

Lima/Allen County Regional Planning Commission

2022 Annual Report



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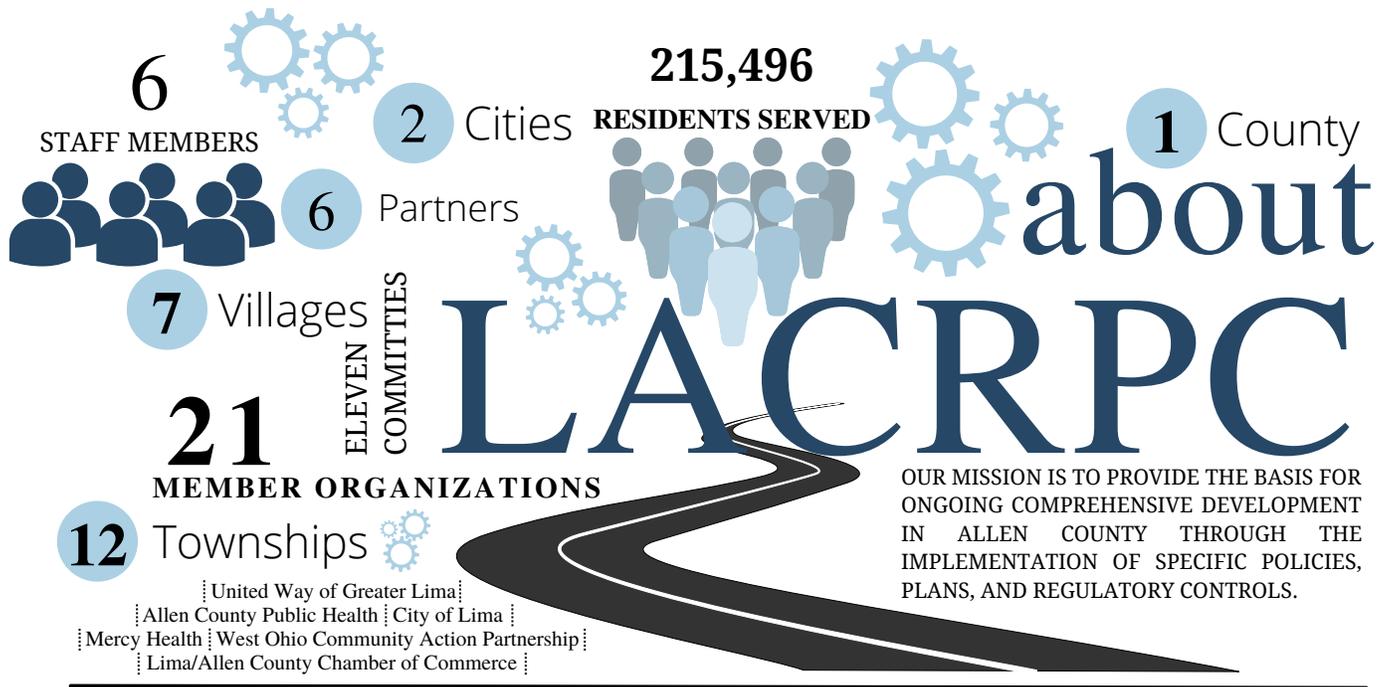
The 2022 Annual Report highlights the work of the Lima/Allen County Regional Planning Commission throughout our planning area. Partnering with townships and municipalities, LACRPC has been able to help provide solutions for regional issues and foster new ideas to move Allen County forward. The work of the LACRPC and its partners can be seen throughout the county. I encourage community members to view our Annual Report to learn about the regional impact LACRPC made in 2022.

The work of the LACRPC is performed by talented and motivated staff committed to regionwide success. Staff provides guidance and consultation to member political subdivisions to ensure a comprehensive, coordinating, and continuing approach to the transportation planning process. LACRPC staff will continue to provide outstanding service to the County in 2023. LACRPC looks forward to working with our partners in 2023 to provide strategic planning for Allen County.



