

MID-OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MOVRC Monthly Newsletter
<http://www.movrc.org/>
304-422-4993

April 2022

MOVRC Changing in Staffing



Longtime MOVRC employee Fred Rader has left the agency to join the Parkersburg Community Foundation (PACF). Fred joined the MOVRC in 1983 after graduating from Marshall. He spent his entire career in the Community Development Department, first as a project specialist then finally as Department Director. Throughout his years he as a strong advocate for the local communities and assisted with thousands of water and sewer projects. We wish Fred all the best in his new endeavors as he continues his life's work helping improve the Mid-Ohio Valley Region.

Welcome to our new Community Development Director- Luke Peters

Current community development staff member Luke Peters has been promoted to become the Community Development Program Director.

For those of you who do not know Luke, he brings over 20 years of experience in serving his community through a variety of increasingly responsible positions.

He has spent 10 years with the MOVRC in various staff positions within the Community Development Department. He is familiar with ARC, EDA, USDA, HUD, EDP, FEMA and WVIJDC programs. He is very familiar with our region and the resources and needs for water and wastewater infrastructure as well as broadband, dilapidated structures, hazard mitigation, community facilities, and comprehensive planning, just to name a few.

Luke has also spent 2 years with the WV State Development Office where he was responsible for the Community Development Block Grant (SDBG) with 4 of the 11 Regions, worked on the HUD State Consolidated Action Plan and numerous other duties.

He has also worked with the Ohio Department of Development, Ohio Governor's Office of Appalachia, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, and even a stint with United Bank in the Wealth Management Division.

Luke holds a Master of Public Administration Degree from Ohio University

He is from Tyler County and resides with his family in Parkersburg.

We are pleased that Luke has accepted this position and we embrace the enthusiasm he brings to the position and his vision for department and region.



RAISE Grants Program Project Request to WWW TAC for WVDOH – FY 2022

Project Number	Description	Project Cost (\$ in 2019\$)
W000-114	Devola Multi-Use Trail – Connect Marietta Trail to Davis Avenue	\$ 3,300,000
W000-110	Study Area of Washington County Signal System Upgrade	\$ 800,000
W000-111	Study Area of Washington County Street Lighting Improvements	\$ 800,000
W000-112	Study Area of Washington County Targeted Streetscape Urban Design Enhancements	\$ 800,000
W000-113	Study Area of Washington County High Crash Intersection Projects	\$ 1,500,000
W000-115	Study Area of Washington County Active Transportation (Bike/Ped) Improvements	\$ 800,000
Total Phase II Washington County Project Costs		\$ 9,000,000
Phase II Funding Available in Washington County		\$ 29,484,000
W000-102	Safety Improvements at WV 14 and 30 th Street/Lakeview Drive Parkersburg	\$ 800,000
W000-103	Improve Access to Park Shopping Center from WV 14 (Parkersburg)	\$ 2,200,000
W000-104	Access and safety improvements at intersection of WV 14, Masonic Drive and Grand Central Avenue in Vienna	\$ 1,500,000
W000-111	Widen WV 14 from 30 th Street to Blizzard Drive. Includes multimodal improvements and intersections improvements at Gihon Road/Rayon Drive and Blizzard Drive/Broadway Avenue	\$ 17,600,000
W000-109	Widen WV 14 to five lanes from 26 th Street to Pettyville bypass. include multimodal improvements.	\$ 13,200,000
W000-118	Interchange Improvements at 17745 50	\$ 7,400,000
W000-110	Wood County Signal System Upgrade	\$ 3,000,000
W000-116	Wood County Street Lighting Improvements	\$ 1,500,000
W000-117	Wood County Targeted Streetscape Urban Design Enhancements	\$ 1,500,000
W000-119	Wood County High Crash Intersection Projects	\$ 3,700,000
W000-119	Construct Ohio River Trail from Memorial Bridge to Grand Central Mall including elevated wood trail behind Vienna Mall to Kelly Lane	\$ 5,200,000
W000-102	Wood County Active Transportation (Bike/Ped) Improvements	\$ 1,500,000
Total Phase II Wood County Project Costs		\$ 61,300,000
Phase II Funding Available in Wood County		\$ 64,738,000
Total Phase II Project Costs		\$ 96,300,000
Total Phase II Funding Available		\$ 93,514,000

