



# LIMA/ALLEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Spring 2024 • Volume 28 • Issue 1



## WELCOME

This newsletter is intended to provide timely updates on local transportation projects, area (re)development initiatives, as well as transit and paratransit related news, highway safety, and other activities undertaken by the Planning Commission and our partners. The newsletter is supported in part with funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FTA), the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), and the Planning Commission member political subdivisions.

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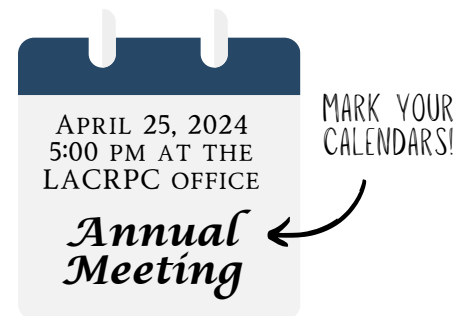
# DRAFT FY2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

The Lima/Allen County Regional Planning Commission annually prepares a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) detailing the work it proposes to perform during the upcoming fiscal year (FY). The FY2025 UPWP reflects a timeline from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and identifies more than two dozen separate work elements, as well as associated expenditures of \$1,177,023 necessary to support the LACRPC committee structure and staff. In addition, 21 local political subdivisions contribute \$113,780 to support local planning services and the seven West Central Ohio Rural Transportation Planning Organization (WORPO) counties contribute \$21,608 to support regional planning services. The UPWP provides not only specific details about the LACRPC, its mission, organizational structure and responsibilities, but also provides the rationale and justification for planned activities. The UPWP is presented to both federal and state agencies for review and approval before adoption by the LACRPC Board of Directors and includes:

- Tasks to be completed over the fiscal year
- Identification of all funding sources
- Identification of federal and/or state-funded studies
- Identification of significant studies not funded with federal and/or state funds
- Identification of responsible federal and/or state agencies
- Schedule of activities
- Identification of local stakeholders

Planning emphasis areas for the FY2025 Work Program include:

- Implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Capital Programs Management
- Development of 2026-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP/STIP)
- Transport Ohio Implementation (freight)
- Title VI Environmental Justice



The FY2025 UPWP is available for review online at the LACRPC website – [www.lacrpc.com](http://www.lacrpc.com). A copy is also available in the LACRPC office at 130 W. North St., Lima on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS

The Planning Commission is currently working with staff and members of the City of Lima, West Ohio Community Action Partnership (WOCAP), the Allen Metropolitan Housing Authority and the Allen County Housing Consortium to update the 2019 Analysis of Impediments: Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Choice (AI).

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, and disability. Section 808(e)(5) of the Fair Housing Act requires that all communities receiving federal financial assistance to administer housing programs and activities must “affirmatively further fair housing choice.” Restricting such choice limits not only an individual’s housing opportunities, but also may limit educational and employment opportunities.

The AI must not only identify impediments to fair housing but also identify warranted actions to eliminate those identified restrictions. To provide accountability, the AI must include goal statements intended to provide the community with an overview of the steps necessary to eliminate the barriers to housing choice, including a five-year action plan with benchmarks, timelines, and responsible parties. Federal requirements mandate an annual review of the action plan. Annual review findings are intended to provide the community and the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) with an easy-to-read overview of the steps taken to eliminate identified barriers countywide. To continue to receive federal funds for housing programs, the AI must meet planning requirements identified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and ODSA, as well as be formally adopted by both the City of Lima and Allen County.

