

Chair Bobby Compton will convene a meeting of the Centralina Board of Delegates **on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at 5:00 pm**. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Time	Item	Presenter
5:00 p.m.	Call to Order	Bobby Compton
	Roll Call	
	Moment of Silence	
	Amendments to the Agenda (if any)	
<p>Consent Items: Consent agenda items may be considered in one motion and without discussion except for those items removed by a Board Member.</p>		
5:10 p.m. Item 1 Pages 4 – 6	<p>Approval of Membership Request The Board of Delegates is asked to approve the Town of Norwood and the Town of Stanfield's requests to join Centralina Regional Council.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation: <i>Motion to approve the requests from the Town of Stanfield and the Town of Norwood to join Centralina Regional Council.</i></p>	Geraldine Gardner
Item 2 Pages 8 – 11	<p>Approval of the May 11, 2022 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes The minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting have been distributed to all members of the Board of Delegates and should be approved if correct.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation: <i>Motion to approve the May 11, 2022 Board of Delegates meeting minutes.</i></p>	Bobby Compton
<p>Regular Business Items:</p>		
5:15 p.m. Item 3 25 minutes Pages 13 – 19	<p>Federal Relations Update Leslie Mozingo, Strategic Consulting, will present an update on Centralina's federal relations activities for August.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation: <i>Receive as information.</i></p>	Leslie Mozingo
5:40 p.m. Item 4 10 minutes Pages 21 – 36	<p>FY23-25 Strategic Plan and FY23 Workplan Approval The Executive Director will present Centralina's next three-year Strategic Plan and FY23 Workplan for approval.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation: <i>Motion to approve the FY23-25 Centralina Strategic Plan and FY23 Workplan.</i></p>	Geraldine Gardner
5:50 p.m. Item 5 25 minutes Page 38	<p>ARPA Briefing: Tools for Success Centralina staff will present an overview of key American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) considerations pertinent to elected officials in their ARPA-related decision-making and communication with constituents.</p> <p>Action/Recommendation: <i>Receive as information.</i></p>	Christina Danis, Zsuzsanna Kadar, Kelly Weston



Board of Delegates Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, August 10, 2022
Zoom Meeting
Join by computer
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82689694950>
Join by phone: Dial 1-929-436-2866 and enter
Meeting ID: 826 8969 4950

Time	Item	Presenter
6:15 p.m. 5 minutes	Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff	Board Members and Staff
6:20 p.m. 5 minutes	Comments from the Executive Director	Geraldine Gardner
6:25 p.m. 5 minutes	Comments from the Chair	Bobby Compton
6:30 p.m. 5 minutes	Adjournment	Bobby Compton

Centralina Regional Council complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Centralina Regional Council will make reasonable accommodations in all programs/services to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Centralina Regional Council's 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, 10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28262, phone (704) 372-2416. Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: www.centralina.org.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 1



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 10, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regular:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Submitting Person:	Connor Choka	Presentation Time:	5 minutes, if needed			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	(704) 351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Kelly Weston	Phone Number:	(704) 348-2728			
		Email:	kweston@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
The Board of Delegates is asked to approve the Town of Norwood and the Town of Stanfield's request to join Centralina Regional Council.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
Centralina has received a membership request from the Town of Norwood and the Town of Stanfield. In accordance with the Bylaws, the Board of Delegates must vote on the Town's request to become a Centralina member.						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Motion to approve the request from the Town of Norwood and the Town of Stanfield to join Centralina Regional Council.						
Time Sensitivity:	None.					
Budget Impact:	None.					
Attachments:	Resolution for Membership – Town of Norwood Resolution for Membership – Town of Stanfield					



The Gateway to Lake Tillery

**RESOLUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN
CENTRALINA REGIONAL COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, NC General Statutes 160A-470 and 153A-445 authorize municipalities and counties to form and to join councils of governments that address regional issues and opportunities by offering a variety of planning, coordination, advocacy and technical assistance services; and

WHEREAS, Centralina Regional Council was created to serve the needs of a nine-county region that includes Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union Counties; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Centralina Regional Council is to lead regional collaboration and spark local action to expand opportunity and improve quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Norwood desires to join with other municipalities and counties that are members of Centralina Regional Council; and

WHEREAS, the Norwood Town Council affirms the benefits of regional cooperation among local governments and their elected and appointed officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Norwood Town Council that the Town of Norwood hereby ratifies the Centralina Regional Council Charter and affirms its membership in the organization, pending a majority vote of the member governments of Centralina Regional Council.

This the 6 day of June, 2022.



Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk

RESOLUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN CENTRALINA REGIONAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, NC General Statutes 160A-470 and 153A-445 authorize municipalities and counties to form and join councils of governments that address regional issues and opportunities by offering a variety of planning, coordination, advocacy, and technical assistance services; and

WHEREAS, Centralina Regional Council was created to serve the needs of a nine-county region that includes Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, and Union Counties; and

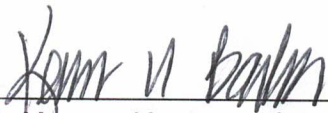
WHEREAS, the mission of Centralina Regional Council is to lead regional collaboration and spark local action to expand opportunity and improve quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stanfield desires to join with other municipalities and counties that are members of Centralina Regional Council; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Stanfield affirms the benefits of regional cooperation among local governments and their elected and appointed officials.

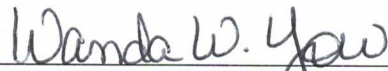
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that the Town of Stanfield hereby ratifies the Centralina Regional Council Charter and affirms its membership in the organization, pending a majority vote of the member governments of Centralina Regional Council.

This the 7th day of April, 2022.



