



Board of Delegates Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, August 14, 2024
 This meeting will be held in person.
 *If the in-person nature of this meeting affects
 your ability to participate please reach out to
 Narissa Claiborne (nclaiborne@centralina.org
 for alternative options.

Chairman Jay McCosh will convene the annual meeting of the Centralina Board of Delegates at 5:00 p.m. **on Wednesday, August 14, 2024**, the meeting will take place at the Centralina offices located at 10735 David Taylor Drive, Charlotte-Suite 250. Dinner will be available.

5:00 p.m.	Welcome and Call to Order	Jay McCosh
	Roll Call	
	Moment of Silence	
	Amendments to the Agenda (if any)	
Consent Items: Consent agenda items may be considered in one motion and without discussion except for those items removed by a Board Member.		
5:05 p.m. Item 1 5 minutes <i>Pages: 4-6</i>	Approval of May 8, 2024, Board of Delegates Meeting minutes The minutes from the May 8, 2024, Board of Delegates meeting have been distributed to all members and should be approved if correct. Action/Recommendation: Motion to approve the May 8, 2024, Board of Delegates meeting minutes	Jay McCosh
5:05 p.m. Item 2 <i>Pages: 8-9</i>	Membership Approval of the Town of Rockwell The Board of Delegates is asked to approve a Centralina membership request from the Town of Rockwell of Rowan County Action/Recommendation: Motion to approve the Town of Rockwell's request to join Centralina Regional Council.	Jay McCosh
Regular Business Items:		
5:10 p.m. Item 3 5 minutes <i>Pages: 11-12</i>	Centralina Spotlight: ROE Video & October Board of Delegates Preview Final reminder to Delegates to submit your Region of Excellence nominations by the deadline of Friday, August 16th . The Board will also hear a preview of the October 9th, Board of Delegates Meeting/ Fall Celebration and Awards Dinner. Action/Recommendation: Receive as information	Geraldine Gardner
5:15 p.m. Item 4 25 minutes <i>Pages: 14-17</i>	Regional Water Updates The Board of Delegates will receive brief updates on regional water projects, initiatives, and events. Speakers include David Czerr, Deputy Director, of Charlotte Water to review the forthcoming Interbasin Transfer request, and Regina Guyer of Rising Solutions who coordinates the Regional Stormwater Partnership of the Carolinas. Action/Recommendation: Receive as information	David Czerr, Deputy Director, Charlotte Water Regina Guyer of Rising Solutions



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<p>5:40 p.m. Item 5 10 minutes <i>Pages: 19-33</i></p>	<p>Centralina FY25 Workplan Overview The Executive Director will provide a short overview of the FY24 Workplan highlighting both regional and local initiatives Action/Recommendation: Receive as information</p>	<p>Geraldine Gardner & Michelle Nance</p>
<p>5:50 p.m. Item 6 25 minutes <i>Pages: 35-39</i></p>	<p>Regional Dialogue: Priority Setting for Upcoming State and Federal Transitions Centralina has pursued a robust bi-partisan state and federal engagement strategy for the past several fiscal years. The upcoming elections will bring in new elected officials and changes in leadership of many state and federal offices. To guide this transition, the Board will be asked to participate in a regional dialogue to support the Executive Board in formulating the priorities for the upcoming legislative sessions and relationship building activities Action/Recommendation: Participate in the interactive work session.</p>	<p>Geraldine Gardner Leslie Mazingo & Chris Wall</p>
<p>6:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff</p>	<p>Board Members and Staff</p>
<p>6:20 p.m.</p>	<p>Comments from Executive Director</p>	<p>Geraldine Gardner</p>
<p>6:25 p.m.</p>	<p>Comments from Chairman</p>	<p>Jay McCosh</p>
<p>6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Adjournment:</p>	<p>Jay McCosh</p>
	<p><i>Dinner is available in the Carolinian – Delegates are invited to stay and network</i></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, 10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28262, by phone (704) at 348-2728. Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: www.centralina.org.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 1

Call to Order

Chairman Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Narissa Claiborne, Board Administrator noted that a quorum was not present.

Moment of Silence

Chairman McCosh called for a moment of silence.

Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Pledge of Allegiance

Acknowledgment of Public Service Worker Month

Regular Agenda

1. Delegate Engagement Activity

Deputy Executive Director Michelle Nance, facilitated with the Delegates an interactive activity to increase their knowledge of Centralina services as they prepared for the upcoming annual open house.

Centralina Department Directors provided a brief overview of their department, including the Planning Department, presented by Planning Department Director Jason Wager. The Community Economic Development Department (CEDD), presented by CEDD Director Christina Danis. The Workforce Development (WFD) Department, presented by WFD Director, David Hollars. The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Department, presented by (AAA) Director, Linda Miller. Lastly, the Government Affairs and Member Engagement (GAME) Department, presented by the GAME Director Michelle Nance.

2. Regional Housing Data Presentation

Centralina Executive Director, Geraldine Gardner shared with the Board vital data on regional housing, including Affordable Housing, the current state of Housing in the Centralina Region, the Supply and Demand Dynamics, the rising cost of homeownership and rental housing. Ms. Gardner emphasized the burden of rising housing costs. The Centralina team shared several other factors that played a factor in our region's citizens.

Christina Danis, Community Economic Development Director shared growth opportunities. Centralina Staff ended the Housing Data Presentation with an interactive activity highlighting the use of the Affordable Housing Strategic Focus and helpful services that Centralina Facilitated for our members.

Consent Agenda (The Consent Agenda was moved to the end of the meeting after quorum was established.)

