes and sales taxes) of \$40K/acre compared to \$14K/acre if greenfields elsewhere in the region were developed. The projected annual tax revenues for 2050 for the TAs are as follows: **Hilltop TA:** \$124K/acre, a 790% increase over current revenue; **Linden TA:** \$117K/acre, a 735% increase over current revenue; **Rickenbacker TA:** \$61.6K/acre, a 335% increase over current revenue.

Non-economic benefits throughout the TAs and corridors include: 1) by implementing the CCP, more than 100 acres of farmland that would have otherwise been lost to new development will be preserved and 2) long-term greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced 15% to 20%.

### **c. Strategy for Leveraging Resources**

**(i) Resources Needed for Site Reuse:** The County (Coalition Member) has experience with Ohio grant and loan programs that encourage redevelopment. In addition, Ms. Thea Walsh with MORPC previously worked for the Ohio EPA (Section 4.a.ii). Ohio EPA's Site Assistance and Brownfield Revitalization (SABR) facilitates brownfield redevelopment. SABR's Technical Assistance (TA) program provides grant funding to help guide brownfields through Ohio's Voluntary Action Program (VAP). JobsOhio drives job creation and new capital investment in Ohio through business attraction, retention and expansion efforts; they maintain a Revitalization Program Loan and Grant Fund that provides moneys for assessment and cleanup of selected Brownfield sites, with a high priority placed on projects that support *near term* job creation opportunities for Ohioans. Revitalization Loans up to \$5 million are available to support the acceleration of redeveloping sites in Ohio and Revitalization Grants, typically up to \$1 million, are coupled with Revitalization Loans to fill funding gaps. MORPC and County staff will use their experience with Ohio EPA funding mechanisms to apply for these funds, as appropriate, throughout the performance period. EPA assessment grant funds will provide strategic assessments to complement the tactical cleanup funding available to the Coalition from the State.

**(ii) Use of Existing Infrastructure:** Implementation of the Corridor Concept Plan, which includes more infill development and less new land consumption is projected, through 2050, to save \$10 billion in cumulative costs for infrastructure capital, operations, and maintenance. The TAs and the priority sites, located in key transportation corridors, contain the required infrastructure to support most types of redevelopments and the revitalization plans discussed in Section 1.b.i. Directing grant funds to these priority sites and target areas will facilitate the use of existing infrastructure during redevelopment activities.

## **2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **a. Community Need**

**(i) Community Need for Funding:** Communities have experienced long-term funding challenges since 2011, when State House Bill 153 dramatically reduced operating appropriations to local governments. The direct result for Franklin County, home to the TAs, has been a decrease of more than 50% in annual intergovernmental revenue. Since at least 2015, over half of the County's annual budget was allocated to justice and public safety, and less than 17% was available for general government operations, which includes economic development (*Franklin County Ofc. of Mgt. & Budget*). This scenario holds true for other Counties and communities throughout the region. The second component of financial need is the available revenues Communities have to operate and support redevelopment. Residential vacancy rates are 10% in the County, and range from 12% to 52% in the TAs (*2013-2017 ACS*). The only reason tax revenue has remained steady since 2013 is because of a permanent increase in the County sales tax. Because budgets for vital municipal services (fire, police, etc.) must be preserved while budgets and workforces shrink, Coalition communities have limited resources to support brownfields assessment or redevelopment. The EPA assessment grant will provide funds not otherwise available to begin site assessment and cleanup planning efforts.

### **(ii) Threats to Sensitive Populations**

**Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations:** The TAs are environmental justice communities based on high concentrations of minority and impoverished residents (*2013-2017 ACS*). Residents

throughout the TAs have been disproportionately impacted by the environmental pollution (air, soil, and groundwater) emanating from the priority brownfields and the thousands of additional brownfields that are located in every neighborhood. Minority populations in the TAs range from 14.4% to 38.8% to 76.6% compared to 12.3% for the State and 12.7% for the U.S. Poverty rates for families with minor children average 56% in the TAs, compared to 24.2% and 21.3% for the County and State, respectively (2013-2017 ACS). Similarly, the percentage of households in the TAs who relied on Food Stamps in 2017 ranged from 48.6% to 65.6% (2013-2017 ACS). The U.S. EPA’s Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (EJSCREEN) rates the TAs as worse than 63% to 82% of the country with respect to air quality (e.g., ozone, particulate matter) environmental indicators. The assessment grant will help identify brownfields contributing to environmental justice issues and provide a kick-start to redevelopment that will lead to increased job opportunities for the County’s and regions poorest residents.

**Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions:** Key indicators for greater than normal incidence of disease and adverse health conditions are presented below. Data is not available below the County level. Data is from the 2018 Franklin County Health Needs Assessment, unless otherwise noted.