Mayor, Kevin Barbee

seal



Town Clerk, Wanda Yow



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 2



**Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2022**

Jurisdictions with Delegate/Alternate Present	Delegate/Alternate Present	Jurisdictions without a Delegate/Alternate Present
Albemarle	Martha Sue Hall	Ansonville
Anson County	Jarvis Woodburn	Cherryville
Badin	Larry Milano	Cleveland
Belmont	Alex Szucs	Dallas
Bessemer City	Kay McCathen	Gaston County
Cabarrus County	Lynn Shue	Granite Quarry
Charlotte	Larken Egleston	Huntersville
Concord	Andy Langford	Indian Trail
Cornelius	Michael Osborne	Iredell County
Cramerton	Nelson Wills	Kings Mountain
Davidson	Autumn Michael	Landis
East Spencer	Shawn Rush	Lilesville
Faith	Jayne Lingle	Lincoln County
Gastonia	Jennifer Stepp	Locust
Harrisburg	Jennifer Teague and Ian Patrick	Lowell
Kannapolis	Darrell Hinnant	Marshville
Lincolnton	Christine Poinsette	Mecklenburg County
Marvin	Wayne Deatherage	Midland
Matthews	Ken McCool and Mark Tofano	Mineral Springs
McAdenville	Jay McCosh	Mint Hill
Misenheimer	Jeffrey Watson	Monroe
Morven	Corinthia Lewis-Lemon	Mooresville
Mount Holly	Christina Pawlish	Oakboro
Pineville	Amelia Stinson-Wesley	Ranlo
Salisbury	Karen Alexander	Richfield
Spencer	Patricia Sledge	Stallings
Stanly County	Peter Ascitutto	Stanley
Troutman	Jerry Oxsher	Statesville
Union County	David Williams	Wadesboro
		Waxhaw
		Wingate

Call to Order

Vice Chair Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, called roll and noted that a quorum was present.

Moment of Silence

Vice Chair McCosh called for a moment of silence.

Amendments to the Agenda

Vice Chair McCosh explained that Item 2, Presentation from NC Pandemic Recovery Office, needed to be moved to later in the agenda since the guest speaker for that item had not yet arrived.

Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, made a motion to amend the agenda. Mayor Darrell Hinnant, City of Kannapolis, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the February 9, 2022 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes

Council Member Christine Poinsette, City of Lincolnton, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Ken McCool, Town of Matthews, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

3. Key Initiatives Update

David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, explained that the NC Works Commission completed a study that included a recommendation for realigning the state’s workforce development boards with the eight prosperity zones across North Carolina. He noted that the state’s workforce system is funded by the US Department of Labor, authorized under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. He noted that state agencies are supporting the proposed realignment. He also noted that the Centralina Workforce Development Consortium conducted outreach to Anson, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly, and Union Counties to affirm their interest in remaining in the Consortium for the remainder of its current term ending in June 2023.

In response to questions from Commissioner David Williams, Union County, Mr. Hollars explained that the realignment would place the seven counties in the Consortium into a larger grouping with Mecklenburg, Gaston, and Cleveland Counties. He noted that disadvantages of this change would include the loss of local control and limited, individual attention for smaller counties. He also noted that the change would not impact the amount of federal workforce development funds coming into the counties.

Michelle Nance, Regional Planning Director, reported that all the transportation planning organizations within the region have formally recognized CONNECT Beyond and have incorporated its recommendations into their long-range plans. She also reported that last week, the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) approved starter funding for Centralina to establish a regional program helping employers address commuter transportation issues. She forecasted that Centralina plans to engage the business community in the second round of NCDOT funding and will seek the Board's assistance in identifying major employers in the region who will support the project. She reported that the transit agencies and transportation organizations have expressed support for a regional fare and scheduling analysis to coordinate human service and fixed route transit connections. She also reported that Centralina is requesting funds from the NC General Assembly to evaluate the region’s revenue opportunities and potential partnership structures for transportation. She noted that the

CONNECT Beyond project received a national recognition award from the American Council of Engineering Companies.

Linda Miller, Area Agency on Aging Director, reported that Centralina received \$4.55 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to distribute at its discretion to aging services providers. She explained that Centralina submitted an ARPA plan to the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services and the funds cannot be dispensed without their approval. She noted that Centralina issued a Request for Funding to current nutrition service providers to distribute \$2.8 million in available funds. She also reported that the Citadel, a long-term care facility in Rowan County, is closing and Centralina staff is heavily involved in ensuring its residents are properly discharged, have a say in where they are relocated, and their rights are honored.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Hall, Cindy Kincaid, Regional Ombudsman, explained that the ombudsmen have resumed visiting long-term care facilities in-person but are tracking COVID outbreaks as a precaution.

Ms. Weston reported that Centralina has developed the ARPA Peer Consortium, an interactive peer-learning group that provides local government staff with strategic support in administering their ARPA allocations. She also noted that Centralina is offering monitoring oversight services to provide member governments with tools and guidance to ensure compliance with federal ARPA guidelines. She presented an overview of the grants support services Centralina provides, which include listings of available funding opportunities, training workshops, letters of support, strategy sessions, and grants administration services. She added that soon, Centralina will roll out professional grant writing services provided through a partnership with the consultant who leads the grant training workshops.

2. Presentation from NC Pandemic Recovery Office

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, explained that Centralina has built a great relationship with the NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO) while working to implement the ARPA funding received from the state. She introduced Stephanie McGarrah, Executive Director of NCPRO.

Ms. McGarrah presented an overview of the state's pandemic relief, recovery, and resilience efforts. She also highlighted activities and challenges in implementing the state's allocation from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). She noted that NCPRO is attempting to track the movement of CRF and ARPA funds across the state. She also noted that the state legislature has appropriated \$5.4 billion in State Fiscal Recovery Funds for education, healthcare, natural and cultural resources, business, agriculture, and local government assistance. She further noted the challenges faced by local governments in administering ARPA allocations, including staff capacity to manage funds and reporting requirements. She shared an overview of the organizations and state agencies partnering to ensure local governments are aware of how ARPA funds can be used.

4. FY23-26 Strategic Planning Discussion

Ms. Gardner provided an update on the process to develop Centralina's FY23-26 strategic plan. She presented an overview of the elements of the plan. She explained that there are no proposed changes to the current mission statement. She noted that staff is in the process of assessing the organization's current core values. She shared insights from staff and the Executive Board on the organizational vision. She presented three proposed vision statement options that reflected the themes that emerged in the input received from staff and the Executive Board.

The Delegates were then divided into breakout rooms where they provided feedback on the proposed vision statement options.

Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff

There were no comments from the Board of Delegates or Centralina staff.