3. Approval of the February 21 Board of Delegates Meeting minute

4. Resolution of Membership – Town of Peachland

Comments from the Chairman

- Chairman McCosh thanked the Board of Delegates for their service.
- May 9- 10-12 pm- Assistive Technology Training and Demonstration Session
- May 9 – 10-11 am – Small Town Peer to Peer: Personnel and Operations Policies

- May 14- 12- 1:30 pm- Centralina Workforce Development Board meeting
- May 30- 9:00-11:30 am – Webinar: A Refresher on Economic Development Incentives
- August 14 – 5 p.m. - Board of Delegates meeting- With a Focus on Water in our Region

Comments from Centralina Executive Director

Centralina Executive Director shared the details of the Centralina Open House. Ms. Gardner encouraged Delegates to visit each Department and thanked Delegates for their attention and participation.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman McCosh adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 2



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 14, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:	X	Regular:	
Submitting Person:	Narissa Claiborne	Presentation Time:	5 minutes, if needed			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Narissa Claiborne	Phone Number:	704-434-2284			
		Email:	nclaiborne@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Title of Agenda Item: Membership of the Town of Rockwell						
Description of Agenda Item:						
The Board of Delegates is asked to approve a Centralina membership request from the Town of Rockwell						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
Staff has received a request from the Town of Peachland to become a Centralina member. In accordance with Article III, Section A of the Centralina bylaws, the Town has passed a resolution ratifying the Centralina charter. As a next step per the bylaws, the Board of Delegates must vote to approve this membership request.						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Motion to approve the Town of Rockwell's request to join Centralina Regional Council.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	The Town's membership will become effective on the date the Board votes to approve the membership request.					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None.					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	Resolution for Membership – Rockwell					



RESOLUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN CENTRALINA REGIONAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, NC General Statutes 160A-470 and 153A-445 authorize municipalities and counties to form and to join councils of governments that address regional issues and opportunities by offering a variety of planning, coordination, advocacy and technical assistance services; and

WHEREAS, Centralina Regional Council was created to serve the needs of a nine-county region that includes Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union Counties; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Centralina Regional Council is to lead regional collaboration and spark local action to expand opportunity and improve quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Town of Rockwell desires to join with other municipalities and counties that are members of Centralina Regional Council; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Rockwell affirms the benefits of regional cooperation among local governments and their elected and appointed officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Rockwell Board that the Town of Rockwell hereby ratifies the Centralina Regional Council Charter and affirms its membership in the organization, pending a majority vote of the member governments of Centralina Regional Council.

This the ___8th___ day of ___July___, 2024.

Charles R. Bounn III

Mayor

ATTEST:

Marlene C. Dixon

Clerk



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 3

Board Agenda Item – Region of Excellence

Board Meeting Date:	August 14, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Narissa Claiborne	Presentation Time:	5 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-385-4517			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Kelly Weston	Phone Number:	704-348-2728			
		Email:	kweston@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	GAME	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
Final reminder to Delegates to submit your Region of Excellence nominations by the deadline of Friday, August 16th. The Board will also hear a preview of the October 9th, Board of Delegates Meeting/Fall Celebration and Awards Dinner.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
Nominations for the Region of Excellence close on August 16, with the award announcements taking place at the Board of Delegates Meeting /Fall Celebration and Awards Dinner on October 9 th , 2024.						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information and request Board feedback.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	Region of Excellence Flyer and Officer Overview					

Region of Excellence, 2023-2024

Region of Excellence, 2023-2024

- Centralina is hosting the Region of Excellence Awards, highlighting innovative and impactful programs throughout the region
 - Official call for nominations, June 10th, 2024
 - Submission Deadline, August 16th, 2024
 - Awards Announced, October 9th, 2024



Aging in Action



Clean Cities & Communities



Cross Community Collaboration



Improving Quality of Life



Local Government Innovation



James D. Prosser Excellence in Government Leadership



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 4

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 14, 2024	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:	Michelle Nance	Phone Number:				
		Email:	Mnance@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Executive	Department Head Approval:	G.Gardner			
Title of documents as shown in the Agenda: Regional Water Updates						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
<p>Board of Delegates will receive brief updates on regional water projects, initiatives and events. Speakers include David Czerr, Deputy Director, Charlotte Water to review the forthcoming Interbasin Transfer request and Regina Guyer of Rising Solutions who coordinates the Regional Stormwater Partnership of the Carolinas.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Improving regional water quality is one of the priorities in the CONNECT our Future Regional Plan. The availability of clean water is essential to our region’s environmental, economic and community health. The Board will hear brief presentations on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlotte Water’s forthcoming request for an interbasin transfer (IBT) from the Catawba River basin to the Rocky River basin. IBT is a State-regulated withdrawal, diversion or pumping of surface water from one source river basin to another river basin. https://www.charlottenc.gov/water/DevelopmentBusiness/Charlotte-Water-IBT • Regional Stormwater Partnership of the Carolinas - https://regionalstormwater.org/ - a bi-state network of stormwater professionals providing awareness to the public, local businesses and education centers of our region about stormwater issues and their impact on water quality and our environment. 						
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>	Charlotte Water IBT Factsheet and Handout (May 2024)					

Charlotte Water Interbasin Transfer

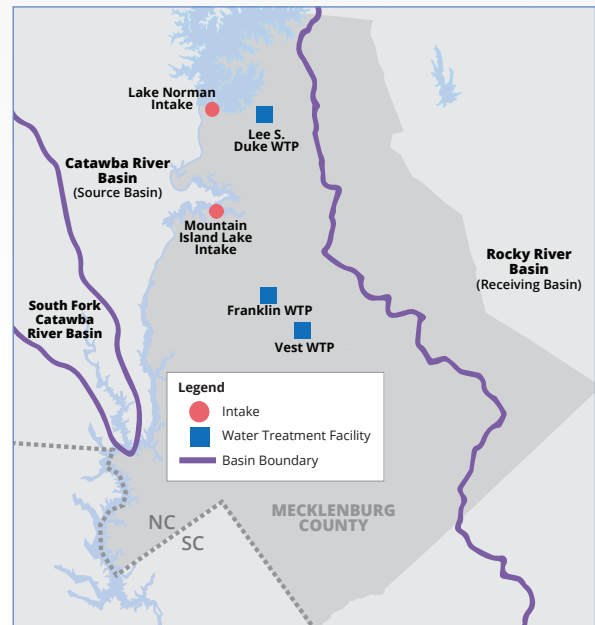
Charlotte Water is the largest public water and wastewater utility in North Carolina, serving more than one million customers in Charlotte and greater Mecklenburg County, including the towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill and Pineville.

The greater Charlotte region has seen high growth over the past decade that is expected to continue at a significant rate. Charlotte Water is committed to ensuring the community has a reliable water supply that maintains pace with development and meets future water demands while also advancing its conservation and drought management goals.

What is an interbasin transfer?

Public water systems get their water supply from a mix of surface and ground water sources, including river basins. An interbasin transfer (IBT) is a withdrawal, diversion or pumping of water from one source river basin to another river basin. The water from the source basin is treated and distributed to customers for everyday water usage, then collected and treated at wastewater treatment plants before portions are discharged to the receiving basin, resulting in the interbasin transfer.

