



Executive Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
 Zoom Meeting
 Join by computer:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85090782784>
 Join by phone: Dial 1-929-436-2866 and enter Meeting ID 850 9078 2784

Chairman Bobby Compton will convene a meeting of the Centralina Executive Board **on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 5:00 pm**. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Time	Item	Presenter
5:00 p.m.	Call to Order	Bobby Compton
	Roll Call	
	Moment of Silence	
	Amendments to the Agenda (if any)	
Consent Items: <i>Consent agenda items may be considered in one motion and without discussion except for those items removed by a Board Member.</i>		
5:10 p.m. Item 1 <i>Pages 4 - 7</i>	Approval of the January 12, 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes The minutes from the January 12, 2022 meeting have been distributed to all members of the Executive Board and should be approved if correct. Action/Recommendation: <i>Motion to approve the January 12, 2022 Executive Board meeting minutes.</i>	Bobby Compton
Regular Business Items:		
5:15 p.m. Item 2 25 minutes <i>Pages 9 - 17</i>	Executive Board Kick-Off and Key Initiatives Update As the Executive Board begins its new term, Centralina wishes to inform the Board of key updates related to key regional projects and other statewide activities. Action/Recommendation: <i>Receive as information.</i>	Geraldine Gardner, David Hollars, Michelle Nance, and Linda Miller
5:40 p.m. Item 3 10 minutes <i>Pages 19 - 20</i>	Federal Relations Update Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting, will present an update on Centralina's federal relations activities, including a performance report on activities from January through February. Action/Recommendation <i>Motion to accept the Strategics Consulting performance report for January through February 2022.</i>	Leslie Mozingo
5:50 p.m. Item 4 15 minutes <i>Page 22</i>	Raleigh Relations Update The Executive Board will receive an update on state government engagement activities as part of Centralina's Raleigh Relations strategy. Action/Recommendation <i>Receive as information and provide feedback.</i>	Kelly Weston
6:05 p.m. Item 5 5 minutes <i>Page 24</i>	Chairman's At-Large Appointments to the Executive Board Chairman Bobby Compton will make appointments to fill two at-large seats on the Executive Board. Action/Recommendation:	Bobby Compton

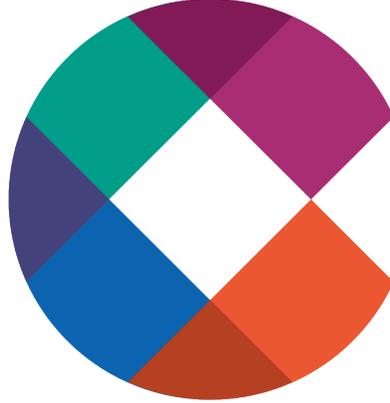


Executive Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Zoom Meeting
Join by computer:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85090782784>
Join by phone: Dial 1-929-436-2866 and enter
Meeting ID 850 9078 2784

Time	Item	Presenter
	<i>Receive as information.</i>	
6:10 p.m. Item 6 5 minutes	Secretary and Treasurer Installation	Kelly Weston
6:15 p.m. 5 minutes	Comments from the Executive Board and Centralina Staff	Board Members and Staff
6:20 p.m. 5 minutes	Comments from the Executive Director	Geraldine Gardner
6:25 p.m. 5 minutes	Comments from the Chair	Bobby Compton
6:30 p.m.	Adjournment	Bobby Compton

Centralina Regional Council complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Centralina Regional Council will make reasonable accommodations in all programs/services to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Centralina Regional Council's programs will be available in the most integrated setting for each individual. If any accommodations are necessary for participation, please contact the Clerk to the Board, 9815 David Taylor Drive, Charlotte, NC 28262, phone (704) 348-2728. Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: www.centralina.org.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 1



**Executive Board Virtual Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2022**

Officers Present	Board Members Present	Board Members Not Present	Centralina Staff and Guests Present
Bobby Compton, Chairman Jay McCosh, Vice Chairman Jarvis Woodburn, Secretary William Morgan, Treasurer	Peter Ascitutto Larken Egleston Gene Houpe Pedro Morey Christine Poinsette Elaine Powell Amelia Stinson- Wesley David Williams	Karen Alexander Cathy Davis Bob Hovis Corinthia Lewis- Lemon Lynn Shue Jennifer Stepp	Nina Barrett Connor Choka Geraldine Gardner Zsuzsi Kadar Debi Lee Linda Miller Michelle Nance Emily Parker Sherika Rich Denise Strosser Kelly Weston Venecia White Guests Leslie Mazingo, Strategics Consulting Lee Zelewicz, Innovative Emergency Management

Call to Order

Chairman Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, called the meeting to order.

