



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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**2022 Water Resources Program
Work Scope and Deliverables
Total 2022 Request: \$60,000**

Sustaining Scioto Board & Program Implementation: \$55,000

Task 1: Sustaining Scioto Board and Working Groups

Subtask 1.0: Coordinate and hold quarterly meetings with Chairs and funders to iterate on Sustaining Scioto vision and review project progress. Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.1: Coordinate and hold five Sustaining Scioto Board meetings per year including creation of Board roadmap and KPI's for programming. Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.2: Build on the successful 2021 survey work by the Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team with the agricultural and elected official communities. Convene bimonthly Agricultural and Rural Communities Outreach Team to develop a plan for outreach and cooperative programming and begin outreach activities for the agricultural and rural communities, in coordination with stakeholders who are also participating in the Farmer to Farmer projects (p.2). Q1-Q4

Subtask 1.3: Build upon and establish multiple working partnerships including key stakeholders representing the agricultural community, northern reaches of the Scioto watershed, and water quality monitoring practitioners and partners to leverage support for future opportunities. Q1-Q4

Mid-Term Adaptive Management Strategies

Subtask 1.4: Review mid-term adaptive management strategies from the 2015 Water Utility Planning Strategies to Mitigate Impacts of Climate Change in Central Ohio – Sustaining Scioto Adaptive Management Plan. With guidance from the Sustaining Scioto Board, create implementation framework for mid-term strategies and engage the necessary stakeholders for implementation. Q1-Q4

Deliverable(s): Sustaining Scioto Board and Agricultural and Outreach Working Teams meetings and materials; Mid-term adaptive management strategy framework; Key working partnerships established.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Erik J. Janas
Chair

Chris Amorose Grooms
Vice Chair

Michelle Crandall
Secretary

Task 2: Support water resources protection and infrastructure planning needs through development and identification of relevant climate data, tools, and resources.

Updating Precipitation Data for Water Infrastructure Planning – Continued action from the 2021 Forum

Subtask 2.0: Track federal legislation regarding funding of updated nationwide precipitation statistics to be completed by NOAA. Communicate the status of federal legislation to the Board. If legislation passes, engage the Board and stakeholders on use of data for infrastructure planning. If federal funding for this task fails, re-engage local partners to initiate pursuit of funding for state or region-wide updated precipitation statistics. [Q1-Q4](#)

Regional Flooding Vulnerability Assessment for Critical Infrastructure – Identified as a short-term strategy in the Sustaining Scioto Adaptive Management Plan

Subtask 2.1: Conduct exploratory research on the state of flooding vulnerability assessments completed across the region and identify partners and needs for a regional level vulnerability assessment to lay foundation for advancing future opportunities. [Q2-Q4](#)

Regional Nine Element Plan Webinar Focused on the Scioto Watershed

Subtask 2.3: Work with stakeholders and the Ohio EPA to host regional webinar on how communities can support creation of nine element plans for their waterways. [Q2-Q3](#)

Deliverable(s): Legislative updates and plan of action for updating precipitation data; Exploratory research and needs identification on flooding vulnerability assessments; Host Nine Element Plan Webinar.

Task 3. Water Quality Monitoring Planning

Subtask 3.0: Work with regional partners to explore and establish a coalition of local vested entities, particularly MS4 regulated communities, to coordinate on monitoring needs and practices. [Q1-Q3](#)

Subtask 3.1: Identify a potential funding source, either from interested parties or external grant funds. [Q3-Q4](#)

Subtask 3.2: With guidance from the Board, work with coalition to create a coherent, regional monitoring plan that builds upon existing monitoring efforts and allows for the creation of consistent data points across the watershed. [Q3-Q4](#)

Subtask 3.3 Implement regional monitoring plan. [Q1-Q4 2023](#)

Deliverable(s): Established coalition; Regional monitoring plan

Task 4: Education and Outreach Framework

Subtask 4.0: Conduct stakeholder analysis and mapping to provide focus for outreach and education activities in understanding who has the most influence over the Sustaining Scioto and American Farmland Trust Farmer to Farmer projects and is most affected by them. Understand potential touchpoints and communication to reach specific groups. Q2-Q4

Subtask 4.1: Determine and draft key messages, themes, and perspectives to raise public awareness of Sustaining Scioto and climate change impacts on water quality. Q3-Q4

Subtask 4.2: Under the advisement of the Sustaining Scioto Board and AFT leadership, develop and implement a detailed and adaptive Communications Plan to include target goals, activities, tools, and timelines. Q4 2022 – Q3 2023

Deliverable(s): Key outreach audiences identified and key messaging; Education and engagement framework.