Tara Reynolds Bales
Executive Director

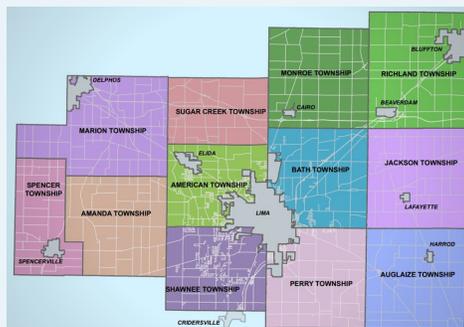




The Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) was established in September 1964 and assumed the powers and duties of the Allen County Planning Commission, which was created in 1954. LACRPC is also the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for Allen County, including the portions of the City of Delphos and the Villages of Bluffton and Cridersville that lie outside of Allen County. The agency is responsible for comprehensive planning and program implementation within Allen County and its various communities and serves in an advisory capacity to community decision-makers who have come to rely on data, analyses, and planning recommendations provided by the Commission. A 34-member Board of Directors assists the Commission by reviewing and recommending plans and strategies to develop and improve the entire region. In addition, the agency works closely with other professionals such as city and county engineers, sanitary engineers, prosecutors, and auditors. Other agencies like Allen County Public Health, Allen Soil and Water Conservation District, Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Department of Public Safety, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and multiple local utilities provide valuable input to this process.

MEMBER MAP

Over 20 local jurisdictions including cities, townships, and villages in Allen County are members of the LACRPC. We work together to promote and advocate for all jurisdictions in Allen County.



LACRPC STAFF

- Tara Reynolds Bales**, Executive Director
- Brandon Casler**, Finance Administrator
- Dode Makley**, Associate Planner
- Cody Doyle**, Senior Planner
- Adam Haunhorst**, Planning Engineer
- Colleen Barry**, Associate Planner
- Shaunna Basinger**, Public Outreach and Community Program Planner

2022 Regional Planning Commission

OFFICERS

Howard Elstro, President
Beth Seibert, President-Elect
Brion Rhodes, Secretary
Kevin Cox, Treasurer

DELEGATES

Beth Seibert, Allen County
Dave Stratton, Allen County
Kelli Singhaus, Allen County
Brion Rhodes, Allen County
Brad Niemeyer, Allen County
Berlin Carroll, Allen County
Susan Crotty, City of Lima
Howard Elstro, City of Lima
Marin Harbur, City of Lima
Kirk Niemeyer, City of Lima
Chuck Sheirloh, City of Lima
Thomas Tebben, City of Lima
James Mehaffie, City of Delphos
Robert Swisher, Villiage of Beaverdam
Mitch Kingsley, Village of Bluffton
Todd Wilkin, Village of Cairo
Dave Metzger, Village of Elida
Tony Blake, Village of Harrod
Sean Chapman, Village of Spencerville
Doug Post, Amanda Township
Paul Basinger, American Township
Larry Vandemark, American Township
Steve Ewing, Auglaize Township
Brad Baxter, Bath Township
Randy Ackerman, Jackson Township
Jerry Gilden, Marion Township
Steven Beam, Monroe Township
Kevin Cox, Perry Township
Michael Zimmerly, Richland Township
Ted Ciminillo, Shawnee Township
Russ Holly, Shawnee Township
Rick Keller, Spencer Township
Kent McCleary, Sugar Creek Township

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sean Chapman Brion Rhodes
Kevin Cox Chuck Shierloh
Howard Elstro Beth Seibert
Steve Ewing James Mehaffie
Jerry Gilden Thomas Tebben
Mitch Kinglsey Larry Vandemark
Doug Post

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Howard Elstro Brion Rhodes
Steve Ewing Thomas Tebben
Jerry Gilden Susan Wildermuth
Doug Post

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Steve Beam Rick Keller
Mark Bishop Brandon Fischer
Tyler Black Patrick Maloney
Phil Briggs Kent McCleary
Norm Capps John Schneider
Alice Curth Adam Francis
Derry Glenn Alison Sites
Matthew Graff Brad Swick
Casey Heilman Rodney Watkins
Michael Hensley Todd Wilkin
Ahmad Houston Mary Williamson

CITIZENS ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sarah Beery Joe Lewis
Alice Curth Jodi Owens
Joan Davis Elisha Reineke
Carole Enneking Holly Rex
Karen Garland Beca Sheidler
Michael Hensley Stephanie Motter
Jacob King Paula Siebeneck
Nell Lester Charles Schreck
Josh Unterbrink