- The actual transfer is the amount of water not returned to its source basin.
- IBTs that exceed 2 million gallons per day are regulated by the state.



Current IBT & modification request

Charlotte Water's current IBT certificate was issued in 2002 by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission.

- The current IBT certificate allows the transfer of up to 33 million gallons per day (MGD) peak day from the Catawba River basin to the Rocky River basin and is projected to support Charlotte-area water demands through 2028.

Charlotte Water is requesting a modification to its current IBT certificate to increase the maximum limit.

- A modification is needed to approve additional IBT to meet the community's future water needs.
- Charlotte Water actively monitors water consumption trends, implements conservation efforts and seeks all options to ensure reliable water supply for decades to come.
- IBT modification is a multi-year, highly regulated process encouraging stakeholder participation and feedback. The process ensures that if approved, the modification will not be environmentally damaging to either source or receiving water basins.

Learn more at CharlotteWaterIBT.org.

Submit any comments or questions to IBTProject@charlottenc.gov.



Translation of this document is available by calling 311 or 704-336-7600.

La traducción de este documento está disponible llamando al 311 o al 704-336-7600.

Bản dịch của tài liệu này có sẵn bằng cách gọi 311 hoặc 704-336-7600.

La traduction de ce document est disponible en appelant le 311 ou le 704-336-7600.

如需本文件的翻译，请致电 311 或 704-336-7600。

ترجمة هذه الوثيقة متاحة عن طريق الاتصال بالرقم 311 أو 7600-336-704

Charlotte Water provides water and sewer service to customers across Mecklenburg County. The greater Charlotte region, like most of North Carolina, has seen high growth over the past decade that is expected to continue. Charlotte Water is obligated to plan for reliable water supply now and into the future.

Drinking and wastewater services do not neatly follow jurisdictional or even State lines. Over time most communities find it necessary to move water and wastewater within and between watersheds. Charlotte Water is no different, especially given the area that we serve.

Charlotte Water is preliminarily proposing a modification to its current IBT certificate to increase the maximum amount of water it can move from the Catawba basin to the Yadkin basin. During 2023, Charlotte Water withdrew 116 million gallons per day (MGD) from the Catawba River Basin and returned all but 20 MGD of that water back to the Catawba River Basin – the other 20 MGD is returned to the Yadkin River Basin. The highest amount of water transferred last year was 26 MGD.

1. Why is Charlotte Water proposing to modify its current IBT certificate?

Charlotte Water has a duty to provide adequate and reliable drinking water to our customers. We have preliminarily identified the need to provide water to our service area in a way that up to an additional 30 million gallons per day over the next few decades that originates in the Catawba watershed will be returned to the Rocky River/Yadkin watershed. This likelihood has been on the books for well over a decade. The proposed increase in the amount of water transferred between basins is in line with year 2058 interbasin transfer projections made in an agreement between Catawba River Basin stakeholders in 2010, including Duke and both North and South Carolina.

2. Is Charlotte Water's decision to request a modification of its IBT certificate final?

No. We are only starting the evaluation process. No final decisions have been made. We are at the beginning of a lengthy study and evaluation process that will primarily be conducted by the NC Department of Environmental Quality (Environmental Impact Statement) and NC Environmental Management Commission (Ultimate approval authority of any final IBT modification proposal). The process will be comprehensive, transparent, and fully informed by input from the public, our neighboring communities, and other stakeholders.

Any final proposal – which could be the currently proposed interbasin transfer or something else altogether – will be based on the results of the public feedback, alternatives analysis, and corresponding environmental studies by NC DEQ and review by the NC EMC.

3. Will alternative ways to meet Charlotte Water's future water needs be evaluated?

Yes. Charlotte Water and the NC DEQ will evaluate a robust suite of alternatives. We have tentatively identified several alternatives to evaluate, but the list is not complete. Through the ongoing scoping process, we are asking for

public input to help us refine and expand the list of alternatives to be considered. We will carefully evaluate reasonable alternatives to explore opportunities to minimize any potential impacts on the environment and our surrounding communities.

4. Will the environmental and other impacts of the proposal be studied?

Yes. A comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement will be conducted by the NC DEQ. The review will include, among other things, a detailed modeling exercise to evaluate the effect of a proposed increase in interbasin transfer on the environment and other water users in the region. The study will evaluate a broad suite of alternatives and measures to minimize any impacts.

The public will have an opportunity to review the draft and submit comments to the NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ will review the public comments and prepare the final draft of the Environmental Impact Statement, which will then be subject to a public hearing by the NC EMC to determine its adequacy.

5. Who decides if an IBT certificate modification request is granted?

The NC Environmental Management Commission (EMC), a 15-member commission appointed by the Governor and General Assembly. Only if the EMC determines that the Environmental Impact Statement is adequate (after public hearing), may Charlotte Water then submit an IBT modification request to the EMC.

The EMC may approve the request only if it determines that (1) any negative impacts of a proposed IBT have been minimized to the maximum extent practicable; (2) the IBT benefits clearly outweigh any downsides; (3) the IBT amount is no greater than necessary to remedy a projected shortfall in Charlotte Water's supply; and (4) there are no reasonable alternatives.

6. What is Charlotte Water's response to concerns expressed by neighboring areas about the proposal?

Our rivers are a shared public resource. State law provides that State waters be used in a fair and beneficial manner for all our residents, and our neighboring communities – including our neighbors in South Carolina. We have a long way to go before any final decisions are made about the appropriateness of an increase in water transfer from the Catawba to the Yadkin River Basins. We ask that interested parties work with us as we evaluate all options before jumping to any conclusions. We ask anyone who has concerns at this stage to fully engage in the process going forward. Your participation will help Charlotte Water provide comprehensive information to both the DEQ, and the EMC so they can make well-informed decisions.

Charlotte Water is committed to fully evaluating all potential impacts and alternatives to avoid or mitigate those impacts. Moreover, we are committed to fully evaluating and addressing the interests of our neighboring communities and other stakeholders.

7. Where can I find more information or submit comments on the proposal?

More information can be found at Charlotte Water's website <http://CharlotteWaterIBT.org>.

