



Board of County Commissioners

Steven A. Davis

Jeffrey M. Fix

David L. Levacy

Fairfield County Economic Development

Rick Szabrak, Director

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Anthony Iachini, 740-424-8837/ anthony.iachini@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

Fairfield County and Ohio State Partnering to Update Active Transportation Plan

Lancaster, Ohio – As Fairfield County prepares for future growth, the Knowlton School of Architecture within the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University, has partnered with Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and Fairfield County to update and revise the Fairfield County Active Transportation Plan. Residents and employees in Fairfield County are being asked to contribute their opinions on active transportation by participating in a survey at the following link: <https://go.osu.edu/fairfield-atp1>.

Active transportation is any form of transportation through human-powered means. Active transportation includes walking, running, hiking, cycling, rowing, horseback riding, skateboarding, or using walkers, wheelchairs, motorized wheelchairs, kick scooters, or roller skates. Active transportation does NOT include driving, riding the bus or train, or motorized boating. The current plan, and its June 2013 accompanying update, can be found on the county website at [Development Strategy and Land Use Plan - Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission](#).

“Active transportation is important to the growth of a community,” said Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development Director. “It helps attract workers who want recreational opportunities close to home and it is important for public health. This plan will help Fairfield County meet those needs.”

Over the past several months, students from The Ohio State University have been interviewing and working with local leaders and officials with the aim of addressing current and future county-wide active transportation needs. The plan will include focused recommendations for active transportation options for the Buckeye Lake Area, the City of Lancaster, and Violet Township.

As the planning process moves forward, the next steps will include public meetings where all are invited to attend. The project website can be found at: [Fairfield County Active Transportation Plan | OSU City & Regional Planning Transportation Studio](#).

After the public survey is closed, the first meeting will be held on February 8th at 6:30 PM. This meeting will be focused on the stakeholders, especially the Active Transportation Subcommittee, but will be open to the public. OSU students will facilitate the meeting and review survey results, discuss existing conditions, perform a SWOT analysis, determine goals, and identify travel generators. This meeting will be held virtually, and the Zoom link will be posted on the project website.

This will be followed by another public and stakeholder meeting on March 8th at 6:30 PM. This event will be in person and virtual with location details and virtual links provided at a later date. This meeting will evaluate draft actions and priorities and review the draft plan.

Lastly, the final plan will be presented by OSU students at the Fairfield County Commissioners Meeting in the Commissioner Meeting Room at 210 E. Main Street Lancaster, on April 11th at 9:30 AM. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Anthony Iachini, Economic Development Coordinator with Fairfield County, at anthony.iachini@fairfieldcountyohio.gov.

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