



State Legislative Priorities

2025 Long Session

Centralina Regional Council seeks to build relationships with state lawmakers and agency leaders to secure support for key issues impacting local communities and our region. The Centralina Board has set the following priorities to guide engagement and advocacy during the General Assembly's 2025 session.



Key Issues: Monitor Legislation & Funding Levels

Centralina will monitor proposed legislation and funding levels related to the following issues and coordinate with the Executive Board to formulate positions for advocacy purposes as needed.

Transportation & Infrastructure

- Monitor proposed legislation related to regional transportation and infrastructure, including sales tax authorization and a regional transit authority.
- Advocate for project funding that supports CONNECT Beyond implementation.
- Advocate for funding of local projects with regional significance.
- Monitor proposed funding levels in the biennial budget.

Workforce Housing & Homelessness Prevention

- Monitor proposed legislation that impacts the production or preservation of workforce housing and homelessness prevention. Workforce housing is defined here as affordable to households earning up to 100% of the region's Area Median Income or \$106,000 for a family of four and one-person households earning \$74,200.

Local Control & Taxing Authority

- Monitor proposed legislation that seeks to limit or remove local control and/or alter local government taxing authority. Issues could include development and building regulations, street tree and stormwater ordinances, annexation and ETJ issues.

Gaming

- Monitor proposed legislation that references a potential casino location in the region.



Advocate for Funding

Regional Resilience & Pre-Disaster Recovery Funding

Advocate for funding to complete key aspects of the Regional Resilience Collaborative. Proactive planning during “blue-sky” non-emergency conditions saves taxpayer dollars when disaster strikes and ensures counties have a clear path to achieving long-term recovery. Regionally coordinated recovery plans are also designed to align and integrate mitigation actions across counties to prevent or lessen the impacts of future disasters. Funding would be utilized to complete:

- Nine county pre-disaster recovery and/or emergency operations plans that were identified as priority projects under the Regional Resilience Collaborative.
- County-specific plans for eligible hazard mitigation grant projects that mitigate floods, remove debris and support other infrastructure improvements that could lessen the economic and community impact of major storm events and other disasters.



Coordinate Across Associations

NC Association of Regional Councils of Government

Centralina supports the statewide association’s advocacy agenda, including:

- Building partnerships and capacity for COGs to provide financial administration for local governments.
 - *Request for recurring funding to create a financial administration program in each region to assist small local governments with returning to LGC compliant status.*
- Providing ongoing funding for COGs to continue disaster resiliency efforts for communities and establish COGs as the entity to develop regional pre-disaster hazard mitigation plans.
 - *Request for recurring funds to support a full-time recovery and resilience coordinator in each region.*
- Modifying Prosperity Zones to conform to COG regions.
- Building strategic partnerships to improve regional delivery of services.

Additional agenda coordination with the NC League of Municipalities and the NC Association of County Commissioners is forthcoming.

READY TO LEARN MORE?

Reach out to our Government Affairs & Member Engagement Administrator, Kelly Weston, at kweston@centralina.org.



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