Preliminary comments can be submitted to IBTProject@charlottenc.gov through August 30, 2024.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 5

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 14, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	10 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Michelle Nance	Phone Number:				
		Email:	Mnance@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Executive	Department Head Approval:	G.Gardner			
Title of documents as shown in the Agenda: FY25 Workplan Overview						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
<p>The Executive Director will provide a short overview of the FY25 Workplan highlighting both regional and local initiatives.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Each year, Centralina creates an annual workplan that serves as a roadmap for how the organization will implement its strategic plan in the coming fiscal year. Quarterly progress reports are submitted to the Board of Delegates based on the performance of the staff against the planned activities in the workplan. At the May Board of Delegates meeting and April Regional Managers Group meeting we engaged participants to receive feedback on plans, projects and initiatives for the coming year. Using this input, Centralina drafted the FY25 workplan and it was approved by the Executive Board at their June meeting.</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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FY24 Q4/Final Progress Report 2. FY25 Workplan 					

FY24 Workplan Implementation

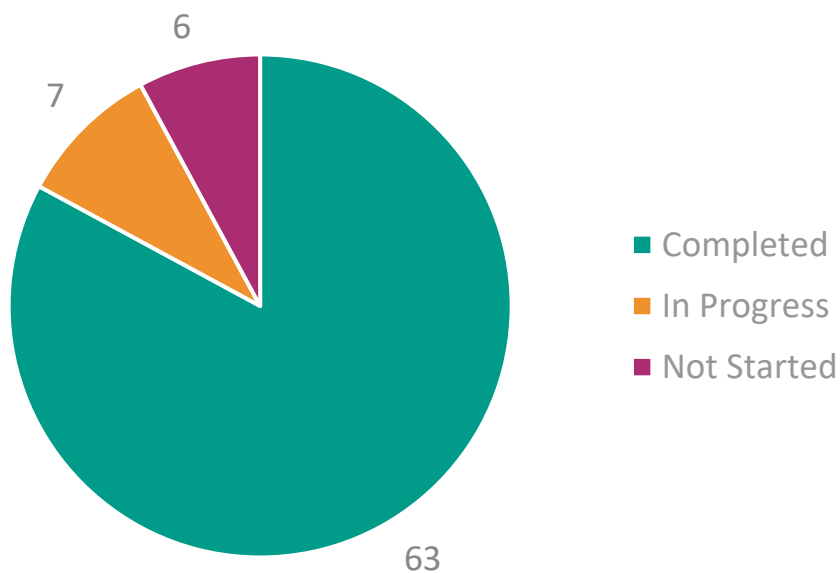
End of Year Report



The Centralina team worked diligently throughout the fiscal year to implement our FY2024 workplan, which included 76 tactics that support implementation of our strategic plan.

By the end of June, 92% of action items were launched or completed. Six action items were not initiated due to lack of funds and/or capacity.

Implementation Status



Three-Year Strategic Goals

1. Lead regional engagement to prepare, plan and act on issues that respond to today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.
2. Build local government capacity, efficiency and innovation in service to Centralina communities and the region.
3. Grow our portfolio of person-centered services that enhance an individual's ability to thrive in their careers and in their communities.
4. Strive for organizational excellence by investing in our employees, promoting our work and building efficient systems.

Highlights & Success Stories – 4th Quarter

Regional Engagement

- Completed Regional Resilience Collaborative activities with county emergency managers to develop county recovery roadmaps. Efforts led to a documented 14% increase in capacity among county EMs.
- Collaborated with the state on joint grant federal applications to the U.S. Dept. of Labor Critical Sector Job Quality grant and EPA’s Climate Pollution Reduction implementation grant.
- Completed regional engagement and development of a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Implementation Guidebook.

Local Government Support

- Completed the first year of the Small Town Thrives initiative and won a [National Association of Regional Councils Award](#) for the program innovation.
- Launched a strategic planning process for WeBuild Concord.
- Held NCWorks Career hiring events for the [Town of Mooresville](#) and City of Concord that engaged over 135 applicants.

Individual Service Delivery

- Completed Centralina’s four-year Area Aging Plan!
- Increased PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active Rewarding LiveS) caseload by over 400% since start of the year and developed a partnership with the Union County Council on Aging.

FY24 Technical Assistance Projects

We’re proud to have worked with the following partners on a variety of technical assistance projects, such as land use planning, code enforcement and facilitation services

Anson County	City of Kings Mountain	Town of Norwood
Cabarrus County *	City of Lowell *	Town of Spencer
Gaston County	City of Mt. Holly	Town of Weddington
Mecklenburg County	City of Salisbury	Village of Marvin *
Rowan County	City of Statesville	Charlotte Area Transit Authority (CATS)
Stanly County *	Town of Cramerton	Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Union County	Town of Davidson	Lake Wylie Marine Commission
City of Albemarle	Town of East Spencer	United Way of Greater Charlotte, INC.
City of Bessemer City *	Town of Granite Quarry	WeBuild Concord
City of Charlotte	Town of Lilesville	
City of Cherryville	Town of Marshville	
City of Concord *	Town of Matthews	<i>*Indicates 2 or More Projects</i>
City of Gastonia *	Town of ²¹ Morven	



Centralina Regional Council



2024 – 2025 Workplan



Goal 1: Lead regional engagement to prepare, plan and act on issues that respond to today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.

Strategy 1: Lead implementation of regional infrastructure and mobility initiatives outlined in plans such as CONNECT Beyond, the Regional Freight Mobility Plan and CONNECT our Future.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Continue implementation of high-priority CONNECT Beyond implementation items including the Advancing the Plan Committee, Seamless CONNECTIONS initiative and increasing cross-system coordination among human services transit providers.
2. Launch a regional Transportation Demand Management program that is sustainable, affordable, accessible, known and convenient for all.
3. Complete the COORDINATE Our Future regional land use analysis for travel demand modeling and facilitate CommunityViz trainings.
4. Disseminate the Transportation Guide for Older Adults and People with Disabilities throughout region to older adults and Centralina communities.
5. Provide at least four transportation related training events to those serving older and disabled adults such as transit providers or aging service providers, older adults, caregivers and people with disabilities.
6. Determine opportunities for training, innovative financing and/or consortium applications for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.
7. Launch the initial activities of the Centralina Integrated Mobility Center.
8. Increase communication of regional mobility and CONNECT Beyond implementation activities through website updates and an annual report.

