Appendix: Public Participation Summary

After completing months of stakeholder involvement in the development of this report the Miami Valley regional Planning Commission undertook to solicit input and suggestions from general audiences, in order to ensure the report and its recommendations were broadly acceptable and compatible with development plans in the Region.

The plan draft was made available on the MVRPC web site starting in January 2016, and a formal public participation period was open from February 8, 2016 through March 7, 2016. A formal public participation meeting was held on February 25, 2016. Full presentations about the plan draft were made on the following dates:

1. January 21, 2016 – MVRPC Technical Advisory Committee
2. February 1, 2016 – Fairborn Community Library at the invitation of the B-W Greenway Land Trust
3. February 4, 2016 – MVRPC Board of Directors
4. February 25, 2016 – Formal public participation meeting at the MVRPC offices

Full documentation of efforts to advertise the public participation period is included at the end of this section.

Comments Received

In the course of the public review, MVRPC received two comments directly related to the plan report and recommendations. These comments are reproduced here, with responses.

Comment 1 – received via e-mail on January 15, 2016

There are really a lot of people, including myself, that do not like the [Greater Dayton] Greenbelt…. I would really like to see it not included. For one, it is not a realistic concept to complete a solid ring around the west side of the county. Second, the way most of what we are looking at involves the river corridors and links of rivers and bike trails. From a regional planning perspective, there is little value to this plan in my opinion.

I am trying to work … on a replacement plan, but I would really hate to see this plan show up in a longer range adopted document….

The plan report does not endorse the Greater Dayton Greenbelt concept, and adoption of the plan report by the Board of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission would not equate to the adoption of the GDG. The reference to the GDG in the report serves to illustrate how the GIS-based analysis process used for this document generated a very similar result to the vision that produced the greenbelt. The report text recognizes similar shortcomings of the GDG, as
well. For these reasons, staff sees no reason to drop the reference to the Greater Dayton Greenbelt from the final report.

**Comment 2 – received verbally on February 4, 2016 (summary/paraphrase)**

The commenter asked if the open space data included parcels on which the Miami Conservancy District held “deed restrictions.” These restrictions forbid placing structures on parcels directly behind the major flood control dams below elevations that are reasonably expected to be inundated by the normal operation of the dams. It was further asked if these deed-restricted parcels were appropriate for the open space data.

It was determined that the parcels on which MCD holds such deed restrictions were not included in the open space data set used for the analysis in this report. Discussions with Conservancy District staff and internal to the open space project staff at MVRPC centered around the broad definition of open space presented in the report: a location protected in some way from traditional residential or commercial development. With this meaning in mind staff reached the conclusion that these deed-restricted parcels are most akin to conservation easements and would be appropriate for inclusion under that category.

Data on the locations with the deed restrictions was requested from the Miami Conservancy District.

**Comment 3 – received March 4, 2016 from the Miami Conservancy District**

Due to the volume of comments a response is provided after each comment in blue.

We appreciate MVRPC’s focus on open space planning in the region. Protection of open spaces not only increases land for recreation, but it also protects land over the aquifer, rivers and streams, floodplains, and other important natural resources that benefit our communities.

The draft report is clear and easy to understand and the process that MVRPC facilitated to gather this data and reach the conclusions was described thoroughly. However, as a potential end-user of this report, it would be more useful if the report:

- Did not include properties such as utilities, mineral extraction facilities, airfields, and fairgrounds.
- Did include all land that is currently protected open space – such as the Retarding Basins behind each MCD flood protection dam.
- Increased the discussion of why Open Space lands protect critical resources such as our drinking water source.
- Used the Decision Support Tool section to make recommendations on how communities can increase Open Space lands.

Specific comments:

Cover page – The cover says “February” but the Footer throughout the document says “January 2016”. This will be addressed in the final document.

Section 1 – Executive Summary
We suggest you mention in this section that an important reason to protect open space land is to protect land over the aquifer, protect source water areas and prevent degradation of water resources. Mentioning this could strengthen the argument for open space planning and protection. This suggestion has been incorporated.

Page 1 - First paragraph. Last sentence. Is the open space per capita is at an all-time high, or is it that “reported” open space per capita is at an all-time high? This text refers to open space of which we are aware and reflected in the GIS dataset.

