



Centralina Council of Governments



Thank you for another great year. The Centralina team has a lot to be thankful for and we are excited to see what 2020 brings. Wishing you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season!

Please note our office will be closed December 24 - 26 and January 1.

Upcoming Events

Wed., Jan. 8 - [Executive Board Meeting](#)

Mon.-Wed., Jan. 13-15 - [Planning for Effective Public Participation Workshop](#) (The Lee Institute, AICP credits available)

Thur.-Fri., Jan. 16-17 - [Techniques for Effective Public Participation Workshop](#) (The Lee Institute, AICP credits available)

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

Thur.-Fri., Jan. 30 & 31 - [Chapter 160D Regional Workshop](#) (led by UNC School of Government)

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

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

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

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

Thur., Feb. 27 - Census Peer Exchange

Capital Corner: Working For You From DC to Raleigh

Before leaving for a Thanksgiving week recess, Congress passed, and the President signed, a four-week spending bill to extend the Continuing Resolution to December 20. In addition to keeping the government open, the measure also kept the Export-Import Bank open through that date, allowed the Census Bureau to spend money at a higher rate to prepare for the 2020 head count, prevented an automatic cut to highway funding next year, and provided the military with a 3.1% pay increase. The short-term spending measure was needed because Congress had not yet agreed on any of the 12 annual spending bills funding government agencies for FY20 that began October 1. Agreement on the year end spending package has been reached, with the 12 bills split into two smaller packages (“minibus”), combining eight bills in one package and four in the other, for up-or-down House and Senate floor votes. The House passed these packages December 18, with the Senate expected to do the same before sending them to President Trump for signature by Friday’s deadline.

Federal Resources: [2020 Congressional Calendar](#), [116th Congress: CCOG Delegation Contact List](#)
Grants Alert: [Federal Grants Alert, \\$200 Million in Available Broadband Funding](#)

TRANSPORTATION SPOTLIGHT

Charlotte Just Inched Closer to its First Regional Transit Plan

Charlotte officials moved closer to a regional transit plan, recently approving an agreement with other government agencies to hire a consultant and craft a vision for the city and a dozen surrounding counties. The plan’s goals include identifying future routes, exploring ways to fund a regional system and synchronizing some of the current, separate systems to make transferring and paying for fares across different counties easier. Centralina Council of Governments will lead the effort...[Continue](#)

Freight Can't Wait: Strategies to Keep Delivery Trucks Rolling

The movement and delivery of goods is essential to society — and always has been. But freight planning doesn't get the recognition it deserves, even among planners. In the e-commerce age, effective, comprehensive, and thoughtful freight planning is more important than ever, and the need will only grow. In historic or dense urban areas, the demand for deliveries is rising, but the available infrastructure is static without space to expand. [Continue](#)

Executive Board: November Meeting

CEO of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, Janet LeBar, explained her vision and



priorities for the organization. We look forward to working with her on regional initiatives.

We also said farewell to outgoing Executive Board Member, Council Member Johnson, and noted our appreciation for his years of public service and leadership on the Board.



Regional Managers: December Legislative Luncheon

We heard a state legislative update from Rose Vaughn-Williams with the NC League of Municipalities, pictured on the right with Linda Miller, Director of Centralina Area Agency on Aging. We'd like to thank her, along with Amber Harris from NC Association of County Commissioners and Mike McLaurin from ICMA/ NCCMA, for taking part in the luncheon.



We would also like to thank James Estes (Regional Representative for Senator Thom Tillis), Kyle Bridges (District Director for Congressman Ted Budd), Kay Tembo (Senior District Liaison for Congresswoman Alma Adams) and Mike Fenley (Field Representative for Senator Richard Burr) for attending.

Census Resources

NC's Hard to Count Communities



The NC Counts Coalition and Carolina Demography have developed an interactive mapping tool specific to North Carolina to identify the state's hard to count communities. [View the map](#) or read more about [undercounted communities in NC](#).

How Much Money Can We Associate With Each Person Not Counted?

