Advancing the Plan Committee
Meeting Agenda

CENTRALINA REGIONAL COUNCIL

*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, March 22nd 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.*
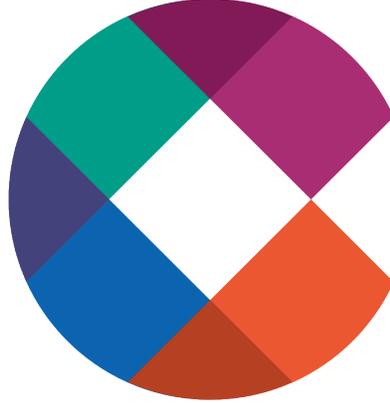
Time	Item	Presenter
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	**Refreshments & Networking**	
8:30 - 8:40 a.m.	**Call to Order**	Co-Chairs
	Welcome Comments from Co-Chairs	
	Review of Meeting Agenda and Objectives	
Regular Business Item: *Regular business item is the approval of Committee meeting minutes.* .		
8:40 - 8:45 a.m. **Item 1** 5 minutes **Pages 5-6**	**Approval of February 9, 2024 meeting minutes:** Approval of February 9, 2024, Advancing the Plan Committee meeting minutes. The minutes from the meeting will be distributed to all Committee members and should be approved if correct. **Action/Recommendation** Motion to approve February 9, 2024, meeting minutes. **Preparation: Please review February 9, 2024 meeting minutes.**	Co-Chairs
CONNECT Beyond Project Update: *Recurring meeting item to brief Committee members on CONNECT Beyond projects*		
8:45-9:00 a.m. **Item 2** 15 minutes	**Early Wins - CONNECT Beyond Implementation:** There are currently a number of CONNECT Beyond implementation activities fostering regional collaboration. The CONNECT Beyond project team will review these projects and forecast how the Committee will stay engaged on these activities in 2024.	CONNECT Beyond Project Team Members

CONNECT Beyond A Regional Mobility Initiative

Advancing the Plan Committee
Meeting Agenda

Time	Item	Presenter
Committee Work Session: *Work session items will be led by CONNECT Beyond project team members and technical experts.*		
9:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Item 3** 30 minutes **Page 9-12**	**Review RTA Examples from Our State:** Consultant team will lead the Committee through an in-depth review of the other existing Regional Transportation Authorities (RTA) in NC – Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) and Go Triangle. **Preparation: Please review one pagers on PART and Go Triangle.**	HDR and Project Team Members
9:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Item 4** 75 minutes **Pages 14-15**	**Developing Model Assumptions** Committee will review the key elements of existing RTA authorization legislation, using this framework as an outline for small and large group engagement to develop assumptions for the Regional Mobility Partnership Model. **Preparation: Please review framework of existing legislation that guide this discussion.**	HDR and Project Team Members
10:45 – 10:55 a.m. 10 minutes	**Break**	
10:55 – 11:15 a.m. **Item 4 (cont'd)** 20 minutes	**Developing Model Assumptions (cont'd)** Confirm set of assumptions for Model for consultant team to develop options for May Committee meeting.	HDR and Project Team Members
11:15 – 11:50 a.m. **Item 5** 35 minutes **Pages 17-18**	Identify next steps and confirm roles/responsibilities for developing an engagement strategy to build local support for Committee work and the Preferred Model Approach. **Preparation: Please review ATP Committee flyer.**	Geraldine Gardner and Project Team Members
Closing Comments & Adjournment		

CONNECT
Beyond
A Regional Mobility Initiative

Time	Item	Presenter
11:50 a.m. – 12:00 noon 10 minutes	**Closing Comments**	Co-Chairs
12:00 noon	**Adjournment and Lunch**	Co-Chairs

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 accommodation is necessary for participation, please contact the Clerk to the Board, 10735 David Taylor Drive, Charlotte, NC 28262, phone, (704) 348-2728. Please allow 72 hours (about 3 days) in advance

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CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 1

Advancing the Plan Committee Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2024

Jurisdictions/Organization	Committee Members Present	Centralina Staff and Guests Present
City of Kannapolis	Darrell Hinnant	Michelle Nance, Centralina
City of Charlotte	Vi Lyles	Jason Wager, Centralina
Gaston Business Alliance	Pat Mumford	Narissa Claiborne, Centralina
City of Gastonia	Jennifer Stepp	Sarah Niess, Centralina
City of Salisbury	Karen Alexander	Geraldine Gardner, Centralina
City of Charlotte	Marcus Jones	
City of Concord	Lloyd Payne	
NC Public Transportation	David Rhew	***Guests***
NCDOT	Tony Lathrop	Jason Lawrence, CATS
Stanly County	Andy Lucas	Bob Cook, CRTPO
Town of Boiling Springs	Tommy Greene	Melinda Bales
Town of Cornelius	Woody Washam	
Mecklenburg County	Leigh Altman (virtual)	
Mecklenburg County	Dena Diorio (virtual)	
Gaston County	Kim Eagle (virtual)	