Page 1 - Third paragraph. First sentence. You use the word “protected” in the definition of Open Space at the top of the page, but in this sentence you use the word “conserved”. Those terms are not interchangeable, so we suggest you choose one and use it consistently throughout the report. “Conserve” has been changed to “protect.”

Page 3 – Second paragraph. First sentence. This is a good question. Why have previous reports not had a noticeable impact on development patterns? What goals and/or activities were identified in those reports that focused on impacts to development? What goals and/or activities should be created in this current report to impact development patterns? The sentence has been removed.

Page 3 – Second paragraph. Second sentence. What is the loss of significant amounts of state funding? There is a surplus of funds available for open space preservation – not a loss. Does this refer to other kinds of state funding? The text has been updated to indicate local government funds.

Page 3 – Third paragraph. Last sentence. How does this report have the potential to achieve many of the Region’s goals? What are those goals? The reference to regional goals has been replaced with a reference to local goals.

Section 2 – Introduction

Page 6 – Second paragraph. This section would be clearer if the Partners for the Environment are defined. “The Partners for the Environment is an alliance of environmental organizations, government and civic organizations, and public and private educational institutions. These organizations share the common goal of protecting, restoring, preserving, and promoting the environmental and agricultural resources of the Great Miami River and Little Miami River Watersheds – an 18 county region in southwest Ohio.” This has been included in the text.

The discussion of involving the Land Team would be strengthened by mentioning who is on the Land Team. Park Districts, land trusts, etc…and would be even better if the specific organizations were listed. This has been included in the text.

Page 9 – First paragraph. Last sentence. We are concerned that this report includes land categories that are not protected from development. If the definition of open space is “protected” lands than these categories should not be included. Places such as airfields, school grounds, wastewater treatment
plants and more importantly mineral extraction quarries ARE NOT protected from development. This also applies to golf courses, town commons, fairgrounds, and stadia. None of these places are protected from future development (unless they also have deed restrictions). Within the simple definition “protected” has been changed to “constrained.” The language “in some way” is meant to refer to a broad spectrum of methods including, but not limited to, current usage.

Page 10 – Category 5 – Open Space Link. This section mentions flood control levees but does not mention other flood protection properties including the land around the dams and the land upstream of the dams that is protected from development. The “retarding basins” upstream of the dams is a significant number of protected open space acres that does not appear to be represented in the acres reported in this draft report. A description of “deed restricted” property has been added to the definition of Category 12.

Section 3 – Open Space Inventory Update

Page 3 – Third paragraph. You mention in Section 2 that many private land categories are represented in this draft report, but in this paragraph you refer to them as “generally publicly accessible”. This reference has been removed.

Page 13 – Pie Chart – Regional Open Space Breakout – there is a missing percentage on the chart. This has been corrected.

Page 14 – Third paragraph. Second sentence. Airfields, landfills and mineral extraction sites should not be considered protected open space. They are not protected from development. The inclusion of these categories provides continuity with prior open space inventories conducted by MVRPC. As noted above, the simple definition has been changed to indicate locations “constrained in some way” from traditional development.

Page 16 – Third paragraph. Last sentence. That is not true. Several of the MCD-held easements on the map are in private ownership. The sentence was corrected.

Agricultural/Conservation Easement maps. Are the MCD-owned lands upstream of the dams (the retarding basins) included on this map? Are places like Brukner and The Learning Tree Farm included – which are privately owned but have conservation easements on their lands? Data regarding the retarding basins was added to the easements category in this data. Brukner Nature Center and Learning Tree Farm are included in the Open Space data owing to their function as public facilities. MVRPC recognizes the important difference ownership statuses play for the Miami Conservancy District in its mission to protect from flooding, preserve water quality, and provide recreation. In the context of open space data gathering and assessment, these statuses are of less importance.

Page 33 – It is unclear what “Establish buffer bands around current open space properties in the data at 880’, 1760’, and 2640’. What are these numbers? How were they chosen? These figures refer to feet. These are increments reaching out to one half mile. The text now specifies feet as the units.
Page 33 - The Data Sources listed need additional information to fully understand what they represent and their limitations. What are the dates that the ODNR Natural Heritage Data was collected? Some of this data is very old and should not be considered current. On page 38 of the draft report it says that the data was received on 6/29/2015, but there should also be a discussion of the age of the data itself. A discussion of the character of the Natural Heritage Database was added.