Strategy 2: Strengthen regional partnerships and foster collaboration on resilience, recovery and environmental stewardship initiatives.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Launch a regional brownfields program to support community redevelopment, adaptive reuse of buildings, environmental assessment and future clean up.
2. Develop grant-required Comprehensive Climate Action Plan that aligns to local and regional priorities and outlines feasible implementation strategies.

3. Engage and support water groups (e.g. Lake Wylie Marine Commission, the South Fork River Health Committee, High Rock Lake, Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group) to strengthen regional collaboration on infrastructure, management and sustainability.
4. *(If funded)* Launch the next phase of the Regional Resilience Collaborative to track county performance of the Regional Resilience Roadmap, support the completion of locally requested plans and offer FEMA Public Assistance Administration training.

Strategy 3: Align Centralina’s economic development and workforce development initiatives to effectively lead regional economic development strategy implementation.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Support the implementation of the *Prosperity for All Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)* through the management of thematic working groups and tracking implementation activities via quarterly progress reports.
2. Contribute to the EDA-funded Carolinas Innovation Center for Optics and Metrology (CICOM) Tech Hub Grant by engaging regional stakeholders to create a talent development strategy.
3. Evaluate existing certified career pathways to determine if expansion is needed or if new career pathways should be developed and formally submitted for certification.
4. Meet quarterly with local businesses, economic developers and education leaders in each county to identify and recommend industry-specific talent retain / retrain approaches.
5. Participate in quarterly meetings between the region’s three workforce board business service leaders to increase region-wide collaboration with industry partners.
6. Partner with seven participating counties to develop the Institute of Emerging Issues (IEI) at NC State BAND-NC funded Regional Digital Inclusion blueprint plan and curate regional implementation strategies to increase local affordability and access.
7. Develop a Regional Digital Inclusion interactive webpage to serve as a repository for County Digital Inclusion plans, information and resources.

Strategy 4: Expand research, data analysis and convening activities to better position the region to address emerging challenges.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Utilize the regional data portal to proactively identify trends and produce a monthly snapshot, infographic or article for the *Central Lines* newsletter.
2. Promote and update the customized data and mapping tools available on the Centralina Data Portal including CEDS Data Dashboard and Prosperity Profiles, Transit Equity Map and Resilience and Equity Hazard Assessment Tool (REHAT).
3. Utilize data and original analysis to inform regional convenings and activities such as the economic forecast briefing, state of the region report and Board meetings.

Strategy 5: Advance regional priorities at the state and federal levels through a robust advocacy agenda and strategic partnerships.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Develop the federal advocacy agenda for the 119th Congress and relationships with new Congressional representatives and their staff.
2. Develop the state advocacy agenda for the 2025 long session and continue Raleigh Relations efforts to build relationships with representatives and their staff.
3. Collaborate with federal and state relations consultants to provide Centralina members with legislative and policy analysis via monthly “Capitol Corner” articles in the *Central Lines* newsletter.
4. Collaborate with NC Association of Regional Councils of Government (NCARCOG) on the 2025 state-wide advocacy agenda and COG funding requests.

Core Services

- Regional planning and implementation on growth, mobility, economic development, alternative fuels, community resilience and digital inclusion.
- Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition, including the Department of Energy supported Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice Initiative, that supports partnership building with groups who advocate for environmental justice in underserved communities.
- Federal grant information and administration for economic development (EDA), Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC), Congressional Community Projects Funding (CPF) and workforce development programming and career services (WIOA).
- Regional Federal Advocacy and Raleigh Relations Initiatives.

Goal 2: Build local government capacity, efficiency and innovation in service to Centralina communities and the region.

Strategy 1: Expand technical assistance offerings to leverage Centralina expertise and efficiently deliver services to local governments.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Promote availability of advisory services to local governments in planning for housing diversity, attainability and equitability, model zoning code language and minimum code enforcement.
2. Promote technical assistance services to smaller local governments including strategic planning, communications and engagement, operational and HR policy review and administrative services.
3. Provide technical assistance to local governments to support hazard mitigation, recovery and resilience planning.
4. Support local Energy Efficiency Block Grant implementation through regional education, low-moderate income qualification technical assistance and non-profit support.
5. Increase awareness among local government stakeholders of aging issues and provide at least one aging sensitivity training to a government organization.

Strategy 2: Support the local implementation of land use, mobility and healthy communities solutions identified in regional plans.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Implement the North Mecklenburg Housing Preservation Initiative in coordination with local governments and non-profit partners.
2. Conduct pilot projects with four to eight employment, healthcare and education centers in the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization area to develop and implement Transportation Demand Management tools and strategies.
3. Conduct at least four walkability audits around fixed-route transit stops to support safe, accessible mobility.
4. Provide on-demand support, expertise and training to local governments seeking to implement actions that support regional plans related to electric vehicles and infrastructure, energy efficiency and alternative fuels, mobility and transportation trends.
5. *(If funded)* Engage up to four local governments in their role in advancing implementation actions in CONNECT Beyond, including planning for

mobility hubs, increasing local access to transit and supporting employee commuter programs.

6. *(If funded)* Assist local governments in implementing energy efficient programs or projects under the Climate Pollution Reduction program, with funding provided to the state of North Carolina.

Strategy 3: Lead impactful networks and convenings that build knowledge, share resources and foster regional relationships.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Expand outreach to leaders in smaller local governments to exchange best practices and scalable solutions through activities and the Small Towns Thrive initiative.
2. Plan and implement six to eight *Centralina Learns* events to equip local governments with information and resources on emerging policy and practice topics.
3. Host annual 2025 Aging Conference for aging and healthcare service providers, professionals and volunteers.
4. Develop and pilot Digital Navigator program to provide digital skills building to older adults and professional working with older adults across the region.

Strategy 4: Expand programming that builds fiscal health and efficiency in local governments through grants and shared services.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Support local governments in the annual reporting and final close out of federal ARPA funding.
2. Coordinate across departments to develop a multi-tiered approach to providing grant information, advisory and preparation services to local governments with varying needs and local capacities.
3. *(If funded)* Provide local government financial support services that meet the needs of Centralina members.

Strategy 5: Support local government and public administration service through talent recruitment, professional development and strategic partnerships.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Coordinate across GAME and Centralina Workforce Development Board to develop programming and resources for local governments that supports and/or fill gaps in employee attraction and retention efforts.
2. Expand awareness of Centralina Workforce Development Board services and its NCWorks Career Centers to pursue collaborations with local governments to support their hiring and training needs.
3. Develop a condensed Centralina NCWorks Career Centers services demo package for local governments.