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, called roll and noted that a quorum was present.

Moment of Silence

Chairman Compton called for a moment of silence.

Amendments to the Agenda.

Chairman Compton explained that Centralina staff requested adding an item to the Consent Agenda, an approval of additional FY22 NC Division of Aging and Adult Services funding allocations in the amount of \$763,090 for the Home and Community Care Block Grant program.

Treasurer William Morgan, City of Statesville, made a motion to amend the agenda. Secretary Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

- 1. 2022 Federal Action Plan Approval**
 - 2. NC Local Government Records Retention Schedule Adoption**
 - 3. FY22 Budget Amendment**
 - 4. Approval of the November 10, 2021 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**
- Additional Item: Approval of Additional FY22 NC Division of Aging and Adult Services Funding Allocation**

Treasurer Morgan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Secretary Woodburn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Federal Relations Update

Leslie Mazingo, Strategics Consulting, presented highlights from the performance report of federal relations activities. She noted that Centralina successfully advocated for H.R. 5735, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) flexibility bill. She also noted the US Treasury released its final rule for ARPA funds, including a standard allowance for revenue loss of up to \$10 million, adding that it allows local governments to use those funds for non-federal matches for federal grants. She further noted that many new federal grant opportunities will be available beginning in mid-February.

Treasurer Morgan made a motion to accept the Strategics Consulting performance report for November through December 2021. Commissioner Gene Houpe, Iredell County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. FY23 Budget Preview

Denise Strosser, Finance Director, presented an overview of the proposed operating and passthrough placeholder budget for FY2023. She noted that staff is also recommending keeping the membership dues assessment rate at \$0.24 per capita and removing the minimum assessment of \$750. She explained that assessing dues for all members based on actual population would relieve a financial burden for smaller communities. She added the change would also encourage other smaller, non-member communities to join the organization so they can benefit from Centralina services and regional collaboration.

Treasurer William Morgan, City of Statesville, commended Centralina staff's proposal to remove the minimum dues assessment. He also suggested exploring more grant funding opportunities.

Commissioner Houpe made a motion to recommend the proposed FY2023 operating and passthrough placeholder budget ordinances in the amount of \$7,508,647 and \$15,460,000 respectfully and the membership dues assessment of \$0.24 per capita with removal of the minimum assessment of \$750 per member to be approved for consideration for adoption by the Board of Delegates. Council Member Christine Poinsette, City of Lincolnton, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Regional Resilience Collaborative Project Presentation

Christina Danis, Community Economic Development Assistant Director, presented an overview of the Regional Resilience Collaborative project, its objectives and timeline. She noted the project is funded through the US Economic Development Administration's Disaster Relief Coordinator Grant to assist communities with building capacity and enhancing resiliency.

Lee Zelewicz, Innovative Emergency Management, presented an overview of the three phases of recovery, which include response, short-term recovery, and long-term recovery and resiliency. He also presented details of the project's milestones.

Ms. Danis presented web resources, an overview of the project launch, programmatic goals, and state and federal funding opportunities. She also explained how the project aligns with the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

8. Centralina Strategic Plan Update

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, explained that Centralina conducted a Regional Dialogues Series during the fall to reconnect with the organization's regional partners and

stakeholders and understand the major challenges and opportunities facing the region. She noted that insights from the series will inform Centralina's FY23-26 strategic plan and the 2023-2027 CEDS.

Emily Parker, Senior Planner, presented an overview of the series timeline. She explained that a subcommittee comprised of Centralina Delegates and members of the Centralina Economic Development District helped champion the process.