Page 33 - A concern of using the Ohio hydrography dataset is that it does not include stream reaches that are designated one category but actually achieve a higher designation. For example, many stream reaches of the Great Miami River are designated WWH but achieve EWH. Also, how were the buffers of 120 feet and 75 feet chosen? The figures in the table were not correct; the correct figures of 300 feet and 150 feet were inserted. Those figures were suggested by the PFE Land Team.

Page 40 – Did you only include the data from the Ohio Natural Heritage Database that is listed as Endangered or Threatened or did you also include the “Species of Concern” and other lists? Do not refer to the data as “Endangered Species” if Endangered, Threatened, and/or Species of Concern are included. Only data with a state or federal status of endangered was used.

Page 40 – Third paragraph – third sentence. Did you only use endangered plants and animals? Do not refer to the data as “Endangered Species” if Endangered, Threatened, and/or Species of Concern are included. Only data with a state or federal status of endangered was used. The text was corrected to reflect this fact.

Page 42 – What about stream lengths that meet a higher designation than is assigned? We may have data that you could use to fill in this gap. It is important for these kinds of GIS based analyses to use a consistent data source that covers the entire study area. In this case, we chose Ohio EPA’s data about the designation and status of the stream reaches.

Map – Composite Factor Analysis – Priority Conservation Locations. This map does not appear to reflect large tracts of land protected upstream of each MCD flood protection dam. Easement data was not used in this composite factor analysis; therefore the missing retarding basin data (now included in the easement data) did not affect this map.

Page 52 – Composite Map Discussion. Third Bullet. Why would the map direct future conservation to areas in developed urban areas? How can the data be interpreted differently to better reflect open space protection goals? These comments are addressed in the text on page 60.

Page 55 – The Greater Dayton Greenbelt. Why is this discussed if the organization is “defunct”? Is the “Greenbelt Vision” currently being pursued by the Land Team or current land protection organizations? The greenbelt is discussed as a comparison to the results of the composite map analysis. B-W Greenway and the Land Team remain proponents of the Greenbelt vision.
Page 56 – Third paragraph. This section should include discussion of MCD-owned and managed land that is protected open space. This includes Taylorsville, Englewood, Huffman, and Germantown. Crains Run Park is not owned or managed by Five Rivers MetroPark. It is partially owned by MCD, partially owned by Miami Township, and managed by Miami Township. The correction regarding Crains Run has been included. Information regarding MCD’s ownership of Englewood, Germantown and Taylorsville Reserves has been included.

Page 56 - Open Space Categories. This discussion is critical to understanding the usefulness and limitations of this draft report. If you are defining Open Space as “…a location protected in some way from traditional residential and commercial development”, than the data that is used to evaluate open space should accurately reflect that definition. See above regarding change from “protected” to “constrained.”

Page 56. Last sentence. Why is it “only natural” that the process for identifying priority locations for future conservation was guided by factors related to parks and natural preserves? What about the protection of critical resources such as water, endangered species, or rare habitats? Please see the next comment.

Page 57. First paragraph. Third sentence. And Second paragraph. This discussion should be more clearly communicated at the start of this draft report. The purpose of these paragraphs is to, indeed, acknowledge the downsides of including atypical open space categories in this dataset and the planning documents developed from this data. This discussion perhaps opens the door, if only slightly, to changing the data structure in future open space data projects.

Section 5. How to use this document. We suggest that this entire section be moved up to the front of the document. This is an important and useful discussion that will help local leaders understand the report and how to protect Open Space. This change has been incorporated into the document.

Comment 4 – received via e-mail March 7, 2016

General:

- The PFE organizations that had input to the report should be listed, especially those that attended the land team meetings and reviewed the report. It’s an impressive list and should give creditability to the report. This has been included in the text.
- Mineral extraction sites should only count as open space after restoration or before a permit is approved for extraction. The categories of open space provide continuity with past assessments. MVRPC has no data with which to sub-categorize the mineral extraction sites as suggested.
- Although some schools have land labs and fields, the area of impervious surface and sports fields should be subtracted. MVRPC has no data with which to sub-divide the school property data as suggested.
I believe you mentioned that the data contained farmland that was owned by local residents but was not in the counties of the plan. I may have misunderstood. If not, it needs to be removed. Including it distorts any past or future assessment of change. The Census of Agriculture conducted by the USDA does assign acreage to the owners’ county of residence, which may skew the data shown in the chart on page 35. MVRPC does not have data needed to parse the USDA data as suggested. The agricultural acreage data is presented as a lens for assessment of the open space data trends, rather than as an accounting of agriculture in the study area, and therefore, the shortcomings of this data are acceptable in this context.