Committees and Members

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Jon Basinger	Russ Holly
Laura Bassitt	Ahmad Houston
Mark Bishop	Dan Kaseman
Berlin Carroll	Greg Kessen
Susan Crotty	Mitch Kinglsey
Tom Ekelberg	Lynn Moeller
Sue Gerker	Tony Wilkerson
Todd Gordon	

DEVELOPMENTAL CONTROLS COMMITTEE

Paul Basinger	Kent McCleary
Brad Baxter	Doug Post
Mark Bishop	Chuck Scheirloh
Kevin Cox	Beth Seibert
Steve Ewing	Kim Stiles
Jerry Gilden	Dave Stratton

TRANSPORTATION

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sean Chapman	James Mehaffie
Eric Davis	Shawn McPheron
Karen Garland	Jed Metzger
Daniel Hoying	Ron Meyer
Dan Kaseman	Kirk Niemeyer
Brad Niemeyer	Charles Schreck
Greg Kessen	Tony Wilkerson
Cindy Leis	

TRANSPORTATION

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Sean Chapman	Chuck Scheirloh
Kevin Cox	Doug Post
Joan Davis	Brion Rhodes
Howard Elstro	Charles Schreck
Steve Ewing	Beth Seibert
Jerry Gilden	Thomas Tebben
Mitch Kingsley	Larry Vandemark
James Mehaffie	Karen Garland

LIMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MANUFACTURER'S COUNCIL

The Regional Planning Commission recognizes freight as a particularly important sector of the economy as freight movements effect everyone both directly and indirectly. The MC is comprised of area manufacturers, trucking firms, rail services, public sector engineering and public and private sector economic development representatives. It's primary responsibility is to help public-sector policy-makers, planners, and engineers better understand the complexities associated with freight movement to more effectively guide public investment in the transportation infrastructure.

Chuck Holloway	Nany Wireman
Joe Faine	Danielle Good
Dave Stratton	Steve Hatkevich
Cindy Leis	Joe Patton
Heath Alloway	John Ficorilli
Anne Schemmel	Shannon S. Shartell
Charles L. Gasperetti	John Shaver
James H. Borgert	Jeff Hager
Jas Gill	James Rudolph
Mark Krohn	Tony Daley
Hank Kennedy	Dawn Hauenstein
Rick Diebel	David Tuttle
Claudio Ingaramo	Keith Hamburg
Craig Hohenbrink	Dan Risser
Drew Fields	Devin Parker
Jamie Hamilton	Andrew Wannemacher
Joe Krendl	Scott Cockerell
Shane Coleman	Doug Olsson
Traci Sanchez	Traci Bradford
Teri Silone	
Todd Sutton	

THANK
you

to all those who give of
their time, energy, and
expertise to help us better
serve our communities.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

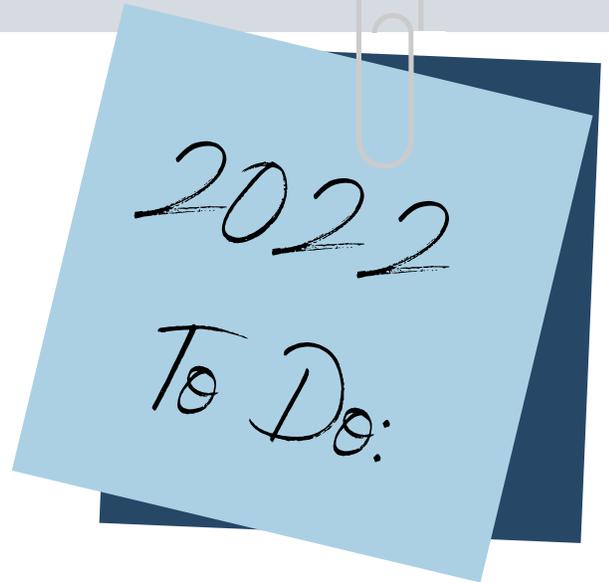
As the Metropolitan Planning Organization, LACRPC provides cooperative, comprehensive, and continuous transportation planning to the Lima urbanized area. This process ensures the region's local transportation network continues to be developed consistent with the safe and efficient movement of people and freight. The MPO's overall purpose is to allocate transportation investments of federal and various other transportation funding resources, provide a comprehensive examination of the Lima area's future, and facilitate the collaboration of governments, agencies, interested parties, and residents in the planning process.

