

Board of Delegates Agenda

Wednesday, February 11, 2015
Hilton Charlotte University Place
8629 JM Keynes Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262

Chairman Michael Johnson will convene a meeting of the **Centralina COG Board of Delegates on Wednesday, February 11, 2015** with a working dinner. He also invites the Delegates to attend a **CCOG Board Orientation and Refresher at 5:15 p.m.**, followed by a networking session and reception with CCOG staff at 6:15 p.m.

Time	Item	Presenter
5:15 p.m. Walden Room	CCOG Board Orientation and Refresher Session: <i>CCOG Directors and staff will give a brief presentation entitled "My Role as a CCOG Delegate."</i>	Jim Prosser and CCOG Directors
6:15 p.m. Outside of Walden Room	Networking and Reception: <i>During the Board of Delegates reception period, CCOG staff will be available to answer questions about the organization's ongoing work in the region.</i>	CCOG Staff
6:30 p.m. Glenwaters Room	Dinner: <i>Please RSVP to Kelly Weston at kweston@centralina.org or (704) 348-2728 by 12 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 so that catering can be arranged.</i>	Kelly Weston
	Call to Order, Welcome & Declaration of Quorum	Michael Johnson
	Amendments to the Agenda (if any)	Michael Johnson
Consent Items: <i>Consent agenda items may be considered in one motion and without discussion except for those items removed by a Board member.</i>		
Item 1 Pages 6 - 9	Approval of the October 8, 2014 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes <i>The minutes of the October 8, 2014 meeting have been sent to all members of the Board of Delegates and should be approved if correct.</i> Action / Recommendation: <i>I move to approve the October 8, 2014 Board of Delegates meeting minutes.</i>	Michael Johnson
Item 2 Pages 10 - 11	Report of Financial Activity for the Period Ending December 31, 2014 <i>The Statement of Activities for the period ending December 31, 2014 reflects the expenditures incurred and revenue earned through 50% of the fiscal year. Revenues and expenditures are in line with the budget to date. The report includes approximately \$178,000 in unfunded expenditures for CONNECT-related close-out activities.</i> <i>Management is meeting with the budget managers and the Board's audit committee to evaluate the financial status and provide recommendations for adjustments.</i> Action / Recommendation: <i>For information and discussion purposes.</i>	Tonya Frye
Item 3 Pages 12 - 16	Amendments to the CCOG Bylaws as Recommended by Legal Counsel and Staff, and as Reviewed by the Executive Board <i>Proposed amendments to CCOG Bylaws were included in the consent agenda for the October 8, 2014 Delegates meeting and received unanimous approval; however, a quorum was not present, so the amendments were not officially adopted and are thus presented for consideration again. The purpose of these amendments is to (a) adjust the timing of presentation of the Nominating Committee's slate of nominees for Officer elections, (b) clarify terminology used regarding municipalities' representation on the Executive Board, and (c) make minor, non-substantive changes (e.g. typos). The specific changes proposed are found in the attached document titled "Centralina Council of Governments Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board of Delegates Consideration October 8, 2014."</i> <i>[Note that a two-thirds majority vote and proper advance notice are both required in order to amend the Bylaws at a meeting at which a quorum is present (see Article XI Amendments of Bylaws).]</i>	Vicki Bott

Board of Delegates Agenda

Time	Item	Presenter
	<p>Action / Recommendation: <i>Legal Counsel and Staff recommend approval of the following motion:</i></p> <p><i>I move that, notice having been properly given in accordance with Article XI of the Centralina Council of Governments Bylaws, the proposed amendments to the Bylaws be approved as shown in the document titled "Centralina Council of Governments Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board of Delegates Consideration October 8, 2014.</i></p> <p><i>Alternatively, the Board may approve the proposed amendments with modifications or decline to approve any amendments. [Any motion to amend will require a quorum and a two-thirds majority vote to pass.]</i></p>	
Regular Business Items:		
<p>Item 4 Page 17</p>	<p>CCOG Nominating Committee Report <i>The Nominating Committee presents a slate of candidates for election of Officers to the CCOG Board of Delegates for 2015. In addition, nominations will be accepted from the floor.</i></p> <p>Chair: Michael Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Statesville Vice Chair: Sarah McAulay, Commissioner, Town of Huntersville Secretary: Patsy Kinsey, Council Member, City of Charlotte Treasurer: Bill Feather, Mayor, Town of Granite Quarry</p> <p>Article IX: OFFICERS - Designation and Term: <i>The Council officers shall consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected and installed at the first regular meeting of the Council each year. Officers shall be elected for a term of one year, or until their successors are elected. In addition, the immediate past Chair of the Council shall continue to serve as an officer of the Council as long as he or she remains a delegate.</i></p>	<p>Jarvis Woodburn, Chairman, Nominating Committee</p>
<p>Item 5 Page 18</p>	<p>Election of CCOG Officers <i>The Board of Delegates will elect its officers for 2015, who shall take office at the end of this meeting.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation: <i>I move to accept the report of the Nominating Committee and elect the slate of candidates by acclamation.</i></p>	<p>Kelly Weston</p>
<p>Item 6 Page 19</p>	<p>Installation of New CCOG Officers <i>The Clerk to the Board will install the newly elected CCOG Officers for 2015.</i></p>	<p>Kelly Weston</p>
<p>Item 7 Page 20</p>	<p>Election by County Caucuses of Municipal Executive Board Members <i>In accordance with CCOG's Bylaws, the county caucuses of municipal Delegates shall elect one of their members to serve from their respective County Areas.</i></p> <p>Article VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD - Membership: <i>The Executive Board shall be composed of: (1) The officers of the Council, (2) the delegate from each County member government, (3) the delegate from the City of Charlotte, and (4) one municipal delegate from each County area representing all municipalities within such county, including one to represent the municipalities in Mecklenburg County other than the City of Charlotte. Provided, however, if a county, a county area, or the City of Charlotte has a delegate who is an officer of the Council, that unit shall not be entitled to an additional representative on the Executive Board.</i></p>	<p>Michael Johnson</p>

Board of Delegates Agenda

Time	Item	Presenter
	<p><i>The municipal delegates from all municipal member government units within each county area (excluding the City of Charlotte delegate as to Mecklenburg County) shall elect from their number by caucus at the first Council meeting of the calendar year, the municipal delegate from the county area to serve on the Executive Board. Only delegates (not alternates) may serve on the Executive Board.</i></p> <p><i>*The county representative, or in their absence, a CCOG staff member, will convene municipal members in absence, but shall not participate in the voting.</i></p>	
<p>Item 8 Page 21</p>	<p>CCOG 2013-2014 Annual Report <i>Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG) is a regional council of cities, towns, and counties working together to help local governments in this region to grow jobs and the economy, improve quality of life, and control the cost of government. Centralina provides services that enable local governments to address the local and regional challenges that affect them, get up-to-date information, save money, access grant funds and better position themselves for long-term economic health. We are one of 16 state-designated councils of government with this responsibility in North Carolina. The Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Annual Report provides a financial report, preceded by program highlights of the ways CCOG is responding to the needs of our member governments, their citizens, and the region.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation: <i>For information and discussion purposes.</i></p>	<p>Michael Johnson</p>
<p>Item 9 Pages 22 - 23</p>	<p>Proposed CCOG Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 <i>The Board Treasurer and Finance Director will present an annual budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the Board's approval in May 2015 when the Council will have more definitive grant information. This proposal will include three budget options – 1) low risk with confirmed revenue support; 2) no merit adjustments; and 3) adjustments for medical insurance. It will also reflect any other direction provided by the Board, for example, continued administration of the Volunteer Transportation Services program.</i></p> <p><i>To comply with the charter, however, Management is submitting a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 placeholder budget for approval. The Executive Board voted to recommend this proposed budget to the Board of Delegates in January 2015. Management is requesting the Board of Delegates' approval of this proposed budget.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation: <i>I move to approve the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Centralina COG annual operating budget ordinance in the amount of \$5,062,901.</i></p> <p>Legal Notice: Charlotte Observer – Run Date: Sunday, February 8, 2015</p> <p><u>Advertised public hearing on the proposed budget for FY 2015-2016:</u> <i>"A proposed FY 2015-2016 budget ordinance of the Centralina Council of Governments has been submitted to the Executive Board and is available for public inspection at the Centralina COG's office located at 525 North Tryon Street, 12th Floor, Charlotte, NC. The Board of Delegates will hold a public hearing on this budget on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Charlotte University Place, 8629 JM Keynes Drive, Charlotte, NC, 28262.</i></p>	<p>Tonya Frye</p>