Ms. Gardner noted that a regional survey conducted as part of the process affirmed critical regional issues such as growth and mobility and identified potential new issues for action. She also noted that a series of focus groups identified other important issues to address through strategic planning and the CEDS, including COVID-19 recovery and local government ARPA support, local government workforce capacity, planning for healthy communities, and economic recovery and resilience. She explained that as next steps, staff will engage the Executive Board and Board of Delegates in regional goal setting and develop a strategic planning document for endorsement.

9. Board Orientation Planning Update

Ms. Weston noted that each year at the February Board of Delegates annual meeting, Centralina staff conducts a session that serves as an orientation for new Delegates and a refresher for returning Delegates. She explained that this year, staff will implement a new, two-part approach to orientation that is designed to increase engagement among new Delegates. She explained that the first part consists of individual, virtual orientation meetings with new Delegates held between now and February 8th. She added that the second part will take place during the February 9th Board of Delegates meeting and will involve an interactive poll covering information about Centralina and the Board.

10. Nominating Committee Report

Council Member Larken Egleston, City of Charlotte, noted that the Nominating Committee was comprised of Commissioner Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County, Council Member Corinthia Lewis-Lemon, Town of Morven, and himself. He reported that the Committee convened via conference call on December 16th and discussed the incumbent officers' interest in continuing to serve and a process for soliciting nominations from other interested Delegates. He noted that Centralina staff distributed an email to new and returning Delegates on the Committee's behalf explaining the nomination process, officer responsibilities, and calling for additional nominees. He added that the Committee did not receive any additional nominations. He explained that the Committee will proceed with presenting the following slate of officer nominees for a vote and installation at the February 9th Board of Delegates meeting:

Chair: Commissioner Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville
Vice Chair: Council Member Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville
Secretary: Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County
Treasurer: Mayor Pro Tem William Morgan, City of Statesville

Comments from the Executive Board and Centralina Staff

There were no comments from the Executive Board or Centralina Staff.

Comments from the Executive Director

Ms. Gardner noted that staff is working on plans for how to utilize the ARPA funds allocated to the NC Association of Regional Councils of Government (NCARCOG) in the state budget. She explained that NCARCOG is collaborating with the NC League of Municipalities and the NC Association of County Commissioners to develop a comprehensive approach to support local governments.

She reported that the state budget also directed NC Emergency Management to work with Centralina, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, and Piedmont Triad Regional Council on a study to assess the needs for additional radar stations in the piedmont area. She added that Centralina is in conversations with the state to begin that work.

She also reported that the NC Works Commission's Governance and System Alignment Committee is considering a proposal that would consolidate the state's 23 local workforce development boards into the state's eight Prosperity Zones. She noted this potential change would impact the Centralina Workforce Development Board, as well as the workforce boards serving Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties.

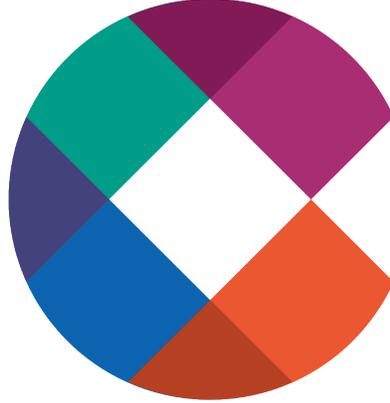
Secretary Woodburn noted that he has been in conversations with David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, about the proposal.

Comments from the Chair

Chairman Compton noted that the next meeting will be the Board of Delegates Annual Meeting, which will be held virtually on Wednesday, February 9th at 5:00 pm.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Compton adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 2