Core Services

- Regional groups management: Regional Managers, Mobility Management Committee, NC 73 Council on Planning, etc.
- Member engagement, retention and cultivation activities
- Administration and content development for online member portal and resource center
- Technical assistance services in planning, community development and public administration
- Centralina Learns professional development and education events
- Region of Excellence Awards program
- Grant information, writing and administration of state and federal grants Community Development Block Grants (entitlement and neighborhood revitalization)

Goal 3: Grow our portfolio of person-centered services that enhance an individual’s ability to thrive in their careers and in their communities.

Strategy 1: Expand our capacity to address the social determinants of health for a broader range of older adults and people with disabilities.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Launch new home improvement and safety “Choosing Home” initiative focusing on at-risk and vulnerable older adults in all nine counties.

2. Administer Veterans-directed home and community-based services program in partnership with Salisbury Veterans Administration Medical Center.
3. Procure a registered dietician consultant and provide one Medicare approved Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support workshop.
4. *(If funded)* Develop regionwide Digital Champion program for older adults that supports their digital literacy of mobility, public safety and social isolation services, information and supports.

Strategy 2: Pursue creative funding, program and service adaptations that respond to changes in available federal funding and the needs of historically underserved populations.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Refine business development strategy for aging program sustainability.
2. Lead engagement of Centralina Workforce Development Board, Workforce Consortium, Equus service provider and other stakeholders to determine best strategy for utilization of federal funds and deployment of workforce services and locations in the region.
3. Develop funding strategy to supplement declining federal funds and bolster workforce services and programming with discretionary grants and private sector collaborations.
4. Expand community health worker outreach efforts to underserved, non-English speaking older adults in the region with a focus on chronic disease prevention and management.
5. Connect community health workers with local NCWorks Career Centers to better inform individuals of assessment, training and employment services available.
6. Develop and promote services to justice involved individuals, veterans, opportunity youth and non-traditional populations through local NCWorks Career Centers and our community partners.
7. *(If funded)* Expand promotion of work-based learning opportunities and other services by working with NCWorks Career Center leaders to identify and connect with individuals in their communities.

Core Services

- Older Americans Act and related grants implementation and funding to counties for adult nutrition, transportation, in-home aide services, senior centers and more
- Family caregiver support and evidence-based health programs (chronic disease, depression, falls prevention, etc.)

- Long-term care facility Ombudsman services and elder abuse awareness education
- Influenza and shingles vaccine education and outreach
- Senior health insurance counseling
- Workforce, Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funded training and career services
- NCWorks Career Centers in Anson, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly and Union counties
- Centralina Nextgen services and NextGen Youth Opportunity Sites

Goal 4: Strive for organizational excellence by investing in our employees, promoting our work and building efficient systems.

Strategy 1: Develop and implement systems for multi-year financial planning and revenue development to support Centralina growth.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Update three-year revenue forecast model to plan for resources needed to meet the organization's goals for growth, compensation and fund balance.
2. Develop multi-year strategy for discretionary grants that addresses the remaining state and federal funding opportunities (ARPA, BIL, IRA, CHIPS).
3. Develop organization-wide policies and procedures for grant strategy, development and administration.

Strategy 2: Develop strong systems that support talent development, compensation and operational efficiency.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Complete leadership-level succession planning activities to identify critical positions and opportunities for staff development of core leadership competencies.
2. Review and update job descriptions for all positions in preparation for a future pay and classification study.
3. Transition HR forms to secured Cognito system to improve efficiency and decision making.
4. Enhance information dissemination and staff training on key personnel and operational policies and procedures.

Strategy 3: Enhance our OneCentralina culture of innovation, collaboration, connection and service.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Lead monthly *OneCentralina Connect* engagement activities focused on strengthening employee belonging, appreciation and recognition.
2. Support *OneCentralina Serves* by organizing Centralina-led volunteer projects in the region and logging service hours for individual volunteer activities.
3. Expand professional development programming to offer ongoing support for supervisors in the practical application of knowledge and engage a new cohort of emerging leaders in the program.
4. Enhance wellness programming by offering Centralina-led activities, promoting available services/information and encouraging department specific work agreements that support flexibility.

Strategy 4: Increase regional awareness of Centralina by enhancing our strategic communications planning and promoting our brand.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Enhance communication of regional initiatives at various stages of planning and implementation through website enhancements, media outreach, success stories and reports.
2. Implement a dynamic system for managing department communication needs that includes the identification of specific strategies for priority projects or initiatives.
3. Assess and update Centralina website to account for new initiatives and user needs.
4. Launch the new Centralina Area Agency on Aging website and a redesign process for the CONNECT Beyond website.
5. Increase internal awareness of Centralina's projects and service offerings so that employees can become stronger ambassadors of the organization.

Strategy 5: Manage Centralina assets and information technology systems through proactive planning and risk management.

FY24 - 25 Priority Actions

1. Assess and improve as needed current IT policies/procedures, asset management system and staff training approaches.

2. Strengthen the security culture by enhancing staff training, developing a cyber incident response plan and collaborating with the managed service provider to make the necessary technical adjustments to operations.
3. Evaluate organizational needs for telecommunications services, financial management software, a customer relationship management (CRM) system and event management software to inform future procurement processes.
4. Support the transition to a fully cloud-based file storage system, including a clear structure and staff education to ensure accessibility, security and compliance with applicable regulations.
5. Develop Artificial Intelligence usage policy and test AI tools to determine the best fit for the organization's needs.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

704-372-2416 | info@centralina.org
10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250 | Charlotte, NC 28262

www.centralina.org

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Item 6

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 14, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	25 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Kelly Weston	Phone Number:				
		Email:	kweston@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Executive	Department Head Approval:	G.Gardner			
Title of documents as shown in the Agenda: Regional Dialogue: Priority Setting for Upcoming State and Federal Transitions						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
<p>Centralina has pursued a robust bi-partisan state and federal engagement strategy for the past several fiscal years. The upcoming elections will bring in new elected officials and changes in leadership of many state and federal offices. To guide this transition, the Board will be asked to participate in a regional dialogue to support the Executive Board in formulating the priorities for the upcoming legislative sessions and relationship building activities.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Centralina has a strong delegation in the North Carolina General Assembly and US Congress with 24% of State House members, 24% of State Senate members and 35% of the US House of Representatives from our region. In the upcoming election, there is the potential for 15 new State and Federal representatives, in addition to changes at state and federal Executive level. This transition is an opportunity to build new relationships and introduce our region to new partners. Delegates are asked to participate in an interactive discussion to share their perspectives on regional strengths and challenges. Delegates' inputs will be used by the Executive Board to develop and finalize Centralina's state and federal engagement agendas that guide activities in the NC General Assembly's Long Session and 119th US Congress.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Participate in the interactive work session.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Input from the Board at the August meeting will inform discussions at the September and November Executive Board meetings.					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	State and federal candidate listing and district maps for 2024 elections					