Board of Delegates Agenda

<p>Item 10 Pages 24 - 25</p>	<p>Proposed CCOG Grant Projects Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 <i>The Board Treasurer and Finance Director will present a grant projects budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the Board's approval in May 2015 when the Council will have more definitive grant information.</i></p> <p><i>To comply with the charter, however, Management is submitting a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 placeholder budget for approval. The Executive Board voted to recommend this proposed budget to the Board of Delegates in January 2015. Management is requesting the Board of Delegates' approval of this proposed budget.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation: <i>I move to approve the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Centralina COG grant projects budget ordinance in the amount of \$15,515,628.</i></p>	<p>Tonya Frye</p>
<p>Item 11 Page 26</p>	<p>Member Assessment for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 <i>The Board Treasurer and Finance Director will present an annual budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the Board's approval in May 2015 when the Council will have more definitive grant information. The budget will reflect membership assessments at a rate of \$0.24 per capita for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. This has been the rate for member assessments since Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The assessments are based on the 2010 North Carolina Census results and will be a minimum of \$750 for all members.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation: <i>I move to set the assessment rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 at \$0.24 per capita with a minimum assessment amount of \$750 per member.</i></p>	<p>Tonya Frye</p>
<p>Item 12 Page 27</p>	<p>Approval of Occupancy Contract Included in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Proposed Operating Budget <i>The proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 includes an appropriation of approximately \$352,000 for occupancy costs associated with the 12th floor office space located at 525 North Tryon Street. Management is requesting the Board of Delegates approve this contractual obligation.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation <i>I move to approve the contractual obligation for the office space in the amount not to exceed \$352,000 included in the proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.</i></p>	<p>Jim Prosser</p>
<p>Item 13 Pages 28 - 40</p>	<p>Resolution to Support the Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan <i>The Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group has completed the first phase of a Basin-wide Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP). The Master Plan provides a framework for effective management and stewardship through regional partnership and cooperation. The recommendations in the Master Plan are designed to support the growing needs of the region into the next century.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The complete plan, an executive summary, and other related documents are available at: http://catawbawatereewmg.org/projects.html</i> ○ <i>A recording of a webinar and slides presented that go deeper into this topic are posted at: http://www.centralina.org/regional-planning/energy-enviroment/water-groups/ or www.catawbawatereewmg.org</i> <p><i>Throughout the Fall of 2014 and January 2015 CW WMG Chair Barry Gullet has</i></p>	<p>Jason Wager</p>

	<p><i>presented this document and its major outputs to our Executive Board and Board of Delegates. At these meetings he and Centralina staff have identified comments, questions, concerns, or requests for additional information that will be considered in a planned WSMP addendum process planned for the Spring of 2015. This input is included in the attached.</i></p> <p><i>Of the 18 public water utilities in North and South Carolina which operate water intakes on either a reservoir or along the main stem of the Catawba river, 13 resolutions have been approved. Four groups have not formally considered the resolution yet. Lincoln County is considering the resolution and has not made a final decision at this time.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation <i>Vote on Adoption of a Resolution of Support for this Plan.</i></p>	
<p>Item 14 Pages 41 - 44</p>	<p>CONNECT Our Future Update <i>Over the past three years, the CONNECT Our Future process was guided by a 94 member public-private Consortium and the leadership of two regional councils (Centralina COG and Catawba Regional COG) to help us better prepare for the projected population growth within our region.</i></p> <p><i>The publicly driven process engaged over 8,000 residents throughout the 14 county region of North and South Carolina to help create a Regional Growth Framework to guide future growth of our region. The preferred growth concept affirmed by the residents and the CONNECT Consortium supports:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Major (re)investment in walkable downtowns, mixed-use activity centers, walkable neighborhoods, and major transit corridors</i> • <i>More housing choices, travel choices, open space/farmland preservation, and job centers</i> • <i>More efficient and cost-effective provision of local government services—more “bang for the buck”</i> <p><i>The CONNECT Our Future Regional Growth Framework includes over 80 different tools and strategies to help us realize the vision created by the residents of the 14-county region. These tools will be available as a magazine-style report and interactive website for use by our communities.</i></p> <p><i>Staff will present key findings and preview available tools/resources at the meeting.</i></p> <p>Action / Recommendation <i>Receive as information.</i></p>	<p>Sushil Nepal</p>
<p>Item 15 Page 45</p>	<p>Resolution of Appreciation – Rebecca Yarbrough</p>	<p>Michael Johnson</p>
<p>5 minutes</p>	<p>Comments from the Board of Delegates</p>	<p>Board Members</p>
<p>5 minutes</p>	<p>Comments from the Chair</p>	<p>Michael Johnson</p>
<p>5 minutes</p>	<p>Comments from the Executive Director</p>	<p>Jim Prosser</p>
<p>8:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Michael Johnson</p>

Centralina Council of Governments complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Centralina Council of Governments will make reasonable accommodations in all programs/services to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Centralina Council of Governments' 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, 525 North Tryon Street, 12th Floor, Charlotte, NC 28202, phone (704) 348-2728. Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: www.centralina.org.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 1



**Board of Delegates Minutes
October 8, 2014**

Jurisdiction	Represented By	Jurisdictions Not Represented
Albemarle	Martha Sue Hall	Ansonville
Anson County	Jarvis Woodburn	Charlotte
Badin	Deloris Chambers	Cherryville
Belmont	Ron Foulk	Cleveland
Bessemer City	Kay McCathen/Jean Floyd	Dallas
China Grove	Charles Seaford	Davidson
Cornelius	Thurman Ross	East Spencer
Cramerton	Will Cauthen	Faith
Gaston County	Joe Carpenter	Gastonia
Granite Quarry	Mike Brinkley	Harmony
Huntersville	Sarah McAulay	Hemby Bridge
Iredell County	Ken Robertson	High Shoals
Landis	James Furr	Indian Trail
Mint Hill	Richard Newton	Kings Mountain
Spencer	Jody Everhart	Lincoln County
Stanly County	Lindsey Dunevant	Lincolnton
Statesville	Michael Johnson	Locust
		Lowell
		Marshville
		Marvin
		Matthews
		McAdenville
		Mecklenburg County
		Midland
		Mineral Springs
		Misenheimer
		Monroe
		Mooresville
		Morven
		Mount Holly
		Mount Pleasant
		New London
		Norwood
		Oakboro
		Pineville
		Ranlo
		Richfield
		Salisbury
		Spencer Mountain
		Stallings

		Stanley
		Troutman
		Union County
		Unionville
		Wadesboro
		Waxhaw
		Weddington
		Wesley Chapel
		Wingate

1. Call to Order

Chairman Michael Johnson called the meeting to order. Executive Director Jim Prosser verified and confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

3. Consent Agenda

There being no requests to remove items from the Consent Agenda, Vice Chair Sarah McAulay made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn and carried unanimously.

1. Minutes from August 13, 2014.
2. Amendments to the CCOG Bylaws as recommended by Legal Counsel, staff, and the Executive Board.

4. Career Headlight Overview

David Hollars gave a presentation on Centralina COG’s Career Headlight tool. He noted that the system was designed to aid students and career-seekers in locating jobs and to build economic and workforce development within the region. As directed by the Delegates at the last Board meeting, CCOG staff developed a Career Headlight brochure describing the program.

Council Member Martha Sue Hall made a motion to endorse Career Headlight as a Workforce and Economic Development System to support jobs, economic growth and quality of life within the Centralina Region and Delegates commitment to communicate the Career Headlight system to each members governing body. Commissioner Joe Carpenter seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

In response to Commissioner Ken Robertson’s question, Mr. Hollars explained that CCOG is asking Delegates to communicate the value of Career Headlight to their communities.

5. Volunteer Transportation Services Update

Katie Kutcher gave a presentation on the Volunteer Transportation Services program, which provides transportation to seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities.

In response to Commissioner Carpenter's question, Ms. Kutcher explained that the service is not affiliated with Meals on Wheels, but noted that both programs provide transportation to individuals who are unable to leave their homes.

Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to endorse Volunteer Transportation Services as a regional transportation option initiative that improves quality of life and controls the cost of government. Commissioner Thurman Ross seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

6. CONNECT Update

Mr. Prosser gave a brief update on the CONNECT Our Future project.

Mayor Pro Tem Deloris Chambers made a motion to request member communities to update State and Federal legislators on the CONNECT regional growth concept and strategies. Commissioner McAulay seconded the motion.

Council Member Hall expressed concern about a lack of time for communicating the value of the CONNECT project to State legislators before the General Assembly convenes in January. She suggested contacting new legislators immediately after elections in November.

Chairman Hall noted that Delegates should communicate the priorities of the CONNECT project to their colleagues in their communities.

The motion was carried unanimously.

7. Catawba – Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan Presentation

Jason Wager and Barry Gullet, Chair of the Catawba Water Management Group, gave a presentation on the Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan.

In response to Commissioner Robertson's questions, Mr. Gullet explained that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement governs many aspects of lakes in the region. He added that while the Master Plan is not a regulatory document, it provides the framework for ensuring that the region does not reach its water supply limits.

Mr. Wager stated that CCOG will present a webinar on October 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. that will discuss the Master Plan and the role of local governments in the Centralina region.

Chairman Johnson asked Mr. Gullet to keep delegates in the Yadkin River Basin updated on developments in that part of the region.

Mr. Prosser noted that the Delegates will be asked to formally endorse the Master Plan at the Board's February meeting.

8. CCOG's Conference – "Creative Solutions for Thriving Communities"

Mr. Prosser stated that CCOG will need the Delegates' assistance in promoting the conference.

Emily Parker gave a presentation on the conference. She noted that CCOG will send out marketing materials for Delegates to share with their fellow council members/commissioners. She added that CCOG is asking for the Delegates' assistance in reaching its goal of 100 registrants for the month.

Commissioner McAulay made a motion to request Delegates to seek registration by elected officials, Board and Commission members, and staff in their communities. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

9. Comments from the Board of Delegates

There were no comments from the Board of Delegates.

10. Comments from the Chair

Chairman Johnson noted that tonight was Treasurer Lindsey Dunevant's last Board of Delegates meeting, given that he is not seeking re-election this November. He thanked Commissioner Dunevant for his many years of service and dedication to CCOG and noted that his opinion has always been highly valued among fellow Board members.

11. Comments from the Executive Director

There were no comments from the Executive Director.

12. Adjournment

With no further business, Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting.