Call to Order:
Mayor Lyles called the meeting to order and recognized that these Committee meetings are open meetings. Mayor Hinnant welcomed the Committee and recognized the work for the day:
   Committee Meeting Objectives:
- **Highlight** early wins for CONNECT Beyond implementation
- **Revisit and Revise** the Committee's year-end goals for 2024
- **Identify** details of the preferred regional coordination model that need to be developed in 2024
- **Confirm** next steps for the Committee, including communication activities, roles, and responsibilities for 2024

Agenda Items:
1. **Approval of December 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Motion (Mayor Knox), Second (Councilmember Stepp), and the Committee members approved the December 15, 2023 Advancing the Plan Committee meeting minutes.

2. **CONNECT Beyond Project Update:** Early Wins – CONNECT Beyond Implementation
Jason Wager, Regional Planning Director and Project Manager for CONNECT Beyond, and Jason Lawrence, CATS, reviewed the latest CONNECT Beyond implementation activities. Projects highlights included the development of a regional Transportation Demand Management plan and program, as well as Seamless CONNECTions activities. For Seamless CONNECTions, Jason Lawrence shared an update on a grant CATS recently received from NCDOT (ConCPT) to work on greater transit coordination with regional providers on scheduling, transfers, and technology.

The Committee members from the areas of the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization and Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization are invited to attend a Joint MPO meeting on February 29, 2024. This Joint meeting will focus on transportation funding. An RSVP link will be sent out after the meeting.

3. **2023 Committee Work and Revised Year-End Goals**
Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director of Centralina, reviewed the work done by the Committee in 2023. She then shared proposed year-end goals for 2024 for the Committee to review and refine. Each goal includes success measures for the Committee to strive to achieve during the year. After some Committee discussion, the proposed goals were agreed to as follows:

- **Refine** the regional coordination model to strengthen broader support and incorporate local input
- **Champion** short-term wins for regional collaboration and **support** CONNECT Beyond implementation
- **Advocate and collaborate** with local state, federal, and business community partners to advance the next steps for regional coordination

4. **Road Map to Developing the Preferred Model:**
Michelle Nance, Deputy Executive Director of Centralina, reviewed the workplan for the Committee this spring to develop the details of the governance structure for the Regional Mobility Partnership Model. Michelle reviewed the benefits and functions of the model for the Committee and then focused on what details still need to be developed for the legislative authorization.

5. **Engagement Strategy – Making the Case**
Jason Wager outlined the components of engagement that the Communicate will need to participate in throughout 2024 to help build support and inform/improve the model for the region. Some of these engagement activities will need to be done in parallel

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

**Item 2:
Early Wins - CONNECT
Beyond Implementation:**

**No attachments.
A presentation will be
given.**

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Item 3

Centralina Regional Council | CONNECT Beyond Implementation
Fact Sheet: Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART)

FDR

Fact Sheet: Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART)

PART serves the Triad (Greensboro/Winston-Salem) metro area in North Carolina. Its history includes a path to a regional transit authority under NC General Statute 160 A, Article 27.

Startup and Early Years

Year	Action Taken
1997	• A regional transit authority was authorized to be formed in June 1997 by the adoption into law of Article 27 of General Statute 160A. • Local governments met in fall of 1997 to discuss the formation of a regional transit authority.
1998	• Guilford, Forsyth, Davidson, Alamance, and Randolph counties become PART member counties. PART holds its first board meeting in October 1998.
2000	• PART vanpool program begins
2001	• Rockingham County joins PART
2002	• PART Regional bus hub constructed • Regional Express bus service starts Sept 2002
2004	• Surry County joins PART • MPOs and NCDOT delegate regional planning activities to PART (ie regional travel demand model, SE data maintenance)
2006	• Stokes and Davie County join PART

Eligible Geography

A regional transit authority formed under Article 27 has these attributes:

(1) The area consists of all or part of five counties, all five counties of which form a contiguous territory.

(2) At least two of those counties are contiguous to each other and each have a population of 250,000 or over; and

(3) The other three counties each have a population of 100,000 or over. (1997-393, s. 1.)

This text creates **a five-county minimum** to form the authority.

