

Kerr-Tar Regional Council Of Governments

Planning & Development
for a Better Region K

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Bulletin
October 2016

UPDATES

- Region K CAC Board Meeting Thursday, October 27th @ 6:30 p.m.
- COG Board Meeting Thursday, October 27th @ 7:00 p.m.
- TAC/TCC Meeting: Thursday, October, 13th @ 3:00 p.m.

AROUND THE REGION

Michael Kelly, Planning Director



Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments has a new Planning Director, Michael Kelly. Michael is a graduate from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill with a work history in planning. Previously, Michael worked for Orange County Planning and Inspections Department as well as North Carolina Office of the Lieutenant Governor. We are excited to have Michael join our team!

Suja Jacob, Project Manager/
Marketing Specialist



Suja Jacob has recently joined the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments team. Previously, Suja worked as the Marketing Manager for Mediacom where she lead special projects, managing all aspects from planning to communication, implementation and reporting. She also created and distributed internal and external communications including newsletters, campaign and promotional information.

TAC/TCC Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016
3:00 p.m. @ COG Office

TAC/TCC meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Action items for this meeting include:

- Receive and approve minutes of the June 23, 2016 meeting
- Approve the KTRPO SPOT Prioritization P4.0 Division Projects Local Points Assignment

Click [here](#) to see the full agenda. For more information contact Ann Stroobant at astroobant@kerrtarco.org.

North Carolina League of
Municipalities Annual Conference

North Carolina League of Municipalities Annual Conference, CityVision 2016, will be held in Raleigh, October 23-25. Visit http://www.event.com/events/cityvision-2016-annual-conference/event-summary-0c1b-c3d612ab4d96aa24928508afb568.aspx?_cldee=amhpbGxzQGVjY29nLm9yZw==&recipientid=contact-dc8fd0124533e2118e3c005056a07b49-600608fc6a794ddd862b3ca3a9642b48 to register.

4th Annual Eastern North Carolina
Sustainability Summit
Wednesday, October 26th
Halifax Community College

Will be held October 26th at The Centre at Halifax Community College, Weldon, NC. Students, citizens, businesses professionals, public officials, farmers, and everyone are invited to network, learn, and discuss how sustainability can support our economy, create jobs, and improve our communities now while preserving resources for the next generation. The Summit is a free event open to everyone! It offers Keynote speeches, panels, and sessions from noted experts on: renewable energy, the local food economy and agriculture, water, alternative fuel vehicles, Brownfields, and more. This full day event includes exhibitors from both the public and private sectors. There will be alternative fuel vehicles that run on electricity, compressed natural gas, ethanol, propane, and biodiesel from manufacturers and dealers. Local food trucks will be on hand to satisfy your hunger (food cost not included in free registration). Registration and information is online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4th-annual-eastern-north-carolina-sustainability-summit-tickets-26849911809>. Please contact Ron Townley at rtownley@ucpcog.org if interested in exhibiting or sponsoring.

Local Government Managers
Innovation Lab
November 18, 2016 | Chapel Hill

The Local Government Managers Innovation Lab is one of a new group of programs designed specifically for city and county managers. This one day event will provide hands-on training to improve organizational effectiveness. Participants will learn to use design thinking as a practical tool to develop innovative solutions to community issues and to improve service delivery. Visit https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/local-government-managers-innovation-lab#!/?_cldee=amhpbGxzQGVjY29nLm9yZw%3D%3D for event details.

EDA Accepting FY 2017 Proposals for
Projects that will Foster Economic
Development and Support Job Creation

EDA invites applicants to work with their Economic Development Representative and develop a Proposal for potential projects that will foster economic development by promoting long-term job creation and the attraction of private investment. EDA grant programs support eligible applicants (States, units of local government, institutions of higher education, nonprofits working in collaboration with political subdivision of a State, Tribes) in implementing construction projects to advance economic development. To learn more about EDA's grant programs and opportunities, please feel free to contact hsherman@eda.gov or 404-730-3013.

REMINDER: NTIA Announces
Nine-Part Series of Monthly
Webinars to Engage Stakeholders
in the Development of the
Community Connectivity Initiative

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), as part of its BroadbandUSA program, will host a nine-part series of monthly webinars to engage stakeholders to inform the development of the Community Connectivity Initiative (Initiative).

The objective of the Initiative is to support communities working to accelerate broadband access, improve digital inclusion, strengthen policies, and support local community priorities. The webinar series will convene stakeholders to discuss the role that broadband plays in achieving local priorities and will solicit input on the development of the Initiative, which is a compilation of three new resources for local communities featuring: (1) a Community Connectivity framework; (2) an online self-assessment tool; and (3) a report and recommendations. Through collaborative sessions, participants will: review the Community Connectivity framework; review assessment questions and response options; co-design the structure and content for the report and recommendations; and identify supporting resources and tools that will support the local communities' use of the tools in 2017 and beyond. The proposed focus areas for each meeting are listed below:

Oct. 13: Initiative update and discussion on user support requirements

Nov. 10: Initiative update and evaluation discussion

Dec. 8: Initiative update and discussion of training requirements

Jan. 12: Initiative update and discussion of roll-out timeline

Feb. 9: Initiative update and communication discussion

March 9: Initiative update and next steps discussion

The Community Connectivity Initiative monthly webinars will be held on the second Thursday of each month from 2:00-3:00 p.m., Eastern Time on the dates specified above. This is a virtual meeting. The webinars are open to the public and press. Pre-registration is recommended. NTIA asks registrants to provide their first and last names and email addresses for both registration purposes and to receive any updates on the BroadbandUSA Community Connectivity Initiative at <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/CommunityConnectivityWebinars> or via email at BroadbandUSA@ntia.doc.gov.

