

Equity

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission



Equity means that all people, regardless of where they live, have access to the resources and opportunities that improve their quality of life.

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In This Issue

Welcome to our first issue of the Equity Newsletter! This inaugural issue highlights MVRPC's activities from the year 2018 and features information and resources on the topic of transportation equity.

AGENCY ACTIVITY



“We strive to excel in advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion, and we encourage our members to do the same.” - Brian O. Martin, MVRPC Executive Director (left) and Mark Donaghy, GDRTA Chief Executive Officer (right)

Equity Activities in 2018

MVRPC had a busy year in 2018 with activities focused on increasing the awareness of and engaging in dialogues on equity in the Miami Valley Region and beyond. At the National Association of Regional Council, our Executive Director led the panel discussion on equity. At the State and local level, MVRPC led and participated in panel discussions and hosted educational sessions to share findings from the Miami Valley Equity Regional Profile with diverse groups at events including First Suburbs Consortium of Dayton, Christ United Methodist Church in Kettering, and planning conferences.

Whether it is increasing awareness or taking collaborative action, MVRPC is working with communities in the Region to better address access to opportunities for all residents. For more information about MVRPC's activities, visit MVRPC's Miami Valley Equity Initiative at mvrpc.org/equity-initiative.

Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award

MVRPC was a proud recipient of the “2019 Ohio Transportation Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award - Local Public Agency of the Year.” This award was presented during the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT's) Third Annual Civil Rights Transportation Symposium held in Downtown Columbus, Ohio. It was in recognition of MVRPC's commitment to promoting and upholding the spirit and principles of Civil Rights in Transportation, Diversity, and Inclusion.

Our longtime partner, the Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (GDRTA), was awarded the “Transit System of the Year.” Congratulations GDRTA!



Transit Equity Day

February 4th-Rosa Parks' birthday-was celebrated as National Transit Equity Day. Rosa Parks was a major figure in the Civil Rights Movement and an activist for the right to transportation. Groups across the country used this day to advocate for transit equity.

In Portland, bus riders advocated for the reinstatement of a program designed to increase the safety of riders of color. In Nashville, residents raised awareness about the lack of bus stops in high-need areas throughout the city. In Philadelphia, residents celebrated the history of streetcar integration. Other groups planned special events to remember the legacy of Rosa Parks.

More information about Transit Equity Day can be found at labor4sustainability.org/articles/transit-equity-day-is-coming-save-the-date-take-action/.



Transportation in Oakland

Government, business, and nonprofit organizations have partnered to bring more accessible transportation options to underserved residents of Oakland, California. The partnership includes the City of Oakland, transportation advocacy nonprofit TransForm, Lyft, and bicycle advocacy group Scaper Bike Team.

Lyft is providing \$700,000 toward a \$1 million dollar project which will include a free bike library and free Lyft rides for low-income residents.

The partners of this project recognize that transportation access is a key component of economic mobility, and that low-income residents of color have been especially overlooked historically in regard to transportation accessibility.

RESOURCES

The 2017 Miami Valley Equity Regional Profile provides insights on the issue of equity and tells the story of the equity in the Miami Valley Region. mvrpc.org/miami-valley-equity-regional-profile

The Transportation Equity Caucus is a diverse coalition of organizations promoting policies that ensure access, mobility, and opportunity for all. equitycaucus.org

The Equity Newsletter is a biannual publication of Miami Valley Equity Initiative from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC). Through partnership, Miami Valley Equity Initiative promotes Equity and addresses existing inequity in the Miami Valley Region.