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Centralina Council of Governments

Item 2



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:	X	Regular:	
Submitting Person:	Tonya Frye	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Tonya Frye	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2716			
		Email:	tfrye@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Jim Prosser	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	jprosser@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Finance	Department Head Approval:				
Board Expectation: <i>(required action or responsibility expected from Board members)</i>						
The required action from the Board of Delegates is a review of financial information provided and comment on direction of investments for the remainder of the year.						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
The Statement of Activities for the period ending December 31, 2014 reflects the expenditures incurred and revenue earned through 50% of the fiscal year. Revenues and expenditures are in line with the budget to date. The report includes approximately \$178,000 in unfunded expenditures for CONNECT-related close-out activities.						
Management is meeting with the budget managers and the Board's audit committee to evaluate the financial status and provide recommendations for adjustments.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
Action / Recommendation:						
For information and discussion purposes.						
Time Sensitivity <i>(none or explain):</i>	As noted.					
Budget Impact <i>(if applicable):</i>	As noted.					
List of Attachments <i>(if any):</i>	Statement of Activities (Unaudited)					

**Statement of Activities (Unaudited)
for FY2014-2015 Operating Budget
for Period Ended December 31, 2014**

	FY2013-2014 Audited Activities	FY2014-2015 Adopted Annual Budget	FY2014-2015 Actual to-Date	% Earned or Incurred to-Date	Budget to-Date	To-Date Period Variance
OPERATING REVENUES						
Program Revenues						
Federal Grants	5,125,203	4,805,721	1,367,590	28%	2,402,861	(1,035,270)
State Grants	37,171	334,749	29,234	9%	167,375	(138,140)
Technical Assistance Projects	367,278	421,943	201,805	48%	210,972	(9,167)
Contracts	32,934	19,947	7,153	36%	9,974	(2,820)
Program Revenue	209,181	252,224	23,588	9%	126,112	(102,524)
Total Program Revenue	<u>5,771,767</u>	<u>5,834,584</u>	<u>1,629,371</u>		<u>2,917,292</u>	<u>(1,287,921)</u>
Other Revenues						
Member Dues Support	759,278	726,252	758,766	104%	363,126	395,640
Interest and General Revenue	223	3,000	139	5%	1,500	(1,361)
Sales Revenue	115,778	50,000	77,608	155%	25,000	52,608
Total Other Revenues	<u>875,279</u>	<u>779,252</u>	<u>836,512</u>		<u>389,626</u>	<u>446,886</u>
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	<u><u>6,647,046</u></u>	<u><u>6,613,836</u></u>	<u><u>2,465,883</u></u>		<u><u>3,306,918</u></u>	<u><u>(841,035)</u></u>
OPERATING EXPENDITURES						
Board and Executive Committee	203,809	232,123	106,694	46%	116,062	9,368
General Governance	1,589,845	1,477,238	763,887	52%	738,619	(25,268)
CONNECT Sustainable Communities Initiative	2,337,042	1,550,935	913,431	59%	775,468	(137,964)
Information Technology Division	95,745	219,456	106,867	49%	109,728	2,861
Community and Economic Development	579,322	590,349	302,338	51%	295,175	(7,164)
Planning, Assistance, and Administration	864,558	911,341	465,934	51%	455,671	(10,263)
Area Agency on Aging	1,933,558	1,968,303	1,075,307	55%	984,152	(91,155)
Workforce Development	1,023,323	1,455,349	440,108	30%	727,675	287,567
Indirect Costs Representation	(1,548,707)	(1,791,258)	(943,489)	53%	(895,629)	47,860
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	<u><u>7,078,495</u></u>	<u><u>6,613,836</u></u>	<u><u>3,231,076</u></u>		<u><u>3,306,918</u></u>	<u><u>75,842</u></u>

CENTRALINA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
January 14, 2015



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 3



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:	X	Regular:	
Submitting Person:	Vicki Bott	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Vicki Bott	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2702			
		Email:	vbott@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Bill McNair	Phone Number/Ext:	704-375-0057			
		Email:	wmcnair@slk.com			
Submitting Department:	General Government	Department Head Approval:	Jim Prosser			
Board Expectation: <i>(required action or responsibility expected from Board members)</i>						
Consider reaffirmation of proposed amendments to the Bylaws as recommended by Legal Counsel and Staff, and as reviewed by the Executive Board.						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
<p>Proposed amendments to CCOG Bylaws were included in the consent agenda for the October 8, 2014 Delegates meeting and received unanimous approval; however, a quorum was not present, so the amendments were not officially adopted and are thus presented for consideration again. The purpose of these amendments is to (a) adjust the timing of presentation of the Nominating Committee’s slate of nominees for Officer elections, (b) clarify terminology used regarding municipalities’ representation on the Executive Board, and (c) make minor, non-substantive changes (e.g. typos). The specific changes proposed are found in the attached document titled “Centralina Council of Governments Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board of Delegates Consideration October 8, 2014.”</p> <p><i>[Note that a two-thirds majority vote and proper advance notice are both required in order to amend the Bylaws at a meeting at which a quorum is present (see Article XI Amendments of Bylaws).]</i></p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>A) Changes to Article IX Officers, Section B “Nominating Committee and Election”: Through an oversight, the May 2014 Bylaws amendments did not include a change concerning the Nominating Committee’s duties that is needed for consistency with the changes made to the timing of the Officer elections. The May 2014 amendments moved the Officer elections to the first meeting of each calendar year, but inadvertently left the Nominating Committee’s report of nominees in the last meeting of the calendar year. Since the intent of the original Bylaws was to have these happen at the same meeting, the recommendation is to change the Bylaws to state that nominations are to be presented at the meeting at which Officer elections are held.</p> <p>The proposed amendments make no changes regarding nominations from the floor or to the elections themselves.</p>						
<p>B) Changes to Article VII Executive Board, Section A “Membership”: The recommended changes provide consistency in referring to “County area” to mean the municipal jurisdictions within a given county who are entitled between them to one representative on the Executive Board, and in using “County” alone to mean the county governments themselves that are each entitled to one representative on the Executive Board.</p>						
<p>C) Changes to Articles III.C, IX.A, and XII: If the changes described above are acceptable, this presents an opportune time to correct some non-substantive typos and make minor stylistic changes.</p>						
Action / Recommendation:						
<p>Legal Counsel and Staff recommend approval of the following motion:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“I move that, notice having been properly given in accordance with Article XI of the Centralina</p>						



Council of Governments Bylaws, the proposed amendments to the Bylaws be approved as shown in the document titled “Centralina Council of Governments Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board of Delegates Consideration October 8, 2014”.

Alternatively, the Board may approve the proposed amendments with modifications or decline to approve any amendments. *[Any motion to amend will require a quorum and a two-thirds majority vote to pass.]*

<p>Time Sensitivity <i>(none or explain):</i></p>	<p>The proposed amendment to Article IX.B is time-sensitive, as it will bring into conformity with the Bylaws the presentation at this Board meeting of the Nominating Committee’s report for election of officers.</p> <p>The other proposed amendments are not time-sensitive.</p>
<p>Budget Impact <i>(if applicable):</i></p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>List of Attachments <i>(if any):</i></p>	<p>Centralina Council of Governments Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board of Delegates Consideration October 8, 2014</p>

CENTRALINA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board of Delegates Consideration October 8, 2014

Legal Counsel and Staff recommend and the Executive Board has reviewed the proposed amendments to Article III.C, VII.A, IX.A-B, and XII of the Bylaws shown below in red-lined format.

If approved at the October 8, 2014 meeting of the Board of Delegates by a two-thirds majority vote, and provided that a quorum is present, the amended Bylaws will be signed by the Chair of the Council (as attested by the Clerk) under the statement below:

“The foregoing Bylaws, as amended this date, were duly adopted by the Centralina Council of Governments at its regular meeting held October 8, 2014, and shall be effective upon adoption.”

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

...

C. Withdrawal of a Member: Any member of the Council may withdraw or terminate its membership on the Council effective at the end of any fiscal year (June 30) by timely notifying all members of the Council of its intent to terminate its membership. Notice shall consist of mailing a certified copy of the resolution of withdrawal from the member’s governing body to the delegate of each Council member. This notice shall be sent by U.S. Mail no later than January 1 preceding the end of the fiscal year for which the member’s withdrawal is to be effective. A member withdrawing shall not be entitled to any rebate of dues or assessments for the current fiscal year. Timely and proper notice of withdrawal may not be waived by the Council. Upon the failure of such member to give the prescribed notice in compliance with the Charter and these Bylaws, such member shall continue to be a member until the end of the fiscal year in which timely and proper notice is given. Such member shall also be responsible for the payment of all ~~r~~ dues and assessments until the end of the fiscal year for which a timely and proper notice was given. Any jurisdiction which has withdrawn from the Council and reapplies for membership in the Council shall p~~a~~y any delinquent dues or assessments before being permitted to rejoin the Council.

...

Article VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. Membership: The Executive Board shall be composed of: (1) The officers of the Council, (2) the delegate from each County member government, (3) the delegate from the City of Charlotte, and (4) one municipal delegate from each County area representing all municipalities within such eCounty area, including one to represent the municipalities in the Mecklenburg County area other than the City of Charlotte. Provided, however, if a county, a eCounty area, or the City of Charlotte has a delegate who is an officer of the Council, that unit shall not be entitled to an additional representative on the Executive Board. The municipal delegates from all municipal member government units within each eCounty area (excluding the City of Charlotte delegate as to the Mecklenburg County area) shall elect from their number by caucus at the first Council meeting of the calendar year, the municipal delegate from the eCounty area to serve on the Executive Board. Only delegates (not alternates) may serve on the Executive Board.

...

Article IX: OFFICERS

A. Designation and Term: The Council officers shall consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected and installed at the first regular meeting of the Council each year. Officers shall ~~be elected~~serve for a term of one year, or until their successors are elected. In addition, the immediate past Chair of the Council shall continue to serve as an officer of the Council as long as he or she remains a delegate.

