

Co-Chairs Mayor Darrell Hinnant and Mayor Vi Lyles will convene a meeting of the Advancing the Plan Committee of the Centralina Regional Council **on Friday, December 15th at 8:30 am**. Doors will open at 8:00 am for networking and refreshments. The meeting will be held in person at the Centralina office located at 10735 David Taylor Dr., Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28262.

Time	Item	Presenter
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	Refreshments & Networking	
8:30 - 8:40 a.m.	Call to Order	Co-Chair Mayor Darrell Hinnant
	Welcome Comments from Co-Chairs	
	Review of Meeting Agenda and Objectives	
<p>Regular Business Item: <i>Regular business item is the approval of Committee meeting minutes.</i></p>		
8:40 - 8:45 a.m. Item 1 5 minutes Page 5	<p>Approval of October 20, 2023 meeting minutes: Approval of October 20, 2023, Advancing the Plan Committee meeting minutes. The minutes from the meeting will be distributed to all Committee members and should be approved if correct.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation Motion to approve October 20, 2023, meeting minutes.</p> <p>Preparation: Please review October 20, 2023 meeting minutes.</p>	Co-Chair Mayor Darrell Hinnant
<p>Committee Work Session: <i>Work session items will be led by CONNECT Beyond project team members and technical experts.</i></p>		
8:45-10:25 a.m. Item 2 1 hour and 40 minutes Page 9	<p>Committee Work Session: <i>Committee members will participate in a work session with the overall goal of reaching consensus on Committee Next Steps and Activities for 2024.</i></p> <p>1. Reflection on 2023 Committee Work (10 mins.) Review of Committee work completed during 2023 and recognition of Committee membership.</p>	Geraldine Gardner, Project Team Members

Time	Item	Presenter
	<p>Committee will also look to 2024 Committee membership and process for onboarding new members.</p> <p>2. Preferred Model Approach (20 mins)</p> <p>Review Committee agreement on the key concepts and benefits of the preferred model approach - "Jellyfish Model."</p> <p><u>Engagement:</u> <i>What does the name of the preferred model need to represent/convey?</i></p> <p>3. What's Next: Revisiting Committee Goals:</p> <p>a. <u>Legislative Update and Regional Model Governance Structure (30 mins)</u></p> <p>Centralina legislative consultant, Chris Wall, will provide his thoughts on possible legislative activities and the timing involved. Committee will also discuss the need to further refine the governance structure for the preferred model – one possibility is tasking a smaller work group who will report back to the larger group.</p> <p>b. <u>Communications - Making the Case (30 mins)</u></p> <p>At the October meeting, Committee members discussed the need to engage and educate their Boards. Members will review and react to a proposed communication plan for 2024.</p> <p><u>Engagement:</u> <i>Discussion around 2024 Committee communication activities with Boards / Stakeholders / General Public</i></p> <p>Preparation: Review One-page summary on Advancing the Plan Committee's work</p>	<p>Geraldine Gardner, Project Team Members</p> <p>Chris Wall, EQV Strategic</p> <p>Geraldine Gardner, Project Team Members</p>

Time	Item	Presenter
	<p>c. <u>Early Wins - Short-term Regional Collaboration</u> (10 min)</p> <p>There are currently a number of CONNECT Beyond implementation activities fostering regional collaboration. The CONNECT Beyond project team will review these projects and engage members on how best for the Committee to stay engaged on these activities.</p>	Project Team Members
Closing Comments & Adjournment		
10:25 - 10:30 a.m. 5 minutes	Closing Comments	Co-Chair Mayor Darrell Hinnant
10:30 a.m.	Adjournment	Co-Chair Mayor Darrell Hinnant

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CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 1



**Advancing the Plan Committee Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2023**

Jurisdictions/Organization	Committee Members Present	Centralina Staff and Guests Present
City of Kannapolis City of Charlotte NC Public Transportation Gaston Business Alliance Stanly County Charlotte Regional Business Alliance City of Charlotte Gaston County Mecklenburg County Mecklenburg County Town of Huntersville Town of Waxhaw Gaston County Centralina Regional Council	Darrell Hinnant Vi Lyles David Rhew Jennifer Stepp Andy Lucas Janet LaBar Marcus Jones Kim Eagle Leigh Altman Dena Diorio Melinda Bales Ron Pappas Bob Hovis Geraldine Gardner	Michelle Nance, Centralina Jason Wager, Centralina Narissa Claiborne, Centralina Sarah Niess, Centralina Luke Lowery Guests Jason Lawrence, CATS Patrick McDonough, HDR Amanda Vandergrift, InfraStrategies -Remote Remote Guests Lauren Livingston, City of Charlotte Jorge Luna, HDR John Muth, Yolanda Brisco Sabrina Colon Randi Gates

Call to Order

Mayor Lyles called the meeting to order and recognized that these are open meetings. Mayor Hinnant welcomed the Committee and recognized the work for the day:

Meeting objectives:

- Understand and prioritize the specific mobility functions of the Jellyfish Model and the cost/benefits for our region.

- Evaluate governance structures for implementing the preferred regionally coordinated “Jellyfish” model and recommend the most feasible option(s)
- Learn about project updates including legislative activities, grant requests, and transit coordination activities.

