



Board of Delegates Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 11, 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

Vice Chair Jay McCosh will convene a meeting of the Centralina Board of Delegates **on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 5:00 pm**. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Time	Item	Presenter
5:00 p.m.	Region of Excellence Awards Ceremony Centralina's annual Region of Excellence Awards recognizes outstanding achievements in support of Centralina's mission to expand opportunity and improve quality of life.	Nina Barrett
	NC Division of Aging and Adult Services Award Presentation The NC Division of Aging and Adult Services will present the George L. Maddox Award to the Centralina Area Agency on Aging for the Pride in Care NC program.	Joyce Massey-Smith
5:30 p.m.	Board of Delegates Meeting Call to Order	Jay McCosh
	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>		
5:40 p.m. Item 1 <i>Pages 4 - 7</i>	Approval of the February 9, 2022 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes The minutes from the February 9, 2022 meeting have been distributed to all members of the Board of Delegates and should be approved if correct. Action/Recommendation: <i>Motion to approve the February 9, 2022 Board of Delegates meeting minutes.</i>	Jay McCosh
Regular Business Items:		
5:45 p.m. Item 2 15 minutes <i>Page 9</i>	Presentation from NC Pandemic Recovery Office Centralina has invited Stephanie McGarrah, the Executive Director of the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO), to join the Board of Delegates meeting and share important updates on pandemic recovery and funding implementation. Action/Recommendation: <i>Receive as information.</i>	Stephanie McGarrah
6:00 p.m. Item 3 15 minutes <i>Pages 11 - 19</i>	Key Initiatives Update Centralina wishes to inform the Board of key updates related to regional projects and other statewide activities including the Workforce Development Board Realignment Study, CONNECT Beyond Implementation Update and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Aging Funding Implementation. Action/Recommendation: <i>Receive as information.</i>	David Hollars, Michelle Nance and Linda Miller



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Meeting Agenda

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<p>6:15 p.m. Item 4 20 minutes <i>Page 21</i></p>	<p>FY23-26 Strategic Planning Discussion Centralina will provide the Board of Delegates with an overview of the strategic planning process and seek input on the emerging organizational vision and goals.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation: <i>Receive as information and provide feedback as requested during the meeting.</i></p>	<p>Geraldine Gardner</p>
<p>6:35 p.m. 5 minutes</p>	<p>Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff</p>	<p>Board Members and Staff</p>
<p>6:40 p.m. 5 minutes</p>	<p>Comments from the Executive Director</p>	<p>Geraldine Gardner</p>
<p>6:45 p.m. 5 minutes</p>	<p>Comments from the Vice Chair</p>	<p>Jay McCosh</p>
<p>6:50 p.m.</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Jay McCosh</p>

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



**Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2022**

Jurisdictions with Delegate/Alternate Present	Delegate/Alternate Present	Jurisdictions without a Delegate/Alternate Present
Albemarle	Martha Sue Hall	Anson County
Belmont	Alex Szucs	Ansonville
Bessemer City	Kay McCathen	Badin
Cabarrus County	Lynn Shue	Cherryville
Charlotte	Larken Egleston	Cleveland
Concord	Andy Langford	Cornelius
Davidson	Autumn Michael	Cramerton
Faith	Jayne Lingle	Dallas
Gastonia	Jennifer Stepp	East Spencer
Granite Quarry	Brittany Barnhardt	Gaston County
Harrisburg	Jennifer Teague	Kings Mountain
Huntersville	Stacy Phillips	Landis
Indian Trail	Crystal Buchaluk	Lincoln County
Iredell County	Gene Houpe	Locust
Kannapolis	Darrell Hinnant	Marshville
Lilesville	Michael Henry	Midland
Lincolnton	Christine Poinsette	Mineral Springs
Lowell	Sandy Railey	Mint Hill
Marvin	Wayne Deatherage	Monroe
Matthews	Mark Tofano	Oakboro
McAdenville	Jay McCosh	Richfield
Mecklenburg County	Elaine Powell	Salisbury
Misenheimer	Jeffrey Watson	Stanley
Mooresville	Bobby Compton	Statesville
Morven	Corinthia Lewis-Lemon	Wadesboro
Mount Holly	Christina Pawlish	
Pineville	Amelia Stinson-Wesley	
Ranlo	Trevor Hay and Katie Cordell	
Spencer	Patricia Sledge	
Stallings	David Scholl	
Stanly County	Peter Ascitutto	
Troutman	Jerry Oxsher	
Union County	David Williams	
Waxhaw	Pedro Morey	
Wingate	Bart Farmer	

Call to Order

Chairman Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, called the meeting to order. He welcomed both new and returning Delegates and Alternates.