Comments from the Executive Director

Ms. Gardner noted that Centralina will move into its new office at the end of June, adding that the August Board of Delegates meeting will be held at the new location.

Comments from the Vice Chair

Vice Chair McCosh noted that the Board of Delegates approved an amendment to the Centralina charter at its February meeting. He added that later this month, Managers and Clerks in member communities will receive a request to add the ratification of the amended charter to the agenda of their upcoming Council or Board meeting.

He reminded the Delegates to save the date for the Board of Delegates meeting on August 10th.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Vice Chair McCosh adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 3



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 10, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent: <input type="checkbox"/>	Regular: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Submitting Person:	Connor Choka	Presentation Time:	10 minutes	
Presenter at Meeting:	Leslie Mazingo	Phone Number:	(202) 255-5760	
		Email:	leslie@strategics.consulting	
Alternate Contact:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	(704) 348-2703	
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org	
Submitting Department:	Government Affairs & Member Engagement	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner	
Description of Agenda Item:				
<p>Leslie Mazingo, Strategics Consulting, will present an update on Centralina's federal relations activities for August.</p>				
Background & Basis of Recommendations:				
<p>Centralina contracts with Strategics Consulting for federal relations consulting services, including coordinating engagement with our region's Congressional delegation regarding regional priorities. Our Federal Action Plan, a formalized and cohesive annual plan that addresses specific needs and desired policy outcomes, guides these advocacy efforts. The Federal Action Plan also champions the ability of councils of government to become eligible entities for competitively awarded federal grants.</p> <p>The Board of Delegates defines the advocacy goals and performance metrics within the plan. Ms. Mazingo regularly presents reports on these metrics and progress towards the goals to the Executive Board at each of its meetings.</p>				
Requested Action / Recommendation:				
Receive as information.				
Time Sensitivity:	None			
Budget Impact:	None			
Attachments:	2022 Federal Action Plan Status Report 2022 Congressional Districts			

2022 FEDERAL ACTION PLAN

	AREA	ISSUE	REQUESTED ACTION	BENEFITS TO CENTRALINA REGION	ACTIONS TAKEN
1	CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RECOVERY	Local governments are continuing to face ongoing struggles due to the pandemic.	<p>Ongoing federal financial assistance and program flexibility is critical for local government ability to meet the demands related to coronavirus response. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARPA Local Relief Funding should receive additional flexibility to meet the challenges local governments continue to face during recovery. Specific opportunities include allowing for investments in infrastructure, community facilities and economic development activities that support long-term recovery and community resilience. • Flexibility to use other local data and indicators to demonstrate community distress instead of solely relying on the HUD Qualified Census Tract designation. • More funding and maximum flexibility is needed to support the Aging Network. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Especially for nutrition, transportation, caregiving issues and housing ○ Increase Older Americans Act funding for pandemic response • Funding to address impact on mental 	Centralina region has the highest number of coronavirus cases in the State of North Carolina, and therefore will suffer through the most extreme financial challenges related to ongoing virus response and recovery efforts.	Further work on COVID bills not anticipated this Congress.

			health for the general public, front-line workers, teachers, etc., as well as rising dropout rates occurring in the aftermath of the pandemic.		
2	APPROPRIATIONS – COMPETITIVE GRANTS ELIGIBILITY	Regional councils are not always explicitly eligible for competitive grants and direct funding from federal agencies	Amend definitions of local governments to include regional councils. Submit request for appropriations report language to the following Appropriations Subcommittees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture and Rural Development • Commerce, Justice, Science • Energy and Water • Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies • Financial Services (i.e. SBA) • Homeland Security (i.e. FEMA) • Labor, Health and Human Services • Transportation, Housing and Urban Development 	Centralina can apply for and administer grants benefiting the region and member governments.	Rep. Adams sponsored request for \$1 million for Centralina’s Housing Preservation Initiative, which is in the House bill. Reps. Budd, Adams and Hudson submitted a joint, bipartisan letter in support of Centralina’s report language request, which has been adopted by four House subcommittees .
3	APPROPRIATIONS – FY23 FUNDING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS	Retain current funding levels for certain federal agency programs that regional councils of governments and member communities rely on for crucial planning,	Protect the following agencies and programs and <i>at least</i> maintain funding levels in FY23 budget: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aging Programs funded by Older Americans Act (HHS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Senior Community Service Employment Program as authorized by the Older Americans Act • Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Funds (DOL, 	Adequate funding for key programs and services directly supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Centralina Area Agencies on Aging -Centralina Workforce Investment 	Appropriations process is underway in the House, but no movement yet in the Senate. Working to emphasize the need for OAA funding given