Welcome, and Why this Committee is Important:

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Meeting objectives:

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Agenda Items:

Agenda Item 1: Approval of September 22, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Stepp motioned, Commissioner Hovis seconded, and the Committee members approved the September 22, 2023, Advancing the Plan Committee meeting minutes.

Agenda Item 2: Jellyfish Model” Transit Functions: Scale and Need

Centralina Deputy Executive Director, Michelle Nance, recapped the building blocks of the Jellyfish Model and recognized that the Committee motioned that this is the preferred model for regional coordination. Michelle presented slides on each of the transit functions of the Jellyfish Model in more detail. Amanda Vandergrift, Infrastrategies, presented the potential budget requirements of these transit functions based on peer research. Amanda also presented on the ability of local funds to be leveraged for state and federal funds, sharing information about how peer regions’ budgets for regional coordination breakdown between local, state, and federal funds. Clarifications on local funding options for transit from the last meeting were also shared.

The Committee broke out into small groups to do a budget exercise for the Jellyfish Model.

Agenda Item 3: Governance Structure Evaluation

Patrick McDonough, HDR, reviewed the three governance structure types available to implement the Jellyfish Model in our region. The three structures available are (1) Interlocal agreements, (2) Joint Powers Agency, and (3) Regional Transportation Authority. Attributes of each governance structure, including the available revenue streams, entity status, ability to hold debt, and fiscal responsibility, were reviewed. Committee members engaged in discussion about the governance structure types.

Agenda Item 4: Looking Ahead - Forecast for committee.

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Direct, outlined the objectives for the two remaining Committee meetings in 2023 – November 17, 2023, and December 15, 2023.

Agenda Item 5: CONNECT Beyond Project Updates

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not addressed during the Committee meeting.

Closing Comments

Mayor Lyles and Mayor Hinnant thanked Committee members for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 2

Advancing the Plan Committee



Overview of 2023 Committee Work

Centralina Regional Council's Board of Delegates Chair established the **Advancing the Plan Committee as an official ad-hoc advisory committee** of its Executive Board to steward regional conversation and action that advances the implementation of the CONNECT Beyond Regional Mobility Plan within the Greater Charlotte region.

Committee First Year Goals:

1. **(a) Advise** on short-term opportunities for regional collaboration and **(b) determine feasible** options for a regional governance approach
2. **Endorse** a regional communications framework for CONNECT Beyond and **support** its implementation
3. **Collaborate** to educate state lawmakers on CONNECT Beyond and **advocate** for local funding initiatives in the region

Benefits of Regional Collaboration

In addition to the [Guiding Principles](#) developed through the CONNECT Beyond Planning process, the Advancing the Plan Committee recognizes the following as key reasons for regional collaboration:

- Strengthen **Economic Competitiveness** of our Region
- Increase **Investment**
- Increase **Local Input**
- Improve Regional **Service and Connections**
- Improve **Access** and System **Efficiencies** for the traveler

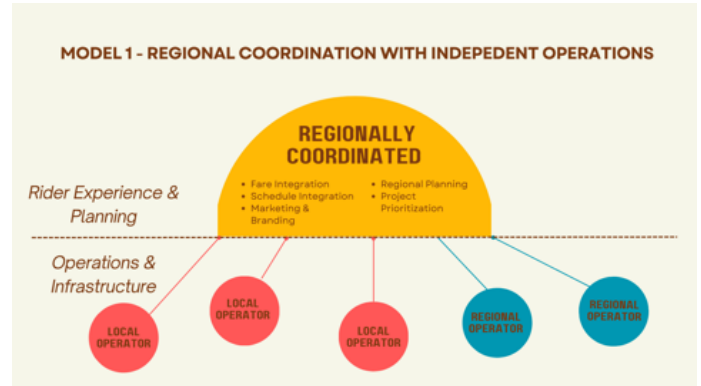
What is CONNECT Beyond? CONNECT Beyond is a bold regional transit vision and plan that provides real mobility solutions and opportunities for residents and visitors across the greater Charlotte region. The plan was adopted by its lead sponsors, Centralina Regional Council and Metropolitan Transportation Commission and all North Carolina transportation planning organizations in the region. Project efforts now are focused on implementing the plan's 120+ recommendations.

Regionally Coordinated Approach: Preferred Model

Committee members identified the Jellyfish Model as their preferred model for regional coordination.

The Jellyfish Model, pictured right, focuses on regional collaboration of **rider experience and planning** related to transit functions.

Members expressed interest in this model because control of operations and infrastructure activities are retained by local agencies.



Key Building Blocks of the Jellyfish Model

Committee members identified the following **regional benefits** under the Jellyfish Model:

- Increase **connectivity through transit coordination** among local providers on fares, scheduling and route planning
- Improve **marketing** of educational materials to create seamless travel with greater awareness of mobility options
- Greater regional coordination to maximize **funding** opportunities

Model Funding and Governance: The Committee reviewed revenue projections for **existing and new funding strategies** for Model , identified funds paid mostly by visitors as most attractive. In addition, the Committee identified a **Regional Transportation Authority** as the most feasible governance approach for the Model.

Next Steps for the Committee

Report Back Early 2024: Members will provide an update on the Committee to their jurisdiction. **Visit** the [Advancing the Plan Committee page](#) for resources.

Centralina Board: Project Team will report to Board about Committee work and next steps.