Transportation

- ✓ Creation of the Rural Transportation Improvement Program (Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, Van Wert, and Wyandot)
- ✓ Completed FY2023 Unified Planning Work Program
- ✓ FY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program
- ✓ FY2024-2029 Long Range Transportation Plan
- ✓ Traffic Counts (Bluffton, Lima, American, Auglaize, Richland, Spencerville, and Elida.)
- ✓ Speed Studies (Shawnee)
- ✓ Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Review
- ✓ Allen County Bridge Inventory Update
- ✓ Streetlight Data Analyses
- ✓ 2021 Crash Summary Report
- ✓ 2021 Fatal Crash Report
- ✓ High Crash Intersection Review
- ✓ Adopt Safety Based Performance Measures
- ✓ Main & Market Roundabout

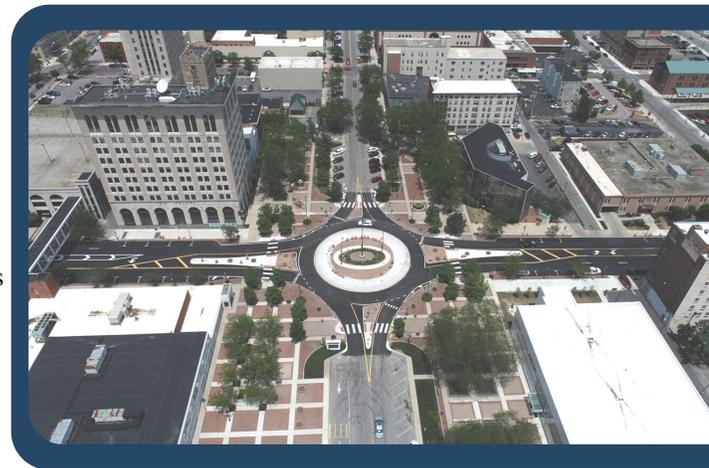
Long Range Planning, Sustainability, and Environment

- ✓ Village of Elida Comprehensive Plan Update – Complete
- ✓ Village of Bluffton Comprehensive Plan – Near Completions
- ✓ City of Lima Comprehensive Plan – Complete
- ✓ WOCAP Community Assessments (Allen, Auglaize, and Mercer Counties)
- ✓ Lima Crime Data Collection
- ✓ Ohio Department of Education Designated School Mapping