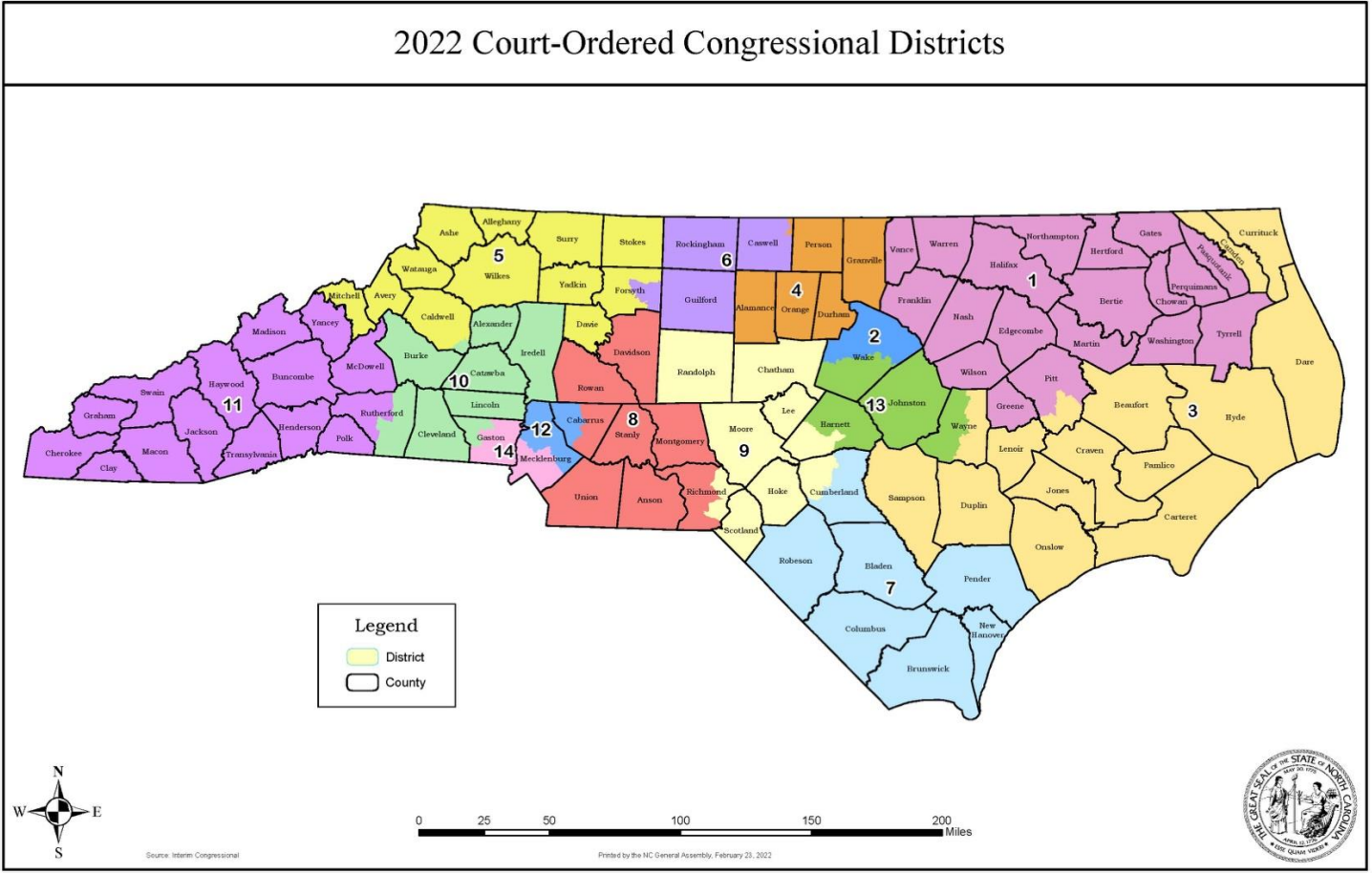
		implementation and service delivery activities.	<p>ED, HHS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Apprenticeship programs to help cover costs for on the job training • Economic Development Administration (Commerce) • RAISE Transportation Grants (DOT) • Clean Cities alternative fuel deployment program (DOE) and the Diesel Emission Reduction Grants Program (EPA) • Rural Development Programs (USDA) • Community Development Block Grants (HUD) • HOME Program (HUD) Housing Choice Voucher Program (HUD) 	<p>Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Centralina Economic Development District -Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition 	the lack of adequate increase in FY22 funding levels.
4	TRANSPORTATION	Reauthorization provides a number of new funding opportunities where regional councils should be recognized specifically for eligibility.	With the October 2021 adoption of the CONNECT Beyond Regional Mobility Plan, Centralina now has a blueprint for improving transportation choices and connections across a 12-county region. With over 180 recommendations for strategic investments in system design, programming and operations, it is imperative that new guidelines for discretionary federal grants include regional councils as eligible applicants.	Eligibility for funding programs will assist in implementing regional priorities.	Continuing to provide grant program information as created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
5	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS (WDB) AND REAUTHORIZATION OF THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA)	The WIOA was signed into law in 2014, reauthorizing federal funding for workforce development activities through September 30, 2020.	Enact five-year reauthorization with continued investments in for low-income, youth and dislocated workers. Ensure that Workforce Development Boards are consulted during policy discussion and any potential changes to the Act and that the recommendations of the National Association of Workforce Boards are followed.	Centralina's WDB partners with economic development, education and business interests to ensure the region competes well in a global economy with an exceptional workforce.	The House passed the Workforce and Opportunity Act of 2022 (H.R. 7309) on May 17 th with a vote of 220-196. The Senate has yet to consider the bill.

6	REAUTHORIZATION OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)	EDA is the only federal agency specifically dedicated to economic development. It has operated without authorization since 2008.	<p>EDA is an important agency for supporting regional economic development policy, planning and investment. Specific aspects of the reauthorization can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise EDA’s authorization level to \$3 billion. • Increase EDA funding for Partnership Planning and enhance scope of related activities. • Increase EDA funding for Public Works and enhance scope of related activities. • Create new EDA Capacity-Building Grant Program. • Reassess and reconstitute EDA’s economic distress formula and consider reducing local match requirements permanently. • Amend original Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) to formally outline and designate EDA’s significant role in post-disaster assistance. 	Centralina Economic Development District is the region’s conduit to EDA funding and manages the regional economic development strategy	No new developments.
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For more information, contact Leslie Mazingo at (202) 255-5760 or leslie@strategics.consulting.

2022 NORTH CAROLINA MID-TERM ELECTIONS



Approximately 39 counties (or portions of a county) are in new districts under the 2022 congressional districts map. Nearly 40% of the counties in North Carolina. District 14 is a new district awarded from the 2020 Census. District 13 contains all new counties. Districts 6, 8, 9, and 10 are significantly changed as compared to the 2020 congressional districts. Address level detailed map for 2022 can be found [here](#). A new congressional districts map will be drawn by the legislature for the 2024 election.

CENTRALINA REGIONAL COUNCIL CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Under the new map, U.S. Representatives Virginia Foxx and Richard Hudson will no longer represent Centralina. U.S. Representative Ted Budd is running for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Senator Richard Burr. The region picks up the new 14th Congressional District.