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Franklin County</b>	<b>Ohio</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
% Low Birth Weight	9.2%	8.6%	8.0%
% Preterm Births	13.2%	12.3%	11.5%
% Food Insecure Households <sup>1</sup>	17.7%	17.2%	15.9%
Lung cancer deaths <sup>2</sup>	52.3	54.6	43.4
Chronic resp. disease deaths <sup>2</sup>	53.2	51.1	42.1
Stroke deaths <sup>2</sup>	43.8	41.7	38.0
% Children with asthma <sup>3</sup>	15.8%	14.2%	7.1%

<sup>1</sup>as defined by USDA; <sup>2</sup>cases per 100,000 population; <sup>3</sup> Ohio Department of Health, 2016

As shown in the above table, low birth weights and pre-term births correlate with the percentage of food insecure households. Deaths from lung cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and stroke in the County are 17%, 21% and 13% higher, respectively, than the U.S. Residents are chronically impacted from their daily exposure to uncontrolled exposures to contaminated soil, groundwater, and vacant buildings containing hazardous materials in close proximity to their homes, parks, and daily travel to schools, shopping, and churches. The assessment grant will help identify brownfield sites that are directly contributing to greater than normal incidence of disease and adverse health conditions in the County’s sensitive populations, and target those sites for cleanup and redevelopment.

**Disproportionately Impacted Populations:** Regional efforts to address the effects of a steady decrease in employment opportunities, income levels, and tax revenues are thwarted by the ever-increasing number of abandoned sites and brownfields. The presence of brownfields throughout neighborhoods creates areas of blight and decreases property values; median home values in the TAs range from \$50K to \$86.3K compared to the U.S. median value of \$193,500 (2013-2017 ACS). While unemployment numbers in the TAs have improved since 2010, the types of jobs people do have pay less. As a result, median household income in the TAs as well as the County is virtually unchanged from 2010 to 2017 (2013-2017 ACS), while poverty rates in the TAs range from 23.6% to 46.1%. This environmental injustice is made worse because the impoverished residents impacted by brownfields can’t afford to move away from them. Use of assessment grant funds will help stop the creeping blight in the TAs and provide a mechanism to begin redevelopment that will add jobs, improve home values and contribute to economic growth.

**b. Community Engagement**

**(i) and (ii) Project Partners and Project Partner Roles:** The partners listed below represent over 100 entities who will be engaged in eligible grant activities. Coalition Members have long collaborated with these partners to assist communities throughout the region.



Partner Name	Point of contact	Specific role in the project
<p><b>Developers, Real Estate Professionals</b> identify potential site users for developable brownfield sites in the region.</p>	<p>Eric Wagenbrenner, Thrive Companies, <a href="mailto:ewagenbrenner@thrivecos.com">ewagenbrenner@thrivecos.com</a>, 614-545-9247</p> <p>Joe McCabe, WODA Cooper Co., <a href="mailto:jmccabe@wodagroup.com">jmccabe@wodagroup.com</a>, 219- 841-5583</p>	<p>Assist in redevelopment efforts by marketing priority and other assessed sites to companies and businesses.</p>
<p><b>Community Foundations and Organizations</b> represent a myriad of community outreach and support initiatives in the region.</p> <p>*Neighborhood groups in the TAs.</p>	<p>Pastor John Edgar, Community Development 4 All, <a href="mailto:jedgar@4allpeople.net">jedgar@4allpeople.net</a>, 614-445-7342</p> <p>Doug Kridler, The Columbus Foundation, <a href="mailto:dkridler@columbusfoundation.org">dkridler@columbusfoundation.org</a>, 614-251-4000</p> <p>*Jay McCallister, Greater Hilltop Area Neighborhood Commission (NC), <a href="mailto:jmccallister@ghac@sbcglobal.net">jmccallister@ghac@sbcglobal.net</a></p> <p>*John Lathram, N. Linden NC, <a href="mailto:john.lathram@gmail.com">john.lathram@gmail.com</a></p> <p>*Erin Synk, Southside NC, <a href="mailto:eesynk@yahoo.com">eesynk@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p>Provide networks to communicate site selection, cleanup and redevelopment activities to minority and low-income neighborhoods. During cleanup/ redevelopment activities, identify and leverage other funding programs.</p>
<p><b>Columbus COC</b> represents and promotes the region’s businesses and encourages business and industrial investment.</p>	<p>Holly Gross, <a href="mailto:hollygross@columbus.org">hollygross@columbus.org</a>, 614-221-1321</p>	<p>Inform businesses about grant funds, and future cleanup and redevelopment potential of assessed brownfield sites.</p>
<p><b>Economic Development / Lenders</b> support business growth and attract new, quality investment.</p>	<p>Curtiss Williams, Central OH CIC – Land Bank, <a href="mailto:cwilliams@cocic.org">cwilliams@cocic.org</a>, 614-724-5263</p> <p>Reggie Thomas, Huntington Bank-Community Dev., <a href="mailto:reggie.thomas@huntington.com">reggie.thomas@huntington.com</a> 614-480-6483</p>	<p>ID sites to be selected for assessment; ID &amp; leverage other funding programs. Provide financing for high-impact community redevelopment projects.</p>