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	March 9, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	20 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Department Directors	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Denise Strosser	Phone Number:	704-348-2704			
		Email:	dstrosser@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
<p>Centralina wishes to inform the Executive Board of key updates related to key regional projects and other statewide activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Development Board Realignment Study – David Hollars • CONNECT Beyond Implementation Priorities – Michelle Nance • American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Aging Funding Implementation – Linda Miller • Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Process – Geraldine Gardner 						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
NCWorks Commission Workforce Board Realignment Study						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November, the NCWorks Commission Chair asked the Governance and System Alignment Committee to conduct a study “to understand the opportunities to realign the workforce system, specifically the arrangement of our local workforce development boards, to better support economic development in the state.” • Study looked at commuting patterns, workforce and education asset locations, and relied on interviews to assess feasibility of reducing the number of boards and/or realigning them to Prosperity Zones, COG boundaries or other boundaries. • The attached memo provides an overview of the study recommendations and set of guiding principles to be used to realign the boards. • The NCWorks Commission is seeking public comment until March 7th via https://www.nccommerce.com/draft-memorandum-workforce-development-board-system-alignment-study-submit-your-comments • There is the concern about the loss of local control and engagement if the Commission is to proceed with realignment. A formal vote on the recommendations is set for March 30th. 						
CONNECT Beyond Implementation Update - Michelle Nance						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralina is currently supporting the metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and transit agencies as they incorporate CONNECT Beyond into their long-range plans. • Priority activities for Centralina include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishing a regional program to help employers address transportation issues for commuters (Transportation Demand Management program). ○ Coordinating the Funding & Partnerships Working Group activities to support a unified regional voice to the legislature. 						

- Regional fare and scheduling study to coordinate human service and fixed route transit connections.
- Analysis of regional governance models and recommendations.
- Seeking funding for top priority initiatives from NCDOT, CATS and MPOs
- Meeting with NC General Assembly members to provide implementation updates and funding requests.

ARPA Aging Funding Implementation Update - Linda Miller

- Aging funds allocated to the region for ARPA must adhere to the Older American’s Act guidelines but do allow for more flexibilities, innovation and creativity to meet the unique needs that continue during the pandemic and after. The funding period is from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.
- These funds are to be distributed at the discretion of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and do not adhere to the Home and Community Care Block grant process.
- Each AAA submitted an ARPA plan to the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services and funds cannot be dispensed without their approval.
- Nutrition funds were the first funds approved for release and Centralina has released a Request for Funding packet to our current nutrition providers for over \$2.8 million dollars. Providers will be focusing on one or more priority areas: Innovation, building infrastructure/capacity, and serving high-risk, underserved older adults.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update – Geraldine Gardner

- Required to update the CEDS every five years as part of our official designation as an economic development district by the US Economic Development Administration (EDA).
- Formed a steering committee composed of Centralina Economic Development District (CEDD) board members and county economic development stakeholders.
- Plan will be developed over the next six to eight months and will be approved by the CEDD Board prior to submission to the EDA.

Requested Action / Recommendation:

Receive as information.

Time Sensitivity:
(none or explain)

None

Budget Impact:
(none or explain)

None.

Attachments:
(none or list)

- Draft Memorandum on Workforce Development Board System Alignment Study
- CONNECT Beyond Implementation Update Briefing Sheet

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Tom Rabon, NCWorks Commission
 FROM: NCWorks Commission Governance and System Alignment Committee
 DATE: February 18, 2022
 SUBJECT: Workforce Development Board System Alignment Study

Overview

On November 10, 2021, at the NCWorks Commission quarterly business meeting, Chair Tom Rabon, with the support of Governor Roy Cooper, requested that the Governance and System Alignment Committee (The Committee) conduct a study to understand the opportunities to realign the workforce system, specifically the arrangement of our local workforce development boards, to better support economic development in the state. The Committee's mission stems from goal four of the NCWorks Commission strategic plan – to *Promote System Access, Alignment, Integration, and Modernization*. North Carolina's workforce system includes multiple boards, agencies, programs, and funders. Collaboration, policy alignment, systemic communication, integration, and modernization of the workforce system will ensure a strong and healthy system that can adapt to an ever-changing economy. In addition, federal and state law acknowledge the regional alignment of workforce and economic development. Federal law requires consideration of regional economic development areas for designating new workforce development board local areas. (*see* WIOA §106(b)(1)(B)(ii) and 20 CFR § 679.240(a)(2)). State law encourages the Department of Commerce (home of the Division of Workforce Solutions, which administers the State's programs and WIOA) to align activities with Prosperity Zones to support economic development (*see e.g.*, N.C.G.S. § 143B-28.1; N.C. Sess. Law 2014-18, s. 3.1; and N.C. Sess. Law 2014-18, s. 4.2).