2024 Candidates

District 6: Addison McDowell (Unopposed)

District 8: Justin Dues (D), Mark Harris (R),

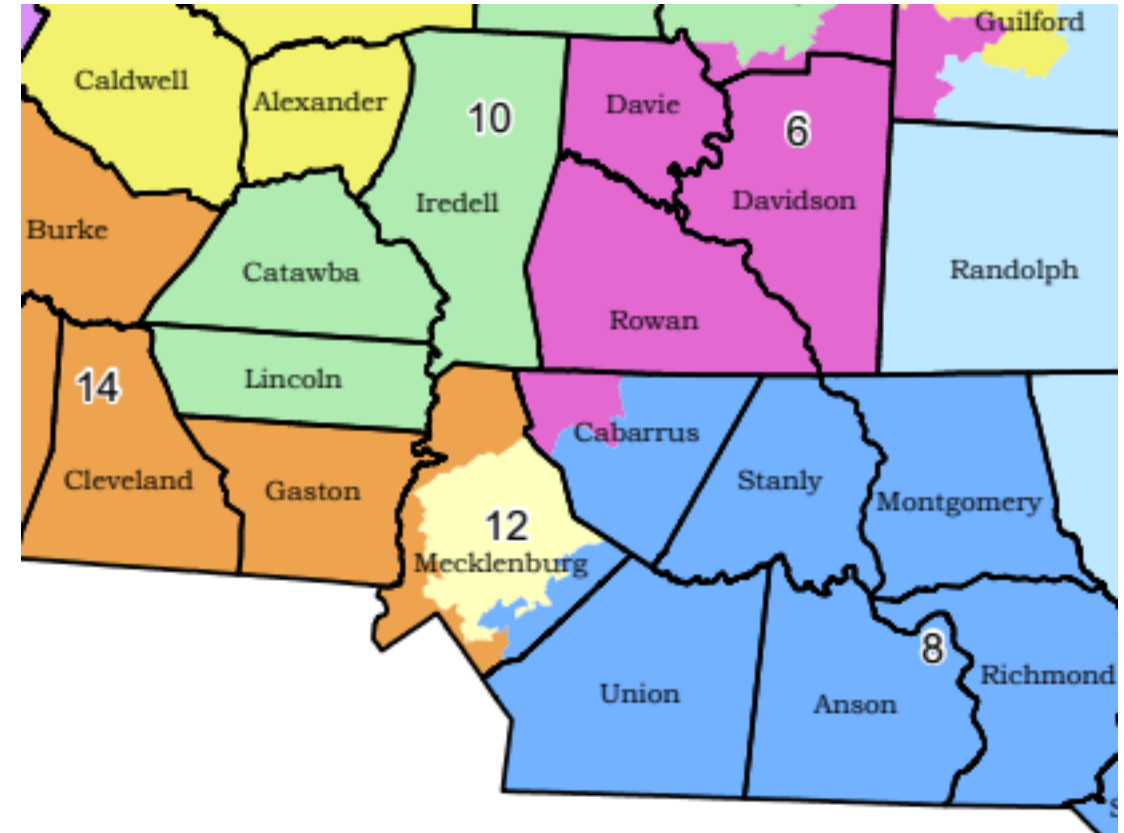
District 10: Ralph Scott Jr. (D), Pat Harrigan (R), Steven Feldman (Libertarian)

District 12: Alma Adams (I - D), Addul Ali (R)

District 14: Pamela Genant (D), Timothy K. Moore (R)