Regarding the Notice of Funding Opportunity of a new RAISE Grants program, the WVDOH requested WWWW submit proposed candidate projects for consideration in their selection process to present to Secretary Wriston. The State will be selecting 3 projects from those submitted by all MPO's by February 9th in anticipation of the April 14th deadline specified by the program. In response, WWWW reached out to our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members for input on the projects WWWW proposed for consideration, which meet the criteria specified in the RAISE Grants program and result

from our recently developed Horizon 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. The projects we proposed advancing for consideration include Wood 111, Wood 112, Wood 113, and Wood 114

- Wood 111 - Widen WV 14 from 26th Street to Blizzard Drive. Includes multimodal improvements and intersections improvements at Gihon Road/ Rayon Drive and Blizzard Drive/Broadway Avenue. \$17,600,000
- Wood 112 - Widen WV 14 to five lanes from 26th Street to Pettyville bypass; include multimodal improvements. \$13,200,000
- Wood 113 - Traffic congestion, aesthetics, and multimodal improvements along Saint Mary's Avenue/Dudley Avenue from 13th Street to West Virginia Avenue in Parkersburg. \$8,700,000

The image shows four overlapping project proposal cards for WOOD-111, WOOD-112, WOOD-113, and WOOD-114. Each card contains a title, description of improvements, project partners, project considerations, estimated project cost, implementation timeline, and performance measures. WOOD-114 also includes a project map and a vicinity map.

The following excerpt describes the FY 2022 RAISE Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) appropriated \$1.5 billion to be awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation for National Infrastructure Investment grants under the “Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Transportation Discretionary Grants program.” This is the first year of the RAISE Transportation Discretionary Grants program under the BIL. The grant program funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. The attached FY 2022 RAISE Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and related information, including initial FAQs, is now available on the RAISE website: <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>).

The application deadline is April 14, 2022 at 5 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). The NOFO is expected to be published in the Federal Register by Friday, February 4, 2022.

WWW was notified via email from Brian Carr of WVDOH on March 25, 2022 that Wood 111 had been selected by the State as a project they would promote for a RAISE grant application for the April 2022 deadline. Wood 112 and Wood 114 were selected as alternates that the State would support with a letter of recommendation and technical information should a local entity desire to apply separately.

Staff Response:

- Staff efforts included in-house discussions on the projects to propose, a review of the fiscally constrained LRTP projects in WV, and compiling the supporting documentation from our LRTP to share with the TAC.
- Staff contacted members of the WV TAC to provide information on the RAISE Grants program, propose projects for consideration, and distribute supporting documentation.
- Work activity included the preparation of materials and correspondence and staff availability for discussion and feedback with the TAC.
- This effort fulfills work activity included in Section 625 Transportation Planning Services and Administration identified in the FY22 UPWP.
- www.triplew.org
- Horizon 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) <https://horizon2045movrc.hub.arcgis.com/>

Coordination of Letters of Support for the WV 68 Senator JF Deem Memorial Bridge Project—FY 2022

WWW coordinated efforts to gather and obtain approval for letters of support in advance of the design of 354-68-17.07 00 WV 68 - Senator JF Deem Memorial Bridge project for the inclusion of an active transportation facility when the project is constructed. This was a multi-agency effort to advance this request and included WWW, the City of Parkersburg, the Parkersburg Bicycle Advisory Board, the County Commission, Mid-Ohio Valley Transit Authority, the Convention Center and Visitors Bureau, and the Wood County Alternative Transportation Council. WWW drafted letters of recommendation to be used as an example or as a representative letter from organizations that WWW staff serves as an officer. WWW identified the inclusion of an active transportation as a vital link that was broken during the construction of US 50 and would connect disadvantaged areas to the CBD, the public to the CBD and parks/trails, and connect vital services to communities already using the connection in its current state.