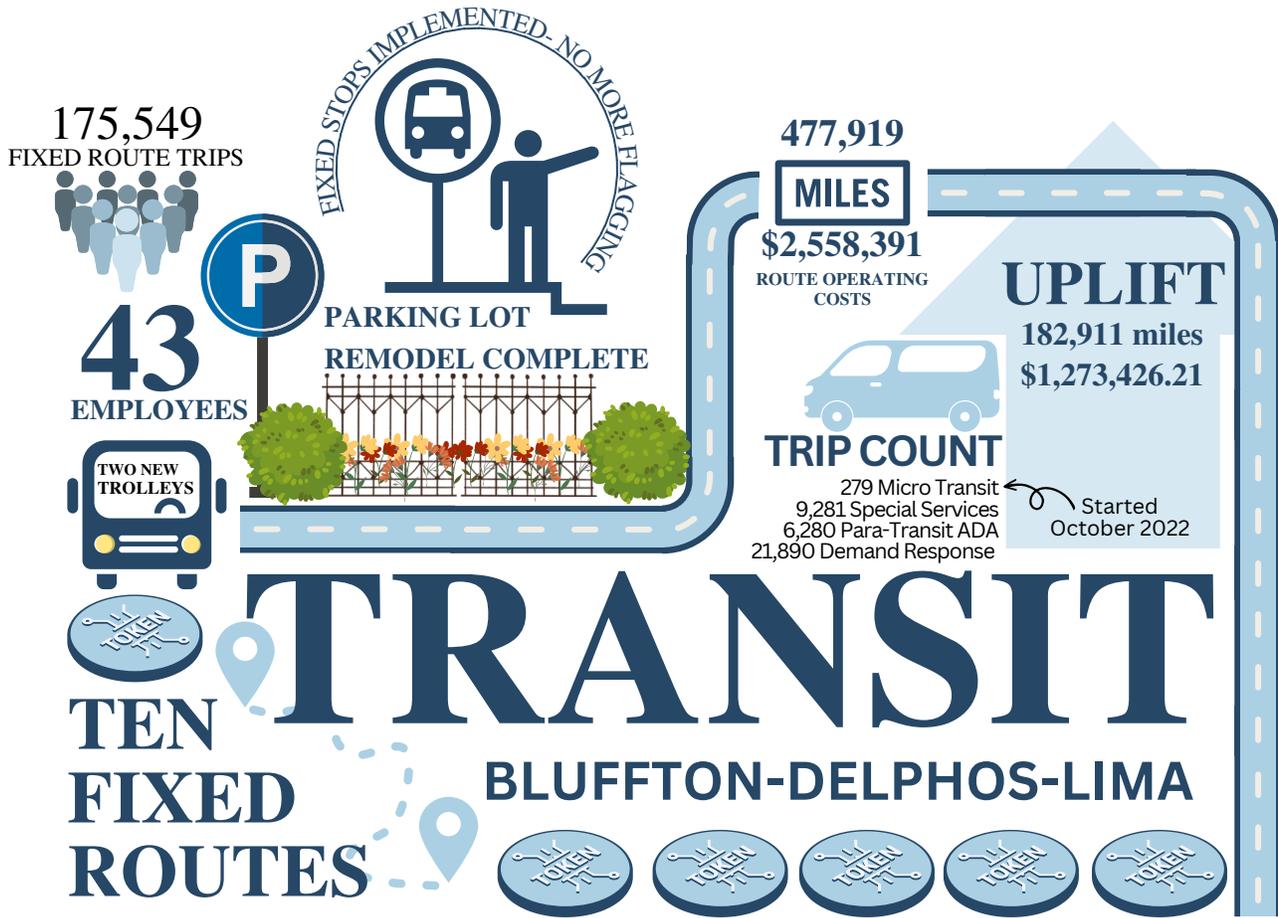


Active Transportation

- ✓ Biannual Bike and Pedestrian Count Program
- ✓ ADA Transition Plan Work (Delphos and Spencerville)
- ✓ Active Transportation Plan Update
- ✓ Bluffton Complete Streets Initiation



Market & Main Roundabout



The Allen County Regional Transit Authority (ACRTA) was created in 1974 by the Board of Allen County Commissioners to provide needed transportation services across Allen County. Transit management reflects a seven-member Board of Trustees, appointed by the Allen County Commissioners, who oversee the operations of fixed-route and complementary paratransit services. In addition, ACRTA works with ODOT and LACRPC to optimize federal and state funding for necessary rolling stock, equipment, maintenance, facility upgrades, and technical assistance.

HOP A TROLLEY WITH THE RTA!



To support the growth happening throughout Downtown, RTA has purchased two trolleys to be used in Downtown loops to help transport visitors and patrons .

One trolley will operate on a fixed route in Downtown Lima circulating every half hour starting on Saturdays and Downtown Event days.

The second trolley will be used for parking lot pick up during events at the amphitheater, Veteran's Memorial Civic Center, and other such events.

This service will be free to the Downtown and its patrons through its first season.

SAFE COMMUNITIES

Since 1994, LACRPC has managed traffic safety-related projects using federal funds through grants administered by the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS). The 2022 Safe Communities Grants models a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration plan that targets interventions to reduce the occurrence of traffic crashes and the associated economic, societal, and personal costs. A few 2022 initiatives include:

- Countywide observational seatbelt surveys documented 80.1% restraint use.
- Promotional materials resulted in an estimated 14 million traffic safety media impressions, both traditional and digital media, encouraging seatbelt use, motorcycle safety, risk awareness associated with impaired driving and distracted driving as well as bicycle/pedestrian safety, railroad grade crossing, etc.
- Participated in National Night Out with partners at the Allen County Sheriff's Office.
- Awareness materials, promoting traffic safety, were distributed, including "I'm bucklin' it" McDonald's dessert coupons.
- Promoted children's bicycle safety with partners Activate Allen County, St. Rita's Medical Center, and Lima Memorial Health System by distributing bicycle helmets to area youth.