**(iii) Incorporating Community Input:** During formation of the Insight 5050 Corridor Concepts Plan (CCP) and Franklin County’s Strategic Plan (County SP), regional forums with citizens from varying backgrounds, key focus groups and the community partners described above were conducted. This citizen feedback guided the development of the CCP and County SP visions and goals. The Coalition will build on this approach for community involvement in the grant project. The main stakeholders will be residents/property owners, community/citizens groups, nearby business organizations, and the lenders and developers conducting or supporting the actual work. The plan to involve stakeholders will include three primary efforts: **1) MORPC will announce the Grant award** in a press release to the local newspaper and in an ad placed on local radio stations and the local Public Access Television station to reach residents at all education and access levels. The announcement will also be posted on Coalition Member’s websites and social media (Facebook and Twitter) pages. Key community partners (Section 2.b.i) will be given information to distribute and place on their websites. **2) Coalition Members will host an initial outreach and “kick-off” meeting** to acquaint key community organizations, environmental organizations, educational institutions, and the media with the grant project. The Coalition will

ask stakeholders to identify additional brownfields they feel are impacting their health and welfare. These sites will be added to the Coalition’s list of potential sites for funding. Meeting outcomes will be distributed through Coalition Member’s websites and community social media pages and a newsletter. **3) The Coalition will continue communication with stakeholders.** Additional public meetings and presentations will be coordinated by Coalition members as requested by community organizations. At the close of the project, the Coalition will hold a public meeting to share project outcomes. Presentation materials and minutes will be archived and placed on the coalition’s websites and social media pages. Social media and other innovative methods will be used to reach out to and gather input from the general public.

If requested, news releases, web postings, written materials, etc. will be available in other languages for residents whose first language is not English (3.6% of residents, 2013-2017 ACS).

**3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS**

**a. Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs:** The following four tasks will be implemented to assess priority sites in the TAs and other high-risk and developable sites (i.e., non-priority sites) identified during the 3-year performance period.

<p><b>Task 1 – Programmatic and Outreach</b></p>
<p><b><u>i. Project Implementation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Work Plan will be prepared.</li> <li>• The Cooperative Agreement (CA) will be executed.</li> <li>• A Qualified Environmental Professional(s) (QEP) will be retained in compliance with applicable federal procurement regulations.</li> <li>• Quarterly reports will be submitted to the U.S. EPA; the Assessment, Cleanup, and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) will be updated; annual MBE/WBE reports will be submitted and final project closeout documentation will be submitted.</li> <li>• Staff will attend brownfields training programs.</li> <li>• A project “kick-off” meeting will be hosted by MORPC.</li> <li>• Community outreach activities will continue.</li> <li>• Assistance will be requested from County health departments as appropriate throughout the performance period to understand and prioritize health risks at brownfield sites identified for assessment.</li> <li>• In-kind Coalition Member staff time for document preparation and travel will be contributed for amounts over those accounted for in 3.b.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>ii. Anticipated Schedule</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Work Plan will be prepared within 1 month of receiving notification of the grant award.</li> <li>• The CA will be executed within 3 months of award.</li> <li>• A QEP will be retained within 3 months of award.</li> <li>• Quarterly reports will be submitted within 30 days of the end of the quarterly reporting period and ACRES will be updated as priority and non-priority sites are assessed. ACRES will subsequently be updated with cleanup and/or redevelopment information during and/or after the performance period. MBE/WBE reports will be submitted annually. Final project closeout documentation will be submitted as required once the performance period ends.</li> <li>• Staff will attend brownfields training programs as available during the grant period.</li> <li>• “Kick-off” meeting will be held within 1 month of receiving notification of the grant award.</li> <li>• Community outreach activities will continue throughout the performance period.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>iii. Task/Activity Lead</u></b></p> <p>MORPC, with assistance from Coalition members, will be responsible for day-to-day programmatic oversight and outreach activities throughout the performance period.</p>
<p><b><u>iv. Outputs</u></b></p>