***Denotes New Districts/Counties in New Districts in the 118th Congress.**

District	Counties	2022 Candidates
8th	Anson*, Cabarrus* (approx. E ½), Davidson*, Montgomery, Richmond* (approx. W ¾), Rowan*, Stanly, Union*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Huffman (D) • Dan Bishop (R-incumbent) <p>Dan Bishop (R) is the current representative for the 9th congressional district. Three counties (Union, Anson, Richmond) in the current 9th district will be in the 2022 8th district.</p>
10th	Alexander*, Burke*, Caldwell* (only small SE enclave), Catawba, Cleveland*, Gaston* (approx. NW ⅓), Iredell, Lincoln, Rutherford* (approx. E ½)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pamela Genant (D) • Patrick T. McHenry (R-incumbent) <p>Three counties (Iredell, Lincoln, Catawba) in the current 10th district will be in the new 10th district.</p>
12th	Cabarrus* (approx. W ½), Mecklenburg* (approx. N ½)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alma Adams (D-incumbent) • Tyler Lee (R)
14th*	Gaston* (approx. SE ⅓), Mecklenburg* (approx. S ½)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Jackson (D) • Pat Harrigan (R) <p>New district, open seat.</p>



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 4

Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 10, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Geraldine Gardner	Presentation Time:	25 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:		Phone Number:				
		Email:				
Submitting Department:	Administration	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner			
Description of Agenda Item:						
The Executive Director will present Centralina's Strategic Plan (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025) and FY23 Workplan for approval by the Board of Delegates.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>Centralina has been working over the last six+ months to develop and finalize a strategic plan to guide the next three fiscal years of the organization's development. In parallel, departments have developed the first-year implementation plan or FY22-23 Workplan. The Strategic Plan will be used to guide operations, including long term financial planning, annual budgets, performance management and professional development programming. The plan also shapes Centralina's core activities, programs and services.</p> <p>Here is a brief overview of the Strategic Plan components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision: Our vision statement incorporates feedback from Board of Delegates and Executive Board engagement in May and June, as well as staff input. • Mission: We are retaining our current mission statement; no changes proposed. • Values: Centralina's Culture and Development Team led an internal process with staff to update and refine our core values. • Goals: Our goals are based on our levels of impact: regional collaboration; local government support; and service delivery. • Strategies: Department and program teams developed multi-year and cross-functional strategies to support each goal. • FY23 Workplan: This document outlines how Centralina will implement the Strategic Plan's goals and corresponding strategies through specific actions and delivery of core services. 						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Motion to approve the FY23-25 Centralina Strategic Plan and FY23 Workplan.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Approval of the FY23 workplan is needed to complete fiscal year set up for performance management and budget .					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Strategic plan guides financial planning and the annual workplan guides the budget.					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	Centralina Strategic Plan - July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025					



INTRODUCTION

Over the last 54 years, Centralina Regional Council has evolved as an organization in response to the needs of a rapidly changing region. However, the rate of change and disruption over the last two years has been unprecedented. While we stepped up to lead, innovate and adapt in response to the pandemic, it hindered our capacity to forecast and plan for future needs. Emerging from the pandemic, we have seized the opportunity to chart a fresh course toward the type of organization that our employees deserve, our members expect and our region needs.

This three-year strategic plan is designed as a roadmap for organizational growth and fiscal stability in service of our mission and in line with our core values. Through this strategic planning process, we imagined a vision for Centralina that is rooted in regional trust, collaboration and hope for a thriving, prosperous future. Our vision anchors the goals, strategies and annual actions that we will undertake over the next three years. The plan is flexible, but demonstrates our firm commitment to organizational excellence, fiscal responsibility and service.

OUR FOUNDATION

Vision

Centralina is a collaborative organization and a trusted partner leading the region, communities and individuals towards a thriving future.

Mission

Our mission is to lead regional collaboration and spark local action to expand opportunity and improve quality of life. We do this through creative problem solving, innovative service delivery and support to our local governments.

Values

We **LEAD** in the way we **ACT** with each other and our customers.

- **L**isten and speak with care
- **E**mbrace boldness and flexibility
- **A**ffirm that differences matter
- **D**rive Collaboration
- **A**ct with integrity
- **C**ommit to our communities
- **T**ake care of ourselves and each other



GOALS & STRATEGIES

The four goals outlined below describe Centralina's aspiration for achieving our vision through our service to the region, communities and individuals. Under each goal, the corresponding strategies outline the paths we will take to make progress over the next three-year period. On an annual basis our leadership team will craft specific action items to be completed, along with our core services and programs, over the course of a fiscal year.

Goal 1: Lead regional engagement to prepare, plan and act on issues that respond to today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.

Strategies

1. Lead implementation of regional infrastructure and mobility initiatives outlined in plans such as, CONNECT Beyond, Regional Freight Plan and CONNECT Our Future.
2. Strengthen regional partnerships and foster collaboration on resilience, recovery and environmental stewardship initiatives.
3. Align Centralina's economic development and workforce development initiatives to effectively lead regional economic development strategy implementation.
4. Expand research, data analysis and convening activities to better position the region to address emerging challenges.
5. Advance regional priorities at the state and federal levels through a robust advocacy agenda and strategic partnerships.

Core Services

- Regional planning and implementation on growth, mobility, economic development, resilience and emerging transportation technologies, systems and alternative fuels
- Regional group management: Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Task Force, Mobility Management Committee, NC Council on Planning, etc.
- Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition
- Regional mobility initiatives for older adults and persons with disabilities
- Federal grant administration for economic development (EDA) and workforce development programming and career services (WIOA)
- Regional Federal Advocacy Agenda and Raleigh Relations Initiative



Goal 2: Build local government capacity, efficiency and innovation in service to Centralina communities and the region.

Strategies

1. Expand technical assistance offerings to leverage Centralina expertise and efficiently deliver services to local governments.
2. Support the local implementation of land-use, mobility and healthy communities solutions identified in regional plans.
3. Lead impactful networks and convenings that build knowledge, share resources and foster regional relationships.
4. Expand programming that builds fiscal health and efficiency in local governments through grants and shared services.
5. Support local government and public service excellence through talent recruitment, professional development and strategic partnerships.

Core Services

- Member engagement, retention and cultivation activities
- Administration and content development for online member portal and resource center
- Technical assistance services in planning, community development and public administration
- Centralina Learns professional development and education events
- Region of Excellence Awards program
- Grant information, writing and administration of state and federal grants (Community Development Block Grants (entitlement and neighborhood revitalization), urgent repair housing program)



Goal 3: Grow our portfolio of person-centered services that enhance an individual's ability to thrive in their careers and in their communities.

