



CENTRALINA REGIONAL COUNCIL

THE CENTRAL LINES

Take a peek inside this issue. Here's what's coming up...

In Every Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Capitol Corner: Advocacy and Appropriations
- In the News: Grant Opportunities

Announcements & Featured Articles

- Transportation Guide for Older Adults and People with Disabilities
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Survey
- Outgoing Centralina Board Members
- New AICP Certification Requirements for Maintenance Program
- Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition EV Funding Dashboard
- Centralina Regional Resilience Collaborative: Working Together to Minimize the Impact of Future Disasters and Economic Shocks
- Department Spotlight: Centralina Area Agency on Aging
- Centralina WDB Provides Labor Shortage Solution

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 10	Centralina Board of Delegates Meeting: FY23 Workplan
August 10	UNC School of Government: ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds to Directly Fund a Capital Project
August 16	Centralina Workforce Development Board Meeting
August 17	Centralina Learns: Managing ARPA: Best Practices for Allocations Under \$10 Million
August 24	Centralina Learns: Fair and Affordable Housing with NC Legal Aid
August 24	Centralina AAA Webinar: Falls Prevention
September 27	Centralina Learns Planning Series: Advanced Code Enforcement Workshop

CAPITOL CORNER

Advocacy and Appropriations

The U.S. House of Representatives is in recess until September 13. The Senate is



in session until August 5 before breaking for the rest of the month. Centralina Regional Council has historically scheduled meetings during the August-long recess with the region's congressional delegation while lawmakers are in the state. Given the changes that will occur in November primarily as a result of redistricting, we have decided to hold these meetings after the elections. Centralina's members should

still take advantage of opportunities to advocate for local and regional priorities when seeing Members of Congress locally. The best strategy in these encounters is to keep your message short and sweet.

The House of Representatives has already passed a number of their appropriations bills and what those members need most to hear is your thanks for their hard work. This is particularly true of **U.S. Representatives Alma Adams, Ted Budd and Richard Hudson**. Congresswoman Adams submitted a request for \$1 million to support Centralina's Housing Preservation Initiative. Congressman Budd took the lead on a support letter with U.S. Representatives Adams and Hudson to submit a bipartisan request for report language listing regional councils specifically eligible for grants. Both requests were included in the House bills.

[Continue Reading](#)

FEATURED ARTICLES

Transportation Guide for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

Older adults wish to age in place and many live a decade or longer without a personal car. When driving is no longer an option, other arrangements should be made to access important resources such as healthcare, healthy food, community support, religious organizations and more. It's critical that communities offer a variety of transportation options to build mobility equity. To help navigate options, Centralina created this two-state Transportation Guide for Older Adults and People with Disabilities that walks you through resources and key considerations when making transportation decisions for yourself or a loved one. This project represents one of several ongoing CONNECT Beyond implementation initiatives.

[View the Guide and Needs Checklist](#)

Feedback Requested: CEDES Survey

We would like your input as a part of the 2022 update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDES), a five-year strategic planning documents intended to guide regional priorities for economic development. Input will assist in creating the 2022-2027 CEDES. It

Outgoing Board Members

On June 8th, the Centralina Executive Board recognized the service of two Board Members whose elected office terms are ending this year. **Mayor Pro Tem William Morgan** from the City of Statesville served as Centralina's Treasurer and representative to the NC

should take about 10 minutes to complete. Thank you for taking the time to share your perspective.

[Take the Survey](#)

Association of Regional Councils of Government. **[Council Member Larken Egleston](#)** has represented the City of Charlotte on the Board and championed many of Centralina's projects and initiatives since 2018.

New AICP Certification Requirements for Maintenance Program

AICP has announced new mandatory educational requirements for the Certification Maintenance (CM) program. The update aims to ensure AICP's certification remains relevant to the dynamic and ever-changing needs of today's planners and communities. Under the previous iteration of the CM program, planners were required to obtain 32 CM credits during each two-year reporting period, with at least one and a half credits each in the areas of *Law* and *Ethics*. While the 32-credit requirement remains in place, the CM program update will require credits in two new topics, *Equity* and *Sustainability and Resilience*, which were identified by the AICP Commission as essential knowledge areas for planners.