Work Plan, CA, quarterly reports (12); ACRES updates; final project closeout documentation; staff training; public meetings and development of outreach materials.
<b>Task 2 – Site Inventory</b>
<p><b><u>i. Project Implementation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional (non-priority) sites will be evaluated for assessment based on the following: 1) sites identified as an imminent threat to public health or the environment; 2) high-opportunity brownfields that will help the Coalition achieve its brownfields program goals; and 3) brownfields identified as high-priority by communities served by Coalition Members.</li> <li>• Non-priority sites will be added to the inventory.</li> <li>• In-kind Coalition Member staff time and travel will be contributed for amounts over those accounted for in 3.b.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>ii. Anticipated Schedule</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prioritization system will be developed within 3 months of grant award.</li> <li>• Non-priority sites will be added to the inventory throughout the 3-year performance period.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>iii. Task/Activity Lead</u></b></p> <p>MORPC will be the lead and work with Coalition Members and QEP(s) to update/maintain existing inventory of brownfield sites.</p>
<p><b><u>iv. Outputs</u></b></p> <p>Updated brownfields inventory and prioritization.</p>
<b>Task 3 – Site Assessment</b>
<p><b><u>i. Project Implementation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority sites (and additional non-priority sites identified during the performance period) will be evaluated through performance of Phase I and/or Phase II assessments, conducted in accordance with All Appropriate Inquiry (ASTM Standard E1527-13) and other ASTM standards/practices. Health and Safety Plans (HASPs) will be prepared for each site.</li> <li>• The selected QEP(s) will prepare a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and submit it to the U.S. EPA for approval.</li> <li>• Assessments on both priority and other sites following securing site access will continue.</li> <li>• The Coalition and QEP(s) will meet to ensure required site access has been secured, individual assessments are progressing, and the overall project schedule is met.</li> <li>• In-kind Coalition staff time will be contributed for site access and assessment scheduling coordination.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>ii. Anticipated Schedule</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase I and/or Phase II assessments will continue throughout the performance period.</li> <li>• Assessments will begin once the selected QEP(s) receives U.S. EPA approval of their QAPP (depends on EPA timing but is anticipated within 3 months of QEP selection).</li> <li>• Assessments on both priority and other sites following securing site access will continue throughout the performance period.</li> <li>• The Coalition and QEP(s) will meet monthly to ensure required site access has been secured, individual projects are progressing, and the overall project schedule is met.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>iii. Task/Activity Lead</u></b></p> <p>The QEP(s) will lead this task.</p>
<p><b><u>iv. Outputs</u></b></p> <p>1 QAPP and an anticipated 37 completed Phase I, HMA, and Phase II ESA reports.</p>
<b>Task 4 – Cleanup Planning</b>
<p><b><u>i. Project Implementation</u></b></p>

- Cleanup/ redevelopment planning as required by various state of Ohio programs for sites (both priority and additional sites that are assessed using the grant) where redevelopment is imminent. Assessment of brownfields cleanup/redevelopment alternatives, evaluation of needed institutional and engineering controls, and preparation of cleanup and reuse plans.

**ii. Anticipated Schedule**

Cleanup planning will be conducted at priority sites and other sites following completion of the associated assessment activities and will continue throughout the performance period.

**iii. Task/Activity Lead**

The QEP(s) will lead this task.

**iv. Outputs**

Outputs include at least 9 cleanup planning documents.

**b. Cost Estimates:** Approximately 79% of the \$600K (\$500K HS; \$100K petroleum) budget will go directly to site assessment activities; less than 5% will go to indirect costs, and none to direct administrative costs. No expenses will be incurred for equipment or fringe benefits.

**Task 1 – Programmatic and Outreach:**

- Personnel costs: 555 hours at average rate of \$50/hour = \$27,750 (HS at \$23,000; petroleum at \$4,750) for updating and maintaining brownfields information.
- Travel costs: \$6,100 (HS at \$4,500; petroleum at \$1,600) for 3 people’s attendance at one U.S. EPA Brownfields Conference (\$5,500) and 1 person’s attendance at one other brownfields training program (\$600).
- Supplies: \$503 (HS at \$277; petroleum at \$226) for paper, printing, etc. to produce project information and outreach materials.
- Contractual: \$18,200 (HS at \$11,000; petroleum at \$7,200) for consultant assistance on technical summaries for quarterly reports, updating and maintaining ACRES, monthly progress meeting, conducting community involvement and outreach meetings.

**Task 2 - Site Inventory and Prioritization:**

- Personnel: 74 hours at average rate of \$50/hour = \$3,700 (hazardous substances at \$2,700; petroleum at \$1,000) for meetings with stakeholders regarding site inventory and prioritization.
- Contractual: \$7,250 (hazardous substances at \$4,250; petroleum at \$3,000) to assist in site selection and prioritization.

**Task 3 – Site Assessment:**

- Contractual:
  - 17 Phase I ESAs (HS) at average cost of \$4,000 and 3 Phase I ESAs (petroleum) at average cost of \$4,000 = \$80,000
  - 10 Phase II ESAs (HS) at average cost of \$30,000 = \$300,000
  - 2 Phase II ESAs (petroleum) at average cost of \$30,000 = \$60,000
  - 5 Hazardous Materials Assessments (HS) at average cost of \$6,000 = \$30,000
  - 1 QAPP (split between HS at \$1,000; petroleum at \$1,000) = \$2,000

**Task 4 – Cleanup Planning:**

- Contractual costs: 8 cleanup and reuse plans (HS) and 1 plan (petroleum) at average cost of \$4,000 = \$36,000.

