



**Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities
Steering Committee Meeting**
LOCATION: MVRPC, 6 N. Main, Suite 400, Dayton, OH 45402
DATE/TIME: Friday, April 24, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
I.	Call to Order and Introductions		9:30	Kristen Marks
II.	Approval of January 30, 2026 – Meeting Minutes	1	9:32	Kristen Marks
III.	Public Comment Period on Action Items		9:35	Kristen Marks
IV.	2026 Institute Steering Committee Officer Elections	3	9:40	Savannah Diamond
V.	RPC (Regional Planning Commission) Action Items			
A.	<u>Resolution 26-13</u> : Resolution Approving the Recommendation to The Dayton Foundation to Fund the 2025 Livable, Age-Friendly Communities Grant	4	9:50	Arnie Biondo
VI.	Information Items			
A.	Age-Friendly Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Age-Friendly Communities Meeting w/ Other Age-Friendly Communities Outside Region 		10:00	Arnie Biondo
B.	Regional Equity Initiative Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academy for Thriving Communities Transportation Domain & Greater Region Mobility Initiative 		10:10	Fabrice Juin
C.	Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities Workplan for FY26	5	10:20	Fabrice Juin
VII.	Other Updates and Announcements		10:30	All
A.	Regional Equity Calendar			
B.	General Updates from the Committee			
C.	MVRPC Annual Dinner April 30, 2026			
VIII.	Adjournment		10:45	Kristen Marks

Next Meetings

Regional Equity Initiative	Tuesday, May 26 at 2:30 p.m.	MVRPC 6 N. Main Street, Suite 447
Institute Steering Committee	Friday, July 31 at 9:30 a.m.	MVRPC 6 N. Main Street, Suite 400

**MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
INSTITUTE FOR LIVABLE AND EQUITABLE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Zoom Conference/Video Call
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86304060188>

**January, 30 2026
9:30 AM**

Voting Members/ Alternates

Nancy Byrge, City of Huber Heights
Judy Dodge, Montgomery County
Rap Hankins, Drive Electric Dayton
Matt Joseph, City of Dayton
Kristen Marks, Centerville-Washington Park District
Nikol Miller, Miami Valley Urban League
Yvette F. Page, City of Trotwood
Carrie Scarff, Five Rivers MetroParks
Bob Scott, City of Kettering
Barbra Stonerock, The Dayton Foundation

Staff

Arnie Biondo
Savannah Diamond
Fabrice Juin

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission’s Institute Steering Committee met on Friday, January 30, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom Video Conference (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86304060188>). All members and news media were notified of the meeting pursuant to the Sunshine Law.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Joseph called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Self-introductions were made.

II. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 31, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Hankins made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 31, 2025 Institute Steering Committee meeting. Ms. Stonerock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ACTION ITEMS

No public comments were received.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. 2025 Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities Progress Report

Mr. Martin presented the 2025 ILEC Progress Report. Mr. Martin presented the Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities (ILEC) 2025 Progress Report, beginning with an overview of the Institute’s mission, vision, and history. He then introduced the leadership structure within the Institute Steering Committee (ISC), explaining the responsibilities of this 13-member board and listing its current members. Following this, he outlined the nine domains identified to enhance livability and equity in communities.

Mr. Biondo then presented on the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Initiative. He explained the expansion of the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Network, noting that new member communities had joined, bringing the total to 18. He also detailed the CY2025 distribution of grant funding to support local projects and community needs assessments totaling \$162,685.

Next, Mr. Juin, provided updates on the Institute’s Regional Equity Initiative program impact, including outreach efforts, policy initiatives, research, and technical assistance offered to local governments and organizations. Looking ahead, he emphasized the importance of securing sustainable funding and outlined strategic growth plans through 2030, including upcoming grant opportunities.

B. 2026 ISC Member Recruitment

Mr. Martin announced that application period is also open for the 2026 Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities Steering Committee (ISC) and stated that interested members who wish to serve on the committee must submit their resumes by February 13, 2026. Both nomination processes will be reviewed by the nomination committee before final recommendations are made at the March Board meeting.

Lastly, Mr. Martin thanked Chairperson Matt Joseph for serving as ISC Chairperson for the past two years.

C. Regional Equity Initiative Update

Mr. Juin provided an update on the Regional Equity Initiative. He shared progress on the Academy for Thriving Communities and announced that the Westwood Right Project is scheduled to kick off in February. Mr. Juin also reported that team co-leads have been established for the Institute Domains, with the Transportation domain co-led by the Greater Regional Mobility Alliance and the Health & Environment domain co-led by Five Rivers MetroParks. Lastly, he shared information recognizing Black History Month.