Centralina Congressional Districts

5 House Members: 1 incumbent; 4 open contests

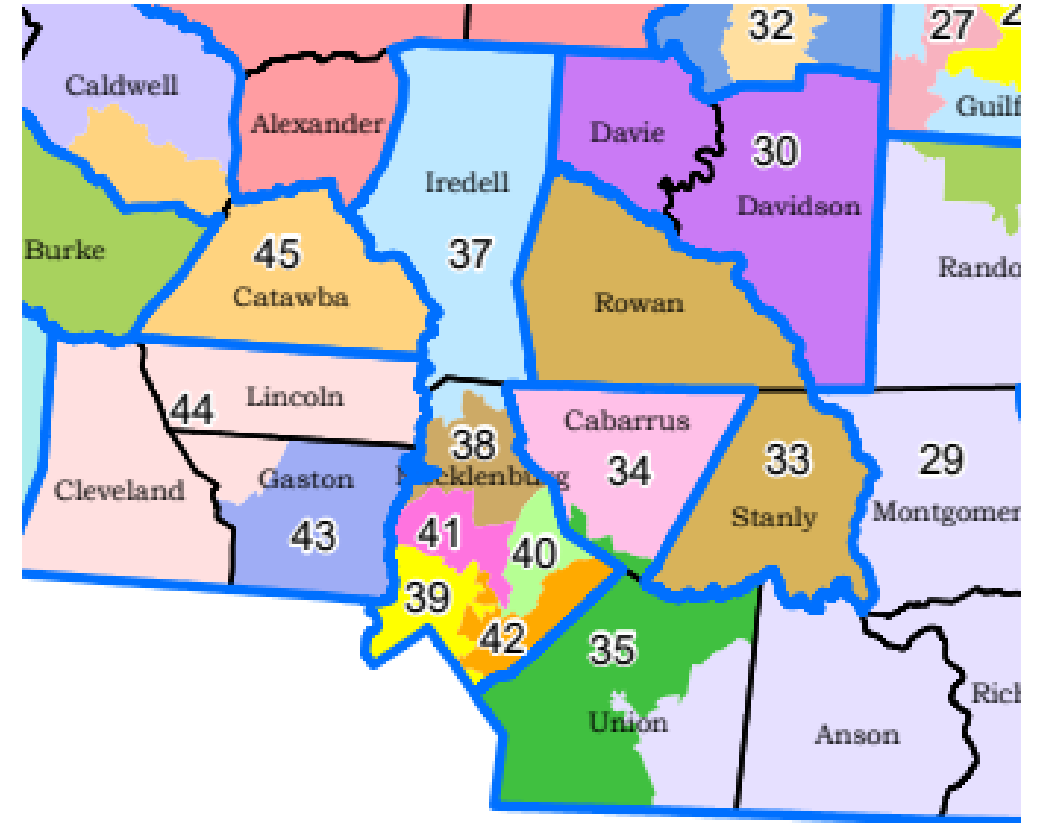


2024 Candidates

- 44 - T. Goode (D), **Ted Alexander (i-R)**
- 43 - Corey Creech (D), **Brad Overcash (i-R)**
- 42 - Woodson Bradley (D), Stacie McGinn (R)
- 41 - **Caleb Theodros (i-D) unopposed**
- 40 - **Joyce Waddell (i-D) unopposed**
- 39 - **DeAndrea Salvador (i-D) unopposed**
- 38 - **Mujtaba Mohammed (i-D) unopposed**
- 37 - Kate Compton Barr (D), **Vickie Sawyer (i-R)**
- 35 - Robin Mann (D), **Todd Johnson (i-R)**
- 34 - Kim Sexton-Lewter (D), **Paul Newton (i-R)**,
Thomas B. Hill (Libertarian Party)
- 33 - Tangelia Morgan (D), **Carl Ford (i-R)**
- 29 - Kevin Clark (D), **Dave Craven (i-R)**

Centralina State Senate Districts

12 Senators: 11 incumbents; 1 open contest



Bold – Incumbent; **Red** – Open Contest³⁷

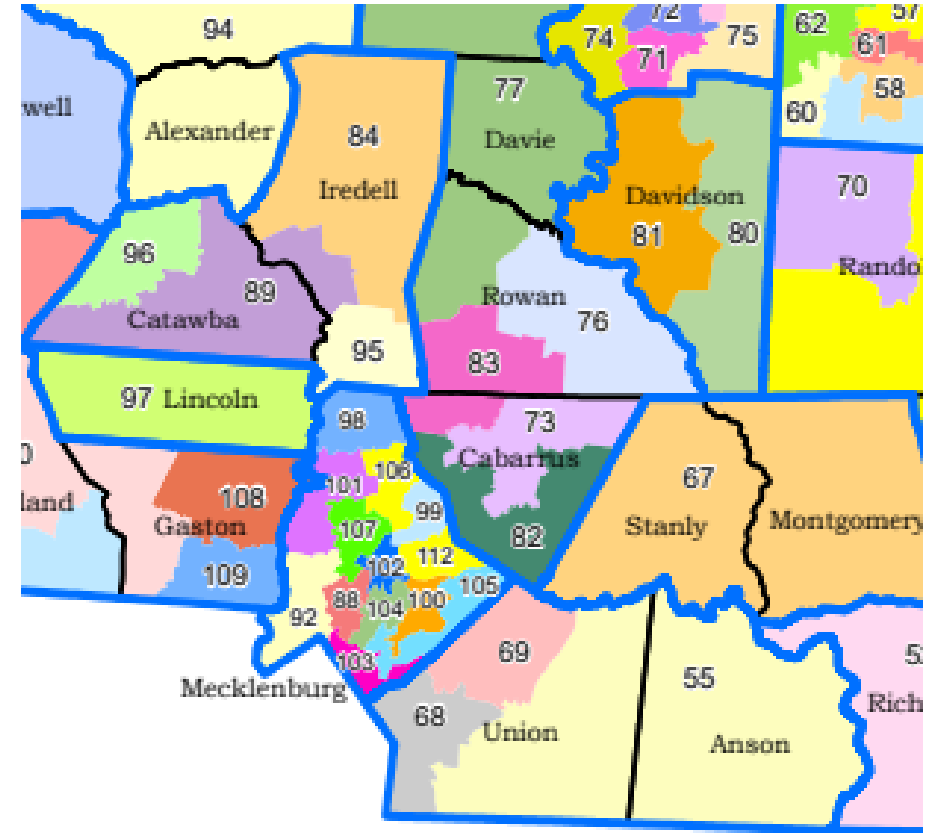


2024 Candidates

	Democrat	Republican
District 55	Judy H. Little	Mark Brody (i)
District 67	Daniel Quick	Cody Huneycutt
District 68	Cristal Robinson	David Willis (i)
District 69	Leigh Coulter	Dean Arp (i)
District 73	Diamond Staton-Williams (i)	Jonathan Almond
District 76	Alisha Byrd-Clark	Harry Warren (i)
District 77	Kashmir R. Sibby	Julia Howard (i)
District 82	Sabrina Berry	Brian Echevarria
District 83	Joanne Chesley	Grant Campbell
District 84	Chris E. Gilbert	Jeffrey McNeely (i)
District 88	Mary Belk (i)	
District 89	Greg Cranford	Mitchell Setzer (i)
District 92	Terry Brown Jr. (i)	
District 95	Mike Robinson	Todd Carver
District 97	Jason Saine (i) - Resigning	

Centralina State House Districts

29 House Members: 20 incumbents; 9 open contests



Bold – Incumbent; **Red** – Open Contest³⁸



2024 Candidates

	Democrat	Republican	Third Party
District 98	Beth Gardner Helfrich	Melinda Bales	
District 99	Nasif Majeed (i)	Isaiah Payne	Rob Yates (Lib)
District 100	Julia Greenfield		
District 101	Carolyn Logan (i)		
District 102	Becky Carney (i)		
District 103	Laura Budd (i)	Joshua Niday	
District 104	Brandon Lofton (i)	Krista Bokhari	
District 105	Nicole Sidman	Tricia Cotham (i)	
District 106	Carla Cunningham (i)		
District 107	Aisha O. Dew		
District 108	Sydnie Hutchinson	John Torbett (i)	
District 109	Pam Morgenstern	Donnie Loftis (i)	
District 110	Justin Matthews	Kelly Hastings (i)	
District 112	Jordan Lopez		

Bold – Incumbent; **Red** – Open Contest

Centralina State House Districts

29 House Members: 20 incumbents; 9 open contests