B. Nominating Committee and Election: The Executive Board, ~~at or~~ prior to ~~its last regular meeting each year~~the Council meeting each year at which elections are to be held, shall appoint a ~~n~~Nominating eCommittee of three (3) delegates. At the Council's meeting each

~~year at which the elections are to be held, and prior to the election of officers by the Council at that meeting, the Nominating Committee~~ who shall submit to the Council the names of proposed officers ~~at the last regular meeting of the Council each year, at which meeting the election shall be held.~~ Nominations from the floor may be made. The person receiving the highest number of votes cast for each office shall be deemed elected.

...

Article XII: NOTICES

Whenever the Charter, these Bylaws, a resolution of the Council or the laws of this state require (a) the giving of notice to the delegates of any meeting of the Council or of any other matter requiring notice to a member government or its delegate, or (b) require the dissemination of agendas, budgets or other materials to a member government or its delegate, such notice shall be written and may be disseminated by mail or electronically as authorized by the Electronic Commerce Act (N.C.G.S. §66-58.1 et seq.) and the Uniform Electronic Transaction Act (N.C.G.S. §66-33-311 et seq.). Such dissemination of notice shall be deemed to have been given when same has been either (a) addressed to the delegate at the mailing address certified to the Council as the mailing address of such delegate, and deposited, postage prepaid, in the United States mail, or (b) transmitted electronically to the electronic address of such delegate theretofore certified to the Council.

[End of proposed Amendments.]



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 4

Presentation to be made at Board of Delegates meeting.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 5

Presentation to be made at Board of Delegates meeting.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 6

Presentation to be made at Board of Delegates meeting.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 7

Presentation to be made at Board of Delegates meeting.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 8

Presentation to be made at Board of Delegates meeting.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 9



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Tonya Frye	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Tonya Frye	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2716			
		Email:	tfrye@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Jim Prosser	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	jprosser@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Finance	Department Head Approval:				
Board Expectation: <i>(required action or responsibility expected from Board members)</i>						
The required action from the Board members is approval of the Centralina COG Annual Operating Budget Ordinance in the amount of \$5,062,901 for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016.						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
<p>The Board Treasurer and Finance Director will present an annual budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the Board's approval in May 2015 when the Council will have more definitive grant information. This proposal will include three budget options – 1) low risk with confirmed revenue support; 2) no merit adjustments; and 3) adjustments for medical insurance. It will also reflect any other direction provided by the Board, for example, continued administration of the Volunteer Transportation Services program.</p> <p>To comply with the charter, however, Management is submitting a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 placeholder budget for approval. The Executive Board voted to recommend this proposed budget to the Board of Delegates in January 2015. Management is requesting the Board of Delegates's approval of this proposed budget.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
In Item IX Financial, D of the Charter Resolution, the budget for the Council must be adopted by the Council no later than April 15 th of each year. The Board of Delegates meets in February and then again in May, so the adoption must occur in February 2015 to comply with the Charter.						
Action / Recommendation:						
I move to approve the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Centralina COG annual operating budget ordinance in the amount of \$5,062,901.						
Time Sensitivity <i>(none or explain):</i>						
Budget Impact <i>(if applicable):</i>	As noted.					
List of Attachments <i>(if any):</i>	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 operating budget proposal					

Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016 Proposed Annual Budget Ordinance

ANTICIPATED REVENUES	FY2013-2014 Final Budget	FY2013-2014 Audited Actuals	FY2014-2015 Amended* Budget	FY2015-2016 Proposed Budget
Program Revenues				
Federal Grants	7,184,939	5,125,203	4,805,721	3,254,786
State Grants	371,407	37,171	334,749	334,749
Technical Assistance Projects	401,588	367,278	421,943	421,943
Contracts	22,278	32,934	19,947	19,947
Program Revenue	316,169	209,181	252,224	252,224
Total Program Revenue	8,296,381	5,771,767	5,834,584	4,283,649
Other Revenues				
Member Dues Support	726,252	759,278	726,252	726,252
Interest Revenue	3,000		3,000	3,000
Sales Revenue	75,000	116,001	50,000	50,000
Total Other Revenues	804,252	875,279	779,252	779,252
TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES	9,100,633	6,647,046	6,613,836	5,062,901
EXPENSE APPROPRIATIONS				
Board and Executive Committee	231,694	203,809	232,123	232,123
General Governance	1,763,445	1,589,845	1,477,238	1,477,238
CONNECT Sustainable Communities Initiative	2,994,992	2,337,042	1,550,935	-
Information Technology Division	112,143	95,745	219,456	219,456
Community and Economic Development	648,398	579,322	590,349	590,349
Planning Department	880,503	864,558	911,341	911,341
Area Agency on Aging	1,959,265	1,933,558	1,968,303	1,968,303
Workforce Development	2,386,741	1,023,323	1,455,349	1,455,349
Indirect Costs Representation	(1,876,548)	(1,548,707)	(1,791,256)	(1,791,256)
TOTAL EXPENSE APPROPRIATIONS	9,100,633	7,078,495	6,613,836	5,062,901

*As of September 10, 2014



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 10



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Tonya Frye	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Tonya Frye	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2716			
		Email:	tfrye@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Jim Prosser	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	jprosser@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Finance	Department Head Approval:				
Board Expectation: <i>(required action or responsibility expected from Board members)</i>						
The required action from the Board of Delegates is approval of the Centralina COG Grant Projects Budget Ordinance in the amount of \$15,515,628 for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016.						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
<p>The Board Treasurer and Finance Director will present a grant projects budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the Board's approval in May 2015 when the Council will have more definitive grant information.</p> <p>To comply with the charter, however, Management is submitting a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 placeholder budget for approval. The Executive Board voted to recommend this proposed budget to the Board of Delegates in January 2015. Management is requesting the Board of Delegates's approval of this proposed budget.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
In Item IX Financial, D of the Charter Resolution, the budget for the Council must be adopted by the Council no later than April 15 th of each year. The Board of Delegates meets in February and then again in May, so the adoption must occur in February 2015 to comply with the Charter.						
Action / Recommendation:						
I move to approve the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Centralina COG grant projects budget ordinance in the amount of \$15,515,628.						
Time Sensitivity <i>(none or explain):</i>						
Budget Impact <i>(if applicable):</i>	As noted.					
List of Attachments <i>(if any):</i>	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 grant projects budget proposal					

Fiscal Year 2015 -2016 Proposed Grant Projects Budget Proposal

<u>Program</u>	<u>FY2014-2015 Adopted Budget</u>	<u>FY2015-2016 Proposed Budget</u>
Workforce Development		
Adult Services Program Year 2014	1,506,714	-
Dislocated Worker Program Year 2014	1,667,991	-
Youth Services Program Year 2014	1,403,267	-
Adult Services Program Year 2015		1,506,714
Dislocated Worker Program Year 2015		1,667,991
Youth Services Program Year 2015		1,403,267
	<u>4,577,972</u>	<u>4,577,972</u>
Area Agency on Aging		
HCC Block Grant	8,556,735	8,556,735
USDA Supplement	700,000	700,000
Title III-B Legal	76,730	76,730
Family Caregiver	550,968	550,968
Disease Prevention/Health Promotion	45,000	45,000
State Senior Center General Purpose	50,000	50,000
Title V	938,223	938,223
Heat Fan Relief	20,000	20,000
	<u>10,937,656</u>	<u>10,937,656</u>
Total Grant Projects Budget	<u>15,515,628</u>	<u>15,515,628</u>



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 11



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Tonya Frye	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Tonya Frye	Phone Number/Ext:	2716			
		Email:	tfrye@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Jim Prosser	Phone Number/Ext:	2703			
		Email:	jprosser@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Finance	Department Head Approval:				
Board Expectation: <i>(required action or responsibility expected from Board members)</i>						
The required action from the Board members is approval to set the assessment rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 at \$0.24 per capita with a minimum assessment amount of \$750 per member.						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
The Board Treasurer and Finance Director will present an annual budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the Board's approval in May 2015 when the Council will have more definitive grant information. The budget will reflect membership assessments at a rate of \$0.24 per capita for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. This has been the rate for member assessments since Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The assessments are based on the 2010 North Carolina Census results and will be a minimum of \$750 for all members.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
In Item IX Financial, D of the Charter Resolution, the assessment for each member governmental unit must be adopted by the Council no later than April 15 th of each year. The Board of Delegates meets in February and then again in May, so the adoption must occur in February 2015 to comply with the Charter.						
Action / Recommendation:						
I move to set the assessment rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 at \$0.24 per capita with a minimum assessment amount of \$750 per member.						
Time Sensitivity (none or explain):	As noted.					
Budget Impact (if applicable):	As noted.					
List of Attachments (if any):	None					



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 12



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Tonya Frye	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Jim Prosser	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2716			
		Email:	tfrye@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Jim Prosser	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2703			
		Email:	jprosser@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Finance	Department Head Approval:				
Board Expectation: <i>(required action or responsibility expected from Board members)</i>						
The required action from the Board of Delegates is approval of the contractual obligation for the office space in the amount not to exceed \$352,000 included in the proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
The proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 includes an appropriation of approximately \$352,000 for occupancy costs associated with the 12 th floor office space located at 525 North Tryon Street. Management is requesting the Board of Delegates approve this contractual obligation.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
The lease for Centralina Office space was approved in May 2010 and extends to May 2018. While the lease has been approved for this period of time, approval of the expenditure to support the lease payment must be approved annually.						
In Article IV: Contracts, Expenditure of Funds, Execution of Documents, A. Approval of Contracts of the Bylaws, contracts which relate to the use of local funds in the amount or value of more than \$200,000, shall first be submitted to and approved by the Executive Board of the Council. The occupancy contract is over \$200,000 and must, therefore, be approved by the Board.						
In anticipation of the lease expiration in May of 2018, staff will begin to develop options to renewing this lease. Those options will include building new, purchase existing, leasing other space and renewing existing lease. The staff will seek establishing a Board Committee to help guide this process which is expected to begin within the next six months.						
Action / Recommendation:						
I move to approve the contractual obligation for the office space in the amount not to exceed \$352,000 included in the proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.						
Time Sensitivity (none or explain):	As noted.					
Budget Impact (if applicable):	As noted.					
List of Attachments (if any):	None					



