



CENTRALINA
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Centralina Celebrates!

Thoughtfully Woven:

The Fabric of Strategic Leadership

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, Board of Delegates Chair
Congressman Tim Moore, U.S. House of Representatives, NC District 14
Jennifer Stepp, City of Gastonia, Centralina Executive Board Member

Centralina Celebrates!

Featuring:

Spark Employee Awards & Recognitions
Region of Excellence Awards
Centralina FY25 Annual Report

Keynote Address

What's Next Is Now: A Community Leaders' Playbook for Managing Change

Ben Hitchings, FAICP, CZO; Principal, Green Heron Planning, LLC

Dinner & Networking

Visit our Common Threads Expo before or after the program.

Gastonia Conference Center | October 8, 2025 | 4 to 7 p.m.

Keynote Address

What's Next Is Now: A Community Leaders' Playbook for Managing Change

Ben Hitchings, FAICP, CZO, will lead an interactive keynote highlighting the disruptive trends shaping our region and share his six-step playbook to help you lead through change with confidence. You'll take away proactive, integrated strategies to strengthen organizational resilience, reduce vulnerabilities and improve readiness that benefit you, your staff and your community.



This session is interactive.
Scan the QR code to participate
or visit [PollEv.com/proact780](https://www.poll-ev.com/proact780).

Ben Hitchings, FAICP, CZO, is the Principal of Green Heron Planning, LLC based in Durham, North Carolina, and a fellow at the UNC School of Government. He has more than 30 years of experience working on planning issues, and has developed award-winning community plans and professional publications.