D. Age-Friendly Update

Mr. Biondo provided an update on the Age-Friendly program. He shared that Preble County has expressed interest in joining the Age-Friendly Network, which would bring the total number of Age-Friendly communities in the Miami Valley to 19 members.

V. OTHER UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [Regional Equity Calendar](#)
- General Updates from the body
 - State of Black Dayton Report timeline for Spring/Summer 2026
 - Drive Electric Dayton is now the Electric Vehicle Association of Ohio
 - MVRPC Active Transportation Committee Meeting in March & Bike Miami Valley

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Joseph adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.



MIAMI VALLEY

Regional Planning Commission

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MEMORANDUM

TO: MVRPC Institute Steering Committee
FROM: Brian O. Martin, AICP, Executive Director
DATE: April 24, 2026
SUBJECT: Recommended Slate of Candidates for ISC Officer Election

MVRPC Staff recommend the following slate of candidates who have demonstrated their commitment to the Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities’ mission and have the necessary skills and experience to lead the Institute forward.

The MVRPC Board of Directors voted on March 5, 2026, appointing Kristen Marks as the ISC Chairperson.

ISC Officer Seat	Name	Organization
ISC Vice-Chairperson	Rap Hankins	Electric Vehicle Association of Ohio
ISC Secretary		
Age-Friendly Chairperson	Nancy Byrge	City of Huber Heights
REI Chairperson	Nikol Miller	Miami Valley Urban League

Members of the Institute Steering Committee will vote on the slate of candidates at the meeting on **April 24, 2026**. There will also be an opportunity for self-nominations from the floor during the meeting.

If any committee members are interested in running for a position, they may nominate themselves at that time. We encourage any members who are interested in a leadership role within the Institute to consider this opportunity.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Institute Steering Committee
FROM: Brian O. Martin, AICP, Executive Director
DATE: April 24, 2026
SUBJECT: April 2026 Livable, Age-Friendly Communities Grant-Award Recommendation

Age-Friendly Preble County has responded to the encouragement from MVRPC and The Dayton Foundation (TDF) to apply for funding to conduct a Needs Assessment. Grant applications for a needs assessments are welcome at any point throughout the year.

The recommendation at this date is to award a grant of \$20,000 for a needs assessment that will determine the needs of older adults throughout the County. Age-Friendly Preble County is a joint effort of the Preble County Council on Aging, the County government, and supporting cities and towns.

Please note that there are no other applications at this time as the first grant cycle deadline fo Action Plans and Action Implementation is May 1, 2026. Applications received for that cycle will be presented at the next meeting of the ISC. The second grant cycle application deadline is October 1..

Recommendation is as follows:

Preble County

Age-Friendly Process Step 1—Needs Assessment

Age-Friendly Preble will use a mixed-methods approach including Online and paper surveys, focus groups, and one-on-one interviews to ensure representative county input. Surveys will be distributed through libraries, community centers, senior centers, public health services, and local organizations to reach older adults, caregivers, and residents without internet access. Additionally, as requested, they will provide accommodations such as large-print materials, transportation support, and flexible participation options will reduce barriers and ensure all voices are included in the needs assessment.

Preble officers and their steering committee have met all the prerequisites as put forth by AARP, The Dayton Foundation and MVRPC.

The requested amount matches the amount granted to Miami County. The amount is larger because of the larger area, multiple municipalities, and population.

Total Amount Requested: \$20,000

Total Project Budget: \$20,000

Recommended Amount to Award: \$20,000

RESOLUTION 26-13
APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE DAYTON FOUNDATION TO FUND THE
2026 LIVABLE, AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES GRANT

WHEREAS, with generous support from the Del Mar Health-Dayton Fund at The Dayton Foundation, the MVRPC Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities offers funding for MVRPC member communities in 2026 to continue to advance livable and age-friendly communities throughout the Miami Valley; and,

WHEREAS, a livable and age-friendly community is one that is safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and has supportive community features and services; and,

WHEREAS, age-friendly communities ensure that residents have the ability to thrive at all stages of life, are able to age-in-place and age-in-community, and foster engagement in a community's civic, economic, and social wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, grants available to MVRPC member communities range up to \$20,000 to support Livable & Age-Friendly Communities Needs Assessments; and,

WHEREAS, through the support of the Del Mar Encore Fellowship, MVRPC provides technical assistance to MVRPC member communities that are interested in pursuing Age Friendly grants; and,

WHEREAS, the MVRPC Institute Steering Committee voted during their meeting on Friday, April 24, 2026 to recommend a Needs Assessment Livable, Age-Friendly Communities Grant be awarded to the Age-Friendly Preble County,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission hereby concurs with the Institute Steering Committee recommendations to award the Needs Assessment Livable, Age-Friendly Communities Grant as shown in the attached.