Centralina Regional Council | CONNECT Beyond Implementation
Fact Sheet: Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART)

HDR

Purpose and Services Provided

PART staff works on a variety of transportation related programs and services, some of which are likely to be Regional Mobility Partnership Model activities.

Potential Regional Mobility Partnership Model activities at PART

- Community Outreach and Education – telling the public about travel options
- Commuter Resources & Transportation Demand Management (TDM) – supporting carpool, vanpool, biking and walking for individuals/employees
- PARTnership Employer Services – TDM targeted at employers

PART Board Composition and Membership

PART's 21-Member Board includes:

- A Commissioner from nine member counties (9 seats)
- Representatives of the Triad's four largest cities (Burlington, High Point, Greensboro, Winston-Salem) (4 seats)
  - o Yadkin and Rockingham have not activated local transit revenue
- Representatives of the Four Metropolitan Planning Organizations (4 seats)
- Representatives of the two regional airport authorities (2 seats)
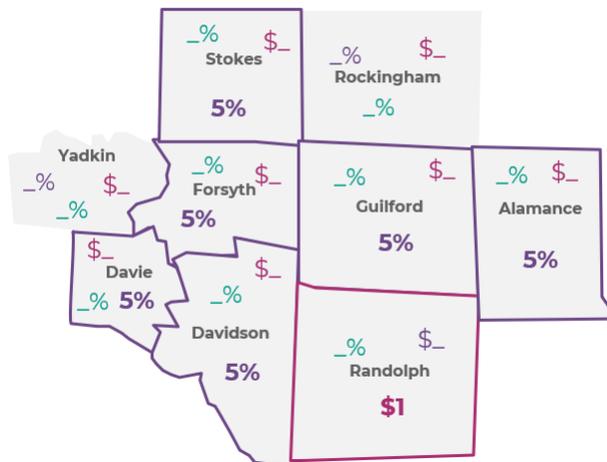- NCDOT Board of Transportation (2 seats)

Funding for PART

Current effective vehicle registration tax = $39.75 (Randolph), $38.75 (Others)

Current effective vehicle rental tax = 11% - 16%

Current effective sales tax = 6.75% - 7%

PART – Incremental Local Transit Taxes

Stokes _% $_ 5%

Rockingham _% $_ _%

Yadkin _% $_ _%

Forsyth _% $_ 5%

Guilford _% $_ 5%

Alamance _% $_ 5%

Davie $_ _% 5%

Davidson _% $_ 5%

Randolph _% $_ $1

For more information visit: www.partnc.org

Centralina Regional Council | CONNECT Beyond Implementation
Fact Sheet: GoTriangle (originally Triangle Transit Authority-TTA)

HDR

Fact Sheet: GoTriangle (originally Triangle Transit Authority-TTA)

GoTriangle serves the Research Triangle (Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill) metro area in North Carolina. Its history includes a path to a regional transit authority under NC General Statute 160 A, Article 26.

Startup and Early Years

Year	Action Taken
1989	• A regional transit authority was authorized to be formed in 1989 by the adoption into law of Article 26 of General Statute 160A. • Triangle Transit Authority (TTA) was chartered in Dec 1989 • Triangle J Council of Governments hosts TDM functions/rideshare marketing, planning for bus operations, and long-term planning for rail while TTA is being formed
1991	• NCGA authorizes TTA to levy $5 vehicle registration fee subject to county approvals • First full-time employees begin work in January 1991 • Plans to acquire buses and build first bus garage commence
1992	• TTA completes Triangle Fixed Guideway Study for Rail
1993	• Regional Bus service begins April 19th, 1993
1995	• TTA Board adopts plans for regional rail
1997	• NCGA authorizes TTA to levy a vehicle rental tax of up to 5%. This revenue is dedicated to advancing capital projects.
2010	• TTA develops plans to be supported by future half-cent sales tax
2011	• Durham County approves ½-cent sales tax
2012	• Orange County approves ½-cent sales tax
2016	• Wake County approves ½-cent sales tax

Eligible Geography

A regional transit authority formed under Article 26 has these attributes:

(1) The area consists of three counties: **[a 3-county minimum & maximum]**
(2) At least one of those counties contains at least part of Research Triangle Park
(3) The other two counties each:
   a. Have one local transit agency that receives FTA funds
   b. Are adjacent to a county that contains part of Research Triangle Park

Centralina Regional Council | CONNECT Beyond Implementation
Fact Sheet: GoTriangle (originally Triangle Transit Authority-TTA)

HDR

Purpose and Services Provided

GoTriangle staff works on a variety of transportation related programs and services, some of which are likely to be Regional Mobility Partnership Model activities.