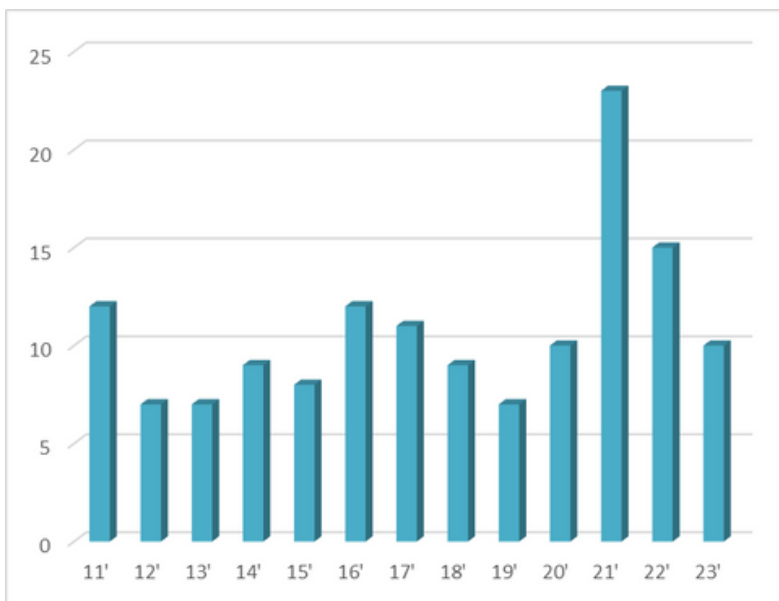
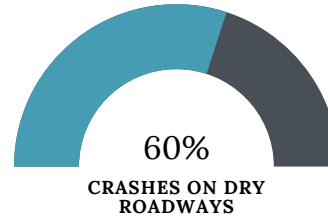
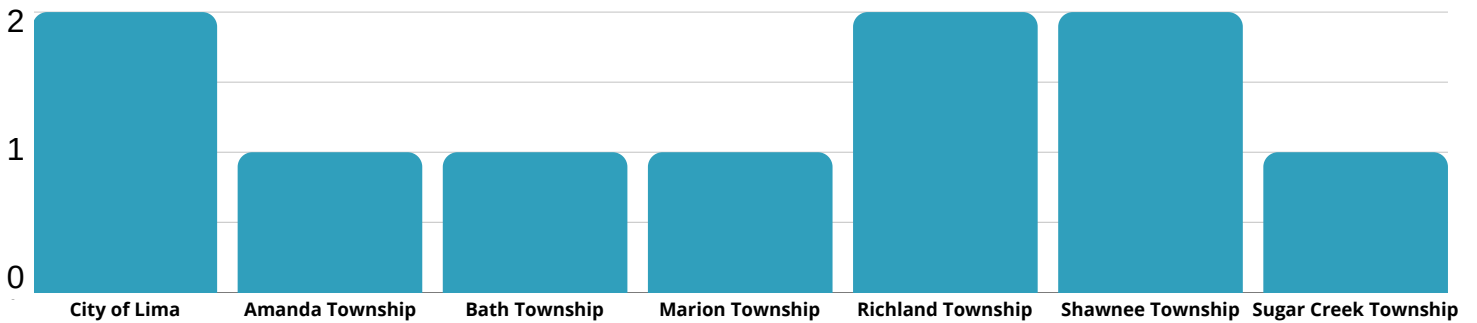
For more information, call the LACRPC office at 419-228-1836 or email [mkinnear@lacrpc.com](mailto:mkinnear@lacrpc.com).

# 2023 ALLEN COUNTY FATAL CRASH REPORT

The Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission recently released the DRAFT 2023 Allen County Fatal Crash Summary Report depicting 2023 motor vehicle fatal crash data. This data is designed to be used for reference and to support crash trend analyses. The goal is to provide insight into the general state of local roadway safety, to identify trends or patterns in fatal crashes, to review systemic contributing causes of crash incidents, and to support high-profile safety programs.

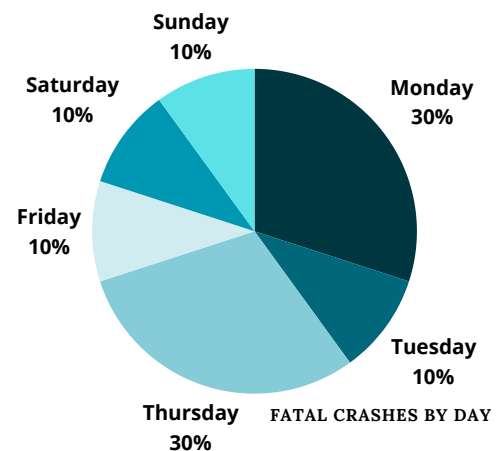
The report is compiled annually to identify problems contributing to fatal crashes, such as specific locations and/or actions. This problem-identification enables law enforcement agencies, traffic and engineering professionals, as well as safety advocates, to target these problems with effective programming. The specific objectives of this traffic crash summary report are to assess overall characteristics of fatal motor vehicle crashes, identify crash trends, and communicate public education measures. These initiatives have the potential to help reduce fatal crashes and provide a benchmark in order to assess the effectiveness of roadway improvements and/or traffic-safety programming.