Strategies

1. Expand our capacity to address the social determinants of health for a broader range of older and disabled adults.
2. Adapt aging and workforce programs and services to reach historically underserved populations and meet new needs brought on by the pandemic.

Core Services

- Older Americans Act implementation and funding to counties for adult nutrition, transportation, in-home aide services, senior centers and more
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) older adult programming administration
- Family caregiver support and evidence-based health programs (chronic disease, depression, falls prevention, etc.)
- Long-term care facility Ombudsman services and elder abuse awareness education
- Covid vaccine education and outreach
- Senior health insurance counseling
- WIOA funded training and career services
- NCWorks Career Centers in Anson, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly and Union counties
- Centralina Nextgen services and NextGen Youth Opportunity Sites

Goal 4: Strive for organizational excellence by investing in our employees, promoting our work and building efficient systems.

Strategies

1. Develop and implement systems for multi-year financial planning and revenue development to support Centralina growth.
2. Transition to an organizational structure that builds efficiency, collaboration and career pathways for staff.
3. Invest in a OneCentralina culture of engagement, professional development and market competitive compensation structure.
4. Increase regional awareness of Centralina by promoting our services, programs and experts.



CENTRALINA STRATEGIC PLAN

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025

5. Enhance strategic communications planning and implementation to meet department and organizational needs.

Core Services: Centralina Boards administration; financial administration; marketing and communications; organization operations.

Implementation & Evaluation

A plan is only good if it's implemented; our team is committed to thoughtful implementation and transparent reporting on our progress. The Centralina Board of Delegates will receive quarterly progress reports on the status of the implementation actions in each fiscal year workplan. Overall progress on the Strategic Plan will be captured in Centralina's annual report. Not only will we report on the key performance indicators for the plan (see Appendix B), but we will also regularly share success stories as part of our efforts to expand regional awareness of our impact.



Appendix A – Values in Action

We LEAD in the way we ACT with each other and our customers.	What does this look like?		
Listen and Speak With Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We take time to praise each other and practice gratitude. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We actively listen before being heard, practicing empathy and speaking with precision and care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are open to feedback on how we can adapt and improve.
Embrace boldness and flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are innovative and not afraid to take risks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are flexible in both independent and collaborative tasks while working remotely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are open minded leaders that look to the future and anticipate what's next.
Affirm that differences matter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge and appreciate that we are all unique individuals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We actively engage to understand other unique perspectives, needs and experiences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We adapt how we present our expertise so that it is accessible to all.
Drive Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We serve as subject-matter experts (SMEs) to ensure our organization is able to meet critical business needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge that we are better together! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We adopt a One Centralina mindset by creating opportunities for teamwork within and across all areas.
Act with integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are mindful of the impact that our actions and decisions have on others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We work to build trust through honest relationships and acting in good faith. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We adhere to the highest level of ethics and authenticity.
Commit to our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are proactive in engaging our communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We invest in learning about our communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We foster relationships with local leaders to build bridges for our communities.
Take care of ourselves and each other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We practice and support a healthy work-life balance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We intentionally take action to improve our physical and mental health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are aware when our teammates are in need and offer support.



Appendix B – Key Performance Indicators

Unless otherwise stated below, the baseline year for performance tracking will be FY23. Centralina may set performance targets for future fiscal years.

Goal 1: Lead regional engagement to prepare, plan and act on issues that respond to today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.

- # of regional plan implementation items initiated, completed and not started (includes CONNECT Beyond and the CEDS)
- # of grant applications or funding requests submitted
- # of unique data resources, research or commentary articles developed
- # of engagements with federal and state elected representatives and staff

Goal 2: Build local government capacity, efficiency and innovation in service to Centralina communities and the region.

- # of member engagement activities conducted
- # of participants in Centralina Learns and other professional development programming
- # of peer network and thematic meetings held and # of participants
- # of grant information and advising services delivered

Goal 3: Grow our portfolio of person-centered services that enhance an individual's ability to thrive in their careers and in their communities.

- # of participants in Centralina AAA health and wellness programs
- # of new partnerships developed to expand services and reach new audiences
- # of employers served with workforce development services
- # of career seekers served

Goal 4: Strive for organizational excellence by investing in our employees, promoting our work and building efficient systems.

- \$ of new revenue generated through technical assistance contracts and grants
- # of professional development training hours completed by staff
- # of media mentions of Centralina's work or staff
- # of awards received



INTRODUCTION

The four goals outlined below describe Centralina’s aspiration for achieving our vision through our service to the region, communities and individuals. Under each goal, the corresponding strategies outline the paths we will take to make progress over the next three-year period. The priority actions outlined under each strategy are what Centralina aims to accomplish in the FY22-23 fiscal year. These actions complement our core services which form the foundation of our work.

FY23 WORKPLAN

Goal 1: Lead regional engagement to prepare, plan and act on issues that respond to today’s needs and tomorrow’s opportunities.

Strategy 1: Lead implementation of regional infrastructure and mobility initiatives outlined in plans such as, CONNECT Beyond, Regional Freight Plan and CONNECT our Future.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Initiate implementation of high-priority CONNECT Beyond implementation items including: the Regional Scheduling and Operations Coordination Study; regional Transportation Demand Management Program design; and increased cross-system coordination among human services transit providers.
2. Launch the CONNECT Beyond Advancing the Plan Committee as a formal subcommittee of the Centralina Board to ensure regional coordination and representation on major transportation projects, provide strategy direction on implementation (including funding and partnerships recommendations), and to facilitate communications about implementation activities among and between committee members and key regional leadership.
3. Initiate regional land use analysis for travel demand modeling, including regional stakeholder committee and cross-MPO, cross-jurisdiction coordination.
4. Lead regional engagement to determine opportunities for consortium applications for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and ARPA funding opportunities related to electric vehicle planning, transportation and community development.



