

# LEAN THINKING BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER YOUR PLANNING PROCESS

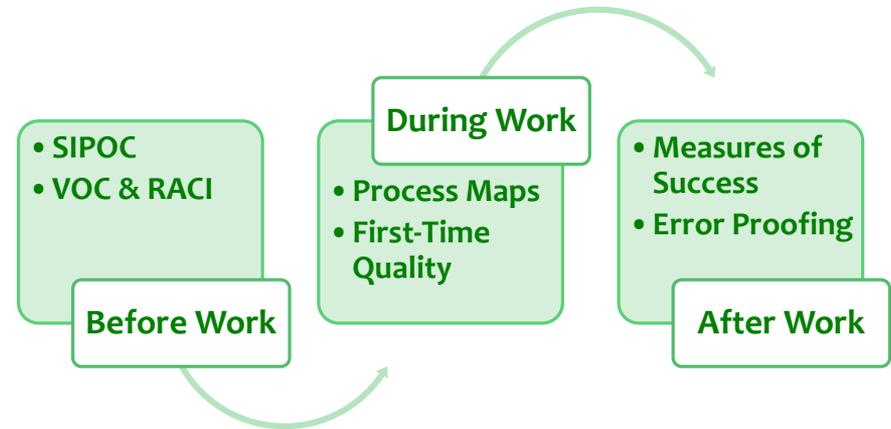
Devayani Puranik, Rachel Ray, Tracy Owens  
City of Dublin, Ohio

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# AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Why Are We Here?
3. Process Analysis: Before, During, and After
4. Practical Application
5. Conclusion and Q&A



# PIEworks

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT | INNOVATION | ENGAGEMENT



13  
Black Belts

40+  
Green and  
Yellow Belts

40+  
Process  
Improvement  
Projects

Since 2014



## 1. Planning Applications

Planning Commission members don't get enough information to make informed decisions in a timely manner. Applicants have to keep going back and providing more information, which results in costly project delays. Through this process, the public doesn't feel like they're able to track projects and collect enough information about what applicants are actually proposing. It's a painful process for all parties involved.



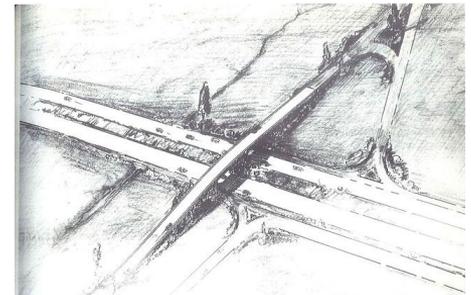
## 2. Neighborhood Plan

Your firm has been hired to create a neighborhood plan for a small community. The budget is more limited than you'd typically prefer for a project of this scale, but you know the Planning Director and have family ties to the small town and know it's much needed, the time is ripe, and it's a great project. And you know you need to make sure the plan is well-received and will be adopted by the end of the year.

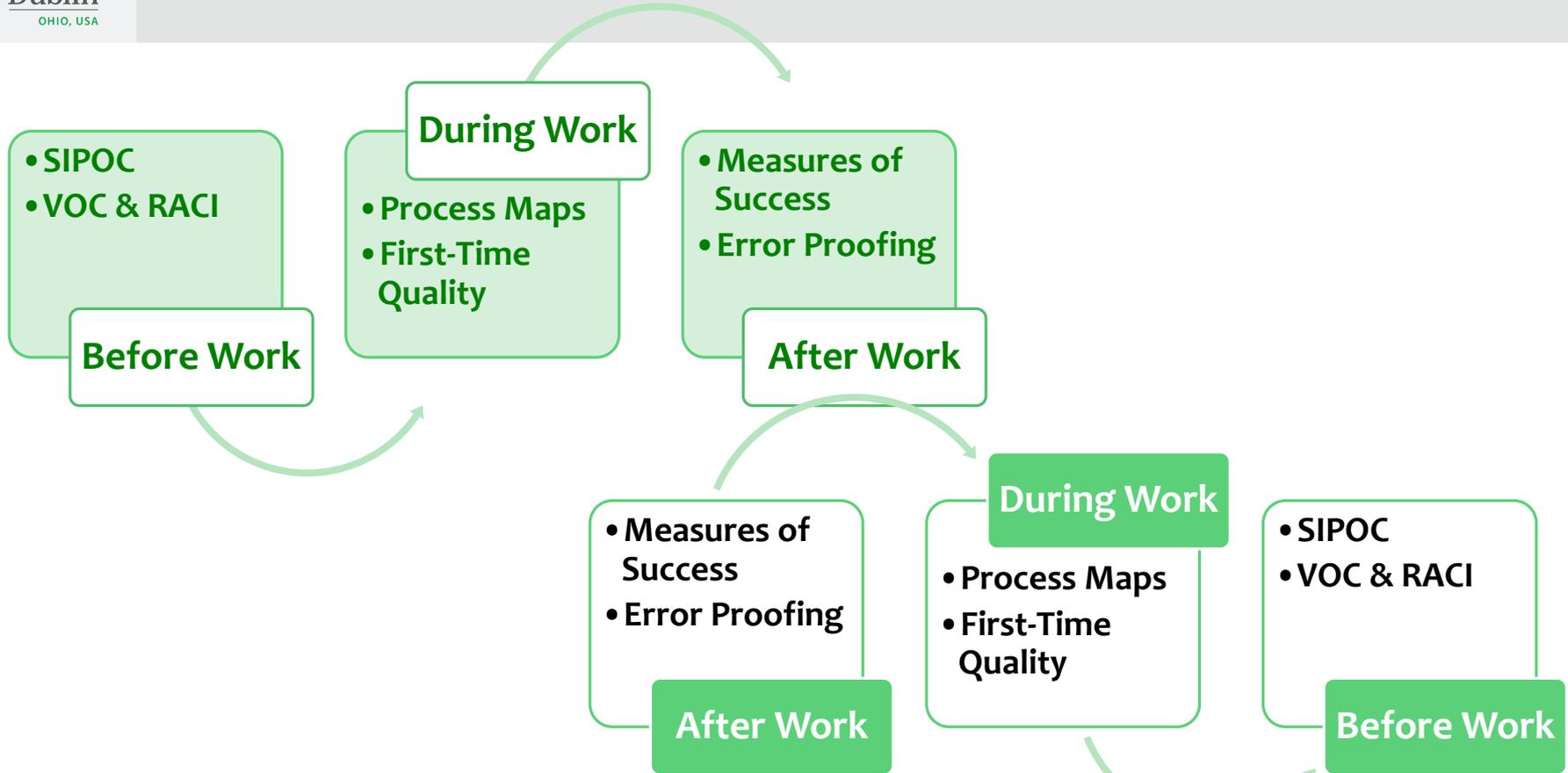


## 3. New Highway Interchange

The MPO is working with the state DOT to plan a new highway interchange that has the potential to bring important economic development benefits to a currently struggling part of the region. There is also a park and ecologically sensitive waterway nearby. There is an urgent window to obtain funding in the next budget cycle, so the project plan has to be very thorough, well-presented, and ready to implement.



# ANALYZE BACK-TO-FRONT





**POST-PROCESS EVALUATION:  
*BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND***



# POST-PROCESS EVALUATION

## METRICS

Measure outputs and results

Also measure drivers

$$Y = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$$

Don't just measure Y,  
measure the Xs



## MY WORST NIGHTMARE

What is the worst thing that can happen in this scenario?

How can we prevent it from happening?

## ERRORPROOFING

Prevent errors from happening in the first place

Control for variation among inputs



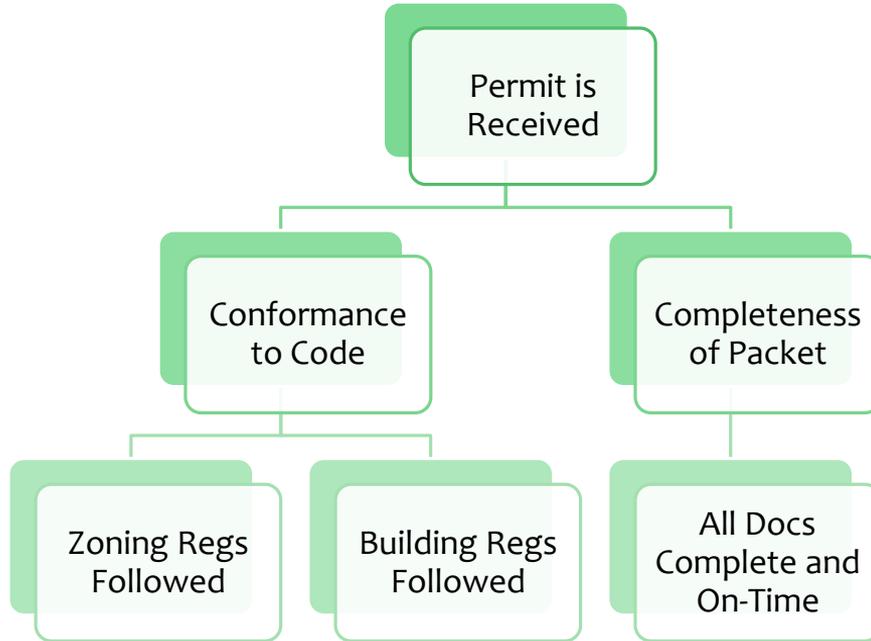
## Promoting Attendance at Public Meetings

You are trying to draw a large crowd to a public meeting

What is the WORST thing that could happen?



# MEASURES OF SUCCESS



**Y** - the Result

**Xs** - the Drivers



# ERRORPROOFING

1. Elimination: Prevent possibility of errors  
*Eliminate steps, remove unnecessary work, **Remove Fields on a Form***
2. Replacement: Substitute more robust process for error-prone actions  
*Automation, **Planning Software** so everyone works on the current version*
3. Facilitation: Make it easy to avoid errors the first time  
*Visual controls, drop-down menus, **Color-Coded Folders***
4. Detection: Make it easy to identify errors that do occur  
*Real-time spell checkers, frequent metrics, **Sum Reconciliation***
5. Mitigation: Reduce the impact of any errors  
*Fuses, redundant servers, **No Hassle Returns Policy***



**DURING THE OPERATION:  
*MONITOR THE WORK TO PREDICT SUCCESS***

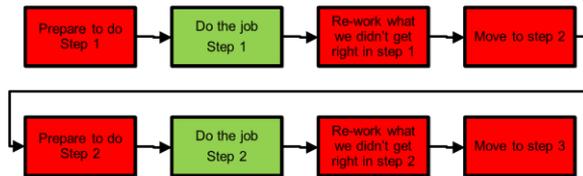


# DURING THE OPERATION

## PROCESS MAPPING

Sketch the Current Process so Everyone Sees it Through the Same Lens

Analyze it to Look for **Value** and **Non-Value**



## 1ST-TIME QUALITY

Defects are bad

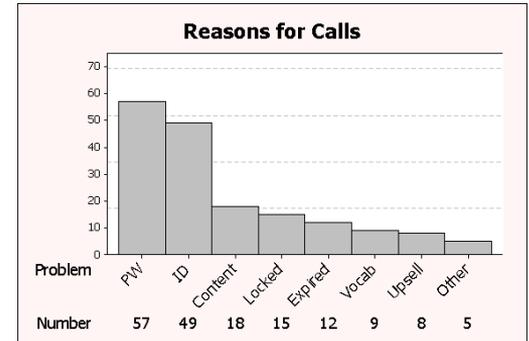
Scrap is bad

Rework is *just as bad*

## PARETO CHART

Track the frequency of occurrence for each problem

Identify targets for improvement





## VALUE-ADDING ACTIVITIES

Every step in a process is either:

***Adding Value for the Customer***

or ***Not Adding Value***

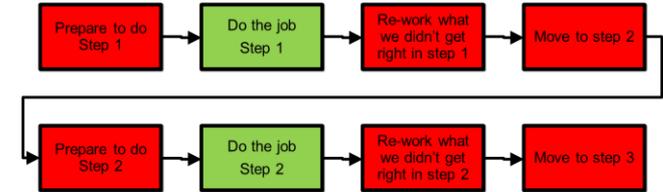
Value-Adding process steps are those that:

***Produce the Value*** (what the customer needs)

or

***Deliver the Value*** to the customer

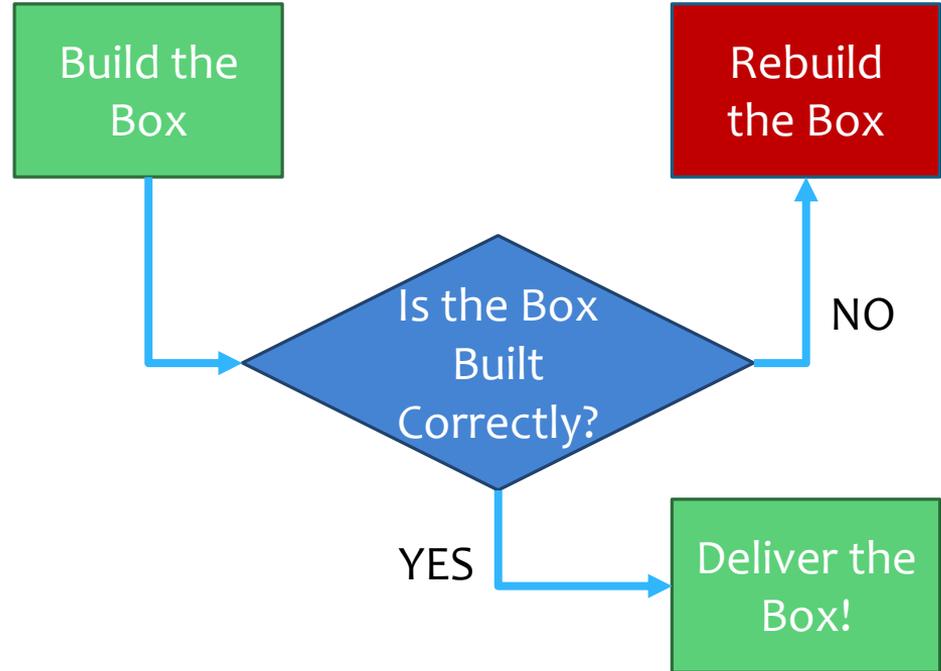
**Always Strive to Minimize Non-Value  
Adding Steps in Your Work**



## REWORK

When work is not done correctly the first time:

- 1) It must be fixed by somebody
- 2) We annoy the customer by having to make the correction
- 3) We cannot work on something else

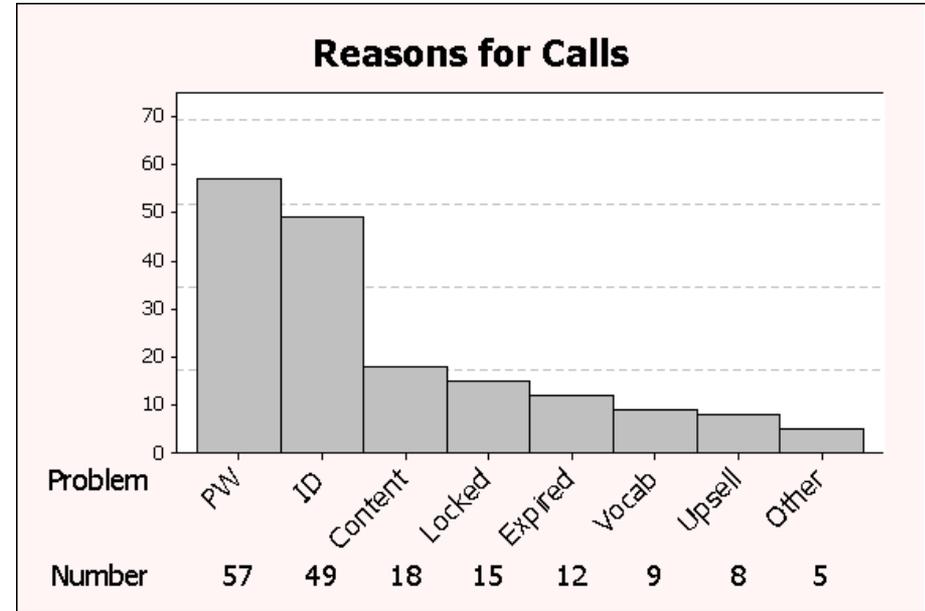


# THE PARETO CHART

List of the Problems You Face  
Sorted in Order of Frequency\*  
Look for Targets in the Tallest Bars  
Lower Bars Can Be Good Targets

Then Find Ways to:

- *Resolve them More Quickly*
- *Prevent them in the First Place*



\*Can also be sorted by Severity





**PRE-PROCESS PREPARATION:  
*SET UP YOUR TEAM AND YOUR CUSTOMERS  
FOR SUCCESS***

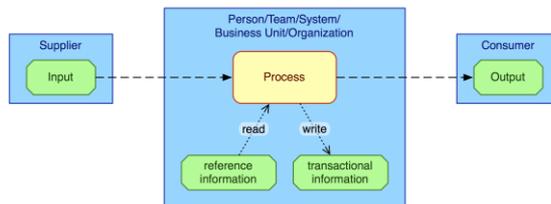


# PRE-PROCESS PREPARATION

## VOICE OF THE CUSTOMER (VOC)

Active and Passive  
Collection of Opinions  
and Complaints

Don't Overreact!



## SIPOC

High-Level Process  
Diagram

Matches Inputs to  
Outputs

Unified View of Our  
Work

## RACI

Identifies Possible Failures  
Lists Critical Outputs  
Defines Owners for Actions

<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Responsible</b></li> <li>• Who is/will be doing this task?</li> <li>• Who is assigned to work on this task?</li> </ul>
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Accountable</b></li> <li>• Who's head will roll if this goes wrong?</li> <li>• Who has the authority to take decision?</li> </ul>
<b>C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Consulted</b></li> <li>• Anyone who can tell me more about this task?</li> <li>• Any stakeholders already identified?</li> </ul>
<b>I</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informed</b></li> <li>• Anyone whose work depends on this task?</li> <li>• Who has to be kept updated about the progress?</li> </ul>



## MOMENTS OF TRUTH

Every customer interaction is a

***Moment of Truth***

Some are obvious: a service call, a town hall, placing an order over the phone

Some are less obvious: trying to use the city's website, receiving an incorrect statement or bill in the mail, reading a comment about the city on a website or in an article

***Every Moment of Truth is a chance to improve or damage your relationship with the customer***

## POLL

### VOC Collection

Large-scale surveys

Small-scale focus groups

Individual interviews

On-line questions & comments

Public meetings

Wait for complaints



# SIPOC – THE TOOL FOR A POSITIVE START

**Project Name:** Growing Tomatoes

**Project Scope:** Process of growing tomatoes, from obtaining seeds to harvest.

<b>Sources</b> Who supplies the process inputs?	<b>Inputs (Xs)</b> What inputs are required?	<b>Process</b> What are the major steps in the process?	<b>Outputs (Ys)</b> What are the process outputs?	<b>Customers</b> Who receives the outputs?
Catalogue or garden store	Seeds (appropriate for growing location, taste preferences)	1) Get seeds	<b>Ripe Tomatoes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Color</li> <li>• Size</li> <li>• Taste</li> <li>• Sufficient water</li> <li>• Sufficient sunlight</li> <li>• Protected growing area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Me!</li> <li>• Family</li> <li>• Friends &amp; Neighbors</li> <li>• Farmer's Market</li> </ul>
Home	Location with sufficient sun, access to water, protection from traffic & pests	2) Find the best spot to plant		
Garden store	Dirt (suitable for tomatoes and growing location)	3) Get dirt		
Catalogue or garden store	Seeds, Shovel	4) Plant seeds		
Home, garden store	Water, Hose or Watering Can (frequency, quantity)	5) Water seeds	<b>Rotten Tomatoes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size</li> <li>• Taste</li> <li>• Pests</li> <li>• Blight</li> <li>• Forgetfulness</li> </ul>	
Home, garden store	Frame or cage; Fencing and/or netting; Weeding (frequency, type)	6) Manage the growing process		
Gardener	Timing/conditions (when tomatoes are ready to pick)	7) Harvest tomatoes		