Budget Categories		Hazardous Substances Project Tasks (\$)				Total
		Task 1 Programmatic, Outreach	Task 2 Inventory, Prioritization	Task 3 Phase I, Phase II	Task 4 Cleanup Planning	
Direct Costs	Personnel (non-admin)	\$23,000	\$2,700			\$25,700
	Travel	\$4,500				\$4,500
	Supplies	\$277				\$277
	Contractual	\$11,000	\$4,250	\$399,000	\$32,000	\$446,250
Total Direct Costs-HS		\$38,777	\$6,950	\$399,000	\$32,000	\$476,727
Indirect Costs-HS		\$20,895	\$2,378			\$23,273
<b>Total HS Budget (Direct + Indirect Costs)</b>		<b>\$59,672</b>	<b>\$9,328</b>	<b>\$399,000</b>	<b>\$32,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>
		Petroleum Project Tasks (\$)				
Direct Costs	Personnel (non-admin)	\$4,750	\$1,000			\$5,750
	Travel	\$1,600				\$1,600
	Supplies	\$226				\$226
	Contractual	\$7,200	\$3,000	\$73,000	\$4,000	\$87,200
Total Direct Costs-Petro		\$13,776	\$4,000	\$73,000	\$4,000	\$94,776
Indirect Costs-Petro <sup>1</sup>		\$4,197	\$1,027			\$5,224
<b>Total Petro Budget (Direct + Indirect Costs)</b>		<b>\$17,973</b>	<b>\$5,027</b>	<b>\$73,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>Total Budget (HS + Petro)</b>		<b>\$77,645</b>	<b>\$14,355</b>	<b>\$472,000</b>	<b>\$36,000</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>

**c. Measuring Environmental Results:** The Coalition will track, measure and report outputs (e.g., the number of completed Phase I and Phase II ESAs and public meetings) and outcomes (e.g., acres of land assessed; land remediated and redeveloped; number of jobs created or retained; tax revenue generated; redevelopment investment value; and other funding leveraged) in ACRES. The actual outputs will be compared to the estimated number of outputs listed in Section 3.b. The Coalition will document outcomes/outputs that cannot be easily entered into ACRES (i.e., website updates, staff training, community outreach/meetings) in quarterly reports. The Coalition will evaluate the project progress semi-annually and, if goals are not being met, will meet with local stakeholders and the QEP(s) to discuss the shortcomings and adjust the project approach.

#### **4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE**

**a. Programmatic Capability (i) Organizational Structure:** MORPC will be the grantee and administrator and the Coalition members (MORPC, COTA, Franklin County) will be the decision-making body during the 3-year performance period. The Coalition will develop their Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), already agreed upon in principle, upon award of the grant. MORPC will execute the Cooperative Agreement (CA) and ensure compliance to the CA, as well as be responsible for financial tracking, outreach to stakeholders and liability management. Coalition Members and Community Partners will provide input on site prioritization, land assembly, and other regional economic impacts throughout the 3-performance period.

**(ii) Description of Key Staff:** Ms. Thea Walsh, Transportation and Infrastructure Development Director for MORPC will be the project manager. Ms. Walsh has more than a decade of experience working in the former Clean Ohio assessment and remediation program. She will

coordinate all Coalition internal communication, meeting scheduling and conference calls. Chief Fiscal Officer Susan Tsen has 32 years of professional accounting experience. She will prepare programmatic financial and compliance reporting documents. Ms. Niel Jurist, MORPC Director of Communications & Engagement will use her extensive network of community contacts in the TAs and Region to generate community outreach opportunities relating to brownfield assessment. Mr. Aaron Schill, Director of Data & Mapping will maintain and update Brownfield Inventory, GIS and ACRES.

Ms. Kimberly Sharp, Senior Director of Development with COTA (Coalition Member) will serve as Coalition's assistant project manager. Ms. Sharp manages COTA's corridor planning efforts and has 20 years of experience in community planning and redevelopment. She has experience working with site selectors, developers, and community members and will provide outreach to these stakeholders, as appropriate. She will guide the Coalition toward priority projects to improve community environmental health and transportation access in the region.

Mr. T. Alex Beres, Assistant Director of Economic Development and Planning with Franklin County (Coalition Member) has more than a decade of experience in government grant funded projects and economic development. He has experience working with site selectors, developers, and community members and will provide outreach to these stakeholders, as appropriate.

**(iii) Acquiring Additional Resources:** MORPC has managed the procurement of contractors for multiple grant projects. The process complies with federal procurement regulations (40 CFR §31.36) and includes guidance to attract and utilize minority- and women-owned businesses, as possible. As the Grantee for this grant, MORPC will use their established procurement process to retain a highly competent QEP to assist in managing and tracking the activities funded by the grant. The QEP will be experienced in all aspects of U.S. EPA Assessment Grant management and will have demonstrated extensive experience with, and understanding of, the Ohio Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) and U.S. EPA Assessment Grant programs, and will have managed at least three successful brownfields redevelopment projects where multiple brownfields redevelopment financing incentives were leveraged.