BY ACTION OF THE Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission's Board of Directors.

Brian O. Martin, AICP
Executive Director

Robin I. Oda, Chairperson
Board of Directors of the
Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

Date



Regional Planning Commission

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MEMORANDUM

TO: MVRPC Institute Steering Committee
FROM: MVRPC Staff
DATE: April 24, 2026
SUBJECT: SFY 2027 Work Program Narrative – Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities (ILEC)

Our SFY 2027 Work Program continues MVRPC’s commitment to advancing livability and equity across the Miami Valley by convening partners and aligning efforts across key domains that support community well-being and opportunity.

In FY 2027, the Institute will maintain its focus on core functions, including coordination, outreach, research, and technical assistance, while advancing key initiatives such as the Regional Equity Initiative and the Livable & Age-Friendly Communities program.

Key efforts for the upcoming year include:

- Supporting the ISC’s role in guiding Institute activities
- Advancing priority domain workgroups (Transportation, Health & Environment, and Technology & Connectivity)
- Expanding the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Network
- Establishing a Data & Metrics Workgroup to measure regional impact
- Continuing the Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program, including the Academy and internship opportunities

This is provided for information and discussion and serves as an introduction for new ISC members. The full FY 2027 Budget and Work Program will be presented to the MVRPC Board of Directors for adoption on May 7, 2026.

Attachments:

1. MVRPC SFY2027 Budget and Work Program - Section 310. Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities

310. INSTITUTE FOR LIVABLE AND EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES
(Funded by local sources)

The Institute for Livable and Equitable Community at MVRPC places an intentional focus on livability and equity, launching programs and transforming systems that create a community where all people can thrive. The Institute convenes critical partners and is the central point of coordination for a long-term, multi-faceted effort to address nine domains proven to enhance livability and equity in communities.

The Institute Domains are:

- Education
- Entrepreneurship, Employment & Volunteering
- Engagement
- Health & Environment
- Housing
- Neighborhood
- Safety & Justice
- Technology & Connectivity
- Transportation

The core work of Institute will be:

- Focus on Livability & Equity
- Outreach, Convening & Coordination
- Education
- Research
- Resources, Best Practices and Tools
- Policy Analysis / Policy Change
- Technical Assistance
- Regional Focus on the Miami Valley
- Secure Sustainable Funding

The Institute focuses on two core dimensions: advancing equity and developing livable age friendly communities. In both core dimensions, the Institute will serve as a catalyst and incubator for initiatives that transform systems in order to create an environment where access to opportunity is abundant and where people of all backgrounds, circumstances, ages and identities can thrive.

PREVIOUS RELATED WORK

The Institute is funded largely through generous contributions to the Dayton Foundation. While the Institute strives to serve as a primary agent complementing and supplementing efforts moving the Miami Valley region forward, the work of fostering a livable and equitable community spans across the agency and spills over into each Institute Domain.

In Education, collaborative resources continue to be made available to Learn to Earn Dayton via the Northwest Dayton Partnership and affiliated partners in their goal towards 60% of working-age adults in Montgomery County having a college degree or high-quality credential to earn a family-sustaining income. In Entrepreneurship, Employment & Volunteering, Central State University (CSU) was supported in the Economic Development Administration grant application awarded to establish the CSU Workforce Training and Business Development Center targeting historically underserved and underemployed populations to create career pathways for participants by providing training in high-demand skills in growing industries. In Engagement, the Institute supported various local planning efforts by helping to incorporate a livability and equity lens in the desired actions and activities of our members.

In Health & Environment, a Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement grant was secured via a partnership with the Westwood Right Project to address local environmental/public health issues, lift up community-led innovation and strengthen community-based groups by breaking down barriers to funding. In Housing, a collaborative partnership was leveraged between the Kettering Foundation and the Dayton Tenant Union to provide education on tenant rights to local residents. In Neighborhood, neighborhood-level outreach, convening, and coordination remains a priority across all agency efforts and to inform community actions.

In Safety & Justice, the agency was awarded a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Planning Grant to develop a Safety Action Plan that incorporates equitable practices. In Technology & Connectivity, the region continues to be informed on the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program as the largest federal investment to date in broadband infrastructure across the nation. In Transportation, the Greater Region Mobility Initiative continues to focus on enhancing transportation connections for those with disabilities and older adults across the region; this is in addition to transportation programs seeking to engage and benefit non-drivers.