Over the past decade, across three gubernatorial administrations, three other studies explored opportunities to improve the existing workforce system and provided recommendations for how to realign the system. The first was conducted by the Program Evaluation Division of the General Assembly in 2012 (2012), the second by UWC Strategic Services on Unemployment and Workers' Compensation in 2014 (2014) and the third by graduate students in Duke's Master of Public Policy Program in 2020 (2020) for Tom White, Director of Economic Development Partnership at NC State University.

These reports identified similar challenges with the current workforce system, including:

- Local workforce development boards are not aligned in the most efficient manner with economic development (2012, 2014, 2020).
- Local workforce development boards have large variation in the number of counties and the number of individuals that they serve (2012, 2020).
- Local workforce development boards are not aligned with other workforce development programs like community colleges (2012, 2014).
- Single-county local workforce development board areas do not reflect shared commuter and economic activity (2012, 2020).

Study Method

The Committee conducted this study between November 2021 and February 2022. The study was guided by the following questions:

1. Are there opportunities to better align the existing workforce system with economic development activity in the state?
2. If so, what guiding principles would best support this realignment?

The Committee collected data focused on commuting patterns, labor and economic trends, and stakeholder perspectives from a diversity of sources including the Department of Commerce Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) and the Division of Workforce Solutions. The Committee conducted in-depth interviews and surveys with workforce, economic development, and education leaders across the state. A full description of the study timeline, methods, and organizations who participated in interviews and surveys can be found in Attachment A.

Recommendation

Based on the evidence gathered as part of this study, the Committee recommends a realignment of the existing service areas of local workforce development boards, in order to promote alignment with economic development activities in the state. The Committee identified eight guiding principles to support local leaders in their realignment efforts.

Guiding Principles

1. **Seek to better the lives of North Carolinians through realignment:** Support changes to the workforce development board system that will prioritize access to services for jobseekers and employers, efficient use of available resources, and responsiveness to local and regional needs.
2. **Expand local workforce development board access:** Reduce the number of single-county workforce development boards to better reflect labor market and commuting patterns.
3. **Decrease redundancy among local workforce development boards within economic development areas:** Minimize the overlap of workforce development boards across multiple Prosperity Zones and, as applicable, Councils of Government, to better promote alignment with economic development activities.
4. **Better align community college and workforce development board service areas:** Minimize the overlap of workforce development boards across multiple community college service areas.
5. **Match local workforce development board outreach to area jobseeker and business customer needs:** Maximize the average percentage of individuals who live and work in the same region to be more reflective of current labor and commuter patterns.
6. **Ensure consistent service, strong visibility, and sufficient capacity among local workforce development boards:** Support policies that will strengthen the visibility and capacity of workforce development boards as well as partnerships between workforce and economic development entities to make certain that employers and jobseekers receive consistent service and response across the state.
7. **Allow flexibility for administrative entities:** Support existing administrative entities, including Councils of Government (COG), non-profits, and city/county governments, to

remain in their administrative role, even if newly redrawn workforce area boundaries are different from previous boundaries.

8. **Consider further review of the broader workforce system:** While the role of workforce boards is central in workforce development, they are part of a broader system which may benefit from additional changes to further promote alignment and efficiency.

Conclusion

As North Carolina continues to focus on an equitable recovery out of the global COVID-19 pandemic, a strong, robust workforce development board system is essential. By better aligning workforce development boards with economic development activity, North Carolina can enhance access to services for jobseekers, provide greater support for employers, and increase prosperity for all. The Committee encourages local leaders to review and act in accordance with the principles (listed above) to develop a cohesive workforce board system that supports both local and statewide goals around workforce and economic development.

Acknowledgements

The Committee would like to thank the numerous individuals from across the state who engaged in this study. The diversity of perspectives and experiences shared throughout this process were essential in shaping this recommendation. The Committee would also like to thank members of the NCWorks Commission staff for their support.

