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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC CREATING REGIONAL PLAN FOR CENTRAL OHIO Survey to Capture Public Input

(Columbus – December 14, 2009) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) has started the process to create a plan for the 12-county region. The first such plan for MORPC, it includes Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway, Ross, and Union counties. The plan will incorporate elements on energy, air and water quality, local food, housing, land use, transportation, waterways and the economy. MORPC is currently collecting input to clarify plan goals and expected outcomes, and is traveling the region asking community leaders and the public what would make them proud to call central Ohio home. Everyone may participate in the goals process by completing a more in depth survey on the website <http://regionalplan.morpc.org/>.

“This plan, which addresses transportation, energy, air quality, water quality, food sources, land use patterns and stabilizing neighborhoods, is one way to ensure that major public infrastructure expenditures are made to benefit the region as a whole. The purpose is to advance a good quality of life for the region’s residents, and at the same time grow a sustainable regional economy,” states Chester R. Jourdan, Jr., MORPC Executive Director.

A five step process was created to help develop the plan:

- 2009 - Identify the plan’s vision and goals.
- 2010 - Scenarios and policies will be developed.
- 2010 - Scenarios and policies evaluated based on the established goals.
- 2011 - Recommendations, action steps and performance measures will be discussed throughout the region.
- 2012 - The regional plan will be presented for discussion to community leaders and the public. The plan is scheduled for adoption in the spring of 2012.

Additional information about the plan is available at <http://regionalplan.morpc.org>. The website will be frequently updated and public discussion about the plan will be sought throughout its development.

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Working to Build a Better Region

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MORPC is a voluntary association of 47 local governments in central Ohio. It serves the region through planning, direct services, developing public policy, innovative programming, and coordinating intergovernmental services in the areas of transportation, land use, energy conservation, the environment and housing. MORPC is currently celebrating its 40th Anniversary and its continuing efforts to build a better central Ohio region.