From an organizational standpoint, major strides have been taken to institutionalize the Institute into the overall practice and regular programming of MVRPC. The MVRPC Board unanimously passed a resolution ensuring equity, diversity, and inclusion in all MVRPC staff, committee and Board of Directors actions on October 1, 2020. The resolution denounces all forms of discrimination and racism, and it works to increase equity, diversity and inclusion in all communities. On May 6, 2021, the MVRPC Board of Directors approved an amendment to Agency Bylaws which included a new section for the Institute as well as the formation of the Institute Steering Committee. On October 6, 2022 and for the first time since 1989, the MVRPC Board of Directors adopted a rate increase on its members that included a portion of dues being directly allocated to the Institute to contribute to its operating budget.

The Institute has also made great strides in reflecting that the Miami Valley Region is committed to becoming a more equitable and livable region. In May 2022, MVRPC offered the first Livable, Age-Friendly Communities Grant from the DMH-Dayton Fund at The Dayton Foundation and awarded 8+ communities in the Miami Valley, forming the first Age-Friendly Cohort. The grant supports the pursuit of year one of the AARP Livable & Age-Friendly Communities framework, a multi-year planning effort

focused on recognizing and enhancing age-friendly, livable aspects of communities. Years later, the Miami Valley boasts the largest collection of Age-Friendly Communities across the state of Ohio.

PERFORMANCE PLAN

310.1 : Administration:

Leverage the Institute Steering Committee (ISC), a committee of MVRPC made up of member and partner organizations.

Provide leadership for the Regional Equity Initiative and the Livable & Age-Friendly Communities Initiative and other task forces or work groups.

Continue to manage the Institute's Work Plan and budget. Identify Institute priorities and align with current budgetary constraints. Identify opportunities to grow financing through several strategies including applying for grant opportunities that align with The Institute's mission or fundraising opportunities which enable individuals and other organizations to invest and sustain the Institute in future years.

Coordinate with MVRPC departments, jurisdictions, and member agencies to prioritize and incorporate livability and equity across local and regional efforts.

Provide regular programmatic updates and progress reports to committees, board, and community.

310.2 : Programming:

Establish regional representation to ensure Institute actions are inclusive of all member communities within jurisdiction.

Facilitate capacity building around Institute domains to enhance opportunities for action and impact related to each focus area.

Support research opportunities and assemble data around the Institute domains.

Prepare funding proposals and grant applications to support the Institute's fiscal sustainability.

Explore internal opportunities to implement best practices and improved approaches promoting greater equity and livability across agency.

310.3 : Special Projects:

Establish the three prioritized domains (Transportation, Health & Environment, and Technology & Connectivity) as active working groups.

Organize, expand, and mobilize the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Network towards increased regional representation and enhanced opportunities for local impact.

Convene Data & Metrics Workgroup to identify approaches to measure program impact and regional progress.

310.4 Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program:

Assessment and engagement efforts that increase understanding of the breadth, depth, or impact of local environmental or public health issues.

Co-hosting of the Academy for Thriving Communities with the Westwood Right Project CDC.

Hosting of the Thriving Communities Internship.

WORK ELEMENT		PRODUCT	SCHEDULE
310.1	Administration	Leverage the Institute Steering Committee (ISC), a committee of MVRPC made up of member and partner organizations	On-going
		Provide leadership for the Regional Equity Initiative and the Age-Friendly Initiative; and other related task forces or work groups	On-going
		Manage the Institute's Work Plan and budget	On-going
		Coordinate with MVRPC departments, jurisdictions, and member agencies to prioritize and incorporate livability and equity across local and regional efforts	On-going
		Provide regular programmatic updates and progress reports	On-going
310.2	Programming	Ensure regional representation of all member communities	On-going
		Facilitate capacity building around Institute domains to enhance opportunities for action and impact related to each focus area	On-going
		Support research opportunities and assemble data around Institute domains	On-going
		Prepare funding proposals and grant applications to support the Institute's fiscal sustainability	On-going
		Explore internal opportunities to implement best practices and improved approaches promoting greater equity and livability across agency	On-going
310.3	Special Projects	Establish the three prioritized domains (Transportation, Health & Environment, and Technology & Connectivity) as active working groups	June 2027
		Organize, expand, and mobilize the Miami Valley Age-Friendly Network towards increased regional representation and enhanced opportunities for local impact	June 2027
		Convene Data & Metrics Workgroup to identify approaches to measure program impact and regional progress	June 2027
310.4	Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program	Assessment and engagement efforts that increase understanding of the breadth, depth, or impact of local environmental or public health issues	October 2026
		Co-hosting of the Academy for Thriving Communities with the Westwood Right Project CDC	October 2026
		Hosting of the Thriving Communities Internship	October 2026