Attachments

Attachment A – Study Timeline and Data Collection

Attachment A. Study Timeline and Data Collection

Study Timeline

The Governance and System Alignment Committee (The Committee) met in November to identify the initial scope and develop a timeline to meet the initial charge of delivering a report to the full NCWorks Commission by the February 9, 2022, Quarterly Business Meeting. On December 23, 2021, the Committee submitted a request to NCWorks Commission Chair Tom Rabon and Governor Roy Cooper to extend the study timeline. The Committee was granted an extension and was asked to report their recommendations at a special NCWorks Commission meeting on March 30, 2022.

Data Collection

The Committee requested and subsequently reviewed data in three main areas:

- labor market and commuting patterns;
- education and training availability; and
- stakeholder perceptions of the current workforce system.

To collect the data requested by the Committee, NCWorks Commission staff worked directly with the Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) and the Division of Workforce Solutions (DWS) within the Department of Commerce to identify appropriate data related to the first two topic areas. To collect stakeholder perspectives, NCWorks Commission staff generated an initial list of stakeholders. This list was shared with the Committee, and additional members were added based on their feedback. The committee gathered stakeholder perceptions of the current workforce system and opportunities for changes through interviews, surveys, presentations, and joint meetings. All organizations with whom the committee engaged are listed in Table 1 by sector.

Table 1. Organizations Participating in Stakeholder Interviews, Surveys and Joint Meetings by Sector.

Education	Workforce	Economic Development	Government
- Department of Public Instruction	- Division of Workforce Solutions – Department of Commerce	- Economic Development Partnership of NC Carolinas Gateway Partnership	- NC Association of Regional Councils of Government
- myFutureNC	- Equus Workforce Solutions	- Charlotte Regional Business Alliance	
- North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents	- NC Association of Workforce Boards	- City of Charlotte Economic Development Department	
- NC Community Colleges System Office	- NC Workforce Development	- NC Chamber	
		- NC East Alliance	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NC Independent Colleges & Universities - UNC System Office 	<p>Board Directors (23)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two Hawk Employment Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NC Economic Development Association - North Carolina's Southeast - Wake County Economic Development 	
---	--	---	--

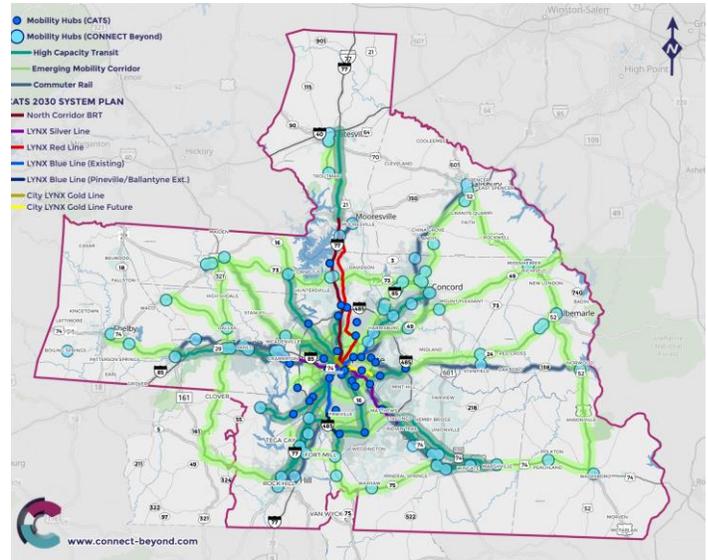
DRAFT

CONNECT Beyond Implementation | February 2022



CONNECT Beyond

CONNECT Beyond developed a regional mobility plan that will transform how residents and visitors travel throughout the **12-county Charlotte region**. The result of an 18-month stakeholder driven process, the first-of-its kind plan includes over 150 recommendations that will serve as the blueprint for how to implement a robust, interconnected transportation network for our region. Project sponsors, Centralina Regional Council and the Metropolitan Transit Commission, officially endorsed CONNECT Beyond's [final plan](#) in October 2021, and are working now to implement the plan's [recommendations](#).



