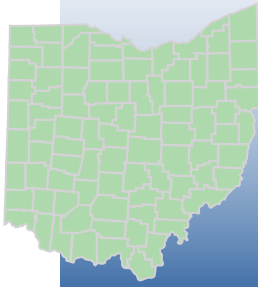




OHIO ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

# 2017-2018 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA



The 2017-2018 Ohio Association of Regional Councils' Public Policy Agenda is vital to the future of the more than 10.5 million people that our 24 agencies serve across the state.

## REGIONALISM

- Promote state designation and recognition of metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and their regional approach to transportation planning and funding in both policy and the Ohio Revised Code.
- Promote state designation and recognition of regional transportation planning organizations (RTPOs) and their regional approach to transportation planning and funding in both policy and the Ohio Revised Code.
- Promote regionalism at the state and federal levels of government fostering economic prosperity, efficient use of resources, and a high quality of life for Ohio residents.
- Support state and federal policies and legislation that recognize and respect the grassroots priorities and projects of regional councils throughout Ohio.
- Support continued funding of programs such as the Local Government Innovation and Efficiency Funds that provide resources to foster greater collaboration and efficiencies among our local communities.
- Meet regularly with our state and federal legislative delegation and relevant state cabinet officials in an effort to inform and educate them about the benefits of regionalism.

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## 2017-2018 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

### TRANSPORTATION

- Advocate for local funding options, such as a permissive increase in vehicle licensing fees, to provide local communities with a tool to maintain their transportation infrastructure.
- Seek additional current revenue and long-term funding mechanisms for transportation at local, state and federal levels.
- Advocate for legislation and policies that improve transportation safety for all users.
- Promote a transportation system that encompasses a broad spectrum of fully integrated, technically-advanced options including: cars, freight by air, rail, truck and ship; buses; light rail; rideshare; biking; walking; aviation; and passenger rail.
- Continue support for and innovation in the regional transportation planning organization (RTPO) program.
- Advocate for maintaining capital funding for metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) while developing new and innovative sources of capital funding for both MPOs and RTPOs.
- Lead discussions and participate in state and federal transportation bills.
- Advocate for implementation of policies and program changes to support the findings and recommendations of the ODOT Transit Study.
- Work with our congressional delegation and others to create Regional Infrastructure Improvement Zones as one federal funding solution.
- Collaborate with state and national partners to increase education and awareness of pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- Support the development and implementation of infrastructure and deployment strategies for alternative fuels.
- Support continued transportation planning activities, partnerships, and project funding scenarios for rural Ohio.
- Advocate for policies and support efforts that incorporate data, smart transportation system technologies -- including connected vehicle technologies -- and other related efforts.



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

## 2017-2018 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

### ENVIRONMENT

- Advocate for the restoration and protection of Ohio water resources.
- Pursue air quality attainment in Ohio with our state and federal partners. Support legislation and public policy that is innovative, reduces emissions, protects public health and leads to a strong economy.
- Support efforts to continue the Clean Ohio Fund, a statewide program that provides grant funding for preserving green space and farmland, improving outdoor recreation, and cleaning up brownfields to encourage redevelopment and revitalize communities.
- Promote changes in state law to modernize land-use regulations and planning tools as a way to promote sustainable development and strategic reinvestment; preserve sensitive natural areas; and reduce energy consumption.
- Support comprehensive water quality planning performed at the regional level, especially through continuation of the partnership between Areawide Planning Agencies and Ohio EPA for effective, efficient, and integrated wastewater planning.
- Support appropriations and policies that clean up brownfields to encourage redevelopment and revitalize communities.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support continued development of Ohio's ports including intermodal facilities, rail, inland ports and other freight investments and state support for freight initiatives.
- Advocate for policies and funding to improve workforce transportation options.
- Support regional economic development strategies at the state and federal levels.
- Encourage the state to focus on regional programs and policies that attract new quality jobs and investments to regions.
- Support the continued efforts of the federal Appalachian Regional Commission and the State of Ohio's Governor's Office of Appalachia to fund applicable economic development activities and projects in Ohio counties designated as part of Appalachia.





## Member Agencies

**Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS)**  
806 Citicenter, 146 S. High St, Akron, OH 44308

**Belomar Regional Council and Interstate Planning Commission**  
P.O. Box 2086, Wheeling, WV 26003

**Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission**  
124 N. Fourth St, Second Fl, Steubenville, OH 43952

**Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District (BH-HVRDD)**  
1400 Pike Street, Marietta, OH 45750

**Clark County-Springfield Transportation Coordinating Committee**  
3130 East Main Street, Suite 2A, Springfield, OH 45505

**Eastgate Regional Council of Governments**  
City Centre One Building, 100 East Federal Street, Youngstown, OH 44503

**Erie County Regional Planning Commission**  
2900 Columbus Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870

**KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission**  
720 Fourth Ave, Huntington, WV 25712

**Licking County Planning Commission; Licking County Area Transportation Study**  
20 S. 2nd St, Newark, OH 43055

**Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission**  
130 W. North St, Lima, OH 45801

**Logan-Union-Champaign Regional Planning Commission**  
9676 E Foundry St, PO Box 219, East Liberty OH 43319

**Maumee Valley Planning Organization**  
1300 E. Second Street, Suite 200, Defiance, OH 43512

**Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission**  
10 N. Ludlow Street, Suite 700, Dayton, OH 45402

**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**  
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43215

**Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council**  
531 Market St, Parkersburg, WV 26101

**Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency**  
1299 Superior Ave, Cleveland, OH 44114

**Northeast Ohio Four-County Regional Planning & Development Organization**  
180 E. South St, Akron, OH 44311

**Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association**  
P.O. Box 130, Cambridge, OH 43725,

**Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission**  
9329 S.R. 220 E., Suite A, Waverly, OH 45690

**Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments**  
720 East Pete Rose Way, Cincinnati, OH 45202

**Richland County Regional Planning Commission**  
35 N. Park St, Mansfield, OH 44902

**Stark County Regional Planning Commission**  
201 3rd St. NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702

**Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments**  
P.O. Box 9508, Toledo, OH 43697

**Wood-Washington-Wirt Interstate Planning Commission**  
531 Market St, P.O. Box 247, Parkersburg, WV 26101



The Ohio Association of Regional Councils comprises 24 agencies serving more than 1,500 municipalities, villages, townships and counties and representing 10.5 million residents of those communities around the state.

[regionalcouncils.org](http://regionalcouncils.org)