Staff Response:

- Staff efforts included the coordination with local stakeholders, transit, advocacy groups, and the WVDOH
- Work activity included drafting letters of support as part of WWW and as an officer of partner advocacy groups.
- www.triplewv.org



Staff time on this work effort benefitted the goals and objectives identified in the LRTP, examined RAISE grant potential to leverage a project already identified in our TIP, advance a complete streets project, and serve a community identified in our Environmental Overview study as disadvantaged and without access to transit services. These specific work elements include 602 Transportation Improvement Program, 610 Long Range Transportation Planning, 625 Transportation Planning Services and Administration, and 674 Transit Planning.

Request for Information for Turning Movement and Traffic Count Data - FY 2022

WWW received a request for turning movement counts and ADT volumes from a consultant in February 2022. The information sought was in reference to the Juliano Street/Ann Street Bridges and 3rd Street intersections. WWW staff utilized Streetlight Insight to extract and prepare visual and charted data for the year 2020 ADT and 2020 AM and PM Peak hour turning movement volumes. WWW staff was able to run the analysis and quickly develop a polished product for the consultant. Staff time and work effort to complete this request fulfills the work effort identified in element 605.1 Local Transportation and Traffic Data from the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program.

Staff Response:

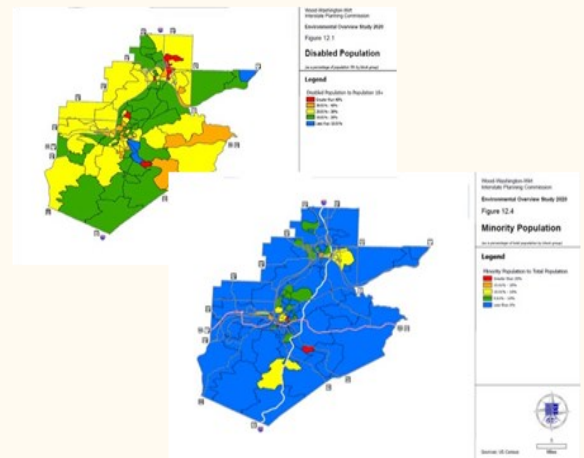
- Staff efforts included the extrapolation of ADT and turn movement volumes from the Streetlight Insight software for 9 separate scenario analyses.
- Work activity included the use of Streetlight software and the preparation of a data summary on the output to transmit a polished product containing the requested information.
- www.triplew.org



RAISE Grants Program Assistance Provided to the City of Marietta by WVV—FY 2022

Regarding the Notice of Funding Opportunity of a new RAISE Grants program, the City of Marietta is seeking RAISE funding to support the planning of a Marietta Mobility District in the City of Marietta, Ohio. The Marietta Mobility District (MMD) will facilitate safe, efficient and accessible travel in the City of Marietta by creating an intermodal transportation corridor that will connect Marietta College and the Historic Harmar Village to downtown Marietta while increasing economic opportunity, accessibility, transportation equity, environmental sustainability, and connectivity throughout the District. The project will address safety, economic strength and global competitiveness, equity, and climate and sustainability in the following ways:

- Safety – improved car, bus, bicycle and pedestrian traffic facilities and pathways, wayfinding signage and ADA accessibility.
- Economic Strength and Global Competitiveness – improved accessibility to local businesses, attract more international staff and students to Marietta College, help local foreign owned companies attract and retain staff, boost the local tourism industry.
- Equity – provides more accessible and affordable transportation for community members by improving pedestrian, bike and bus access to downtown for those who do not have cars. Provides better access for the elderly and ensures ADA accessibility. Serves a quantifiable amount of traditionally underserved areas in the community and environmental justice populations.
- Climate and Sustainability – includes green infrastructure such as solar arrays, electric car charging, and green spaces, reduction of car and auto traffic by enhancing bike and pedestrian traffic and public transportation, and the integration of post construction management best for environmental sustainability during the planning process.



RAISE Grants Program Assistance Provided to the City of Marietta by WWW—FY 2022

WWW assisted the City of Marietta by supplementing crash data, written emphasis on project benefits, socioeconomic data, and environmental justice information.