Why Mobility Matters

Our region is growing, with an expected addition of 1.4 million people by 2045, an increase of 50%. Investing in multiple modes of well-connected transportation will be one of the most important factors for better economic competitiveness, stronger communities, a cleaner and safer environment and more efficient service for everyone. Enhanced mobility services will:

- **Increase Economic Competitiveness:** A complete transportation network supports our region's top industries (advanced manufacturing, logistics) and increases labor access.
- **Increase Mobility Choice:** Communities need mobility alternatives, especially as growth will continue to strain roadways.
- **Support Downtowns:** Mobility investments help transform downtowns and better meet the needs of businesses and residents.
- **Connects People to Jobs:** A variety of transportation choices is important for people who commute to work or school.
- **Enhances Upward Mobility:** Expanding transportation choices and improving accessibility can help enhance equity in meaningful ways.

Five Core Recommendations

CONNECT Beyond's recommendations are divided into 5 core categories, or Mobility Moves, that are the central building blocks to creating a total mobility network. The **5 Mobility Moves** are:

- ▶ [Create](#) Mobility Friendly Places
- ▶ [Expand](#) Mobility Choices
- ▶ [Strengthen](#) Rural to Urban Connections
- ▶ [Build](#) a Better Bus Network
- ▶ [Invest](#) in Strategic Mobility Corridors

CONNECT Beyond Implementation: CONNECT Beyond partners have seamlessly moved from plan development to implementation. This year, we’re focusing on laying the foundation for long term change, while also working to improve choices today. Here a few of our priorities:

Implementation Activity	Next Steps	Timing
Regional Funding and Governance Analysis	<p>Seek federal and state funding for consultant scope of work to evaluate: (1) Analysis of revenue opportunities for transit funding in region by funding type, geography and timeframe; and (2) Analysis of potential partnership structures that may work for region.</p> <p>Relaunch the regional committee to evaluate funding and partnership options and work with local, state and federal partners to assess recommendations based on consultant findings.</p>	Now - 2023
Mobility for Rural and Small Communities	<p>Seek funds to support mobility connections in rural and small communities. This could include a pilot program to develop a rural mobility hub – a place where different travel options come together – to be a demonstration for future projects.</p>	Now-FY2023
Mobility Support for Major Employers and Employment Centers	<p>Secure NCDOT funding for regional program to engage employers and workers in order to understand needs and develop program structure that will improve employee transportation to major employment hubs, like industrial parks.</p>	Start in Spring 2022
Emerging Technology Activities	<p>Refresh the Connected & Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) Plan for the region and update the CAV Task Force work plan for 2022-23. Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition continues to coordinate with state and federal agencies on developing EV corridors.</p>	Start in Spring 2022
Transit Agency Coordination	<p>Support coordination among the 17 transit agencies to implement key plan recommendations, including human services transit planning, technology and software integration (e.g. scheduling, route planning)</p> <p>Initiate and conduct a Regional Fare Study</p>	Now – 2023
Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Coordination	<p>Continue to work closely with the four Federally Designated TPOs on incorporating plan recommendations into long range transportation plans, identifying opportunities to support projects related to CONNECT Beyond recommendations, and leveraging forthcoming Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding.</p>	Now-FY2022



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 3

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	March 9, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Kelly Weston	Presentation Time:	10 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Leslie Mozingo	Phone Number:	202-255-5760			
		Email:	leslie@strategics.consulting			
Alternate Contact:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Government Affairs & Member Engagement	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
<p>Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting, will present an update on Centralina's federal relations activities, including a performance report on activities from January through February.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Since 2015, Centralina has contracted with Strategics Consulting for federal relations consulting services. The Executive Board has requested that Ms. Mozingo present performance metrics reports at each of its meetings.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
<p>Motion to accept the Strategics Consulting performance report for January through February 2022.</p>						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	Goals and Activities for Strategics Consulting: January – February 2022 Report					

GOALS AND ACTIVITIES FOR STRATEGICS CONSULTING JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2022 REPORT

1. Build, maintain and enhance relationships with Members of Congress and the federal agencies

- Prepared Congressional Calendar for 2022 so members will know when congressional delegation is available for local meetings and events.
- Updated congressional contact information.
- Shared opportunities to attend congressional State of the District virtual events.
- Communicated with Workforce Development Board on opportunity for shared best practices with White House

