

RESOLUTION

Ensuring Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in all MVRPC Staff, Committee, and Board of Directors Actions

WHEREAS, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission is designated as a Voluntary Association of Local Governments by Ohio Revised Code Section 713.21; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission was formed in 1964 through the cooperation of locally elected officials from Greene, Miami, Preble, and Montgomery Counties and later to include Carlisle, Franklin, Springboro, and Franklin Township in Warren County; and

WHEREAS, in addition to units of local government, the MVRPC Board of Directors is made up of other government organizations, business, education, and community regional interests and it serves as the policy and decision making body for the Miami Valley Region through which local governments work cooperatively to guide important regional matters on behalf of the residents and businesses of the Miami Valley Region; and

WHEREAS, the Equity Regional Profile published by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission in July 2017 found that systemic, institutionalized segregation based upon race was implemented by the Federal Housing Authority from 1910 through 1950 through housing covenants to keep African Americans and immigrants from living in any part of the Miami Valley besides the west side of Dayton; and

WHEREAS, this practice of institutional and systemic segregation and racism has harmed certain neighborhoods as better jobs, education, health, food, and housing opportunities have been located in other parts of the Miami Valley and have allowed those who could move to these areas to have increased access to opportunity; and

WHEREAS, racism causes persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes in many areas of life including housing, economic opportunity, infant mortality, employment, food access, environmental protection, and criminal justice; and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism itself is a social determinant of health; and

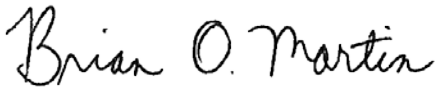
WHEREAS, the MVRPC Board of Directors and its partners formed the Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities on September 5, 2019 which dedicated funding for staff, programs, and projects that address racism and other disparities, increase access to opportunity, and improve livability for Older Americans throughout the Miami Valley; and

WHEREAS, numerous MVRPC governmental and associate members have adopted or considered adopting diversity, inclusion, equity, and antiracism policies including the City of Dayton, Village of Yellow Springs, Montgomery County, City of Piqua, City of Trotwood, City of Fairborn, City of Oakwood, Greater Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce, Dayton Development Coalition, University of Dayton, Sinclair College, Dayton Metropolitan Library, Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority, Five Rivers Metroparks, and others.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission's Board of Directors hereby:

1. Denounces discrimination of any group or in any form based upon race, income, jurisdiction, ability, national origin, age, religion, sexual preference or gender;
2. Directs the Executive Director to work with requesting member organizations to increase equity, diversity, and inclusion in their communities and organizations;
3. Requests that the Executive Director develop proactive policies, training programs, and other strategies that increase the understanding of racism, equity, access to opportunity, and diversity among MVRPC staff, boards, committees, and communities;
4. Encourages all members in their own time to develop letters, statements or resolutions and implement activities that increase equity, diversity, and inclusion in their communities;
5. Encourages all MVRPC member local governments and organizations to utilize any policies or tools developed to this end so that MVRPC through its Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities shares this information with members, tracks national best practices, and develops strategies to assist member local governments and organizations;
6. Advocates and supports the continued active involvement of the Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities as the regional and community entity that works to address racism, increase equity, provide access to opportunity, and increase livability in the communities and organizations of the Miami Valley;
7. Supports the agency's involvement in local, state, and federal purchasing programs that ensure fairness and equal opportunity programs for minority and women owned businesses;
8. Directs the Executive Director to develop a business plan, metrics, and provide annual updates to the Board of Directors on the success of these programs, projects, and policies prepared to address racism and increase diversity, inclusion, and equity throughout the Miami Valley Region.

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



Brian O. Martin, AICP
Executive Director



Chris Mucher, Chairperson
Board of Directors of the
Miami Valley Regional Planning
Commission

10/1/2020

Date