The discussion of the value of open space could be improved by including the protection of habitats for native species, regardless of whether they are rare or endangered. This has been incorporated into the text.

Natural Heritage Data is not necessarily current, accurate, or site specific. As PFE progresses, we expect to augment the Natural Heritage Data with accurate, current, local data. That’s why it’s important that this plan becomes a living document. A discussion of the character of the Natural Heritage Data has been included in the text. Maintenance of the Natural Heritage data is a responsibility of the Ohio Department of Natural resources.

Along the same lines, B-W Greenway will be closing on 5 properties this year. The protected status of these properties will change. I’m not sure how often this plan needs to be updated but annually is better than every 5-10 years. Maintenance of regional open space data and updating of regional open space planning documents are two separate topics, both worthy of continued discussion by agencies and organizations throughout the Miami Valley with an interest in open space.

Specific

Page 60 should include four (4) land trusts: TLT, 3VLT, B-W Greenway and BCWA (Beaver Creek Wetlands Assn) This has been included in the text.

Page 65 should include the Clean Ohio Fund for restorations - or include restorations on page 63 under Green Space. The Clean Ohio Fund for Brownfields is a fund geared toward clean-up of sites specifically for redevelopment, rather than the restoration of land into green space. For this reason, this fund was not included in the list of funding opportunities.
Dayton, OH – The Miami Valley is fortunate to encompass both rural landscapes and vibrant urban centers. This diversity provides for a range of cultural and recreational opportunities for Miami Valley residents, while offering everyone a full spectrum of residential and employment options. Open Space preservation, including both natural area conservation and farmland preservation, is a tool for managing and shaping regional development to preserve both urban and rural character for future generations.

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) has drafted a regional Open Space Plan report, now available for review and comment by member jurisdictions and the general public. The report inventories conserved open spaces in the Miami Valley; assesses the quantity and character of our regional open space; and relates these findings to developed and agricultural land across the Region. The report undertakes a data analysis to highlight priority locations for future conservation, and identifies funding streams and implementing agencies for this effort.

A public meeting will provide an opportunity to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan report.

The meeting will be held as follows:

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

10 N. Ludlow Street
"The Miami Valley Region is home to both rural and urban landscapes. This DRAFT Open Space Plan informs all jurisdictions about open space preservation approaches that are sensitive to both the rural and urban areas," said MVRPC’s Executive Director, Brian O. Martin, AICP.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, the DRAFT Open Space Plan report will also be available for public review on MVRPC’s website at www.mvrpc.org/open-space-plan on or before February 3, 2016. You can also review the document at the MVRPC offices, 10 N. Ludlow Street, Suite 700, Dayton, OH, 45402, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). Written comments will be accepted through March 7, 2016, at the above address or via email to Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at mlindsay@mvrpc.org.

At all MVRPC public participation meetings, interpreters for hearing impaired individuals or bi-lingual interpreters are available upon request. Requests should be made at least one week prior to the meeting date. Contact MVRPC at (937) 223-6323 or 1-800-750-0750 TTY/TDD to request an interpreter. Parking passes for the City of Dayton’s Municipal Garage will be distributed at the meeting. The parking garage is located at 123 W. Third Street next to Dayton City Hall. There are numerous Greater Dayton RTA transit routes convenient to MVRPC offices on Courthouse Square including Wright Stop Plaza.

Established in 1964, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission promotes collaboration among communities, stakeholders, and residents to advance regional priorities. MVRPC is a forum and resource where the Board of Directors identifies priorities and develops public policy and collaborative strategies to improve quality of life throughout the Miami Valley Region. MVRPC performs various regional planning activities, including air quality, water quality, transportation, land use, research and GIS. As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), MVRPC is responsible for transportation planning in Greene, Miami and Montgomery Counties and parts of northern Warren County. MVRPC’s areawide water quality planning designation encompasses five (5) counties: Darke, Preble plus the three MPO counties.

For additional information, contact Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at (937) 223-6323 or via the e-mail address listed above.