Roll Call

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

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

- 1. Resolution to Amend the Centralina Charter and Bylaws**
- 2. Approval of Membership Request**
- 3. Approval of the October 13, 2021 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem David Scholl, Town of Stallings, Chairman Compton explained that state law requires the Board to conduct roll call votes on motions made during meetings where Delegates are participating remotely.

Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Scholl seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Centralina Overview with Board and Staff Networking

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, presented an overview of Centralina, spotlighting examples of the organization’s work towards creative regional problem solving, supporting local governments, and providing innovative service delivery.

The Delegates participated in an interactive exercise in which Centralina staff presented additional information about the organization and the role and responsibilities of the Board of Delegates.

Chairman Compton noted that by serving on the Board, Delegates give their constituents a voice in shaping regional and local outcomes. He also noted that serving on the Board offers opportunities to build relationships with other elected officials, guide Centralina’s strategic direction, discuss shared issues, champion regional collaboration, and advance Centralina’s federal and state advocacy agendas.

In response to a question from Alderwoman Patricia Sledge, Town of Spencer, Ms. Gardner explained that all the region’s economic development commissions and councils are part of the Centralina Economic Development District and participate in developing the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. She also noted that several representatives from the economic development commissions and councils serve on the Centralina Workforce Development Board.

Ms. Gardner presented a forecast of the Board of Delegates meeting schedule for 2022.

5. Public Hearing and Approval of Proposed Centralina Budget Ordinances for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Denise Strosser, Finance Director, noted that the Executive Board reviewed the proposed budget at its January meeting and voted to recommend its approval by the Board of Delegates. She explained that the proposal includes a placeholder operating budget ordinance of \$7,508,647 and a placeholder passthrough grant budget ordinance of \$15,460,000. She

further explained that the proposal recommends keeping the membership dues assessment rate at \$0.24 per capita, adding that the rate has remained the same for ten years. She also noted that the proposal requests removing the minimum dues amount of \$750. She explained that this change is responsive to the needs of smaller communities with populations under 3,000, adding that on average, those communities are currently paying four times the per capita assessment rate. She noted that management hopes this change will encourage more small towns to join Centralina and take advantage of its services. She further noted that the change's overall financial impact to the organization will be \$5,000.

Chairman Compton noted that the notice of the public hearing on the budget was published in the Charlotte Observer on January 30th. He opened the public hearing and invited comments from members of the public who were present. Hearing none, he declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Darrell Hinnant, City of Kannapolis, made a motion to approve the FY2023 operating placeholder budget and the passthrough budget ordinances in the amount of \$7,508,647 and \$15,460,000 respectively and to approve the membership dues assessment of \$0.24 per capita and remove the minimum assessment of \$750 per member. Council Member Corinthia Lewis-Lemon, Town of Morven, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Nominating Committee Report and Election of 2021 Officers

Council Member Larken Egleston, City of Charlotte, noted that the Nominating Committee was comprised of himself, Commissioner Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County, and Council Member Corinthia Lewis-Lemon, Town of Morven. He reported that the committee held a conference call in December and discussed the incumbent officers' interest in continuing to serve in their respective roles, as well as a process for soliciting nominations from other interested Delegates. He noted that on behalf of the Nominating Committee, an email then went out to new and returning Delegates explaining the nomination process and calling for additional nominations. He added that the Nominating Committee did not receive any additional nominations. He presented the following slate of nominees:

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

Mayor Pro Tem Hall suggested considering the elected office term expiration dates when selecting officer nominees in the future. She made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee report and elect the slate of officers by acclamation. Council Member Egleston seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Installation of Officers

Ms. Weston administered the oath of office to the officers.