**b. Past Performance and Accomplishments, (i) Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant**

**(1) Purpose and Accomplishments:** MORPC has provided project management, financial oversight, sub-recipient oversight and direct grant funded services for an annual operating budget of \$18 million. Examples of MORPC's recent grants similar in scope and scale to this Assessment grant request are listed below:

MORPC's Gohio Rideshare Program: Gohio focuses on improving mobility and reducing the number of commuters who travel to work alone and provides customized transportation services, programs and projects that promote use of transit, walking, biking, carpooling and vanpooling. MORPC is the lead contractor for all of the MPOs in the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) to deploy the software and a ride matching service for their combined rideshare programs statewide, under the Gohio brand umbrella. This program also incorporates air quality awareness and is funded through an annual \$800,000 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality grant.

Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program for the Columbus, Ohio urbanized area: MORPC administers this program, which provides capital and operating grants for public transportation services to meet the mobility needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities. Those eligible for funding include private non-profit organizations, state and local governments, and operators of public transportation services. This program is funded through an annual \$1 million FTA 5310 grant.

**(2) Compliance with Grant Requirements:** Each of the projects listed above have been managed in compliance with the grant requirements. MORPC developed Work Plans and successfully negotiated CAs with government agencies. MORPC has and continues to comply with the Work Plans and their associated schedules, terms, and conditions. MORPC has conducted community engagement programs, complied with financial status reporting requirements, and successfully compiled required data.

**ATTACHMENT**  
**THRESHOLD CRITERIA**

**FY2020 USEPA BROWNFIELDS  
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND  
PETROLEUM ASSESSMENT GRANT PROPOSAL**

**MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**RESPONSES TO THRESHOLD CRITERIA**

1. Applicant Eligibility: The **Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)**, the lead entity (grantee) for this assessment grant, is a regional council of local governments. It is organized under the provisions of Ohio Revised Code 713.21 (attached).
2. Coalition member **Central Ohio Transportation Authority (COTA)** is a regional transit authority organized under the provisions of Ohio Revised Code 306.01 (attached).  
Coalition member **Franklin County** is a general-purpose unit of government.
3. Letters of commitment from COTA and Franklin County are attached.
4. During formation of the Insight 5050 Corridor Concepts Plan (CCP) and Franklin County's Strategic Plan (County SP), regional forums with citizens from varying backgrounds, key focus groups and the community partners described above were conducted. This citizen feedback guided the development of the CCP and County SP visions and goals. The Coalition will build on this approach for community involvement in the grant project. The main stakeholders will be residents/property owners, community/citizens groups, nearby business organizations, and the lenders and developers conducting or supporting the actual work. The plan to involve stakeholders will include three primary efforts:
  - 1) MORPC will **announce the Grant award** in a press release to the local newspaper and in an ad placed on local radio stations and the local Public Access Television station to reach residents at all education and access levels. The announcement will also be posted on Coalition Member's websites and social media (Facebook and Twitter) pages. Key community partners (Section 2.b.i) will be given information to distribute and place on their websites.
  - 2) Coalition Members will host an **initial outreach and "kick-off" meeting** to acquaint key community organizations, environmental organizations, educational institutions, and the media with the grant project. The Coalition will ask stakeholders to identify additional brownfields they feel are impacting their health and welfare. These sites will be added to the Coalition's list of potential sites for funding. Meeting outcomes will be distributed through Coalition Member's websites and community social media pages and a newsletter.
  - 3) The Coalition will **continue communication with stakeholders**. Additional public meetings and presentations will be coordinated by Coalition members as requested by community organizations. At the close of the project, the Coalition will hold a final public meeting to share project outcomes. Presentation materials and minutes will be archived and placed on the coalition's websites and coalition member social media pages. Social media and other innovative methods will be used to reach out to and gather input from the general public.  
If requested, news releases, web postings, written materials, etc. will be available in other languages for residents whose first language is not English (*3.6% of residents, 2013-2017 ACS*).
5. Expenditure of Assessment Grant Funds: MORPC does not have an active EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant.



## **MORPC Enabling Legislation**

## **713.21 Regional planning commission.**

(A) The planning commission of any municipal corporation or group of municipal corporations, any board of township trustees, and the board of county commissioners of any county in which the municipal corporation or group of municipal corporations is located or of any adjoining county may cooperate in the creation of a regional planning commission, for any region defined as agreed upon by the planning commissions and boards, exclusive of any territory within the limits of a municipal corporation not having a planning commission. After creation of a regional planning commission, school districts, special districts, authorities, and any other units of local government may participate in the regional planning commission, upon terms agreed upon by the planning commissions and boards.