[Learn More & How We Can Help You Meet AICP CM Requirements](#)

EV Funding Dashboard

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other federal and state funding programs are bringing unprecedented transportation and electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure funding to NC. As a result, EV infrastructure planning is top of mind for many Centralina communities. To assist our communities in tracking the variety of funding programs available and capitalizing on these historic opportunities, the Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition developed an EV Supply Equipment Funding Dashboard that serves as a one-stop resource for communities, organizations and businesses. The Dashboard uses an interactive map to illustrate existing EV infrastructure in our region, identify geographic areas eligible for distinct funding programs and verify project eligibility by allowing users to search for specific communities and addresses.

[Learn More & Access the EV Funding Tool](#)

Centralina RCC: Working Together to Minimize the Impact of Future Disasters and Economic Shocks

The Centralina Economic Development District (EDD) partnered with Centralina Regional Council and the nine-county emergency management (EM) directors to launch the Regional Resilience Collaborative (RRC) in April 2021. The RRC program examines the viability and resiliency of EM disaster recovery plans and economic resilience needs to ensure the region benefits from greater efficiency in responding to current and future natural and man-made disasters and economic shocks.

Strategic conversations with EM leaders coupled with research on the regional landscape and an extensive review of existing emergency plans identified a significant gap in the recovery plans and processes. While many counties feel confident about their relationships with community

nonprofits, they indicate they have limited experience working with community partners on long-term disaster recovery issues. The nine-county EM leaders as a part of the RRC indicated they need assistance with fostering Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) required Whole Community partnerships and the creation of comprehensive disaster recovery plans. In addition, they welcomed the strategic partnership with Centralina to assist them with overcoming gaps in community recovery planning needs and bolstering the knowledge, administrative protocols and relationships required between EM and local government leaders.

[Continue Reading the Success Story](#)

Department Spotlight: Centralina AAA

Centralina Area Agency on Aging (AAA) strives to support and improve the quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities, their families and caregivers throughout our nine-county region. We plan, fund, develop, coordinate and deliver a wide range of long-term services, nationally recognized programs and support to help individuals age with choice, dignity and independence. Centralina AAA also advocates for older adults by participating in local, state and national committees and keeping informed of changing regulations. The Pride in Care initiative, an LGBT sensitivity and awareness training program for nursing facilities, continues to be recognized regionally and nationally, earning awards from the National Association of Development Organizations, American Society on Aging, Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging and USAging (formerly the National Association of AAAs).

[More About Centralina AAA & Available Services](#)

Centralina WDB Provides Labor Shortage Solution With 29-Hour Virtual Hiring Event

The onset of the COVID-19 created a shift in employment causing record-high job losses across the nation. However, now that the world has returned to normal operations, employers have reported difficulty finding the workers they need to fill open positions. According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, "North Carolina lost around 867,000 employed workers at the height of the COVID-19 recession, between February and April 2020. However, only a fraction of those who lost work looked for another job; the number of jobseekers in our state increased only 147,000 by May 2020." Centralina Workforce Development Board (WDB) and the NCWorks team worked together to help provide a solution to the labor shortage in the region. The team created the monthly Centralina Virtual Career Marketplace 29-hour hiring event, a nontraditional way for employers to meet and chat with job seekers during a designated timespan.

[Continue Reading the Success Story](#)

IN THE NEWS: GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Department of Labor (DOL) Grants Webinar: Tuesday, Aug. 9

Join DOL leadership for a discussion on funding opportunities and grant

programs to learn about grant types, who the programs serve, how to prepare a competitive application and how to stay informed throughout the year as funding opportunities become available. The webinar recording will be available online in the weeks following the event. [Learn more](#)

Annual Grants Forecast and Monthly Alert

Plan for future funding opportunities with the FY22-FY23 forecast of federal grants, available on our member portal. Also check out the monthly grants alert that is updated every couple of weeks due to the volume of new opportunities coming in. Access both [HERE](#). Forgot your password? Email info@centralina.org.

NC Volkswagen Settlement Phase 2 Programs

The NC Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Air Quality is awarding rebates to install publicly accessible zero-emission vehicle chargers across the state. Local government agencies, nonprofits and private businesses are eligible to apply. [Learn more](#)

Golden LEAF SITE Program

The Golden LEAF Foundation's SITE program is accepting local government and nonprofit applications. Funding will support the identification, due diligence and development of sites to attract new businesses and create opportunities for existing businesses to expand. For more information visit the [Golden LEAF website](#).

[View Centralina Job Opportunities](#)

[Access the Member Portal](#)

We've moved!
Please make a note of our new address.

www.centralina.org | 704-372-2416