Task 5: MORPC On-going Communications and Engagement Support for Sustaining Scioto

Subtask 5.0: Use eSource and MORPC social media accounts as platforms to communicate project progress to regional stakeholders. Q1-Q4

Subtask 5.1: Leverage communications networks of other environmental programming to increase reach of Sustaining Scioto education and outreach framework. Q1-Q4

Deliverable(s): eSource article and social media posts.

GreenSpot Outreach and Engagement to Increase Membership: \$3,000

Task 6: GreenSpot Outreach and Engagement Activities

Subtask 6.0: Promote and distribute GreenSpot applications at MORPC's Summit on Sustainability on October 14, 2022. The Summit will be hosted in person this year and expected to attract 500 attendees based on previous attendance. Q4

Subtask 6.1: Include GreenSpot promotion and application distribution at community events, including the African American Wellness Walk, which attracts more than 10,000 people in central Ohio. Continue to include additional outreach opportunities as they arise. Q3

Subtask 6.2: Utilize MORPC's existing network and committee structure to promote the GreenSpot program and encourage membership. Q3-4

Subtask 6.3: Develop social media plan and other outreach opportunities to promote GreenSpot membership. Q3-Q4

Deliverable(s): Implementation of outreach and engagement tasks at the Summit and community events; Promote GreenSpot to MORPC networks/committees; Develop and implement social media plan; Provide engagement results in report to DPU.

Riverfest: \$1,000

Task 7: Riverfest Activities

Subtask 7.0: Develop, organize, and host in-person Riverfest by partnering with the Greater Columbus Arts Festival. Provide free paddling opportunities for the public to educate them about ways to protect local waterways and how to safely recreate. Q1- Q2.

Subtask 7.1: Facilitate meetings to review partner needs including logistics and set-up (i.e. water sports equipment delivery and storage). Q2-Q3

Subtask 7.2: Partner with agencies and organizations to enhance the public engagement component of the event. (i.e. Columbus Department of Public Utilities – GreenSpot Program, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District). Q1-Q2.

Subtask 7.3: In coordination with partners, develop communication plan that includes social media strategy, newsletters, video content and presentations. Engage partners in communications plan and provide content and graphics so they can promote to their networks through digital media. Q1-Q2.

Subtask 7.4: Identify staff volunteers to assist event participants to safely access paddling opportunities on the day of the event, educate the public on how to keep Central Ohio water clean, and actively educate the public on partner programming. Q3

Subtask 7.5: Recruit volunteers from partners and MORPC team, and host training. Q3.

Subtask 7.8: Execute plan and host the event during the targeted time frame. Q2-Q3

Deliverable(s): Riverfest promoted and hosted; Communications plan: Implementation of educational campaign: Provide engagement results in quarterly report to DPU.

Summit on Sustainability: \$1,000

Task 8: Summit on Sustainability Break-Out Session Planning

Subtask 8.0: Develop and Host a Water Resources Break-Out Session

Subtask 8.1: Identify list of potential speakers and topics that support and compliment the Summit's theme. Q2

Subtask 8.2.: Send speaker requests and coordinate with confirmed speakers to develop presentations. Q3

Subtask 8.3.: Confirm session outline, day of logistics, and speaker expectations. Q4

Subtask 8.4: Facilitate day of Break-Out Session logistics as needed including but not limited to speaker needs, room set up, etc. Q4

Deliverable(s): Breakout session promoted and hosted; Provide DPU with number of attendees, breakout agenda, and list of attendees.