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Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC, por sus siglas en inglés) ha redactado un informe regional del Plan para el Espacio Abierto (Open Space Plan) que está disponible al público y a los municipios pertinentes para ser examinado y para que se hagan comentarios. El informe presenta un inventario de los espacios abiertos conservados en el Miami Valley; evalúa la calidad y el carácter de estos espacios; y relaciona los hallazgos del informe a las tierras urbanizadas y agrícolas de la región. El informe se ha encargado del análisis de datos para resaltar las ubicaciones con prioridad para la conservación en el futuro, y también identifica fuentes de financiamiento y agencias para la implementación de este plan. La reunión pública ofrecerá la oportunidad de examinar y comentar sobre el informe PRELIMINAR del Open Space Plan.

Para más información, contacte a Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, mlindsay@mvrpc.org o llame al 937.223.6323

mvrpc.org/open-space-plan
Dayton Daily News

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

P.O. Box 643157
Cincinnati, OH 45264-3157
937-225-7367

MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLAN COMMUNITY
10 N LUDLOW ST
DAYTON, OH 45402

STATE OF OHIO

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary public in and for said County, personally came Nadia Vagedes who being first duly sworn says he/she is the Legal Advertising Agent of the Dayton Daily News, which he/she says is a newspaper of general circulation in Montgomery, Clark, Warren, Butler, Clinton, Greene, Preble, Miami, Darke, Mercer, Shelby, Fayette, Logan, Hamilton, Clermont, Auglaize, and Champaign Counties, and State of Ohio, and he/she further says that the Legal Advertisement, a copy of which is hereunto attached, has been published in the said Dayton Daily News 93 Lines, 1 Time(s), last day of publication being 2/11/2016, and he/she further says that the bona fide daily paid circulation of the said Dayton Daily News was over (25000) at the time the said advertisement was published, and that the price charged for same does not exceed the rates charged on annual contract for the like amount of space to other advertisers in the general display advertising columns. display advertising columns.

Signed

Sworn or affirmed to, and subscribed before me, this 2/11/2016. In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year above stated:

KILEELA R WORTHAM, Notary Public
In and for the State of Ohio
My Commission Expires Oct. 28, 2020

Invoice No. 17455971
Ad Cost $535.68
Paid $0.00
Due $535.68
Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF OHIO ]
COUNTY OF MIAMI ]

Kailee Weigandt, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Classified Sales Specialist of the Troy Daily News, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Troy, Miami County, Ohio; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

February 11, 2016

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

Signed

Classified Sales Specialist

Subscribed to and sworn to this 11th day of February 2016.

Marilyn A. S. Kaiser, Notary Public, Miami County, Ohio

My commission expires: March 06, 2019

$ 377.75

40000705 40837074 9372239750

Laura HENRY
MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLAN COM
10 NORTH LUDLOW ST
SUITE 700
DAYTON, OH 45402

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Participation Meeting to be held to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan for the Miami Valley.

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Thursday February 25, 2016
Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
10 N. Ludlow Street
Suite 700
Courthouse Square - Dayton, OH
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

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February 11
40837074
Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF OHIO } SS
COUNTY OF GREENE }

Linda Skinner, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Business Office Manager of the Xenia Daily Gazette, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Xenia, Greene County, Ohio; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:
February 11, 2016

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED: [Signature]

Business Office Manager

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 11th day of February 2016.

[Signature]

Janice Marie Studebaker, Notary Public, Greene County, Ohio

My commission expires: July 05, 2015

$ 333.10

40000705 40837067 9372239750

Laura HENRY
MIAII VALLEY REGIONAL PLAN COM
10 NORTH LUDLOW ST
SUITE 700
DAYTON OH 45402

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For additional information, contact Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at (937) 223-6323 or via the e-mail address listed above.
DAYTON

Planning board to meet on open space areas

A public meeting on a regional open space plan drafted by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday at the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission, 10 N. Ludlow St., Suite 700, Courthouse Square.

The report inventories conserved open spaces in the Miami Valley and highlights priority locations for future conservation. The draft plan is also available at www.mvrpc.org/open-space-plan and at the MVRPC offices during regular business hours. Written comments will be accepted through March 7, at the above address or via email to Matt Lindsay, manager of environmental planning, at mlindsay@mvrpc.org. STAFF

REPORT
TO: Interested Agencies & Organizations

FROM: Brian O. Martin, AICP, Executive Director

DATE: February 4, 2016

RE: Public Participation Meeting to be held to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan for the Miami Valley.

