



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

**2026-2027 Water Resources
Program Work Scope and
Deliverables - \$60,000
April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027**

**ONGOING COMMUNICATION WITH COLUMBUS WATER & POWER DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC UTILITIES STAFF**

Task 1: Meet Monthly or as Needed with Columbus Water & Power One Water Coordinator

Conduct as needed monthly meetings with the One Water Coordinator to review progress, align on priorities, and address challenges across key streams of work. Meetings will focus on ensuring alignment with the One Water framework and advancing ongoing projects.

Timeline: As needed

Deliverables: No specific deliverables required.

Task 2: Meet Quarterly with Water & Power Sustainability Staff

Subtask 2.0

Action: Conduct quarterly meetings with Columbus & Water Sustainability staff to review progress, align on priorities, and address challenges across Water Resources Program projects. Meetings will provide a platform for collaboration and strategic alignment. Meetings should be scheduled following the quarterly report deadlines.

Timeline: Quarterly (Q1-Q4: April – March)

Deliverables:

- Include in quarterly report outs:
 - A summary of updates from other quarterly meetings (e.g., Regional Water Advisory Council, and other working groups as established for the development of the 208 Plan development including the Stormwater chapter working group and onsite systems management working group etc.), highlighting key takeaways, decisions, and action items relevant to Water & Power's Sustainability priorities.
- Quarterly status updates:
 - High-level progress reviews of other scope projects and tasks (e.g., Riverfest and Summit on Sustainability planning, etc.), emphasizing accomplishment, ongoing challenges, and proposed next steps.
End of (scope) year final report due by April 30th, 2027.

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary



CENTRAL OHIO WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL & PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
Task 1: Central Ohio Water Advisory Council and Working Teams

Subtask 1.0

Action: Coordinate and hold quarterly meetings with Chairs, stakeholders, and working groups to refine the COWAC vision, plan for board meeting priorities, and review project progress.

Build and sustain working partnerships and develop new partnerships with key stakeholders to leverage support for future opportunities. Discussions will focus on Regional Water Study results and scenario planning, green infrastructure, funding opportunities, and water efficiency and reuse and other relevant foci based on regional priorities.

Timeline: Quarterly (Q1-Q4: April 2026 – March 2027)

Deliverables:

- Quarterly meeting materials submitted agendas, presentations, summary of meeting (not full minutes) including action items, attendee lists, as part of quarterly report outs.
- Quarterly updates at each quarterly meeting with Water & Power Sustainability Staff.

Subtask 1.1

Action: Coordinate and hold quarterly Agricultural and Rural Communities working group meetings to align shared priorities with rural stakeholders. Continue building partnerships with relevant partners.

Timeline: Quarterly (Q1-Q4: April 2026 – March 2027)

Deliverables:

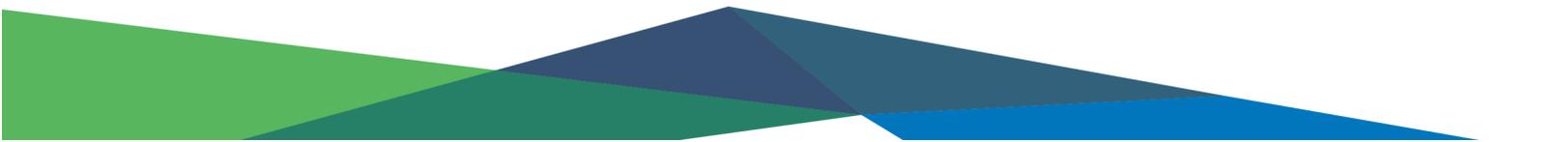
- Planning document identifying and outlining the team's outreach goals by the end of Q1 (June 30th, 2026).
- Quarterly meeting materials submitted (Dates TBD): agendas, presentations, summary of meeting (not full minutes) including action items, attendee lists, etc.
 - Report outs due at each quarterly meeting Water & Power Sustainability Staff. Address progress made towards achieving outreach goals.

Subtask 1.2

Action: Utilizing findings from the Regional Water Study, explore the development of a water efficiency campaign that encourages outdoor water conservation practices during drought conditions in the region.

Timeline: Ongoing (Q1-Q4: April 2026 – March 2027)

Deliverables:

- Implementation Plan including coordination with steps for rollout, and
- 

- coordination with utilities/municipal partners.
- Coordinate with Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center.
 - Create partnership, or potential working group, among municipal and utility partners.
 - Public Communication Materials: Fact sheets, website content, FAQs, and sample notices for communities.

Subtask 1.3

Action: Finalize the COWAC Strategic Plan and identify priorities for the upcoming year.

Timeline: Ongoing (Q1-Q4: April 2026 – March 2027)

Deliverables:

- Prioritized deliverables list including a consolidated list of high-priority strategic-plan items selected for short-term action.
- Work plan for each priority item including action items, timelines, partners and expected outcomes.

Subtask 1.4

Action: Host a water forum/webinar in partnership with private and public entities in Central Ohio to focus on water infrastructure planning needs and other regional water priority topics in the context of rapid growth and development in the region.