7. County Caucusing and Networking

Ms. Gardner presented an overview of the role of the Executive Board, noting that Board Members serve as decision makers, collaborators, networkers, and advocates. She presented a forecast of the Executive Board meeting schedule for 2022.

Ms. Weston explained that the Delegates will be placed into breakout rooms with others from their county. She noted that in the breakouts, the Delegates from the municipalities in Anson, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, and Union Counties will caucus to select their municipal representative to the Executive Board. She further noted that the Delegates from Gaston, Iredell, and Lincoln Counties will use their breakouts to network with each other and Centralina staff.

The Delegates were then divided into breakout rooms for county caucuses and small group discussions.

Chairman Compton reported the results of the caucuses:

Anson County Municipalities: Council Member Corinthia Lewis-Lemon, Town of Morven

Cabarrus County Municipalities: Mayor Darrell Hinnant, City of Kannapolis

Mecklenburg County Municipalities: Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley, Town of Pineville

Rowan County Municipalities: Mayor Brittany Barnhardt, Town of Granite Quarry

Stanly County Municipalities: Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle

Union County Municipalities: Commissioner Pedro Morey, Town of Waxhaw

Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff

There were no comments from the Board of Delegates or Centralina staff.

Comments from the Executive Director

Ms. Gardner thanked Centralina staff for their participation and preparation for the meeting. She also thanked the Board of Delegates for their participation and enthusiasm adding that she and staff looked forward to working with them this year.

Comments from the Chairman

Chairman Compton noted that Centralina will hold a grants workshop on March 1st titled *Effective Pre-Planning for Grant Applications*. He advised that more information was forthcoming and to encourage staff in their communities to register for the webinar.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Compton adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 2



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	May 11, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	15 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner Stephanie McGarrah	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Kelly Weston	Phone Number:	704-348-2728			
		Email:	kweston@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
<p>Centralina has invited Stephanie McGarrah, the Executive Director of the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO), to join the Board of Delegates meeting and share important updates on pandemic recovery and funding implementation.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>The NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO) was established under Session Law 2020-4 of House Bill 1043 to oversee and coordinate the fiscal response to the COVID-19 pandemic. NCPRO is responsible for overseeing the distribution of the \$3.6 billion in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF). Centralina currently collaborates with NCPRO on support to local governments in American Rescue Plan spending via its partnership with the NC Association of Regional Councils of Government.</p> <p>Stephanie McGarrah serves as Executive Director of the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office. A native of western NC, McGarrah most recently worked with the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) to help identify, measure and address healthcare workforce shortages across the state. Prior to that, she served as Vice President of Policy at the North Carolina Healthcare Association (NCHA) and as a consultant for UNC Health and taught and conducted policy research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. From 2007 to 2013, Stephanie served as Assistant Secretary at the North Carolina Department of Commerce. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from UNC-Chapel Hill and a master's degree in public policy from Duke University.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information						
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 3



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	May 11, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	15 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	David Hollars Michelle Nance Linda Miller	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:				
Alternate Contact:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			

Description of Agenda Item:

Centralina wishes to inform the Board of key updates related to key regional projects and other statewide activities.

- Workforce Development Board Realignment Study – David Hollars
- CONNECT Beyond Implementation Update – Michelle Nance
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Aging Funding Implementation – Linda Miller

Background & Basis of Recommendations:

NCWorks Commission Workforce Board Realignment Study – David Hollars

- In November, the NC Works 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.
- NCWorks Commission received public comments in early March.
- 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 was made on March 30th.
- Letters have been sent to each County Commission chair, County Manager, and Consortium member within the seven-county Centralina Workforce Development Consortium affirming the Consortium and Centralina Workforce Development Board value and impact and a request to affirm each county’s interest in remaining in the Consortium for the remainder of its current term – until June 2023.

CONNECT Beyond Implementation Update – Michelle Nance

- Centralina is currently supporting the region’s Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and transit agencies as they incorporate CONNECT Beyond into their long-range plans, and coordinating with communities already implementing CONNECT Beyond.
- Additional priority activities for Centralina include:

- Establishing a regional program to help employers address transportation issues for commuters (Transportation Demand Management program).
- Preparing to conduct a regional fare and scheduling study to coordinate human service and fixed route transit connections.
- Conducting education, outreach and seeking funding for small town, rural mobility improvements.
- Coordinating the Funding & Partnerships Working Group activities to support a unified regional voice to the legislature and assess regional governance models and recommendations.
- Seeking funding for top-priority initiatives from NC Department of Transportation, Charlotte Area Transit System and MPOs
- Centralina team is meeting with NC General Assembly members to provide implementation updates and funding requests, including \$500,000 to support the regional governance and funding model assessment.