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 13



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015		Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Jason Wager	Presentation Time (est.):	5 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Jason Wager and Barry Gullet	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2707			
		Email:	jwager@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Michelle Nance	Phone Number/Ext:	704-348-2709			
		Email:	mnance@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Planning	Department Head Approval:	<i>Michelle E. Nance</i>			
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
Resolution to Support The Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>The Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group has completed the first phase of a Basin-wide Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP). The Master Plan provides a framework for effective management and stewardship through regional partnership and cooperation. The recommendations in the Master Plan are designed to support the growing needs of the region into the next century.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The complete plan, an executive summary, and other related documents are available at: http://catawbawatereewmg.org/projects.html ○ A recording of a webinar and slides presented that go deeper into this topic are posted at: http://www.centralina.org/regional-planning/energy-environment/water-groups/ or www.catawbawatereewmg.org <p>Throughout the Fall of 2014 and January 2015 CW WMG Chair Barry Gullet has presented this document and its major outputs to our Executive Board and Board of Delegates. At these meetings he and Centralina staff have identified comments, questions, concerns, or requests for additional information that will be considered in a planned WSMP addendum process planned for the Spring of 2015. This input is included in the attached.</p> <p>Of the 18 public water utilities in North and South Carolina which operate water intakes on either a reservoir or along the main stem of the Catawba river, 13 resolutions have been approved. Four groups have not formally considered the resolution yet. Lincoln County is considering the resolution and has not made a final decision at this time.</p>						
Action / Recommendation:						
Vote on Adoption of a Resolution of Support for this Plan.						
Time Sensitivity (none or explain):	None					
Budget Impact (if applicable):						
List of Attachments (if any):	<p>Resolution to Support the Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan</p> <p>Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan: Questions, Comments, and Concerns</p>					

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE

**CATAWBA-WATEREE RIVER BASIN WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN
(DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2015)**

AS DEVELOPED BY THE CATAWBA-WATEREE WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP

WHEREAS, Centralina Council of Governments and others depend on the Catawba-Wateree River Basin for a safe, reliable drinking water supply; and

WHEREAS, recent engineering studies have indicated significant water supply limitations as soon as mid-century (~Year 2050) in the Catawba-Wateree River and its eleven reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, water is a critical resource for sustaining the economic, environmental, and social well-being of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group has completed this Master Plan to secure a more sustainable water supply for future generations; and

WHEREAS, implementing actions called for in this Master Plan could take decades to successfully complete; and

WHEREAS, the input and concerns gathered through engagement of the region's local government representatives will be considered by the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group in future planned addendums to the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, we believe the Master Plan findings and recommendations achieve the goal of protecting, preserving, and extending the available water supply for all those that depend, or will depend, on this Catawba-Wateree River Basin for a safe, sustainable water supply; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Delegates of Centralina Council of Governments hereby supports the 2014 Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan, the recommendations presented therein, and future recommendations to be considered as they are presented and available during the plan's implementation.

Adopted this 11th day of February 2015.

Chair, CCOG Board of Delegates

Clerk to the Board

Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan

Questions, Comments, and Concerns

The below feedback was gathered through three different venues including COG Executive Board meetings, a Board of Delegate meeting, and a webinar. Last fall a presentation was given by Barry Gullet, Chair of the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group, to both the Executive Board and Board of Delegates on the recently completed Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP). This was also accompanied by a brief context presentation of the Role of Communities Across the Region in Cross-Basin, Multi-jurisdictional Water Resource Planning provided by Jason Wager, Centralina COG Planning Program Supervisor—Sustainability. Pursuant to this, a more robust webinar provided greater detail and more extensive responses to participant questions. Finally, additional feedback was received at the January 2015 Executive Board meeting. All questions and feedback are included below, broken out by event and listed chronologically.

COG Executive Board, September 10, 2014

Impoundments- What might their role be in assuring and impact on quantity?

How does the WSMP address water loss thru existing utility systems?

How will property values along our water sources be impacted and in what ways does the WSMP address this?

Now that the initial WSMP is completed, what comes next?:

Can a webinar to review report w/ COG membership in greater detail be provided?

What are the impacts on Mountain Island Lake specifically (as a major water source)?

COG Board of Delegates, October 8, 2014

Who owns the water?

Can you clarify/explain the differences in projections from other planning efforts, such as the FERC process in the Catawba basin, regarding future availability of the water supply?

What impact does the Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan have on IBT issues?

Webinar: Water Supply Master Plan for the Catawba-Wateree River, October 27, 2014

Questions:

1. What is impact on Mountain Island Lake as a water source?
2. Why was 2100 chosen as an end date for the study? Are there any components of the plan that look at long term sustainability beyond 2100?
3. Slide 14 stated that inflow is 3,752 mgd—is this number in addition to each of the individual reservoirs?
4. Is there any awareness of comparable work being conducted on any other basins in the region?
5. How can we get copies of the slides of this webinar? [A full recording of the webinar is also available at the Centralina link]

<http://www.centralina.org/regional-planning/energy-environment/water-groups/>
or www.catawbawatereewmg.org

COG Executive Board, January 14, 2015

The following additional inputs were received at the presentation of the “Resolution to Support The Catawba-Wateree River Basin Water Supply Master Plan as Developed By the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group.” Specifically, comments were received from the Catawba River Keeper and delegate Martin Oakes of Lincoln County. These comments are included below.

I would like to speak in opposition to Item 8. The following are my comments:

1) I've heard this presentation twice now, read every page of the "plan", and have a copy of the water model on my computer (my last 15 years in business was as a computer model builder). The model permits Lake Norman water levels to be 2 ft BELOW the drought of record. Lakefront members on the board should remember how bad that was and just add another 2 ft.

2) There is NO plan to handle drought conditions. On p193-194 of the plan it essentially says that during a drought "we'll do something".

4) The thirteen "boards" to which have approved are the ones which own the water utilities that make up CWWMG. No other boards (e.g. Mecklenburg County, Iredell County, Catawba County) have been consulted. Lincoln County was presented this plan and did not approve it but tabled it pending a full discussion between the Lake Norman Marine Commissioner and CWWMG, which hasn't happened.

5) Despite the fancy video of boating on the Lake, the plan contains NO mention of recreational uses of the lake, nor of any effect on lake businesses such as marinas.

6) Finally, you are being asked to approve a 300+ page document, and references to a computer model which very few can understand. This is reminiscent of Nancy Pelosi telling Congress that they have to pass the Affordable Care Act in order to see what's in it.

*Martin Oakes
Commissioner, Lincoln County*



January 12, 2015

Centralina Council of Governments
c/o Mr. Jason Wager
525 North Tryon Street, 12th Floor
Charlotte, NC 28202

Re: Comments on Water Supply Master Plan

Jason:

Thank you for allowing us an opportunity to provide input on the Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) before the plan is voted on by your Executive Committee and the general members. I appreciate your willingness to forward our comments to your members. We remain willing to present our comments in-person or to be present to answer any questions about our comments.

The Catawba-Wateree River Basin (the "Basin") has been identified by various organizations as one of the most stressed, endangered and threatened river basins in the United States. It is also one of the fastest growing regions in the U.S. We complement the communities, water utilities and Duke Energy for attempting to develop a plan to assure that the residents of the region have a sustainable supply of clean water for the future. The members of the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group should be lauded for their foresight in addressing this issue and their conscientious hard work to develop a plan. We are particularly enthusiastic about the recommendations for greater water conservation by local communities and changes to speed up the response to low-inflow situations. Nonetheless, we do have questions about whether the plan does enough to address future water threats. Our questions and concerns about the plan should not be perceived as criticism of the individuals who worked on the plan. We simply want to make sure that the plan is the best possible plan based upon the best possible assumptions and predictions about the future of the basin.

At the outset, it should be acknowledged that the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation approaches this plan from a very different perspective than the members of the Water Management Group (water utilities and Duke Energy), which use water from the Catawba-Wateree River to supply

A WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE® Member
421 Minuet Ln Ste 205 P.O. Box 11838
Charlotte NC 28217-2784 Charlotte, NC 28220
Phone: 704-679-9494 Fax: 704-679-9559
www.catawbariverkeeper.org



their customers with electricity and water. Like most citizens of the region, in addition to depending on the River for electricity and water, most of our members make use of the River and streams in the region for recreation, have homes whose value depends in part on an adequate supply of clean water in the River, and believe that the River is important for the health of ecosystem. Moreover, many of our members operate businesses that depend on the River.

Although we support many aspects of the proposed plan (*e.g.*, water conservation), and it makes sense to begin implementing these aspects of the plan as soon as possible, we believe that the plan does not go far enough to address the water needs of the region and that it is premature to approve the document as a final master plan to address the water needs of the region for the foreseeable future. We recommend that the Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG) support some of the recommendations of the plan as preliminary recommendations, but direct the Water Management Group to do the following things before finalizing the WSMP:

- finalize the water model on which the plan is based,
- give greater consideration to maintaining adequate ecological flows in the River,
- consider the cost effectiveness of various options from the perspective of the entire Catawba-Watree River Basin and all of its residents, and
- Conduct a thorough and public analysis of the economic and environmental impacts of the plan.

