



**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.