2. Develop advocacy strategies around the approved Federal Action Plan on regional priorities and implement in coordination with Centralina's management

- Reported on FY22 Appropriations and Continuing Resolution, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and details of the ARP Final Rule.
- Presented to the Executive Board at January meeting and attended the Board of Delegates February meeting.
- Wrote two Capital Corner entries to update membership on federal activity.
- Updated Federal Relations Calendar and provided forecast on federal issues for 2022.
- Participated in regularly scheduled strategy calls with Centralina ED.
- Communicated with members on the Federal Action Plan and regional priorities to share with congressional delegation.

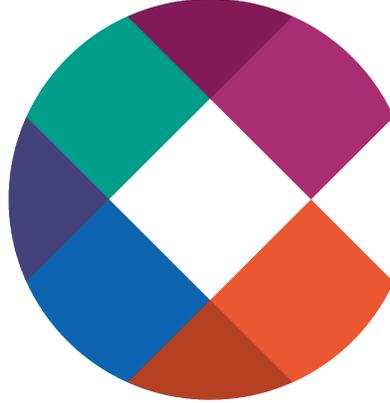
3. Provide information and support related to federal grant opportunities in coordination with Centralina staff

- Sent White House BIL Guidebook and related webinars.
- Provided two Grants Alerts and the Annual Forecast on all grants for local governments.
- Shared three notices on funding opportunity and webinars for RAISE grants.
- Sent information on new grants for EV charging stations.
- Participated in two meetings with regional managers regarding federal grants for transportation and also water, energy, broadband and resiliency.
- Wrote two Capitol Corner updates for Centralina's monthly newsletter.
- Sent updates on federal grants won by Centralina members.

4. Respond to trouble shooting requests from members and Centralina on federal issues

- Answered questions from members regarding uses of ARP funding for non-federal match and standard allowance for revenue loss.
- Provided advice to Area Agency on Aging regarding letter to congressional delegation on appropriations levels.
- Researched previous communications with congressional offices on radar gap issue.

For more information, contact Leslie Mazingo at (202) 255-5760 or leslie@strategics.consulting.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 4



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	March 9, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Kelly Weston	Presentation Time:	15 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Kelly Weston	Phone Number:	704-348-2728			
		Email:	kweston@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Government Affairs & Member Engagement	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
The Executive Board will receive an update on state government engagement activities as part of Centralina's Raleigh Relations strategy.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>In late 2020, Centralina began implementing its Raleigh Relations strategy to expand the organization's state government engagement and advocacy efforts. The strategy is focused on relationship-building, supporting the interests of COGs statewide through involvement in the NC Association of Regional Councils of Government, and raising awareness of issues specific to the Centralina region.</p> <p>Centralina staff have been working to identify additional opportunities to support advocacy for regional issues at the state level. Staff would like to receive the Executive Board's feedback on potential advocacy priorities such as broadband and water, and a state engagement plan around those topics.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information and provide feedback.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	None					



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 5

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	March 9, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Kelly Weston	Presentation Time:	5 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Bobby Compton	Phone Number:				
		Email:				
Alternate Contact:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
<p>Chairman Bobby Compton will make appointments to fill two at-large seats on the Executive Board.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>The Executive Board is comprised of the four officers of the Council, the Delegate from each county member government, the Delegate from the City of Charlotte, a municipal Delegate from each of the region's nine counties, and up to two at-large members appointed by the Chair for a one-year term.</p> <p>Per Centralina bylaws, the Chair may appoint two elected members of the governing body of any member government to serve on the Executive Board upon the advice and consent of the Executive Board. The Chair shall make these appointments at the March Executive Board meeting. The at-large members shall serve for a term of one year commencing on April 1 and expiring on March 31 of the following year.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Since at-large members serve a one-year term, making the appointments should occur as soon as possible following the Board of Delegates annual meeting.					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	None					



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 6

No attachments. Presentation to be made during meeting.