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At all MVRPC public participation meetings, interpreters for hearing impaired individuals or bi-lingual interpreters are available upon request. Requests should be made at least one week prior to the meeting date. Contact MVRPC at (937) 223-6323 or 1-800-750-0750 TTY/TDD to request an interpreter. Parking passes for the City of Dayton’s Municipal Garage will be distributed at the meeting. The parking garage is located at 123 W. Third Street next to Dayton City Hall. There are numerous Greater Dayton RTA transit routes convenient to MVRPC offices on Courthouse Square including Wright Stop Plaza.

Established in 1964, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission promotes collaboration among communities, stakeholders, and residents to advance regional priorities. MVRPC is a forum and resource where the Board of Directors identifies priorities and develops public policy and collaborative strategies to improve quality of life throughout the Miami Valley Region. MVRPC performs various regional planning activities, including air quality, water quality, transportation, land use, research and GIS. As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), MVRPC is responsible for transportation planning in Greene, Miami and Montgomery Counties and parts of northern Warren County. MVRPC’s areawide water quality planning designation encompasses five (5) counties: Darke, Preble plus the three MPO counties.

For additional information, contact Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at (937) 223-6323 or via the e-mail address listed above.

###
February 4, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Our agency would like the libraries to make this letter available to citizens who may request it. In addition, please post the enclosed poster in a highly visible area to help advertise the meeting.

The Miami Valley is fortunate to encompass both rural landscapes and vibrant urban centers. This diversity provides for a range of cultural and recreational opportunities for Miami Valley residents, while offering everyone a full spectrum of residential and employment options. Open Space preservation, including both natural area conservation and farmland preservation, is a tool for managing and shaping regional development to preserve both urban and rural character for future generations.

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) has drafted a regional Open Space Plan report, now available for review and comment by member jurisdictions and the general public. The report inventories conserved open spaces in the Miami Valley; assesses the quantity and character of our regional open space; and relates these findings to developed and agricultural land across the Region. The report undertakes a data analysis to highlight priority locations for future conservation, and identifies funding streams and implementing agencies for this effort.

A public meeting will provide an opportunity to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan report.

The meeting will be held as follows:

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

10 N. Ludlow Street

Suite 700

Courthouse Square - Dayton, OH
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

“The Miami Valley Region is home to both rural and urban landscapes. This DRAFT Open Space Plan informs all jurisdictions about open space preservation approaches that are sensitive to both the rural and urban areas,” said MVRPC’s Executive Director, Brian O. Martin, AICP.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, the DRAFT Open Space Plan report will also be available for public review on MVRPC’s website at www.mvrpc.org/open-space-plan on or before February 3, 2016. You can also review the document at the MVRPC offices, 10 N. Ludlow Street, Suite 700, Dayton, OH, 45402, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). Written comments will be accepted through March 7, 2016, at the above address or via email to Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at mlindsay@mvrpc.org.

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Online Notices and Social Media

Dayton Daily News

PUBLIC NOTICE Public Participation Meeting to be held to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan for the Miami Valley. The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) has drafted a regional Open Space Plan report, now available for review and comment by members of the public. The report identifies various open spaces in the Miami Valley, assesses the quantity and character of our regional open spaces, and relates these findings to developed and undeveloped land across the Region. The report encompasses a demographic analysis, a land use analysis, and a land use analysis, and it is available for public review on MVRPC’s website at www.mvrpc.org/gopen-space-plan on or before February 9, 2016. You can also review the document at the MVRPC offices, 10 N. Ludlow Street, Suite 700, Dayton, OH 45402, during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). Written comments will be accepted through March 7, 2016, at the above address or via email to staff@MVRPC.org. At all MVRPC public participation meetings, interpreters for hearing impaired individuals or bilingual interpreters are available upon request. Requests should be made at least one week prior to the meeting date. Contact MVRPC at (937) 223-4555 or 1-866-736-9770 (TTY/TDD) to request an interpreter. Parking passes for the City of Dayton’s Municipal Garage will be distributed at the meeting. The parking garage is located at 120 W Third Street next to Dayton City Hall. There are numerous Greater Dayton Transit Authority routes convenient to MVRPC offices on Courthouse Square including Wright Stop Place. For additional information, contact Matt Lindsey, Manager of Environmental Planning, at (937) 223-4552 or via e-mail address listed above. 1740501 3/11/2016.
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Participation Meeting to be held to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan for the Miami Valley
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Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
10 N. Ludlow Street
Suite 700
Courthouse Square - Dayton, OH
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