We believe that further analysis of all of the costs and benefits viewed from a perspective of all of the citizens in the entire Catawba-Watree River Basin will show that the conservation goals are not aggressive enough and that additional methods of reducing water consumption are both needed and cost effective.

Background

The Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation was created as a result of a study by the Centralina Council of Governments in order to provide, in part, an independent source of information for the public and policy makers about issues affecting the Catawba River. The FIRST recommendation of the study was to “Establish a River-keeping System on the Catawba River.” In part, the reason for the recommendation was that the Centralina COG felt that there was a need for an advocate to provide the COG and other policymakers with input on environmental issues that would counterbalance the perspective of businesses and other narrow interests. Not only did the CCOG decide that a Riverkeeper program was needed, but CCOG, through the marine commissions, provided the financial support to start the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation.



We hope that the membership will allow an organization it created for the purpose of providing input on water issues to have the same access to its members about the Water Management Plan that it provides to other groups. In addition, we hope that the CCOG membership will hear from all sides of the issue and ask questions to both sides before they take action on an issue as important as the Water Supply Master Plan.

Plan Concerns, Additions

Scope of the proposed Water Supply Master Plan

- The proposed WSMP purports to be a plan for the Catawba-Wateree River Basin and it expressly defines “Basin” to be the “Catawba-Wateree River Basin” (WSMP at xix), but the plan ignores the impact of the plan on most of the Wateree River and the maps included as part of the plan inaccurately show the Catawba-Wateree Basin as ending at the Lake Wateree Dam although the Wateree River (and the basin) continue for another 80 miles beyond the Wateree Dam. For purposes of our comments, we have considered the impact of the plan on the entire Catawba-Wateree River basin not just the portion of the basin that is managed by Duke Energy.
- In general, when evaluating options, the proposed WSMP includes benefits of the plan outside of the Catawba-Wateree River basin (*e.g.*, benefits of electricity and water for users located outside of the Basin but supplied from facilities on the Catawba River), but fails to give consideration to potential negative impacts of the plan beyond the artificially defined Basin boundary (such as the impact of reduced flow on industry and residents on the Wateree River below the Wateree Dam or the ecological impact of reducing the flow of the Wateree River to approximately 15% of average flow).

Water Modeling (CHEOPS)

- As noted in the proposed WSMP, “**accurately projecting future water use is foundational to ensuring a sustainable water supply in the Basin.**” (WSMP at 1-2.) If the model overestimates the amount of water in the system, it could create the inaccurate impression that the plan was adequate to address future water needs.
- The model used to project future water use is CHEOPS, which was originally designed for a completely different purpose (efficiently operating hydroelectric facilities). Although the Water Management Group’s consultant (HDR) has done extensive work to modernize CHEOPS and adapt the model to a different use than it was designed, it is unclear if the revised model is sufficiently reliable to serve as the basis for the final WSMP. The version of the CHEOPS model on which the plan is based is a draft model that has not yet completed the public comment and review process required by North Carolina Law.
- Two normal scientific standards for reliability of a model are for others to be able to replicate the results using the model and for the model to appear to appear to



accurately describe reality using historical data. To the best of our knowledge, no organization outside of the Water Management Group and its consultants has been able to independently replicate the modeling results used as a basis for the proposed WSMP. Furthermore, the modeling results for the base scenario using historical data do not appear to be consistent with actual observed conditions. For example, a chart produced using historical data and CHEOPS to support the contention that lake levels will actually be higher in the future shows that Lake Norman will be at 100% full pond approximately 25% of the time even if nothing is done (base scenario), which is very different than historical lake levels. Unless FERC changes target elevations and Duke significantly changes its operations, it seems extremely unlikely that this is accurate. If lake levels were at this level 25% of the time, there would be extensive flooding and erosion problems during significant rain events. Because the model shows lake levels as being higher than FERC approved target elevations (normal summer target elevations are at least two feet below full pond and winter target elevations drop to six feet below full pond) the model assumes that there is significantly more water stored in the system than is likely, which makes it appear that that water supplies will last longer).

- The Water Management Group should be asked to produce charts showing the lake levels predicted by the model for each of the major lakes in the Basin under each scenario.
- The model's projections about the adequacy of the water supply appear to be extremely dependent on assumptions about population growth, urbanization, climate change, and the mix of electrical generation technologies located on the river. These assumptions need to be independently questioned and verified.
- There are many other questions about the model and the data produced by the CHEOPS model including:
 - How does the model address the induced evaporation from hot water discharges from thermoelectric power plants? Water used for cooling is primed for increased evaporation, and this needs to be included in the power category's consumption.
 - Does the model adequately address the impacts of increased urbanizations, which tends to increase the flashiness of flows and result in less base inflow and more water lost due to inability to store the water during high flow periods?
 - Does the model adequately address the rainfall and temperature variations predicted by climate models?
 - What does the model predict will happen to lake levels in future droughts compared to the 2007 drought?
- The model should be independently verified and complete the public notice and comment process before it is finalized.
- The potential disproportionate impact on Lake James is still a major concern.



Inter-Basin Transfers (IBTs)

- IBTs have a disproportionate impact on the water supply in the Basin because 100% of the water used in an IBT is lost to downstream users in the Basin. The Catawba-Wateree River basin cannot continue to be tapped to meet the needs of both the Catawba-Wateree River basin and surrounding basins. If anything, given the amount of water available in adjoining basins, one might expect for residents of the Catawba-Wateree basin to have a net inflow of water from neighboring basins.
- In developing a strategy to keep water in our basin, there must be more of an analysis of what is leaving our basin and options for reducing the net IBTs out of the basin. This will help in determining and making a case for what changes to infrastructure or sales might be needed. First and foremost, this component needs to be separated from Public Water Supply consumption internal to the basin, which is more marginal loss, while IBTs are complete loss.
- Catawba Riverkeeper supports the aspects of the WSMP that encourage a regional, multi-basin approach to meeting the growth needs of Cabarrus County, eastern Mecklenburg County and eastern Union County. Specifically, part of the solution to meet future water demands in the region may be to establish a regional water utility that can develop water supplies in the Yadkin basin to meet projected growth on the northeast, east, and southeast sides of Charlotte. Similar ideas should be explored to address water supplies for the growth in the Statesville and Mooresville areas, which currently have substantial IBTs out of the Catawba-Wateree River basin.

Water Consumption to Produce Electricity

- Currently, thermo-electric power plants owned by Duke Energy and SCE&G, are the single largest net consumer of water in the Catawba-Wateree basin. The Union of Concerned Scientists identified the Catawba-Wateree River as one of the most stressed rivers in the United States from water use by power plants. It makes sense that any plan to assure a sustainable supply of water address and reduce water use by the largest consumer of water, but the proposed WSMP does not recommend significantly reducing water consumption at thermo-electric power plants.
- Research is being done in various places on cooling technologies for power plants that reduce the net consumption of water by thermo-electric power plants. Duke Energy has indicated that, from its perspective, it is not cost effective for it to implement these water-saving technologies and therefore the WSMP does not give serious consideration to implementing these technologies. However, as long as there is no cost to Duke to use water from the River, from Duke's perspective, it will never be cost-effective to spend money to reduce water consumption. Thus, it is important that the WSMP take a broader perspective in determining what water-saving technologies are cost-effective. At the very least, this needs to be a goal for which Duke Energy strives. Moving water around and adding combined cycle power plants are not the complete, reliable answer.



- The WSMP assumes that most of the future power plants constructed on the River will be combined cycle facilities that depend upon natural gas for fuel. These facilities consume relatively little water compare to new coal or nuclear power plants, but it seems unrealistic to assume that natural gas prices will remain low during the entire time frame of the plan and model should address the impact of using other sources of energy. If gas prices increase and coal or nuclear facilities become more economical to meet future energy demand, it is unclear whether the River would still be able to meet all of the needs of the region.
- As suggested by Charlotte City Councilmember John Autry, the Plan should include renewable energy sources (*e.g.*, wind and solar, which do not need water nor does it produce waste) to meet future energy demands.

Flooding Impacts

- Especially with increases in impervious surface area – which CHEOPS also needs to consider – flooding is increasingly becoming a concern for the basin.
- If the CHEOPS model is correct in predicting that lake levels will be at full pond 25% of the time, flooding is a problem that needs to be mitigated as part of the plan for managing water in the basin.
- Furthermore, the proposed plan suggests increasing target lake levels by six inches. Holding lakes six inches higher will exacerbate flooding problems in the Basin, particularly combined with the impact of increased run-off from urbanization and increased flashiness of flow from climate change. Mountain Island Lake, Lake Lookout Shoals and Lake Wateree in particular already have significant flooding problems. The plan needs additional consideration of flooding impacts, and were other consumption rates reduced, raising target lake levels higher might not be necessary.

Economic, environmental and ecological impacts of the Plan

- The economic and ecological costs of the proposed WSMP need greater study and public scrutiny. To evaluate the cost-effectiveness of possible solutions to reduce water demand, it is necessary to understand the economic impacts of water shortages.
- The economic health of the region and the ecological health of the River are closely related. A significant percentage of the tax base in many counties and towns is dependent on the health of the River and its lakes. For example, if lake levels on Lake Norman dropped to levels that were below 2007 levels, but above the lowered water intakes, for a sustained period, it would have a substantial impact on property values around the lake, as wells as local businesses and the tax base for the surrounding governments. These costs need to be identified, quantified and considered.
- Some major industrial facilities would also have to curtail their operations or incur significant additional costs, if the flow of the River was reduced substantially. There are two paper mills, several chemical plants and many textile facilities in the Catawba-



Wateree River Basin that use the River for process water, cooling water, and to dilute their waste stream. Curtailment of operations at these major industrial facilities would have significant ripple effects through the local economies.