2022 SAFE COMMUNITIES AWARDS

Every year, the Safe Community Coalition takes nominations from our partners and the community to honor individuals who put in the work daily to make Lima-Allen County a safer place. In contrast to past years and in response to such an enthusiastic number of nominations, Coalition members decided to widen the limelight and have 13 honorees instead of the previous seven. Inside this packet, you will find more information on our honorees and the work that they are doing to serve our community.

Thank you to all the men and women who work tirelessly to ensure our community has safety in every aspect; Emergency Services, Fire Safety, Traffic Safety, Engineering, Youth Safety, Children's Safety, and as Outstanding Citizens.

Emergency Medical Services
B-Shift
Lima Fire Department

Fire Safety Award
Fire Chief Justin Roberts
Perry Township Fire Department

Traffic Safety Award
Trooper Kenton J. Gibson
Ohio State Highway Patrol

Sergeant Scott Luedeke
Lima Police Department

Engineering Award
Kirk Niemeyer
City of Lima, Director of Public Works

Outstanding Service Award
Deputy Warden Corey D. Foster
Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution

Robert Cornett
Disabled Veterans Outreach Program

Judge Tammie Hursh
Lima Municipal Treatment Court

Youth Safety Award
Violence Prevention Program
Crime Victim Services

Aaron McLaurine
Soldiers of Honor

Children's Safety Award
Emily Bowsher
Lima Fire Department

Autism Safety Kit
Autism Life Center

Patrolman Eric Mericle
Safety City

MOCK CRASHES

LIMA CENTRAL CATHOLIC
 BATH HIGH SCHOOL
 ALLEN EAST HIGH SCHOOL
 PERRY HIGH SCHOOL



ACTIVATE ALLEN COUNTY

Our local built environment is largely determined by land use and transportation decisions, and these decisions affect the quality of life of the community over the long term. Activate Allen County looks to use civic engagement and regulatory controls to address issues with the help of a broad-based coalition of local health care providers, major employers, development professionals and community leaders whose goal is to create a community in which all residents can thrive in our built environment. Concerns and discussions over transportation costs as well as the expenditures required for roadway maintenance and safety projects are finding allies with local residents who are concerned with active transportation, urban sprawl, farmland, preservation, and water/air quality standards. In a spirit of cooperation, this committee is working to explore the nature of these issues from a more holistic perspective. In a unique partnership, the RPC has entered into conversations, programming, and activities to examine sustainability and sustainable development on a number of different levels focusing on developing a balanced and equitable approach to transportation, land use, employment and an improved quality of life.

- Allen County
-
- Allen County Public Health
-
- City of Lima
-
- Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce
-
- Lima/Allen County Regional Planning Commission
-
- Mental Health & Recovery Services Board
-
- Mercy Health
-
- The Ohio State University- Lima
-
- United Way of Greater Lima
-
- West Ohio Community Action Partnership

COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. The CDBG grants support affordable housing, necessary infrastructure improvements, and the delivery of antipoverty programs in eligible communities.

The Allen County Board of Commissioners is responsible for developing and delivering eligible local projects consistent with the program's national objectives. However, projects must benefit low-to-moderate income persons, aid a targeted population (such as senior citizens or the disabled), or provide for the elimination of slum/blight conditions.

In 2022, Allen County worked to deliver Community Housing Improvement Program Preservation (CHIPP) services to provide rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer assistance, emergency home repair, etc., to qualified residents of Allen County. In addition, the County CDBG Program, administered by RPC, funded WOCAP and GLCAP housing foreclosure counseling and fair housing education.