“The Miami Valley Region is home to both rural and urban landscapes. This DRAFT Open Space Plan identifies all jurisdictions about open space preservation approaches that are sensitive to both the rural and urban areas.”

said MVRPC’s Executive Director, Brian D. Martin, AICP.

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For additional information, contact Kent Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at (937) 223-6122 or via the e-mail address listed above.

February 11
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Participation Meeting to be held to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan for the Miami Valley.

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Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
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Suite 700
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4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

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At all MVRPC public participation meetings, interpreters for hearing impaired individuals or bilingual interpreters are available upon request. Requests should be made at least one week prior to the meeting date. Contact MVRPC at (937) 223-6333 or TTY/TTD to request an interpreter. Parking passes for the City of Dayton’s Municipal Garage will be distributed at the meeting. The parking garage is located at 123 W. Third Street near Dayton City Hall. There are numerous Greater Dayton RTA transit routes convenient to MVRPC offices on Courthouse Square including Wright Stop Place.

For additional information, contact Matt Lindsay, Manager of Environmental Planning, at (937) 223-6333 or via the e-mail address listed above.

PUBL: February 11, 2016

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Does gun-free mean safety?

By Tim Walker

We, the people of these United States, are a nation of gun owners. The Second Amendment to our Constitution, ratified in 1791, grants all American citizens the right to bear arms. However, and this right is a cornerstone of our Bill of Rights, one which cannot be infringed upon by our federal government. In 2008, the Congressional Research Service estimated that there were more than 300 million guns legally owned by civilians in the United States—all the time, the population of the United States was just under 307 million.

Of course, this right comes at a cost, as all rights do. The National Rifle Association may agree or disagree that most gun violence is preventable with high rates of gun ownership, but statistics done by the United States has a higher rate of gun violence than any other country on Earth. More than 32,000 people die from gun violence every year in America, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

In addition, a recent trend in our society has become disturbingly more common: mass shootings. When armed gunmen or women enter public places and kill as many people as possible before they themselves are killed or arrested, or commit suicide themselves. All too often, the areas where these tragedies occur are designated “gun-free zones”—areas where firearms possession is illegal, making the gunmen the only armed individual, completely in control of his or her surroundings and able to inflict a great deal of damage in a short amount of time. Areas such as schools, churches, theaters, and most workplaces are designated gun-free zones by local authorities—a situation that some firearms advocates believe is a problem that needs to be solved, not a valid reason to restrict gun ownership. Opponents of this idea say the Constitution does not provide for public “gun-free zones” any more than it does public “free spee-ch-free zones.” And if the right to bear arms is truly a fundamental right, then the government cannot interfere with it.

We are a nation of law-abiding citizens, and that gun laws have no place in schools, churches, or workplaces. Mass shootings, like the one in most workplaces, can be prevented, but the idea of bringing guns into classrooms or churches simply encourages violence and the act of surrounding our ideals of life in a violent society cannot be tolerated. Armed citizens can only protect themselves—gun-free zones, they say, often arbitrary designations that do not provide any safety at all.
Public Participation Meeting to be held to review the DRAFT Open Space Plan for the Miami Valley.

**Date:** February 4th, 2016

**Dayton, OH** – The Miami Valley is fortunate to encompass both rural landscapes and vibrant urban centers. This diversity provides for a range of cultural and recreational opportunities for Miami Valley residents, while offering everyone a full spectrum of residential and employment options.

**Federal Transportation Legislation Update**

**Date:** December 3rd, 2015

On December 4th, both the Senate and House passed the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST ACT) (summary), which President Obama immediately signed into law. FAST ACT is a five-year reauthorization with $250 billion in funding.

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Public Meeting

February 25, 2016
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
MVRPC Offices
10 North Ludlow Street, Suite 700
Dayton, OH 45402
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<td>American Veterans Heritage, org</td>
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<td>Jeff Young</td>
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<td>Kirsten Frank Hopper</td>
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