- As flow decreases, in general, the ability of the River to naturally deal with pollution decreases, which hurts water quality and negatively impacts the use of the River for recreation, public water supplies and industrial water supplies. These impacts and costs should be explicitly addressed in the plan.
- Under the proposed plan, water flow below the Wateree Dam could drop to as low as 15% of the average flow of the river. It appears that flows on other sections of the River system could be even lower, particularly in the immediate vicinity of power plants. Recent scientific literature suggests that sustained flows below 80% of the average flow are likely to cause serious ecological damage. The plan should consider the ecological impacts of decreased flows.

Process

- As noted above, approving a final plan before the model on which the plan is based is “getting the cart before the horse.” The CCOG should wait until the model is finalized before approving the plan.
- It is inherent in this type of planning that conditions can change quickly. Technologies, population growth, climate change, and many other factors have the potential to significantly affect the adequacy of the plan if they vary from the assumptions. Unfortunately, many of the solutions required to reduce water consumption or develop new water supplies require substantial lead times. We recommend that the WMG be encouraged to review and update the plan at least every five years.
- Catawba Riverkeeper was created by local governments and the Centralina Council of Governments to be an independent source of information on issues relating to the Catawba-Water River, but Catawba Riverkeeper was not included as part of the Stakeholder Advisory Team. We encourage local governments and CCOG to utilize the resource that they created and to solicit input from Catawba Riverkeeper about the WMP as it evolves.

Recommendations

We recommend that members of the Centralina Council of Governments:

- Commend the Water Management Group (WMG) for their proactive work in addressing this critical issue for the future of the region;
- Endorse and implement the recommendations relating to increasing water conservation at local water utilities;



- Endorse and implement the recommendations relating to developing water supplies from the Yadkin basin to meet demand in the Yadkin basin;
- Endorse and implement the recommendations relating to improving the responsiveness Low-Inflow Protocol;
- Endorse and implement the recommendations relating to educating the public about the importance of water conservation;
- Encourage the WMG to expand the scope of the plan to include all of the impacts of the plan on the entire Catawba-Wataree River basin, including the 80 miles below the Lake Wateree dam;
- Encourage the WMG to give greater attention to the economic and ecological impacts of decreased flows on the region;
- Encourage the WMG to give greater consideration to methods of reducing the net outflow of water (IBTs) from current levels of IBTs by developing water supplies in other basins to meet growth needs in the region, particularly IBTs in the upper basin;
- Encourage the WMG to give greater consideration to the cost-effectiveness of water saving technologies at power plants or the use of renewable energy sources from the perspective of the entire region and not just the electric utility;
- Encourage the WMG to incorporate all of the projected impacts of increased urbanization (more stormwater run-off during rain events and less inflow at other times) and climate change (increased temperatures, increased evaporation and increased weather variability) into the modeling;
- Encourage the WMG to study the impact water quality impacts of the plan;
- Encourage the WMG to review and update the WMP at least every five years; and
- Don't base a final plan on a draft model -- wait to endorse the WSMP until the process of scientific, government and public review of the model is complete and the model has been formally approved as valid for water supply planning.

Conclusion

The proposed WSMP is a classic engineering solution. The Plan appears to assure that water will keep flowing through the taps until 2100, but it is not a plan that will assure that lake levels remain the same or that other economic, recreation and ecological values of the river are preserved. It is not obvious that the proposed WSMP is the best economic or environmental solution.

It makes no sense to have a final plan is based on a draft model when the plan itself states that accurately modeling future water use is critical. There are legitimate questions about the adequacy of the model that need to be addressed before it becomes the basis for major water supply decisions. In addition, the projections from the model are very sensitive to the growth



rate in the region and the impact of urbanization and climate change. Thus, it is important to track these factors to verify that the projections remain reasonable.

More attention needs to be given to the economic and environmental impacts of the plan. Although plan is designed to meet FERC minimum flow requirements outside of severe droughts, it is not protective of the ecological flow of the river (studies show that 20% reduction in flow will result in permanent damage to the ecosystem). If the model is correct, the proposed plan would reduce flows by 85% in order to keep water in the reservoirs.

The plan calls for increasing the target elevation and the model indicates that lake levels will need to be near full pond much of the time in order to keep enough water in the system to survive droughts without a water supply failure. For many people, this will mean flooding of their yards, damage to docks, and increased erosion. Although the plan increases lake levels during droughts as compared to doing nothing, the model suggests that lake levels will be lower in the future than in the past due to increased demand. These lower lake levels could have dramatic impacts on property values and tax base in addition to the damage to docks and boats, and lost revenue from lake dependent businesses.

More attention needs to be given to reducing the consumption by the largest consumer of water in the basin (Duke Energy) and reducing IBTs. We also need to look at other options such as dramatically changing regional growth patterns to reduce stormwater runoff from sprawl. There is no magic solution and it is premature to declare victory (by declaring that we have a plan that assures adequate water supplies until 2100).

Please do not hesitate to contact Sam Perkins (sam@catawbariverkeeper.org or 704-651-5974) or me (rick@catawbarivekeeper.org or 704-408-3487) if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard C. Gaskins, Jr.', written over a light blue background.

Richard C. Gaskins, Jr.

Executive Director

Catawba RIVERKEEPER® Foundation, Inc.

Catawba RIVERKEEPER® is a member of Waterkeeper Alliance, Inc. Riverkeeper is a registered trademark of Riverkeeper, Inc., and is licensed for use herein.



Centralina Council of Governments

Item 14



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	February 11, 2015	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Sushil Nepal	Presentation Time (est.):	10 minutes			
Presenter at meeting:	Sushil Nepal	Phone Number/Ext:	(704) 688-6509			
		Email:	snepal@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact Person:	Michelle Nance	Phone Number/Ext:	(704) 348-2709			
		Email:	mnance@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	CONNECT Our Future	Department Head Approval:				
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(same wording as on agenda summary)</i>						
CONNECT Our Future – Project updates and preview of tools/resources available to member governments.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Over the past three years, the CONNECT Our Future process was guided by a 94 member public-private Consortium and leadership of two regional councils (Centralina COG and Catawba Regional COG) to help us better prepare for the projected population growth within our region.</p> <p>The publicly driven process engaged over 8,000 residents throughout the 14 county region of North and South Carolina to help create a Regional Growth Framework to guide future growth of our region. The preferred growth concept affirmed by the residents and the CONNECT Consortium supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major (re)investment in walkable downtowns, mixed-use activity centers, walkable neighborhoods, and major transit corridors • More housing choices, travel choices, open space/farmland preservation, and job centers • More efficient and cost-effective provision of local government services—more “bang for the buck” <p>The CONNECT Our Future Regional Growth Framework includes over 80 different tools and strategies to help us realize the vision created by the residents of the 14-county region. These tools will be available as a magazine-style report and interactive website for use by our communities.</p> <p>Staff will present key findings and preview available tools/resources at the meeting.</p>						
Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information.						
Time Sensitivity (none or explain):	None					
Budget Impact (if applicable):	None					
List of Attachments (if any):	CONNECT legislative flyer					
	CONNECT magazine and website preview					



CONNECT Our Future

Vibrant Communities – Robust Region

What is CONNECT Our Future?

CONNECT Our Future is a three-year process that has been bringing together communities, businesses, non-profits and other public and private organizations across the region to develop a regional framework focusing on growing jobs and the economy, improving quality of life and controlling cost of government.

Extensive community-based engagement has been used to identify a preferred growth scenario and strategies, tools and national best practices to create the regional growth framework. CONNECT is supported by a \$4.9 million HUD Sustainable Communities Grant and \$3 million in local in-kind public and private matching resources

Who Participated?

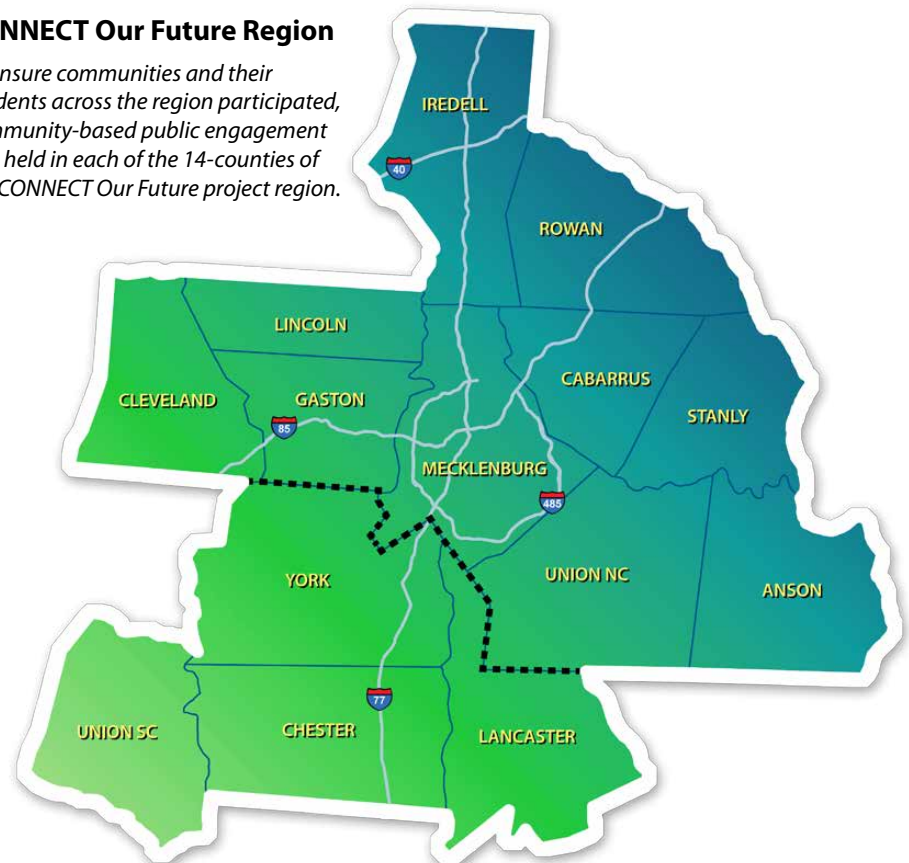
More than 7,500 people regionwide participated in comprehensive community-based engagement, work groups, meetings and events to identify what is important to them, and how and where growth should occur. The collaborative, in-depth work of local government elected officials, planners and staff has ensured the process accurately reflects the existing local plans and futures needs.