Potential Regional Mobility Partnership Model activities at GoTriangle

- Community Outreach and Education – telling the public about travel options
- Commuter Resources & Transportation Demand Management (TDM) – supporting carpool, vanpool, biking and walking for individuals/employees
- Employer Trip Commute Reduction Ordinance Administration in Durham County – annual survey of employers to track commuter behavior and support planning

PART Board Composition and Membership

GoTriangle's 13-Member Board includes:

- Wake County (2 seats)
- City of Raleigh (2 seats)
- Durham County (2 seats)
- Durham City (1 seat)
- Town of Cary (1 seat)
- Town of Chapel Hill (1 seat)
- Orange County (1 seat)
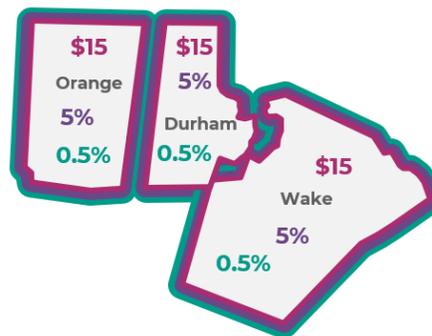- NCDOT Board of Transportation (3 seats)

Funding for GoTriangle

Current effective vehicle registration tax = $53.75

Current effective vehicle rental tax = 16%

Current effective sales tax = 7.25% (Wake) - 7.5% (Orange & Durham)

GoTriangle, Durham, Orange, and Wake – Incremental Local Transit Taxes

For more information visit: www.gotriangle.org

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Item 4

Regional Transit Authority Legislation Framework

3/15/24

In reviewing the existing NC statutes which authorized the formation of PART and GoTriangle, we identified a **framework of key elements** for any authorization legislation of a regional transit authority (RTA). The first three elements (Eligible Geography, Purpose of Authority and Board Membership) will be discussed at the March 22nd Advancing the Plan Committee meeting. The fourth, Funding, will be discussed at the May meeting. Please review the summary below:

1. Eligible Geography

- o   What it is: Defines the eligible territory of the authority – this is distinct from the service area of the authority.
- o   Options: Counties, municipalities, transportation planning organizations, regional councils, other regional definitions; Can add specifications about: population requirements, state identified districts and other restrictions.

2. Purposes and Services Provided

- o   What it is: Defines the kinds of public transportation services the RTA will provide
- o   Options: Regional coordinated services focused on the user – this is where the Committee's work last year defining the services of the Regional Mobility Partnership model will be incorporated. Some consideration may be given to broaden this list to accommodate for future potential services.

3. Board Composition and Membership

- o   What it is: Identifies the entity(ies) that need to take action to form the authority and defines the membership for the authority's Board. Also addresses the process of adding new members and its impact on the authority's service area.
- o   Options: Counties, municipalities, transportation planning organizations (MPOs and RPOs), regional councils, state officials, transit agencies

4. Funding

- o   What it is: Identifies sources of funding for the authority
- o   Options: Identifies any new or existing sources of funding that can be used by the authority; also identifies the authority as a recipient of federal and state grants

Other Components of Legislation: There will be other components of any potential RTA authorization legislation that will need to be addressed as we get into the drafting of language. These include, but are not limited to:

- • Creation of a Special Tax Board to activate streams of revenue in accordance with legislation

- Defining of also Board member terms, officer elections, Board voting and Board members removal procedures
- Defining a prohibition of competition with private charter services
- Definition of the powers of the Authority, including owning property, issuing bonds, eminent domain, tax exemption and entering into contracts
- Definition of a method of terminating the Authority by the Board of Trustees
- Definition of taxes or fees that the Authority may levy to raise revenue
- Definition of limits of liability that the Authority may have, particularly pertaining to railroads

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Item 5

Committee Overview

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.

Advancing the Plan Committee

This committee, an official subcommittee of Centralina's Board, is dedicated to guiding the CONNECT Beyond plan in the Greater Charlotte region. Their role includes fostering regional discussions and actions and strengthening partnerships.