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 Centralina Area Agency on Aging and do not adhere to the Home and Community Care Block grant process.
- Centralina will begin utilizing the ARPA funds by July 1, 2022 because we have not yet received the final NC Division of Aging and Adult Services approval on the proposed ARPA spending plan.
- Centralina released a Request for Funding for \$2.8 million in nutrition funds to our current providers and is in the process of finalizing awards/contracts. Providers will be focusing on one or more priority areas: innovation, building infrastructure/capacity, and serving high risk, underserved older adults.

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

Note: The NCWorks Commission voted, during a special meeting on March 30, 2022, to approve this memorandum as an expression of the considered opinion of the entire Commission.

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 	
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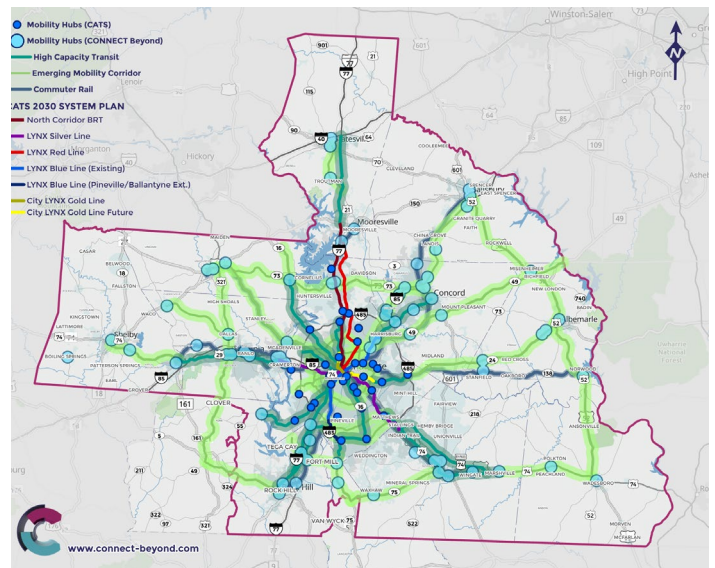
CONNECT Beyond Implementation

April 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	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.	Now-FY2023
Mobility Support for Major Employers and Employment Centers	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.	Start in Spring 2022
Emerging Technology Activities	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.	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	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.	Now-FY2022



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REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 4

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	May 11, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	20 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Kelly Weston	Phone Number:	704-348-2728			
		Email:	kweston@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
Centralina will provide the Board of Delegates with an overview of the strategic planning process and seek input on the emerging organizational vision and goals.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Centralina is in its final year of its current three-year strategic review and is updating the strategic plan for the next three-year planning period. We launched the Regional Dialogue Series this fall to solicit input from stakeholders on the important issues facing our region. That input is now informing the plan development process. Here is a brief overview of the strategic plan components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision: In development and will be discussed at the meeting. • Mission: Retaining current mission statement; no changes proposed. <i>Centralina leads regional collaboration and sparks local action to expand opportunity and improve quality of life.</i> • Values: Current core values use the acronym: <i>LEAD in the way we ACT</i>. Centralina's Culture and Development Team will be leading an internal review of the values and will propose any changes. • Goals & Tactics: In development during May/June. Goals will address Centralina's three levels of impact: regional collaboration; local government support; and service delivery. • Annual Workplan: As in previous years, Centralina will develop an annual workplan that is used to implement the strategic plan each fiscal year. <p>Overall timeline: the strategic plan will be finalized and submitted for approval at the August Board of Delegates meeting. There will be multiple opportunities for both Executive Board and Board of Delegates input this spring.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information and provide feedback as requested during the meeting.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Feedback from the Board at this stage of the process will be helpful for meeting the strategic planning process timeline.					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None.					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	None.					