The region's citizens provided input through a broad range of events including open houses, community growth workshops, focus groups, scenario planning events, regional partner meetings, RealityCheck2050 and others.

CONNECT Our Future Region

To ensure communities and their residents across the region participated, community-based public engagement was held in each of the 14-counties of the CONNECT Our Future project region.



"This is a monumental accomplishment for our region. We have affirmed the promise made to the communities of this region to directly support the preference of our citizens and create a framework to support the growth aspirations of our communities."

Michael Johnson
Mayor Pro-Tem Statesville
and CCOG Board Chair

"We can all assume we'll have growth. Moving the regional growth concept ahead is an opportunity for us to determine the quality of that growth."

Joe Carpenter
Gaston County Commissioner



Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG), the CONNECT grant recipient, has been coordinating, facilitating and staffing the process with the Catawba Regional Council of Governments.

How Does it Help Communities?

Through CONNECT Our Future, Centralina Council of Governments is working collaboratively with local governments to create tools and strategies to help communities address the needs their residents identified as priorities now through 2050. Below are examples of some of the priorities.



Preserve Open Space and Farmland

Preserving open space and farmland was identified as a top priority by citizens because they value recreational opportunities and the scenic beauty of the region. CONNECT's strategies to achieve the preferred growth scenario developed by the region would support preservation of open spaces and farmland, and at the same time support the important local food industry.



Controlling Cost of Government

A strong sentiment of residents was the need to control the cost of government that occurs with development of open space. Cost associated with growth includes water, sewer, schools, parks and transportation services. As less land is consumed by future growth patterns, local governments would have smaller footprints to provide services which results in cost savings. Housing located near jobs and in downtowns saves the cost of physical and social infrastructure.



Housing Choices

Residents identified the need to develop community strategies to align new and revitalized housing with the specific needs of current and future residents. A regional housing needs study underscored the need for more senior housing, housing near jobs, and downtown housing. A CCOG service to help communities develop a community housing strategy has been developed and is in use, and local data developed on future population and employment growth will support it.



Craig Kuhner 2009-Sasaki Associates

More Transportation Choices

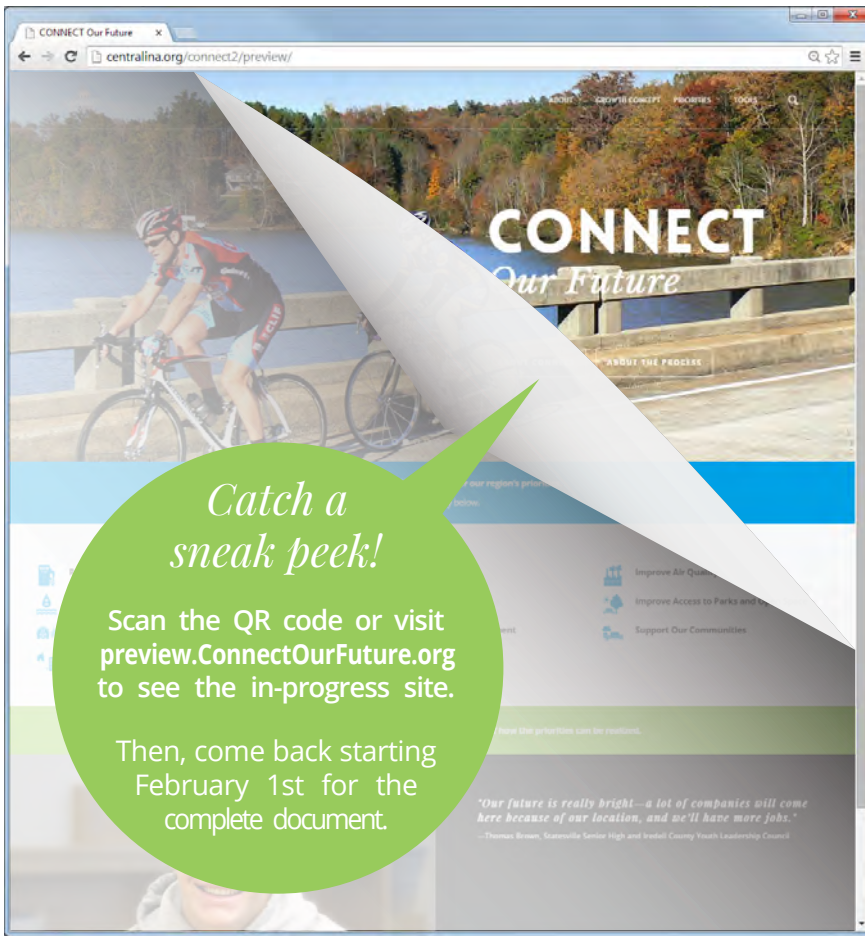
The region's residents said they wanted more transportation options which could help them access jobs and services, and would help control congestion. There is a strong interest in transit locally and regionally. Activities are underway to identify funding support for regional transportation planning.



Vibrant Downtowns

Vibrant downtowns and active town centers was another priority identified by the public. Tools and strategies have been developed to support major investments to create walkable downtowns and neighborhoods, in-fill development and redevelopment, and accessible housing downtown. A CCOG service has been developed and is in use to assist communities with downtown redevelopment projects.





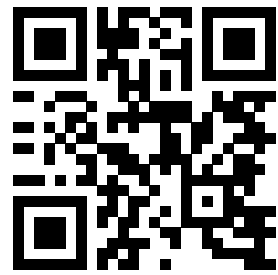
Catch a sneak peek!

Scan the QR code or visit preview.ConnectOurFuture.org to see the in-progress site.

Then, come back starting February 1st for the complete document.

CONNECT Our Future is rolling out a brand new website.

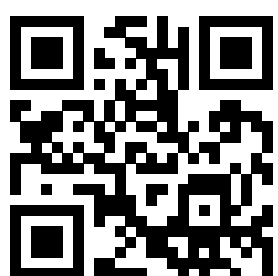
The new ConnectOurFuture.org will include over 70 tools that elected and appointed officials and staff can use to support local priorities and move our shared regional vision forward.



For more information on CONNECT Our Future, contact Sushil Nepal at snepal@centralina.org.

CONNECT Our Future is rolling out a regional magazine.

The magazine will feature the regional priorities that came out of a 2-year engagement process, highlight good ideas from around the region, and give people a starting point for change.



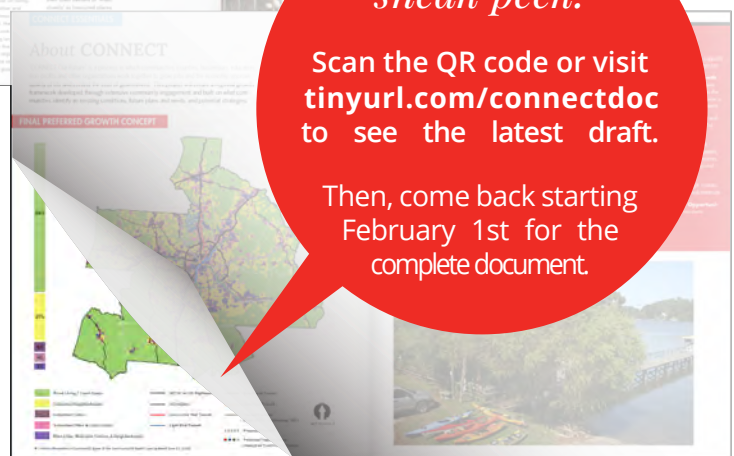
For more information on CONNECT Our Future, contact Sushil Nepal at snepal@centralina.org.



Catch a sneak peek!

Scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/connectdoc to see the latest draft.

Then, come back starting February 1st for the complete document.





Centralina Council of Governments

Item 15



RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
Rebecca Yarbrough
February 11, 2015

WHEREAS, Rebecca Yarbrough has been a dedicated employee, an invaluable resource and a continuing presence at Centralina COG for over 37 years; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Yarbrough has helped to shape the region and services that Centralina COG provides; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Yarbrough has given great voice to pressing public policy issues facing the region and has helped Centralina COG in recognizing the most effective ways to achieve better quality of life outcomes for our member governments; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Yarbrough has a history of dedicated public service and has provided insightful leadership on several programs, initiatives, boards and committees; and

WHEREAS, Centralina COG takes pride in honoring the service of Rebecca Yarbrough and expresses great appreciation for her gifts of time, ability, and commitment to the organization and to the Greater Charlotte Region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this eleventh day of February 2015 that Rebecca Yarbrough is deemed by the Officers and Board of Delegates of the Centralina Council of Governments, the Executive Director, Centralina staff and countless others as a remarkable example of dedication to public service and commitment to North Carolina local government.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

Michael Johnson, Centralina Board Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Prosser', written over a horizontal line.

Jim Prosser, Centralina Executive Director