



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

THE CENTRAL LINES

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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 10	Centralina Workforce Development Board Meeting
September 11	Centralina Executive Board Meeting
October 9	Fall Celebration: Centralina Board of Delegates Meeting & Region of Excellence Awards
October 29	Regional Brownfields Summit: Eyesores to Assets

COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY



Centralina is looking for feedback on our communications so that we can better reach you with important and timely information and resources. Take **just a few minutes** to answer the nine-question survey.

[What Can We Improve?](#)

CAPITOL CORNER



Closing Out the 118th Congress

Federal lawmakers returned to Capitol Hill on September 9 for a three-week session before breaking again on September 27, 2024, until after Election Day. In those three weeks, the House and Senate are expected to draft and vote on a stopgap spending bill, known as a continuing resolution, to avoid a full or partial government shutdown when the new fiscal year begins October 1, 2024.

Several bills have passed one chamber or the other with strong bipartisan support and could move to the President's desk, including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and Older Americans Act. However, neither bill has moved at all in the other chamber, which undermines their prospects for enactment in this Congress. Even less likely to pass this year is the Farm Bill, passed by the House Agriculture Committee in May.

What Happens Next?

FEATURED ARTICLES

New Member Spotlight: Town of Rockwell

Centralina Regional Council is proud to welcome the Town of Rockwell, North Carolina, as our newest member of the organization! Rockwell is in the southeast corner of Rowan County, within an easy drive of High Rock Lake and Uwharrie National Forest, and is situated directly on U.S. Route 52. This unique community is scenic, historical and worth a visit.



Photo courtesy of Visit Rowan County.

Plan a Day in Rockwell

Linking Transit and Land Use at the Community Level

Accommodating growth, growing economic competitiveness and achieving goals of sustainability and equity are reliant upon our ability to create livable communities that support a variety of mobility options. Mobility-friendly land use and development patterns need clear intent through land use plans and



development codes, both of which occur at the local level.

Centralina, in partnership with Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO), organized a series of training workshops to create a better understanding of mobility-friendly development practices and how they can be implemented locally. More than 30

land use planners, transportation staff, NC Department of Transportation staff and others from across the CRTPO planning area attended the training series.

What They Learned

Guide for Creating Generative AI Policies

Is your local government prepared to address the rapidly evolving landscape of generative artificial intelligence (AI) technology and its associated risks? In early 2024, the Centralina regional AI working group, featuring municipal representatives from our nine-county region, pooled together expertise and research to craft the **"Generative AI Policy Guidance Document for Local Governments."**



This detailed guide provides a structured framework, practical insights and policy template language to help municipalities effectively manage and implement generative AI technologies.

Generative AI, a transformative branch of artificial intelligence, creates dynamic content based on your needs and offers many potential applications for public-sector organizations. For local governments eager to harness this technology, establishing a solid policy is crucial to navigating risks like bias, privacy, cybersecurity and legal compliance. Explore the potential of generative AI with confidence by reviewing the document in our member portal.

Get the Local Government Guidance Document

Falls Prevention Awareness Month

Did you know that every second of every day, an older adult age 65 and older falls? In recognition of Falls Awareness Month, held each September, Centralina Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is highlighting the work it does to support older adults so they can remain living in their homes and communities. Centralina AAA offers A Matter of Balance, an evidence-based class designed to reduce the fear of falling while improving strength and balance.



[Learn More About Falls Prevention](#)

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization

The North Carolina Association of Workforce Development Boards (NCAWDB) is the voice of the 20 workforce development boards in North Carolina. Recently, the group issued a letter to state lawmakers asking for reconsideration of the reauthorized Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act as the bill significantly reduced available service funding.

[Read the Letter from NCAWDB](#)

Legislative Priorities Survey



Centralina is seeking input on the development of its 2025-2026 Federal Action Plan and Raleigh Relations Agenda. We invite you to take the brief survey below to share what policy issues, legislative proposals and engagement options matter to your local government. Input will be used by the Centralina Executive Board and Leadership

Team to identify state and federal engagement priorities for the NC General Assembly's 2025 Long Session and 119th US Congress. For more information, please [contact Centralina's Executive Director, Geraldine Gardner](#). Open through September 30th.

[Share Your Priorities](#)

IN THE NEWS

Governor's NCWorks Awards of Distinction

Three individuals in the Centralina region will be recognized by the Governor's NCWorks Awards of Distinction for their efforts in workforce development at the NCWorks Partnership Conference in October. Congratulations to Megan Latzig-Tugnoli with Blum, LLC for being awarded Outstanding Employer, Ashley Carter with Loba-Wakol, Inc. for being awarded Outstanding Family-Friendly Employer and Sarah Campo from Monroe for being awarded Outstanding Teen!

CCFC Celebrates Student Air Quality Projects

The [North Carolina Division of Air Quality](#) recently celebrated the best student projects

from the 2023-2024 AQ-IQ Contest at the North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer. The annual contest asked seventh-grade students to make a project that investigates an air quality challenge and looks for solutions. [Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition \(CCFC\)](#) was on site to celebrate the students' accomplishments and share information about promoting better air quality through promoting the use of alternative fuels in the transportation sector. Congratulations to these young thought leaders!



[View the Winning Projects](#)

NCDOT Customer Service Survey

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is conducting its annual [Customer Service Survey](#). The survey will capture your input about the performance of the state's transportation network and your responses will be used to improve customer service. Questions concern various modes of travel and your experience interacting with the Division of Motor Vehicles. The survey is available online through October 5th. It will take 10-15 minutes to complete.

[View Centralina Job Opportunities](#)

[Access the Member Portal](#)



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