\$91,339 in CHIP Funds

-and-



\$381,960 in CHIP Funds

INFORMATION SERVICES

The LACRPC strives to provide information and data analysis to local decision-makers to enhance an intelligent decision-making process. The Commission concentrates on data collection and analysis activities in community development, transportation, environmental planning, and other areas of local interest. Most of the information gathered by LACRPC is available on our website at www.lacrpc.com. We also provide information via our technical library, our designation as a local Census affiliate, and many relationships we have built throughout Allen County due to many opportunities to provide technical support. The agency website proved to be a valuable tool for local information as it recorded 4.5K hits and recorded 6.3K user sessions in 2022.

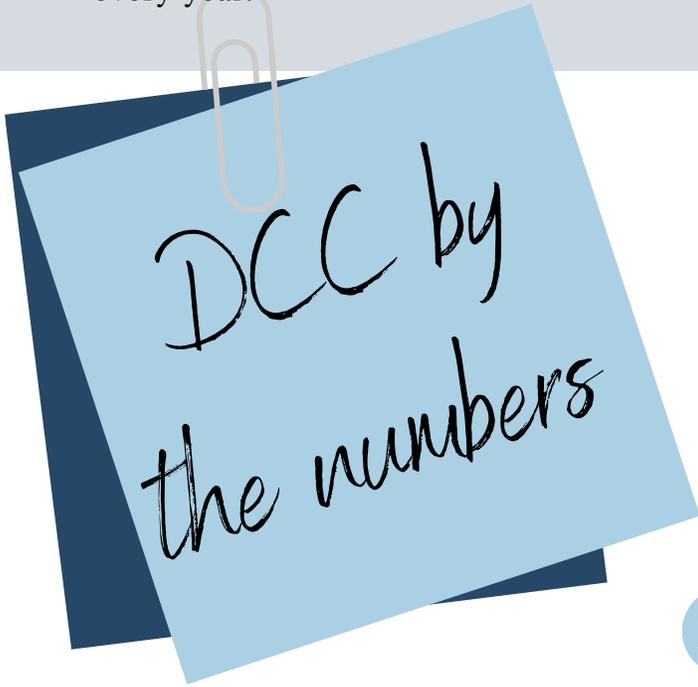
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

LACRPC has a unique and vital leadership role in Allen County. Founded upon regional collaboration, cooperation, and consensus-building principles, LACRPC serves as the common ground where area partners come together to work toward a shared vision across the region. Together, public and private partners develop and implement innovative and sustainable strategies that enhance the region's quality of life and economic vitality.

LACRPC recognizes that a public participation plan (PPP) provides methods, strategies, and desired outcomes for public involvement and is committed to meaningful and proactive public participation. This plan includes outreach to a broadly defined audience of affected parties to ensure projects and planning activities evolve from and address public needs. Providing a forum for public participation demonstrates that the region recognizes citizens' rights to be heard. These forums, coupled with careful attention to feedback, will result in better, well-informed decision-making. To find out how you can participate, visit our website at www.lacrpc.com.

DEVELOPMENTAL CONTROLS

LACRPC, in conjunction with a host of local agencies, assists its members in monitoring, reviewing, and approving development activities within Allen County while helping establish regulatory controls to minimize adverse environmental and economic effects as a result of development. The agency administers the minor and major subdivision process and floodplain regulations in the unincorporated areas of Allen County. In addition, the agency is responsible for the review of a host of zoning issues every year.



MAJOR LAND DIVISIONS

Construction Drawings:

- Camden Ridge Phase 2, *Shawnee Twp*
- 7 Oaks No. 3, *American Twp*
- Country Aire Expansion 5-C, *American Twp*
- Lost Creek Subdivision, *Bath Twp*

Overall Development Plan:

- 7 Oaks No. 3, *American Twp*
- Camden Ridge Phase 2, 3, 4, *Shawnee Twp*
- Kenyon Heights, *American Twp*

37 MINOR LAND DIVISIONS

39 Land Transfer

30 Lot Split

4 Variance
American - Perry

Exempted Land Divisions
Affecting 1263.378 Acres

0 Ag Exempt

ZONING REGULATIONS

0 Zoning Amendments

10 Zoning Petitions
American - Bath - Jackson - Perry - Richland - Shawnee

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

6 Permits
Marion - Bath - Delphos
Sugar Creek - America

2 Violations
Bath - Delphos

✓ Participated in map revision process

✓ Participated in ODNR Community Assistance Visit



FINANCIAL REPORT

The LACRPC expended a budget of \$637,361 in CY 2022. Local membership assessments of \$122,465 were used in the operating budget to leverage state and federal planning grants by approximately 4.63 to 1. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Transportation funded the agency’s transportation planning activities. At the same time, the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) supported various safety initiatives.