Timeline: End of Q3 (December 31st, 2026)

Deliverables:

- Identify workshop topics and relevant materials
- Draft agenda outlining key topics, presentation sessions, and activities.
- Draft invitee list, including representatives from key public and private entities.
- Supporting materials, including any presentations, handouts, or preparatory documents.

Subtask 1.5

Action: Coordinate and implement the forum.

Timeline: Q4 (January – March 2027)

Deliverable:

- Workshop proceedings report submitted by the end of Q4 (April 30th, 2027).

Subtask 1.6

Action: Coordinate with Columbus Water & Power staff to organize a Blueprint tour for COWAC members and interested stakeholders.

Timeline: End of Q2 (September 30, 2026)

Deliverables:

- Identify a tour date and coordinate logistics details with Water & Power Sustainability staff.

RIVERFEST

Task 1: Plan and Host Riverfest 2026 Activities

Subtask 1.0

Action: Coordinate logistics, activities, and partner involvement for Riverfest 2026, incorporating Columbus Blueprint, the Pick Up Poop (PUP) program, and more.

Timeline: Q1 (April – June 2026)

Deliverable: Event agenda, partnership agreements (if applicable), and logistics submitted as part of quarterly report.

Subtask 1.1

Action: Develop and implement communication plan leading up to Riverfest to educate the region about the value of clean and reliable water, and the opportunity for free paddling at Riverfest. 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.

Timeline: Q1 (April – June)

Subtask 1.2

Action: Host Riverfest and enhance public engagement through education and outreach during the festival, including opportunities for community participation through water recreation sports i.e. kayaking and paddleboarding. Potentially incorporate Water & Power One Water mural voting at the event.

Timeline: Q1 (April – June 2026)

Deliverable: Public engagement materials and summary of participant insights, including feedback on challenges, opportunities, and reactions, submitted as part of quarterly report by the end of Q2 (June 30th, 2026).

Subtask 1.3

Action: Initiate planning for Riverfest 2027, including setting objectives, activities, and potential partnerships

Timeline: Q4 (January – March 2027)

Deliverables: Planning document submitted as part of quarterly report

SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABILITY

Task 1: Summit on Sustainability Break-Out Session Planning and Exhibit Table

Subtask 1.0

Action: Plan and host a “Water Resources” break-out session.

Timeline: Q2-Q3 (July – December 2026)

Deliverable:

- Session outline and speaker/topic list submitted by end of Q2.
- Invite and finalize speakers to present in the session.
- Coordinate session and event logistics with speakers, including deadlines for presentations if applicable, and finalize session format and topics.
- Post-session report submitted with the next quarterly report.
- Report can include number of attendees, session agenda, presentation files, or any other relevant materials or takeaways.

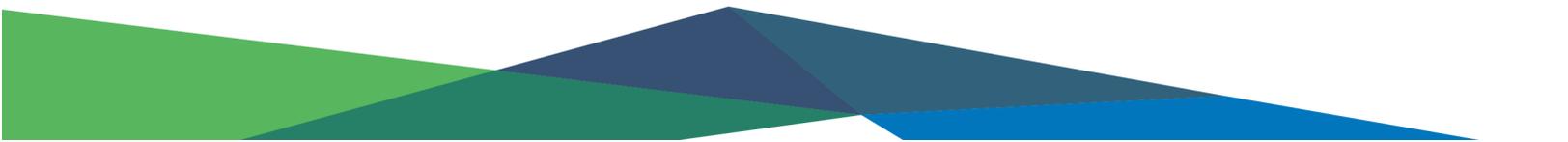


Subtask 1.1

Action: Provide a Columbus Water & Power exhibit table at Summit.

Timeline: Q3 (October 2026)

Deliverable: No specific deliverables required.



Columbus Water & Power Budget Narrative

Water Resources Program

COST-TYPE			
COST-TYPE	CATEGORY	C. REASONABLENESS OF COSTS	April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2027
Direct Costs	Personnel		
			\$23,441.00
	TOTAL PERSONNEL		\$23,441.00
	Fringe Benefits		
	62.0%	Fringe benefits include Holiday, Sick and Vacation Leave, PERS, Hospitalization, Workers Compensation.	\$14,534.00
	TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS		\$14,534.00
	Travel		
		N/A	
	TOTAL TRAVEL		\$0.00
	Equipment		
		N/A	
	TOTAL EQUIPMENT		\$0.00
	Supplies		
		N/A	
	TOTAL SUPPLIES		\$0.00
	Contractual		
	N/A		
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL		\$0.00	
Other			
	N/A		
TOTAL OTHER		\$0.00	
TOTAL DIRECT		\$37,975.00	
Indirect Costs	Indirect Costs		
	58.00%	Approved Indirect Cost Allocation Plan is included in application. The base for allocating indirect costs is direct salaries plus fringe benefits.	\$22,025.00
	TOTAL INDIRECT		\$22,025.00
TOTAL FUNDING			\$60,000.00