Meeting agendas and relevant documents, including information on how to register for one or more webinars, will be also available on NTIA's website, <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/CommunityConnectivityWebinars>.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and Implementation

Much emphasis is often spent on forming the CEDS committee to begin the 5-year strategic planning process. Once these folks are gathered, what exactly do you need them to engage in? And what pre-work does this require on behalf of the Economic Development Districts (EDD) to maximize the success of this engagement?

While the answers are as unique as the region each EDD works within, there are common denominators that can lead to greater engagement and regional ownership of the CEDS document over the long-term. Chief among these is forming a plan for how CEDS will be developed and how the CEDS Committee will be utilized. Coming into the first meeting with an outline of how the CEDS Committee will be engaged throughout the process can be key to sustaining participation and ensuring that the CEDS is truly regionally-driven.

We've all been there - a meeting is called for something most parties present have a tangential understanding of, and over the course of an hour the discussion goes around a circuitous path such that at the end it is announced that the following meeting will continue the conversation. Everyone walks out with different understanding of what the purpose of the meeting was and what the objectives of the continued dialogue in the follow-up conversation are likely to be. Contract this approach to meetings where you are provided a clear agenda and a high-level document that details key topics or focus areas that each meeting will focus on and key deadlines or presentations to external parties or boards. In the latter regional input is still solicited and discussion facilitated, but it is focused in way to be most useful to informing development of CEDS.

Sometimes amid the constantly ringing phone, the back-to-back meetings, the cascading to-do list, it can seem like a luxury to take an hour or two to sit back and really develop a strategy for how to engage and develop the regional strategy. As the old adage says, "What we do now, we reap later." The investment in time on the front end of the process to design a thoughtfully crafted way to engage regional input can pay dividends for helping regional partners feel excited about the process and be willing to take greater ownership in the implementation of initiatives to advance the CEDS strategies.

Click [here](#) for more information on the CEDS and the 2014 full report.

2017 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative

The N.C. Department of Transportation is accepting proposals from communities for the 2017 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative. The program provides funding for the development of comprehensive plans to provide facilities for biking, walking or a combination of both. The deadline for application is Thursday, Nov. 10 at 5 p.m. Award recipients will be notified by March 2017. For more information please click [here](#).

“Walking and Walkability in Rural Communities.” Webinar

Thursday, October 13th @ 2 p.m.

Immediately prior to the TAC/TCC meeting on Thursday, October 13th, from 2pm to 3pm, we invite those interested to join us in viewing the webinar “Walking and Walkability in Rural Communities.” This webinar is sponsored by America Walks and is part of their 2016 webinar series “Walking is for Everyone.” Click [here](#) for more information about the webinar and the presenters. Registration for the webinar is not required, if you plan to view at the Kerr-Tar Office.

New SOG Public Finance Blog

The School of Government has just launched a new blog: Death & Taxes: The Public Finance Blog You Can't Avoid (<http://deathandtaxes.sog.unc.edu/>). Faculty members, and the occasional guest blogger, will be adding content to the blog every week on a broad range of topics including tax policy, budget certification FAQ, property tax assessment, and GASB standards. The blog will be a tool for communicating important issues facing local government budgets and revenue sources, and we expect that managers will often be interested in these current events and topics. Your feedback on the blog is welcome.

North Carolina Lakes District Bike Plan

Currently, the Planning & Development Department is in the process of finishing the North Carolina Lakes District Bike Plan ([NCLD Bike Plan](#)). The printing of 3-5 copies of the plan, presenting, and sending the necessary files to NCDOT are the remaining requirements for the closing out of this plan. Please contact Ann Stroobant at astroobant@kerrtarcog.org if you have any questions or concerns about the NCLD Bike Plan.

Local Government Managers Innovation Lab

The Local Government Managers Innovation Lab is one of a new group of programs designed specifically for city and county managers. This one day event will provide hands-on training to improve organizational effectiveness. Participants will learn to use design thinking as a practical tool to develop innovative solutions to community issues and to improve service delivery. Visit https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/local-government-managers-innovation-lab#!/?_cldee=amhpbGx-zQGVjY29nLm9yZw%3D%3D for event details.

Federal Transit Administration's
5310 Grant Program
Public Hearing
Thursday, October 27th
7:30 p.m.

