



Speaker Information

For First Suburbs Consortium Membership Meetings

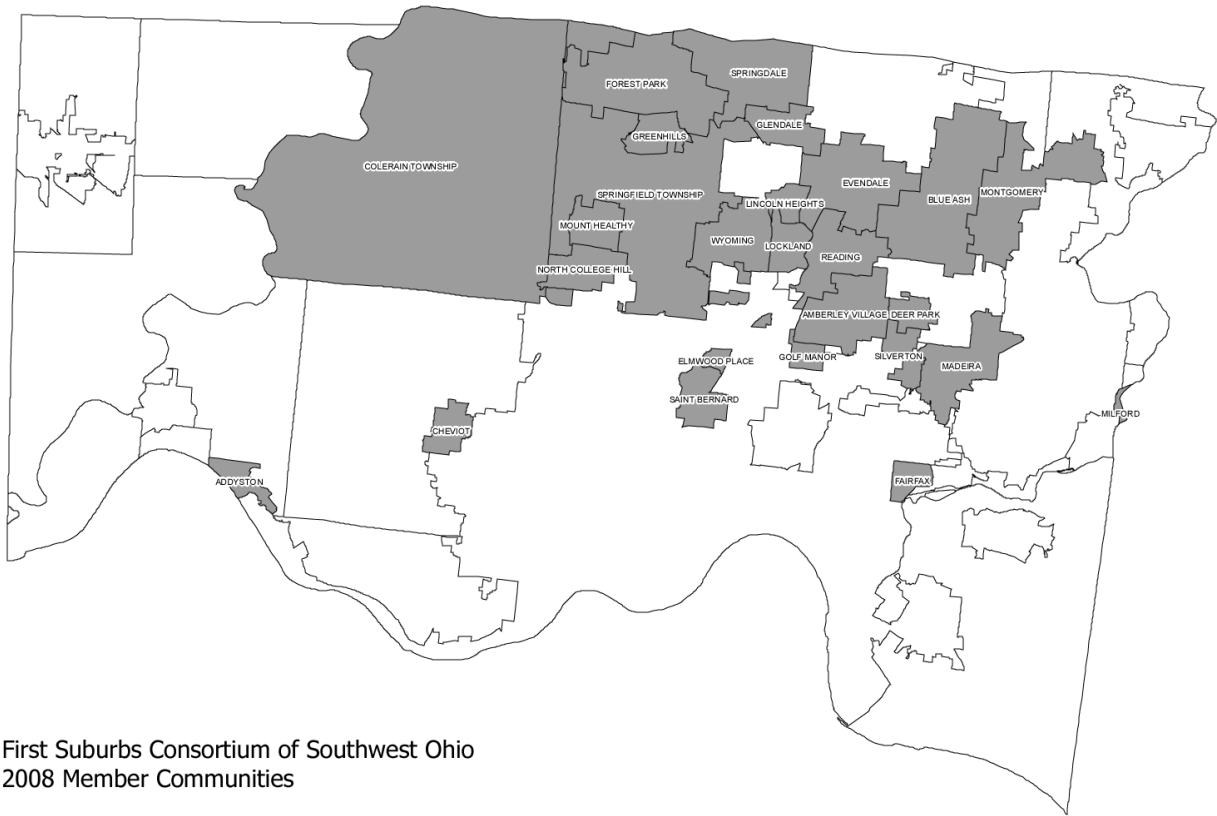
First Suburbs are older, built-out communities immediately adjacent to the urban core in Hamilton County. These are cities and villages that, according to the Brookings Institution, are caught in a “policy blindspot.” Economic and social problems similar to those in large cities impact these smaller communities, but state and federal aid is not as readily available compared with urban areas. Many of Hamilton County's first suburbs are dealing with significant problems of population loss, economic decline, housing deterioration, and declining school quality. Challenges in these communities are offset by their convenient locations, historic character, and amenities that attract new residents.

First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio (FSCSWO) is primarily a planning organization which educates and builds partnerships among our member communities for redevelopment projects, public service sharing agreements, and marketing. FSCSWO occasionally takes positions on certain policies or pending state legislation. But FSCSWO is a non-partisan organization and does not engage in political campaign activities or make donations to specific candidates for office. FSCSWO is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated as a non-profit with the State of Ohio (as First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio, Inc.).

With 28 cities, townships, and villages as members, FSCSWO represents about 257,000 Hamilton County residents. These communities are represented on the membership board by mayors, trustees, council members, municipal managers, or other appointed officials. This group is experienced with community development, public administration, planning and zoning, and public finances--all the things necessary to a functioning community. Collectively, this group has faced almost any problem that can occur in local government. Your presentation should respect this knowledge, build on it, and not retread familiar concepts.

FSCSWO will have several items on the membership meeting agenda. Some time is set aside at the beginning of the meeting for the Board of County Commissioners to talk about new projects or policies and answer questions. After this, the group will take care of any organization business they have--adopting resolutions, amending bylaws, voting on different items, and so forth. Then it is time for your presentation. FSC-SW normally schedules twenty minutes on the agenda for guest speakers (ten to fifteen minutes of content followed by questions and discussion). We could stretch this time if necessary depending on how many other items are scheduled, but twenty minutes is an ideal length. Try to stick to it.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ashley Keith, Associate Planner with the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission at 513-946-4459 or ashley.keith@hamilton-co.org.



First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio
2008 Member Communities

**First Suburbs Consortium
Executive Committee Members**

- **President:** John Smith; Mayor, Village of Silverton
- **Vice President:** Gerri Harbison; Council Member, City of Montgomery
- **Treasurer:** Bill Doering; Former Council Member, Amberley Village
- **Board Member:** Tom Moeller; City Manager, City of Madeira
- **Board Member:** Jim O'Reilly; Council Member, City of Wyoming
- **Board Member:** Dan Pillow; Mayor, Village of Addyston
- **Board Member:** Ruby Kinsey-Mumphrey; Mayor, Village of Lincoln Heights
- **Staff Liaison:** Ashley Keith; Hamilton County Associate Planner