The DRAFT 2023 Allen County Fatal Crash Report is available at [www.lacrpc.com](http://www.lacrpc.com) in the Recently at RPC Section. A copy of the report can also be accessed Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the LACRPC office, which is located at 130 W. North St., Lima, OH 45801.



FATAL CRASHES OVER TIME

- 33.3% DECREASE IN FATAL CRASHES
- 20% OF FATAL CRASHES OCCURED AT NIGHT
- 20% OF FATAL CRASHES INVOLVED MOTORCYCLES
- 30% OF FATAL CRASHES INVOLVED IMPAIRED DRIVERS



## PROCESSED BY LACRPC

## 4TH QTR

## YTD

Lot Split	41	116
Replat	0	4
Floodplain Development Permit	4 new	9 new 1 renewed



**UPCOMING CARFIT EVENT:  
APRIL 17, 2024  
11 AM – 2 PM  
LIMA CENTRAL FIRE STATION  
433 S. MAIN STREET**

Questions or to register, please email:  
[mkinnear@lacrpc.com](mailto:mkinnear@lacrpc.com)



## WHAT IS CARFIT?

CarFit is an educational program that offers older adults the opportunity to check how well their personal vehicles "fit" them. The program also provides information and materials on community-specific resources that could enhance their safety as drivers and/or increase their mobility in the community.

Those interested in becoming a trained technician/coordinator for CarFit events should email [mkinnear@lacrpc.com](mailto:mkinnear@lacrpc.com).



## BIKE & PEDESTRIAN COUNTS

The "Bike & Pedestrian Counts" in Allen County will take place May 6-12. If you would like more information and/or would like to volunteer to help count/track bicyclists and pedestrians, please contact:

**Josh Unterbrink**  
Activate Allen County  
[junterbrink@activateallencounty.com](mailto:junterbrink@activateallencounty.com)  
419-303-3387



# SAFE DRIVING MORNING WITH BATH HIGH SCHOOL

On Feb. 27, Bath High School students took part in a Safe Driving Morning thanks to the collaborative efforts of Bath High School, The Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP), and the Lima-Allen County Safe Community Coalition. Sergeant Chad Recker and Trooper Alan Hankinson spoke with about 50 seniors and 110 freshmen to share the many contributions to safety that the OSHP makes in our communities, including the Drive to Live campaign aimed at promoting responsible driving habits among young drivers.

The Drive to Live campaign focuses on empowering young drivers with the knowledge and skills necessary to make responsible choices behind the wheel. By combining forces with the Arrive Alive Tour, which is an immersive experience that simulates the dangers of distracted and impaired driving, it is the hope that this day will have a lasting impact on students' attitudes toward safety.

The Safe Driving Morning concluded with the seniors and freshmen trying a multitude of games and physical challenges that simulated being impaired with the use of "Drunk Goggles." Students who were easily making their free throw or corn hole tosses, were suddenly disoriented and thrown off when they put on the "drunk goggles" and had the feeling of being "impaired" to further show the students the dangers of operating a vehicle under the influence.

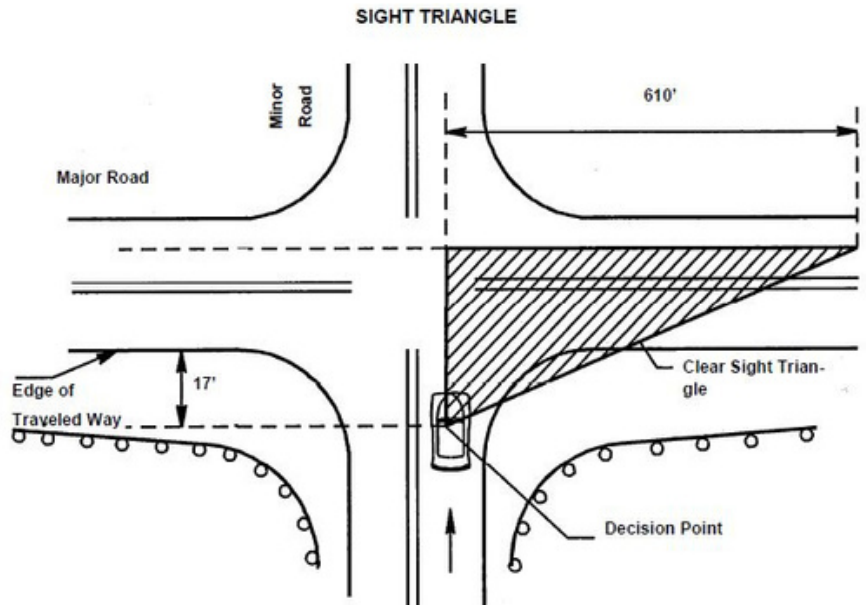


“Any opportunity we get to have community and first responder agencies come in and speak to the kids we want to take advantage. We are so thankful to OSHP and their Drive to Live Program, the Arrive Alive Tour, and the Safe Community Coalition for their help in making today happen. Bath High School will continue to educate safe and responsible decision-making both on campus and off” - Principal Brian Jesko.