August began the start of the Federal Transit Administration's 49 USC § 5310 Grant Program, mobility management is currently re-submitting this grant application for consideration during the upcoming 2016-2017 Fiscal Year. A public-hearing will be held at the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments before the October 27th COG Board Meeting. At this meeting, proposed agenda items are to be reviewed, the proposed work plan for the upcoming fiscal year, and other mobility management topics of importance. Your attendance at this meeting is strongly encouraged. Please visit kerrtarmobility.wordpress.com for more information and details on the process and other mobility management topics. Also, please contact Tony Sumter, Mobility Manager at tsumter@kerrtarco.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Local Food Economies

The Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS) has launched a new initiative to engage local governments in the work of building local food systems. Local Food Economies (LFE) is part of NC Growing Together (NCGT), a project that aims to bring more locally-produced foods into mainstream markets. The LFE initiative was developed to support the work of local government and economic development agencies as they seek to expand the capacity and potential of businesses within the local food value chain. Click [here](#) for more details.

New Survey and Analysis Show
Perspectives of Millennials on Economy

The importance of millennials on economic growth and development is well documented. What is often less clear is exactly what they want. A new survey released by the Economic Innovation Group highlights perspectives of this generation on key economic factors. The results of this survey and the key findings may be of use to you and your key partners as you work to design and implement regional development initiatives. To access the survey findings and summary, please click [here](#).

Division of Water Resources Solicits
Proposals

Proposals are now being solicited for projects that implement a DWR-approved watershed restoration plan to restore the water quality of waters impaired at least in part by nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. Approximately \$650,000 of federal funds are available for water quality restoration projects. Funds are provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. This is the second RFP released in North Carolina for 2016. Applications are due by October 21, 2016. For more information and to apply, visit <http://eig.org/millennial#1473667975985-84b7f624-4f05>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

October Workshops Offered at Career Centers

Local Career centers have many workshops to offer in the month of October, including:

- Basic Computer Skills
- Resume Writing
- Professionalism

To see the full calendar, please click [here](#). For more information please contact Kelly Hundley at khundley@kerrtarcog.org.

SelectUSA Adds New Features on Web Platform

SelectUSA Stats has some exciting new features! This free online tool helps users see and compare useful FDI statistics. Interactive dashboards present FDI data with detail by market, industry, state employment, investment type, and more. Now, users can access data on new greenfield investment by source, state, and industry, as well as data on the ease of doing business in the United States as compared to other international markets. Head over to SelectUSA Stats to explore the data and see FDI in action. To access the data tool, please click [here](#).

SRI Education and Joyce Foundation Release Report on Strategies for Empowering Adults to Thrive at Work

A recent report from SRI Education and The Joyce Foundation entitled “Empowering Adults to Thrive at Work: Personal Success Skills for 21st Century Jobs” discusses how evidence-based research provides guidance for promoting personal success skills for adults who are striving to build sustainable 21st-century careers. As research shows, there are millions of unemployed and underemployed individuals in the United States. Empowering Adults maintains that to build a sustainable career in the 21st-century workforce, no matter the job or occupation, adults need not only academic, technical, and professional knowledge but also a broad set of personal success skills. It is these skills that will enable workers to deal with the challenges, relationships, transitions, and social systems that make up working life. Among these capacities, as identified by the report, are basic job readiness, self-directed learning, self-management, personal responsibility, effective communication, career management, and everyday problem solving. Through a coordinated, multifaceted system of education, workforce development, and social services, strengthening the personal success skills of individuals can provide them with “powerful levers for succeeding in the working world.” This report has implications for regional partners engaged in workforce retraining efforts and community colleges.

AGING

Surfing the Silver Tsunami Expo
Thursday, October 20th
Vance-Granville Civic Center

Kerr-Tar AAA will be hosting their second EXPO. There will be numerous vendors with items for sale, in addition to Medicare counseling, flu shots, Social Security Administration, Red Cross, chiropractor, and a mobile unit to check hearing, among other things. For more information contact Melissa Catlett, (mcatlett@kerrtarco.org) or 252-436-2040.

Aging Population in the Kerr-Tar Region

To view the most current report on the aging population in the Region and the state, visit <https://ncdhhs.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/county-aging-profiles>.

MISSION

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments aims to promote regionalism that provides opportunities for local governments to enhance and improve the quality of life for our citizens through effective delivery of services and programs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman

Tommy Hester | Vance County

Vice Chairman

Barry Richardson | Warren County

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Henry Daniel | City of Roxboro

Walter Gardner | Town of Warrenton

David Smith | At-Large

Bryan Pfohl | At-Large

Danny Wright | At-Large

ABOUT US

COMMUNITIES SERVED

Franklin County
Granville County
Person County
Vance County
Warren County

Town of Bunn
Town of Butner
City of Creedmoor
Town of Franklinton
City of Henderson
Town of Kittrell
Town of Louisburg
Town of Macon
Town of Middleburg
Town of Norlina
City of Oxford
City of Roxboro
Town of Stem
Town of Stovall
Town of Warrenton
Town of Youngsville

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