In NC, that is a \$23.8 billion question. In FY2016, nearly \$24 billion in federal funds were allocated to NC through 55 programs guided by the 2010 Census. On a per capita basis, this is more than \$2,000 per NC resident, though it is hard to put a specific financial amount on the impact of any one person not being counted in the census. Let's look at the distribution of federal funds for early childhood programs to understand the potential impacts. Every year, NC receives nearly \$548 million in census-derived federal funding to support a strong start for children ages 0 to 4. In 2016, NC had 144,000 children age 0-4 living in poverty, the 9th largest number of any state. [Continue](#)

First 'High-Tech Census' Raises Stakes for Local Government

Officials across the country are grappling with conducting a Census in a country and world that have drastically changed in the past decade. Unlike 10 years ago, we now live in a world in which more local governments are using data to guide their decisions. Some of the actual data in that equation is often derived from the Census, increasing the stakes for communities. At the same time, the public's relationship with willingly surrendering data has become fraught. Younger generations like millennials are all but unreachable via traditional methods of correspondence like phone, mail or door-to-door visits. What this all adds up to is a far more complicated — and more high-stakes — environment for the U.S. Census Bureau to work within. But there are ways that local, county and state governments can assist. [Continue](#)

Save the Date

Thursday, February 27: Census Peer Exchange
County Complete Count Committees convene to share best practices for preparing their communities for Census 2020.

CCOG U 2019
Concludes with

Centralina WDB Shines Bright at
NCWorks Conference

In October, over 1,000 workforce development,



Scenario Planning

On December 5th, Centralina Council of Governments wrapped up another successful year of the CCOG

University "CCOG U" training series with presenters Alex Bell (Renaissance Planning, "Scenario Planning in Transportation"), Cole McKinney (Catawba Regional Council of Governments, "A Plan for the Gateway District") and Michelle Nance (CCOG, "Scenario Planning 101"). The trio discussed the value of scenario planning and how local governments and regions are using these types of tools to better anticipate how today's policy and investment decisions will impact communities in the future. Unlike forecast planning, scenario planning can map out multiple futures. [Continue reading, see the presentations and view the 2020 schedule.](#)

education, economic development and community professionals attended the 2019 NCWorks Partnership Conference in Greensboro. Centralina Workforce Development Board (WDB) Executive Director David Hollars served as this year's conference host and WDB staff participated as presenters, moderators and committee members. "We are blessed in North Carolina to have such as outstanding annual showcase for workforce development," said Hollars about the conference. [Continue](#)



CAAA to Offer Pride in Care State Wide

Centralina Area Agency on Aging (CAAA) received a Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services Civil Money Penalty grant to provide LGBT cultural competency training called Pride in Care NC for skilled nursing facility staff and skilled nursing facility resident advocates in NC. CAAA will partner with SAGE (Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders), North Carolina Regional Ombudsman Association, Council of Governments across North Carolina, and various LGBT and senior advocacy groups. [Continue](#)



[NCWorks Conference Award of Distinction Video: Outstanding Innovative Partnership](#)

2019 Planning for Healthy Communities Conference



Centralina's 7th Annual Planning for Healthy Communities

Conference took place on November 5th and featured a morning keynote by Pam Diggs of Youth Powered

Solutions. Pam's message focused on equity and the importance of bringing youth to the table when making decisions that will affect them. She also made the connection between racial equity, youth equity and health equity during her powerful presentation. [Continue](#)

Annual Aging Conference Welcomed Vallie Collins

On November 1st, Centralina Area Agency on Aging welcomed more than 400 participants to our Annual Aging Conference. The conference featured 21 workshop sessions led by experts from around the state and keynote speaker Vallie Collins, one of the survivors of Flight 1549 that crashed on the Hudson River 10 years ago. Vallie Collins' message was well-received as her lessons provide guidance for living our best life. The following are her five top tips for living well...[continue](#)

Healthy and Happy Holidays

The holiday season can be filled with joy and fun, but it can also be a time of stress and exhaustion. Here are some tips to keep yourself happy and healthy all the way through to the New Year. The five key tips are...[continue](#)

Rowan Developing Economic Development Strategy

The Rowan Economic Development Corporation has begun working with a consulting firm on a new vision called "Forward Rowan." The effort aims to accelerate the EDC's goal of increasing the prosperity of local residents, the organization said in an announcement recently. More specifically, the Forward Rowan strategy will focus on targeted economic growth, talent attraction and development, quality of life, brand identity and organizational development. The Rowan EDC described it as a "\$5.5 million

Rebuild Your Future Program

In partnership with the Centralina Workforce Development Board, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College has launched the Rebuild Your Future program to provide job training and guidance to individuals who identify their criminal record as a barrier to employment.

"More than 200 people have been reached since the program launched," said Keri Allman, R3 Career Services at Rowan-Cabarrus. [Continue](#) economic development and community strategy." [Continue](#)



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