CENTRALINA STRATEGIC PLAN

FY23 Workplan

Strategy 2: Strengthen regional partnerships and foster collaboration on resilience, recovery and environmental stewardship initiatives.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Lead regional resilience and recovery planning to establish a regional baseline for recovery and resilience and develop a roadmap outlining the specific steps and Recovery Support Function (RSF) and Community Lifeline data needed to prepare for future disasters and economic shocks.
2. Strengthen partnerships with regional water advocacy groups, state and regional agencies (e.g., Regional Stormwater Partnership of the Carolinas, Catawba-Wataree and Yadkin-Pee Dee water management groups, NC Department of Environmental Quality) to connect water infrastructure, growth and economic development coordination.
3. Lead regional engagement to determine opportunities for consortium applications to federal and state grants to improve water quality, remediate brownfields and address persistent flooding areas.

Strategy 3: Align Centralina's economic development and workforce development initiatives to effectively lead regional economic development strategy implementation.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Complete Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for nine-county region.
2. Launch implementation of CEDS and pursue priority actions for first-year implementation, including potential grant funding opportunities.
3. Develop mechanisms for meaningful collaboration across the region's workforce boards and economic development organizations to achieve stronger alignment and support CEDS implementation.
4. Align ongoing initiatives to create new workforce tools with existing resources (Centralina Career Headlight) to create a wholistic regional solutions and minimize duplication.
5. Reinforce work-based learning skills and competencies through the expansion of the Upskill Centralina grant program for local businesses.

Strategy 4: Expand research, data analysis and convening activities to better position the region to address emerging challenges.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop and promote a regional data portal on the Centralina website that consolidates and showcases available data resources.
2. Utilize new tools, such as the CEDS Prosperity Profiles, Transit Equity Map and Resilience and Equity Map, to develop original analysis of regional trends.



3. Launch regional housing dialogues series to understand current and future housing challenges and inform new programming.

Strategy 5: Advance regional priorities at the state and federal levels through a robust advocacy agenda and strategic partnerships.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop and implement federal and state advocacy agendas for new legislative periods.
2. Pursue federal Community Projects Funding and state appropriations to fund key projects, including CONNECT Beyond implementation.
3. Collaborate with NC Association of Regional Councils of Government (NCARCOG) on state advocacy, especially on funding for long term care ombudsman and workforce shortage in long-term care facilities.

Core Services

- Regional planning and implementation on growth, mobility, economic development, alternative fuels and resilience
- Regional groups management: Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Task force, Mobility Management Committee, NC Council on Planning, etc.
- Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition
- Regional mobility initiatives for older adults and persons with disabilities
- Federal grant administration for economic development (EDA) and workforce development programming and career services (WIOA)
- Regional Federal Advocacy Agenda and Raleigh Relations Initiative

Goal 2: Build local government capacity, efficiency and innovation in service to Centralina communities and the region.

Strategy 1: Expand technical assistance offerings to leverage Centralina expertise and efficiently deliver services to local governments

FY23 Priority Actions

1. Enhance services to local governments in housing planning, model zoning code language and minimum code enforcement.
2. Promote best practices in community engagement, including meeting facilitation, surveys and methods for in-person and virtual engagement.
3. Expand strategic planning services to support local governments in developing shared vision and priorities for their communities.



CENTRALINA STRATEGIC PLAN

FY23 Workplan

4. Provide expertise and training on land use and transportation trends likely to impact NC communities, such as planning for legalization of medical marijuana, pandemic impacts on transportation and advancing equity.

Strategy 2: Support the local implementation of land use, mobility and healthy communities solutions identified in regional plans.

FY23 Priority Actions

1. Engage local governments in their role in advancing implementation actions in CONNECT Beyond, including planning for mobility hubs, increasing local access to transit and supporting employee commuter programs.
2. Provide expertise to local governments in planning for electric vehicle infrastructure and preparing for funding opportunities in alignment with regional and state plans.
3. Provide support to local government initiatives focused on improving health through community design.

Strategy 3: Lead impactful networks and convenings that build knowledge, share resources and foster regional relationships.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Scale Regional Resilience Collaborative into a peer network to support Emergency Managers across the region build local relations and long-term recovery best practices.
2. Utilize Centralina Learns programming to prepare local governments for emerging issues and opportunities including: innovative stormwater management and flood mitigation; fair and affordable housing practices; grant proposal writing; diversity, equity and inclusion.
3. Launch small towns engagement series to convene leaders from smaller communities in the region to exchange best practices and solutions.
4. Host inaugural convening of Centralina Women in Local Government to connect elected officials and managers.

Strategy 4: Expand programming that builds fiscal health and efficiency in local governments through grants and shared services.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop and administer disaster recovery funding administration training for local governments in the Centralina region and provide technical assistance to the statewide training program through the NC Association of Regional Councils of Government.
2. Providing planning, monitoring, compliance assistance and reporting support to local governments in administering funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.



3. Expand programming to support communities in grant seeking activities, including one on one advising and on-demand grant writing services.
4. Explore the feasibility and market demand for local government cooperative purchasing program in the region.

Strategy 5: Support local government and public administration service through talent recruitment, professional development and strategic partnerships.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop Talent Library on Centralina Member Portal to provide sample job descriptions, interview questions and other resources.
2. Expand awareness of Centralina WDB and its NCWorks Career Centers as a local, reliable source for career opportunities and talent for local governments.
3. Educate local governments and their communities about ageism and diversity, equity and inclusion within the aging population through trainings, webinars and advocacy.

Core Services

- Member engagement, retention and cultivation activities
- Administration and content development for online member portal and resource center
- Technical assistance services in planning, community development and public administration
- Centralina Learns professional development and education events
- Region of Excellence Awards program
- Grant information, writing and administration of state and federal grants (Community Development Block Grants (entitlement and neighborhood revitalization), urgent repair housing program)

Goal 3: Grow our portfolio of person-centered services that enhance an individual’s ability to thrive in their careers and in their communities.

Strategy 1: Expand our capacity to address the social determinants of health for a broader range of older and disabled adults.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop new partnerships with Medicare Managed Care entities and State of North Carolina to address home improvement and other community-based services.
2. Launch Safe at Home Falls Prevention pilot program in Mecklenburg and Union counties and meet service referral targets for first year.