The number of members of a regional planning commission, their method of appointment, and the proportion of the costs of regional planning to be borne respectively by the various municipal corporations, townships, and counties in the region and by other participating units of local government shall be determined by a majority of the planning commissions and boards. Costs may include, but are not limited to, compensation and actual and necessary expenses for appointive members of a regional planning commission who are not also holding another public office to which they were elected. Any member of a regional planning commission may hold any other public office and may serve as a member of a city, village, or county planning commission, except as otherwise provided in the charter of any city or village.

Boards of township trustees, boards of county commissioners, and legislative authorities of municipal corporations, and the governing bodies of other participating units of local government, may appropriate their respective shares of the costs of regional planning. Those sums shall be paid into the treasury of the county in which the greater portion of the population of the region is located, and shall be paid out on the certificate of the regional planning commission and the warrant of the county auditor of that county for the purposes authorized by sections [713.21](#) to [713.27](#) of the Revised Code.

(B) The regional planning commission may accept, receive, and expend funds, grants, and services from the federal government or its agencies; from departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of this state or any adjoining state; from one or more counties of this state or any adjoining state; from any municipal corporation or political subdivision of this or any adjoining state, including county, regional, and municipal planning commissions of this or any adjoining state; or from civic sources. The regional planning commission may contract with respect to those funds, grants, and services, either separately, jointly, or cooperatively, and may provide the information and reports necessary to secure those funds, grants, and services. Within the amounts agreed upon and appropriated or otherwise received, the regional planning commission may employ necessary engineers, accountants, consultants, and employees and may rent or lease space, purchase, lease, and lease with option to purchase equipment, and make other purchases it considers necessary to its use. The regional planning commission may purchase, lease with option to purchase, or receive as a gift property and buildings within which it is housed and carries out its responsibilities, provided that the rules of the commission provide for the disposition of the property and buildings if the commission is dissolved or otherwise terminated.

(C) The regional planning commission may establish committees with the powers it finds necessary to carry on its work, including an executive committee to make final determinations, decisions, findings, recommendations, and orders as provided in the commission's rules. All actions of these committees shall be reported in writing to the members of the regional planning commission no later than its next meeting or within thirty days from the date of the action, whichever is earlier. The regional planning commission may provide a procedure to ratify committee actions by a vote of the members.

(D) The regional planning commission may make agreements with other public or private agencies for the temporary transfer or joint use of staff employees, and may contract for professional or consultant services for or from other governmental and private agencies and persons.

(E) A regional planning commission may contract with the prosecuting attorney of a county, as provided in section [309.09](#) of the Revised Code, to obtain legal services from the prosecuting attorney.

Amended by 132nd General Assembly File No. TBD, HB 34, §1, eff. 11/2/2018.

Effective Date: 08-29-1986; 04-15-2005 .

**Coalition Member Commitment Letters  
And  
Documentation of Eligibility**



November 26, 2019

Mr. William Murdock, Executive Director  
MORPC  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Mr. Murdock,

The Central Ohio Transportation Authority (COTA) acknowledges membership in the Brownfield Coalition (Coalition) which includes the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and Franklin County. COTA supports MORPC in their role as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. COTA is formed under Ohio Law ORC Title 3, Chapter 306 (see attached, <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/306>).

The Coalition has been formed for the purpose of seeking and managing federal brownfield assistance for the central Ohio region. This assistance will benefit a broad range of underutilized and potential significant potential brownfield sites within the geographic regional area identified in this application. Brownfield redevelopment continues to be identified by elected leaders and diverse stakeholder groups as a critical need in the continued improvement of the quality of life for residents of central Ohio in terms of the retention and creation of new jobs, increased housing, urban gardens and greenspace development.

The Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant (\$500,000 hazardous substances and \$100,000 petroleum). Upon award of the grant, COTA understands the Coalition members will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project.

COTA commits to providing a broad range of outreach services towards the project. COTA will manage Coalition internal communications, meeting scheduling and conference calls, as well as participate in meetings to engage not only communities, but real estate professionals, local economic development organizations, site selectors, brokers, community foundations and financial organizations. Staff expertise will assist in the facilitation of quality discussions amongst all stakeholder groups to maximize the benefits of the grant dollars expenditure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanna M. Pinkerton".

Joanna M. Pinkerton  
President/CEO  
Central Ohio Transit Authority

JMP: mc

xc: A. Biesterveld, Interim Chief Development Officer, COTA  
K. Sharp, Senior Director of Development, COTA  
M. Loges, Senior Economic Development Project Manager, COTA  
T. Walsh, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Development, MORPC



### **306.01 Establishing county transit system.**

(A) Whenever the county commissioners of any county declare, by resolution, that it is essential to the best interests of the county that a county transit system be established, the commissioners shall either appoint a county transit board, with powers and duties as specified by sections 306.01 to [306.13](#) and section [306.99](#) of the Revised Code, or state in the resolution that the board of county commissioners itself shall operate the county transit system and assume all the powers and duties assigned to a board of county commissioners in sections [306.04](#), [306.06](#), [306.08](#), [306.09](#), [306.10](#), [306.12](#), and [306.13](#) of the Revised Code; except that no county transit board shall be appointed nor any county transit system established in any county which is included in whole or in part in a regional transit authority established pursuant to sections [306.30](#) to [306.53](#) of the Revised Code.