## IT'S PLANTING TIME... REMEMBER SIGHTLINES!

As planting season approaches in Allen County, farmers and landowners are reminded to avoid encroaching on road rights-of-way (ROW) to ensure traffic safety at intersections. The ROW comprises driving lanes, shoulders, ditches, and sight triangles. Planting in the sight triangle portion can obstruct views, creating safety hazards for drivers. Rural intersection crashes, accounting for one-third of all accidents in Allen County, may result from reduced visibility.

The Ohio Supreme Court warns against ROW encroachment, stating liability for hazards created by inconsistent use. It emphasizes that lack of knowledge is not an excuse, and political subdivisions may also be liable. Plan ahead and refrain from planting in the road right-of-way this spring.



To help better understand the road right-of-way, the image above depicts the sight triangle illustrating the 610 feet needed for drivers to react and stop when traveling at 55 mph.

# 31st Annual OTTAWA RIVER CLEAN UP 2024

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 ~ 9 A.M. TO NOON

ASSIGNMENT/TOOL PICK-UP AND WALK-UP REGISTRATION:  
CENTRAL SERVICES BUILDING  
900 S. COLLETT ST.  
LIMA, OH 45804

▶▶▶▶ DRIVE THRU ▶▶▶▶



### Pre-Register to Volunteer!

Minors are welcome if accompanied by an adult.

Get your clean-up location assignment early by pre-registering! Send one car to pick up supplies and the rest of you can meet on location!

## LACRPC Spotlight - Colleen Barry

Colleen Barry has been with the Lima/Allen County Regional Planning Commission (LACRPC) since July 2021. Recently, Colleen was promoted from assistant planner to senior planner/RTPO manager and leads projects involving the West Central Ohio Planning Organization (RTPO).

The RTPO consists of the seven counties that surround Allen County, which include Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, Van Wert and Wyandot. As manager of the RTPO, she works to conduct coordinated, comprehensive and continuing regional transportation planning for non-metropolitan areas.

The purpose of the RTPO is to assist the member governments in identifying the unique issues and needs that come with living in rural communities and help to obtain the funding and resources in order to ensure they are better integrated in the development and implementation of regional transportation goals.



# 100 DEADLIEST DAYS

# OF SUMMER

Memorial Day through Labor Day

Traffic volume increases during the summer months typically bring with it a corresponding increase in vehicular crashes and deaths.

**Celebrate Summertime Safely.**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the specified times in the conference room of the Planning Commission located at 130 W. North St., Lima, OH 45801. Meetings are open to the public.

### APRIL

### MAY

### JUNE

CMTE	DATE	TIME	CMTE	DATE	TIME	CMTE	DATE	TIME
DCC	Tue, Apr. 9th	3:00 pm	DCC	Tue, May 7th	3:00 pm	DCC	Tue, June 4th	3:00 pm
CDC	Thu, Apr. 18th	3:30 pm	TAC	Tue, May 21st	1:30 pm	DCC	Tue, June 18th	3:00 pm
CAC	Tue, Apr. 23rd	10:00 am	DCC	Tue, May 21st	3:00 pm	TAC	Tue, June 25th	1:30 pm
TAC	Tue, Apr. 23rd	1:30 pm	AAC	Wed, May 22nd	4:00 pm	AAC	Wed, June 26th	4:00 pm
DCC	Tue, Apr. 23rd	3:00 pm	TCC	Thu, May 23rd	4:00 pm	TCC	Thu, June 27th	3:00 pm
AAC	Wed, Apr. 24th	4:00 pm	EC	Thu, May 23rd	3:00 pm	EC	Thu, June 27th	4:00 pm
TCC	Thu, Apr. 25th	3:00 pm						
EC	Thu, Apr. 25th	4:00 pm						
Annual	Tue, Apr. 25th	5:00 pm						

### CONTACT US

Lima Allen County Regional Planning Commission  
130 W. North St. Lima, OH 45801  
419-228-1836