The Advancing the Plan Committee met throughout in 2023 and focused on:

1
Exploring short-term regional collaboration and **developing a regional governance strategy.**

2
Supporting and implement a r**egional communication framework** for CONNECT Beyond.

3
Educating state lawmakers about CONNECT Beyond and push for **regional funding initiatives.**

Benefits of Regional Collaboration:

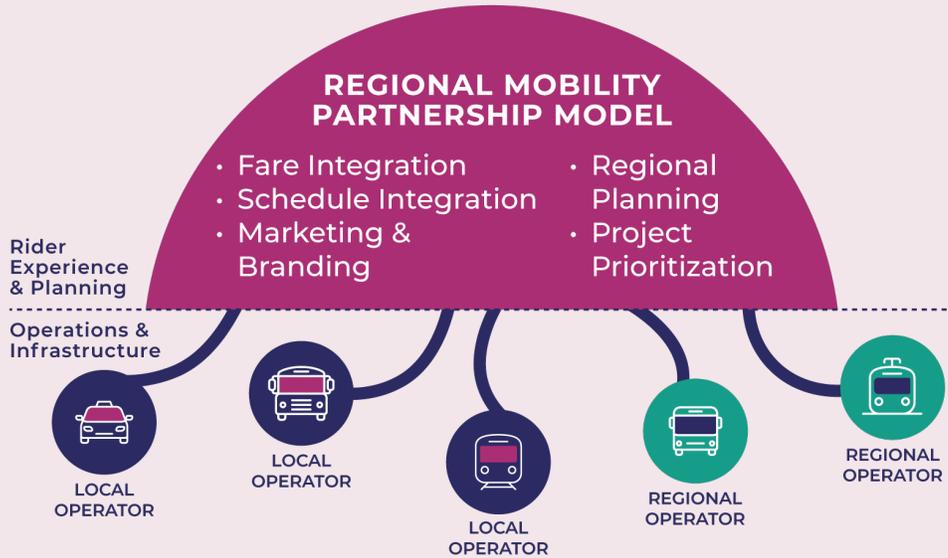| Boosts economic competitiveness | Increases investment and local input | Enhances regional services and connections | Improves access and efficiency for travelers | Enhances equity |

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centralina.org

Regional Mobility Partnership Model

A Regional Mobility Partnership Model was identified as the best approach for coordinating regional mobility, focusing on collaborative transit planning and enhanced rider experience, with local agencies overseeing daily operations and infrastructure.

REGIONAL MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP MODEL

- Fare Integration
- Schedule Integration
- Marketing & Branding
- Regional Planning
- Project Prioritization

Rider Experience & Planning

Operations & Infrastructure

LOCAL OPERATOR

LOCAL OPERATOR

LOCAL OPERATOR

REGIONAL OPERATOR

REGIONAL OPERATOR

2024 Committee Goals

Committee Engagement:

- Members will engage their jurisdictions to develop support and seek local input on the model's approach.

- The Project Team will continue to brief the Centralina Board on the Committee's work and future plans.

Committee Work:

- The Committee will be developing the governance structure and possible funding strategies for the partnership model.

Advantages of a Regionally Coordinated Model:

Increase **regional connectivity** and greater access for riders

Maximize **funding opportunities**

Maintain **local control** and build trust

Increase **economic impact** of connecting to jobs and housing

Increase **human services efficiencies** through cost sharing

2024 Committee Members

Mayor Darrell Hinnant
Co-Chair, City of Kannapolis, Centralina Board

Mayor Vi Lyles
Co-Chair, City of Charlotte

Mayor Karen Alexander
City of Salisbury, Centralina Board

Commissioner Leigh Altman
Mecklenburg County

Mayor Melinda Bales
Town of Huntersville, MTC

Dena Diorio
Mecklenburg County

Mike Downs
Cabarrus County

Kim Eagle
Gaston County

Councilmember Tommy Green
Town of Boiling Springs, GCLMPO Vice-Chair

Commissioner Brian Helms
Union County, Centralina Board

Commissioner Bob Hovis
Gaston County, Centralina Board

Marcus Jones
City of Charlotte

Mayor Rusty Knox
Town of Davidson, MTC

Janet LaBar
Charlotte Regional Business Alliance

Tony Lathrop
NC Board of Transportation

Andy Lucas
Stanly County

Pat Mumford
Gaston Business Association

Lloyd Payne
City of Concord

Commissioner Lisa Qualls
Town of Mooresville, CRTPO Chair

David Rhew
NC Public Transportation Association

Commissioner Lynn Shue
Cabarrus County, Centralina Board

Councilmember Jennifer Stepp
City of Gastonia, Centralina Board

Mayor Woody Washam
Town of Cornelius, MTC

Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn
Anson County, Centralina Board

2023 Members

Mayor Melinda Bales
Town of Huntersville, MTC

Mayor Scott Neisler
Kings Mountain, GCLMPO Chair

Mayor Ron Pappas
Town of Waxhaw, CRTPO Chair