(B) Once a county transit system has been established, the board of county commissioners may, by resolution, change the governing board for the system from the board of county commissioners to a county transit board, or from a county transit board to the board of county commissioners. If the resolution transfers the governing authority from the county transit board to the board of county commissioners, the transfer shall not occur for six months after the date of the resolution. On the date of transfer, the transit board shall be dissolved, the board of county commissioners shall assume all contracts, property, and debts of the transit board, and all transit employees shall be transferred to the control of the board of county commissioners. the board of county commissioners shall collect all taxes levied by the transit board for the county transit system.

If the resolution transfers the governing authority to a county transit board, the board of county commissioners shall appoint a board under section [306.02](#) of the Revised Code. All transit employees except the executive director of the system shall be transferred to the control of the county transit board. The board of county commissioners shall transfer to the transit board, and the transit board shall assume, all contracts, property, and debts of the county relative to the transit system. The county shall continue to collect any taxes it levies for the transit system, but the proceeds shall be deposited in the funds of the transit board for the transit purposes for which they were levied.

(C) Any county that has a county transit system operated by the board of county commissioners shall create within the county general fund an account for the county transit system.

Effective Date: 10-25-1995.

November 27, 2019

Mr. William Murdock, Executive Director  
MORPC  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Mr. Murdock,

*William*

Franklin County looks forward to being a member of the Brownfield Coalition (Coalition) which includes the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and the Central Ohio Transportation Authority (COTA). The County supports MORPC in their role as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. The Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant (\$500,000 hazardous substances and \$100,000 petroleum).

The County understands Coalition members will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. The County is a general-purpose unit of government in Ohio.

The identification of specific sites for redevelopment has been a part of our redevelopment strategy for a number of years. Specifically, through the Clean Ohio Program, Franklin County has been the lead applicant on \$9 million dollars in funds from the state of Ohio and fostered projects on those sites generating over \$1 billion dollars of new investment.. Additionally, Franklin County continues to target multiple brownfield sites for potential redevelopment. The ability to provide completed Phase I and Phase II assessments to interested developers greatly enhances the development potential of these properties.

The County will work with site selectors, developers, and community members and will provide outreach to these stakeholders, as appropriate. We will also guide the Coalition toward priority projects to improve community environmental health and transportation access in the region.

We look forward to this project and the opportunities that will provide to the County and region.

Sincerely,

  
James Schimmer  
Director  
Franklin County Economic Development and Planning

Director

James Schimmer

150 S. Front St.  
Suite 10  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

t\_ 614 5253094  
f\_ 614 5257155

SERVICE | PROGRESS | EXCELLENCE

MORPC SF-424

16. Additional Congressional Districts: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>



Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: <input type="text" value="12/03/2019"/>	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
<b>State Use Only:</b>		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
<b>8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:</b>		
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission"/>		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text" value="31-1009675"/>	* c. Organizational DUNS: <input type="text" value="0716438370000"/>	
<b>d. Address:</b>		
* Street1: <input type="text" value="111 Liberty Street, Suite 100"/>	Street2: <input type="text"/>	
* City: <input type="text" value="Columbus"/>	County/Parish: <input type="text" value="Franklin"/>	
* State: <input type="text" value="OH: Ohio"/>	Province: <input type="text"/>	
* Country: <input type="text" value="USA: UNITED STATES"/>	* Zip / Postal Code: <input type="text" value="432155850"/>	
<b>e. Organizational Unit:</b>		
Department Name: <input type="text"/>	Division Name: <input type="text"/>	
<b>f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:</b>		
Prefix: <input type="text" value="Ms ."/>	* First Name: <input type="text" value="Thea"/>	
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Walsh"/>	
Suffix: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text" value="Transportation and Infrastructure Development"/>	
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="5133040898"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text"/>	
* Email: <input type="text" value="twalsh@morpc.org"/>		

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**\* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

E: Regional Organization

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

**\* 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

Environmental Protection Agency

**11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:**

66.818

CFDA Title:

Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

**\* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

EPA-OLEM-OBLR-19-05

\* Title:

FY20 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANTS

**13. Competition Identification Number:**

Title:

**14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):**

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**\* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

MORPC FY2020 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant - Coalition

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

\* a. Applicant

\* b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

**17. Proposed Project:**

\* a. Start Date:

\* b. End Date:

**18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="600,000.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="600,000.00"/>

**\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on

b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

**\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

Yes  No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

**21. \*By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\*\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

\*\* I AGREE

\*\* The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

**Authorized Representative:**

Prefix:  \* First Name:

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Suffix:

\* Title:

\* Telephone Number:  Fax Number:

\* Email:

\* Signature of Authorized Representative:  \* Date Signed: