



Centralina Council of Governments

Upcoming Events

Wed., Jan. 29 - [CCOG U: Introduction to Diversity, Inclusion and Cultural Fluency](#)

Tues., Feb. 11 - [Centralina Workforce Development Board Meeting](#)

Wed., Feb. 12 - [CCOG Board of Delegates Annual Meeting](#)

Thur., Feb. 13 - [Catawba Wateree Water for All Annual Summit](#)

Wed., Feb. 18 - [NextGen Youth Council Meeting](#)

Tues., Feb. 25 - [Best Practices for LGBT Senior Services](#)

Wed., Feb. 26 - [CCOG U: MPO Basics](#)

Thur., Feb. 27 - Census Peer Exchange

Mon., Mar. 9 - Women's Leadership event

Wed., Mar. 18 - [CCOG U: How to Make Your Grant Application Stand Out](#)

April 23-24 - [Southern Regional Grant Conference](#) in Greenville, SC (early bird by 1/31)



A Letter From Our Executive Director

Happy New Year from Centralina! It's been a year since I joined the organization and I'm grateful to have the opportunity to work with this dynamic team. This past year I concentrated on learning more about our communities, their elected officials and staff, and how we can work together for a prosperous region. We also tackled updating our mission, setting strategic priorities and establishing organizational core values. To me, the idea of 2020 suggests focus and looking ahead to what is next. We've got a big agenda for the coming year as we continue to make strides towards our [strategic goals](#). We look forward to partnering with you and working with our Board of Delegates to deliver our core services and take on some big projects. Here's a sample of what's on our radar for the first few

months of 2020:

- **Centralina Rebrand and Website Redesign:** It's a new year and we are updating our brand to better reflect who we are and how we serve the region. We're also creating a new, easy-to-use website and membership portal that will feature exclusive content for our members.

- **Training and Professional Development:** From the [CLT Aviation Academy](#) to an expanded [CCOG University](#) program, we are increasing our training opportunities for local government staff and elected officials.

- **Regional Transit Plan:** Launching soon! Our collaboration with CATS and regional Metropolitan Planning Organizations will create a blueprint for expanding mobility and transit access across our region.

- **Census 2020 – Centralina Counts:** Big changes are ahead for the census and we want to support a complete count in our region. Visit our [Census resource page](#) to learn more.



Need Support? Centralina is here to help local communities with technical assistance and support services upon request. Reach out to our Government Affairs & Members Engagement Team to learn more: Jeremy Farris, jfarris@centralina.org or Kelly Weston, kweston@centralina.org

Capital Corner: Working For You From DC to Raleigh

Congress returned for the Second Session of the 116th on January 7th and the State of the Union Address is scheduled for February 4th. For other important dates in 2020, such as scheduled district work periods, please see the [Congressional Calendar](#). Additionally, now that the FY20 Appropriations Act has been signed into law, federal agencies are busy announcing the next rounds of competitions

for federal grants. For the most recently published Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs), see the [Grants Alert](#) and to plan ahead, use the forecast of what to expect during the second quarter of this fiscal year and the rest of 2020 in the [Grants Annual Forecast](#). The President is expected to release his FY21 budget on February 10th, with Congress beginning work on the 12 individual spending bills for FY21 soon thereafter. For more information on any of these items or for help with trouble shooting federal issues, contact Jeremy Farris, Centralina's new Government Affairs and Member Engagement Analyst, at jfarris@centralina.org or 704.688.7036.



The Charlotte Aviation Academy provides a one-of-a-kind opportunity to better understand the inner workings of Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) and its contributions and impacts on our economy, transportation system and community. Participants will gain behind-the-scenes access to current operations and future CLT planning efforts that will impact our local and regional economy. The Academy is open to community members and public and private sectors leaders from across the greater Charlotte region. For details, please see the [flyer](#) and [registration site](#). Applications due Feb. 21.

NC Moves 2050 Plan Survey

The N.C. Department of Transportation wants to build a transportation system people want, need and will use. Help shape the future by participating in a short survey by Feb. 14 to sharing what's important to you.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

Preventing The Flu

It's that time of year again — [flu season](#). An influenza outbreak can have a deleterious effect on communities and local economies. The Centers for Disease Control offers [resources](#) to help local governments prepare for the possibility of an influenza pandemic. You can also help residents find vaccination centers with the [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#).



Fundamentals of Diversity & Inclusion

The first CCOG University class of 2020 will be held on January 29: Introduction to Diversity, Inclusion and Cultural Fluency. The instructor will guide us through thought-provoking and self-reflective activities, providing the tools needed to become advocates for more equitable work environments. All are welcome and there is no cost for member governments staff to attend. Details on the [registration site](#)



Instructional Data Portal Videos

The Centralina Economic Development District (CEDD) launched a new series of videos and helpful tips on how to navigate the CEDD Data Portal. The first video demonstrates the basics of how to find customized data and download it to your device. The second is centered around the regional comparison tool. [Watch the videos](#)

Women in Engineering and Industrial Technologies

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College has rolled out a new Women in Engineering and Industrial Technologies (WE IT) initiative to promote the enrollment of women in fields related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). In partnership with the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education program, WE IT aims to increase engagement and preparation of female students for high-tech careers that drive much of our nation's economy. [Continue](#)



Follow Us! @CentralinaCOG