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This is the first year of the RAISE Transportation Discretionary Grants program under the BIL. The grant program funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. The attached FY 2022 RAISE Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and related information, including initial FAQs, is now available on the RAISE website: <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>). The application deadline is April 14, 2022 at 5 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). The NOFO is expected to be published in the Federal Register by Friday, February 4, 2022.

Staff Response:

- Staff time included coordination with the City of Marietta and Marietta College via email and in-person meetings.
- Staff effort included crash data analysis, document preparation, review of in-house resources and studies, and research.
- Work activity included the preparation of materials and correspondence and staff availability for discussion and feedback with the City and College.
- This effort fulfills work activity included in Section 625 Transportation Planning Service and Administration identified in the FY22 UPWP.
- www.triplew.org

625 Administration

WWW Web Site Development

WWW staff developed the new triplew.org web site to modernize the look and feel of the web site, improve the public's access to information from WWW, and to provide the public a better interface to communicate with WWW. The web site features an updated calendar of events, access to planning documents (such as the Unified Planning Work Program), various plans and studies conducted by WWW staff and other partners (such as Safety Studies), a document archive that provides a historical record of WWW documents, a public notice page that also provides a historical record of public notices.



Updates to the web site will be ongoing and include the following update dates that occurred after the initial development of the web site. The updates for this pamphlet will not include Public Notice postings, as those exist in a separate pamphlet.

03/21/22

03/28/22

03/29/22

Staff Response:

- Staff efforts included developing and updating WWW website
- Work activity spanned from July 2021—June 2022. Including the development of the website, which occurred between November 2021—March 2022
- www.triplew.org

AmeriCorps Seniors Updates



After a long 2 years, AmeriCorps Seniors programs are continuing to “Bounce Back” into service. Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent volunteers are enjoying new t-shirts that show our rebranding and our united bounce back spirit. Our volunteers are the best marketing tool we have and wearing these colorful shirts is bound to bring inquiries about AmeriCorps Seniors.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

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BID OVERRUNS THE RECENT NORM

The Southern Jackson PSD conducted a bid opening for their Sewer System Improvements project on Friday, April 1st. The result of the bid opening for two construction contracts was an approximate bid overrun of \$1M. The PSD is hopefully going to be able to use recently announced congressional directed spending and are awaiting an award on an EPA STAG Grant to cover the overrun but is still awaiting an answer from EPA officials. Funding for this almost \$16M project is coming from the WV IJDC and the WV DEP SRF program.

Tyler County PSD opened bids for two contracts on the Alma-Centerville Water Extension Project, which is funded by USDA-RD and the Tyler County Commission. The bids were a total of approximately \$920,000 over budget. The project team is working to identify funding to close the gap and be able to move the project forward to construction.

City of Ripley opened bids for two contracts on the Ripley Phase II Sewer project which is both line work and a new treatment plant for Ripley and the Evans area. The bid combined bid overrun on that project exceeded \$9 million dollars, but with a deductive alternate removed, the funds needed to advance on the base contracts is approximately \$7.6 million. Ripley had received \$3,000,000 in an earmark EPA Grant from Senator Capiato, and \$1,000,000 has been committed from Jackson County ARPA, with other funds from USDA-RD, the Army Corps, and IJDC identified to leave an additional gap of under \$2.5 million. The work continues to determine if more grant is available or if a loan is the answer to get to contract before bids expire.

ROUND 2 OF HUD MIT APPLICATIONS

The HUD Mitigation Program (MIT) is accepting another round of applications due June 30th, 2022 for projects in Roane and Jackson County in our region. The State of West Virginia Department of Community Advancement and Development (WVCAD) is releasing applications to municipalities, counties, state agencies, nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations for the General Infrastructure Program. WVCAD is also releasing applications for the Regional and Local Planning Grant for municipalities, counties, state agencies, educational institutions, nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations to undertake planning activities to minimize or eliminate risks and reduce losses from future disasters. Community Development staff is reviewing potential eligible projects.