

MORPC COMMUTE ACTION FUND

MORPC's "Commute Action Fund" is a tool for Central Ohio Companies to fund new incentives and/ or commute projects that motivate company associates to drive less and use sustainable modes of transportation to work. The fund aims to empower Central Ohio companies to take ownership of creating more sustainable commuter options for their workplace.



OBJECTIVES

1. Decrease single-occupant vehicles (SOV) commutes to central Ohio employers by 20%
2. Help companies deploy new mobility benefits for their associates
3. Create a behavior change model that encourages permanent mode shift change

WHAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

Central Ohio companies with over 1,000 associates in MORPC's 15- county region may request up to \$5,000 in a dollar-for-dollar match against their spending toward new sustainable commute projects that motivate employees to drive less. Employers with less than 1000 associates in MORPC's region will be eligible for up to \$2,500 in dollar-for-dollar match funding.

MORPC's 15-County Region includes Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hocking, Knox, Licking, Logan, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway, Perry, Ross, and Union Counties.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Central Ohio companies located in MORPC's 15-county region may apply for the grant. Each round of Commute Action Funds will be awarded according to a grading system. Companies may only receive one grant.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

To apply, eligible companies must fill out the application located at <https://forms.gle/TfLU5UtGbCQqkD9s7>.

Funding requests will be evaluated on a rolling basis by a committee of MORPC employees. Commute Action Fund dollars are distributed on a reimbursement basis after reporting and documentation requirements are met.

Examples of Commute Benefit Programs to reduce SOV and promote mobility options to and from the workplace.

1. Subsidize monthly transit passes
2. Subsidize monthly Gohio Commute vanpool fare
3. Incentivize SOV reduction per day leveraging Gohio Commute for self-reporting and reward tracking. Programs may be designed as a
 - tier system with greater rewards for lower emissions trips, or
 - require a set number of non-SOV trips per month to earn rewards. The more non-SOV trips taken per month, the larger the reward. Rewards may include but not limited to cash, digital gift cards, dress-down days, personal time off (PTO) time or Caring Commute incentive. Caring Commute incentives are earning donations to a local charity, for example a food bank. *Please note: Gohio Commute has a built-in digital gift card program that can be customized for your company's program requirements.*
4. Additional options will be considered if funds support the development of workforce mobility opportunities.

TIMELINE

FIRST ROUND OF FUNDING

July 5, 2021, the applications period opens.
First come, first served.

Applications reviewed and funding notices distributed on a rolling basis. The application period closes on September 30, 2021 for the first round of funding.

Final Reports are due within three weeks from the end of matching funds depletion. Monthly reimbursement checks will be issued after invoices and performance indicators are submitted.

SECOND ROUND OF FUNDING

November 1, 2021 the application period opens.
First come, First served

Applications reviewed and funding notices distributed on a rolling basis. The application period closes on April 28, 2022.

Final Reports are due within three weeks from the end of matching funds depletion. Monthly reimbursement checks will be issued after invoices and performance indicators are submitted.



BEST PRACTICES

As a Commute Action Fund awardee, companies commit to sharing their successes and learnings with MORPC Gohio Commute staff and other central Ohio companies through a variety of mediums including:

- Update MORPC Gohio Commute via email on the pre-determined Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) articulated in your award letter on the last Friday of each month for the duration of your project.
- Summarize learnings, KPIs, associate survey data, and next steps in a final report submitted to MORPC Gohio Commute within 30-days of project completion. A template reimbursement form will be provided with the award letter and must be submitted along with proof of purchase before reimbursement.
- Provide at least 5 project artifacts for public distribution. Artifacts may include communications materials like flyers, planning documents, internet articles, or photos.

SECTION CRITERIA

Eligible companies must complete the application located at <https://forms.gle/TfLU5UtGbCQqkD9s7> to be considered for funding. The application consist of two sections which include an organization fact sheet and project narrative. Questions regarding this application can be emailed to Patty Olmsted at palmsted@morpc.org.

<i>ORGANIZATIONAL FACT SHEET</i>	<i>PROJECT NARRATIVE</i>
The organizational fact sheet will provide MORPC with the basic information about your workplace.	Complete the project narrative worksheet with details about your timeline and how your project will be administered, communicated, tracked, and reported.

We understand that project details may not be finalized before application submission. Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis by MORPC Staff. Successful applications will provide a clear, strong narrative stating the objectives the project will achieve. The project narrative will be evaluated based on clarity, innovation, feasibility timeline, impact, sustainability, communication plan, and the ability to achieve a “drive less” or workforce mobility outcome.



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Gohio Commute is a program of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission.

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