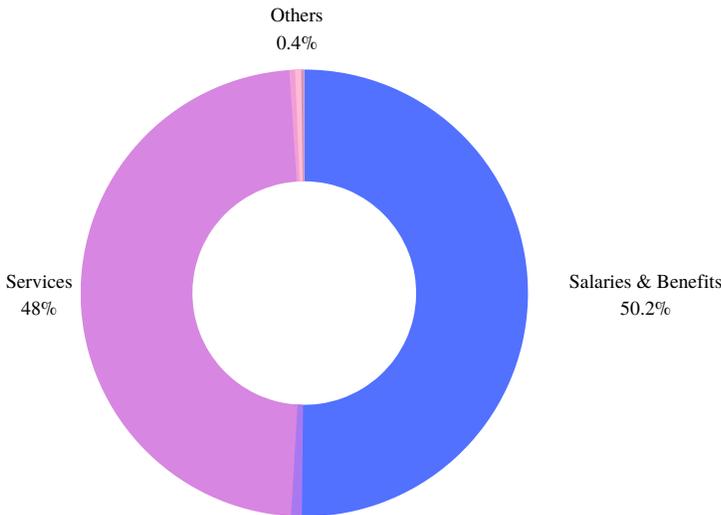
The LACRPC Board of Directors is responsible for making sure that sound decisions are made concerning spending and stimulating the flow of state and federal funds in Allen County. Member governments invested \$122,645 in per capita fees to the LACRPC. The community received grants, services, and capital improvements of more than \$31.4 million. A simple assessment reveals “a return of approximately \$276.76 as compared to CY 2021 at \$186.96 to the larger community for every \$1 entrusted to LACRPC in CY 2021.” In addition, LACRPC delivered noncash benefits to its members by providing a vehicle to exchange valuable information.

Delivering a Return

"A RETURN OF APPROXIMATELY \$276.76 TO THE LARGER COMMUNITY FOR EVERY \$1 ENTRUSTED TO LACRPC."

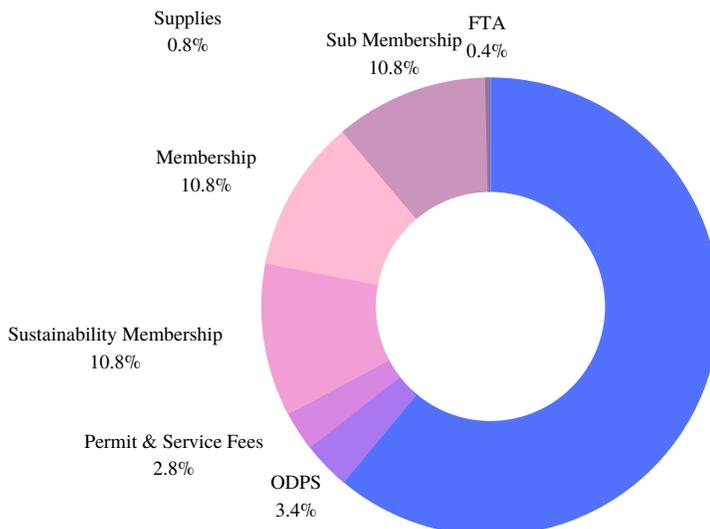


EXPENSE



Expenses	Amount
Salaries & Benefits	\$520,438
Supplies	\$8,067
Services	\$97,711
Repairs	\$4,341
Others	\$4,530
Travel	\$2,273
Total:	\$637,361

INCOME



Income	Amount
FHWA & ODOT	\$362,147
ODPS	\$24,197
Permit & Service Fees	\$94,672
Sustainability Membership	\$8,648
Membership	\$122,645
FTA	\$7,685
Total:	\$526,814

FHWA & ODOT
61%



Lima/Allen County
**REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION**



130 W. North Street, Lima, Ohio 45801

Phone: 419-228-1836

www.lacrpc.com