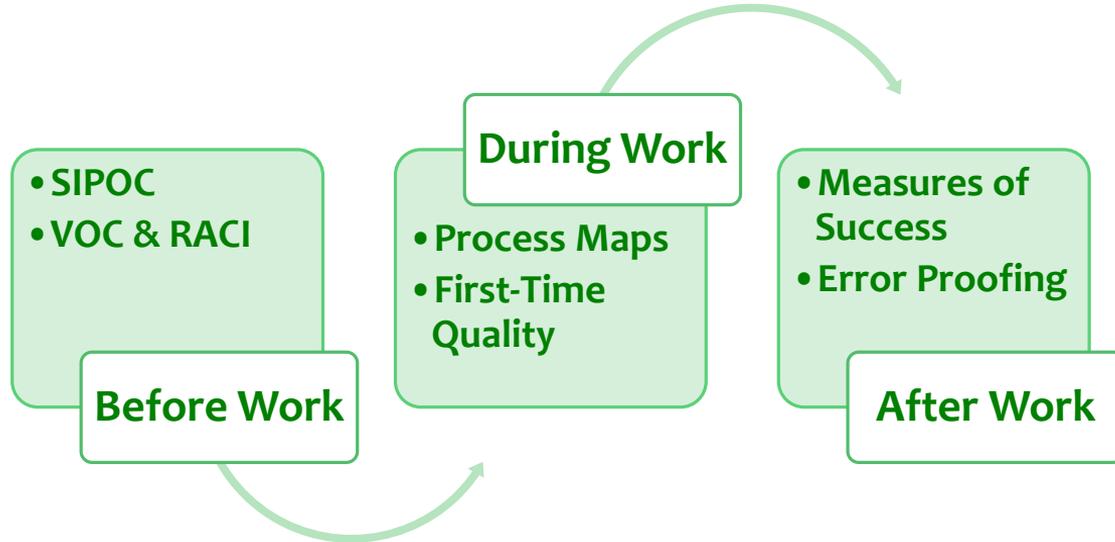
# RACI – SO EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT EVERYONE OWNS

Growing Tomatoes	Gardener	Spouse	Child	Farm Market
Get seeds	A	R		C
Look for right spot	A	C		
Get dirt	A	I	R	C
Plant seeds	A	I	I	C
Water seeds	I		A	
Manage the plant growing process	A		R	C
Harvest tomatoes	A	R		I

**R**- Responsible  
**A**- Accountable  
**C**- Consulted  
**I**- Informed



# ANALYZE THE PROCESS FROM BACK TO FRONT



A photograph of a family of three walking away on a dirt path through a dense forest. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The woman on the right is carrying a bag, and the child in the middle is holding the hand of the child on the left. The text 'PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF LEAN IN PLANNING' is overlaid in the center of the image.

# PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF LEAN IN PLANNING



Devayani Puranik

Senior Planner

City of Dublin

614-410-4662

[Dpuranik@dublin.oh.us](mailto:Dpuranik@dublin.oh.us)



Rachel Ray

Economic Development

Administrator

614-410-4630

[Rray@dublin.oh.us](mailto:Rray@dublin.oh.us)



Tracy Owens

Process Improvement

3 Point Consulting Ltd

614-602-7511

[3-point@att.net](mailto:3-point@att.net)