CENTRALINA STRATEGIC PLAN

FY23 Workplan

Strategy 2: Adapt aging and workforce programs and services to reach historically underserved populations and meet new needs brought on by the pandemic

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Increase number of Youth Opportunity Sites and/or NextGen services, especially in communities with disengaged youth.
2. Work with NCWorks Career Center leaders to identify and connect with individuals in their communities where extended outreach is needed, especially to enhance work-based learning opportunities and other services.
3. Launch new evidence-based health program focused on depression, isolation, and older adults (PEARLS – Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives).
4. Continue to expand the number of virtual format programs, activities and resources available to prevent social isolation for older and disabled adults in region.
5. Utilize Community Health Worker model to increase access to evidence-based health programs and services in the region for underserved older adults.
6. Identify gaps in outreach to older adults in rural, African American and Hispanic communities and develop specific outreach materials to engage them.
7. Increase and develop new direct service lines at the AAA level with ARPA funding such as Family Caregiver Support programs, home improvement, and direct home support programs to increase regional capacity and efficiency in funding.

Core Services

- Older Americans Act implementation and funding to counties for adult nutrition, transportation, in-home aide services, senior centers and more.
- Family caregiver support and evidence-based health programs (chronic disease, depression, falls prevention, etc.),
- Long-term care facility Ombudsman services and elder abuse awareness education
- Covid vaccine education and outreach
- Senior Health Insurance counseling
- WIOA funded training and career services
- NCWorks Career Centers in Anson, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly and Union counties
- Centralina Nextgen services and NextGen Youth Opportunity Sites

Goal 4: Strive for organizational excellence by investing in our employees, promoting our work and building efficient systems.

Strategy 1: Develop and implement systems for multi-year financial planning and revenue development to support Centralina growth.



CENTRALINA STRATEGIC PLAN

FY23 Workplan

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop three-year revenue forecast and model to plan for resources needed to meet the organization's goals for growth and compensation approach.
2. Explore feasibility of bringing on external expertise to support the organization in understanding strengths, opportunities and risks related to current revenue sources and business development opportunities.

Strategy 2: Transition to an organizational structure that builds efficiency, collaboration and career pathways for staff.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Align supervision of regional planning and community economic development departments for greater collaboration and programmatic synergy.
2. Adjust supervisory structure of the aging department to provide additional leadership and career opportunities in developing program/service areas.
3. Launch succession planning activities to identify critical positions and opportunities for staff development of core leadership competencies.
4. Expand administrative team capacity through fellows and an additional communications position.

Strategy 3: Invest in a OneCentralina culture of engagement, professional development and market competitive compensation structure.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Implement a program for management and leadership development for Centralina supervisors to support growth and set expectations.
2. Launch quarterly OneCentralina engagement activities to build relationships across departments while connecting with regional stakeholders.
3. Evaluate and identify process improvements for employee onboarding.
4. Adopt a market competitive pay and compensation structure based on study findings.

Strategy 4: Increase regional awareness of Centralina by enhancing our strategic communications planning and promoting our brand.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Develop communications master plan that includes strategies for priority projects and department specific initiatives.
2. Develop shared website standards for affiliates and department specific sites to ensure brand alignment.
3. Identify opportunities to promote Centralina experts for commentary and analysis with regional media and professional publications.

Strategy 5: Enhance Centralina operations by refining policies and managing risks.

FY23 Priority Actions:

1. Finalize updates to Centralina key policies and procedures (operations, finance, HR, etc.) and initiate staff education activities.



CENTRALINA STRATEGIC PLAN

FY23 Workplan

2. Conduct a cybersecurity assessment and develop a Centralina Regional Council incident response plan.
3. Initiate an internal IT survey to identify opportunities and gaps in IT systems coordination, software/hardware needs and vendor services.
4. Explore needs and feasibility of software solutions to better manage Centralina contacts (i.e., customer relationship management system) and external communications.

Core Services:

- Centralina Boards administration
- Financial administration
- Brand management, website, marketing and communications
- Organization operations, IT, HR and performance management
- LinkedIn Learning
- Employee appreciation program: High-Five and Peer to Peer Recognition Awards
- Cross Departmental Teams

Implementation & Evaluation

A plan is only good if it is implemented; our team is committed to thoughtful implementation and transparent reporting of our progress. The Centralina Board of Delegates will receive quarterly progress reports on the status of the priority actions and case stories or success stories of our impact. These reports will be also available on our website and shared with our members.



CENTRALINA

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Item 5



Board Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	August 10, 2022	Agenda Item Type:	Consent: <input type="checkbox"/>	Regular: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Submitting Person:	Kelly Weston	Presentation Time:	25 minutes	
Presenter at Meeting:	Christina Danis, Zsuzsanna Kadar, Kelly Weston	Phone Number:	(704) 688-6502	
		Email:	cdanis@centralina.org	
Alternate Contact:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	(704) 351-7130	
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org	
Submitting Department:	Government Affairs & Member Engagement	Department Head Approval:	Geraldine Gardner	
Description of Agenda Item:				
<p>Centralina staff will present an overview of key American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) considerations pertinent to elected officials in their ARPA-related decision-making and communication with constituents.</p>				
Background & Basis of Recommendations:				
<p>Over the past year, Centralina has provided resources and technical support to member governments to assist them in navigating ARPA. Since April, Centralina staff has been convening the ARPA Peer Consortium, a peer-to-peer working group comprised of local government staff who share an interest in receiving strategic support in administering their ARPA allocations. Centralina is also providing monitoring services to these communities to ensure compliance with federal guidance. The organization's capacity to provide this support for member governments is underwritten by funding from the NC Association of Regional Councils of Government and the NC Pandemic Recovery Office. Centralina is also working in partnership with the UNC School of Government, the NC League of Municipalities, and the NC Association of County Commissioners on this effort.</p> <p>The briefing at the Board of Delegates meeting is an extension of that effort and is intended to support Delegates in their role as elected leaders tasked with making effective ARPA-related decisions to maximize impact and minimize burden while also mitigating risks. Centralina staff will also share suggested approaches for effectively communicating with constituents about ARPA and discuss the ways Centralina can support member governments through the ARPA process.</p>				
Requested Action / Recommendation:				
Receive as information.				
Time Sensitivity:	None			
Budget Impact:	None			
Attachments:	None			