

COG Calendar:

- Good Friday
Holiday,
April 14th —
COG office
closed
- Liter Sweep
April 15-29
- NC Rural
Center Rural
Day,
Tuesday,
May 9th [Click
here](#) for
more
information
- Next COG
Board
Meeting,
May 25th @
6:30 p.m.
- Next
TAC/TCC
Meeting,
May 25th @
3-5 p.m.

Around the Region

WIZS Radio

Planning Department will be on WIZS Radio Show on **Wednesday, April 12th** at 4:30 p.m.

Requesting Volunteers and Sponsors for the 2017 Region K Senior Games

Senior Games kicked off on Thursday, March 23, 2017 at John Graham Gymnasium, in Warren County with opening ceremonies, basketball shooting, and a fun walk. In the months of April and May there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the Senior Games program as a sponsor or volunteer, please contact: [Melissa Catlett](#), Local Coordinator at 252-436-2040. Click [here](#) for more information or [here](#) for Senior Games schedule.



K-12 Internet Access at Home Survey

Nationally, 7 in 10 teachers assign homework that requires internet access. But an estimated five million households with school-age children do not have internet access at home. Students that fall into this "homework gap"-households where internet access is limited or unavailable-lag behind in education and are less competitive in the workforce.

Data on the number of households affected by the homework gap in North Carolina does not currently exist. This data is necessary to enable policy makers and education stakeholders to design solutions.

The Broadband Infrastructure Office (BIO) and the Friday Institute at North Carolina State University are partnering to collect data on where the homework gap exists and potential challenges students face in accessing digital resources.

The anonymous, short survey is available [here](#). It remains open until **April 30, 2017**.

Around the Region Continued

Kerr-Tar Council of Governments Revolving Loan Fund

The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments administers a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to assist existing businesses as well as new entrepreneurs in securing financing they are otherwise unable to secure through traditional channels. The primary goal of the RLF program is to create new jobs in the region. Preference is given to businesses that will add full-time skilled or semi-skilled positions. The source of funding is the Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA). Some specific guidelines may apply. The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments welcomes partnering with other lenders to assist local area business to succeed and thrive. For more information contact [Mark Warren](#). Click [here](#) to view the brochure or [here](#) for an application.

Application Period for Hazard Mitigation Program Open

The N.C. Emergency Management application period for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is now open. With the catastrophic impact of Hurricane Matthew on North Carolina, the state expects to see the largest HMGP offered since Hurricane Floyd. N.C. Emergency Management is accepting Letters of Interest for possible inclusion in the state's HMGP submission to FEMA. Eligible applicants are local governments with a FEMA and NCEM approved and adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan. **The deadline for receiving the letters is May 1, 2017.** A separate goal of March 31, 2017, was set for receiving letters for an expedited grant process for communities facing a more pressing resilient housing need. Communities will have to develop a process for gathering documentation and application for community residents, but technical assistance and additional help can be provided. Questions regarding the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, technical assistance with applicant intake or eligibility can be directed to Nick Burk, Hazard Mitigation Grants Section Manager, at 919-825-2301, or Sharon Winstead, Hazard Mitigation Supervisor, at 919-825-2356.

2017 NC Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Master Plan—The Road to Viability

The State Water Infrastructure Authority is pleased to announce that "North Carolina's Statewide Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Master Plan: The Road to Viability" has been approved. The nine-member authority was created by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013 to assess and make recommendations about the state's water and wastewater infrastructure needs. The master plan presents the state's roadmap for viable water and wastewater utilities that safeguard public health, protect the environment, support vibrant communities, and encourage economic development. The master plan applies broadly to owners and operators of water and wastewater utilities and systems that serve the public. Local elected officials, town and county managers, utility governing boards, customers and stakeholders, and the general public all have key roles in achieving viable utilities. The state's role is to foster long-term viability in three integrated focus areas: Infrastructure Management; Organizational Management; and Financial Management. The Master Plan is located here: [Master Plan](#)

Received a CDBG, HUD, or Federal award? This is an important reminder about RFPs, RFQs, P&S, and contracting

Per 2 CFR §200.319 Competition. (a) All procurement transactions must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the standards of this section. In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements.

NC 911 funding—2018 grant cycle now

The 2018 Grant Cycle is open and accepting grant applications until **June 7, 2017**. The link can be found on the rotating "Carousel" on the 911 Board website landing page, in the "911 Forms Panel" under "Resources" or by using this link https://ncit.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/2018_1%20Grant%20Application.docm

Planning & Economic Development

NCDOT Litter Sweep

Litter Sweep is the N.C. Department of Transportation's statewide roadside litter removal initiative in which volunteers participate in local efforts to help clean up North Carolina's roadways. Volunteers are provided cleanup supplies, such as orange trash bags, gloves and orange safety vests from their respective local NCDOT county maintenance office.

Litter Sweep is traditionally scheduled for the last two weeks of April and September.

- In Spring 2017, Litter Sweep runs **April 15-29**.
- In Fall 2017, Litter Sweep runs Sept. 16-30.

For more information, click [here](#).

In addition to volunteers, the NCDOT maintenance crews devote one week of their time during Litter Sweep to pick up litter and collect orange bags from the roadsides once volunteers have completed their cleanups.

NC Ethics Commission Reminder

The NC Ethics Commission has asked us to remind our Kerr-Tar TAC members that SEI and RED forms are due by **April 17, 2017**. Click [here](#) for the link to the NC Ethics Commission website which contains useful information and instructions.

We have also been asked to remind our TAC members that there is a possible fine of \$500 if you fail to file (\$250 for each form). The SEI No-Change form can be used if you have had no changes since your 2016 filing. If you have had changes you must file a complete (long version) SEI. The RED is also required with either form. Please don't hesitate to contact [Ann Stroobant](#) at Kerr-Tar RPO (252-436-2040) or [Peggy Malpass](#) at the NC Ethics Commission (919-814-3600) if you have any questions or need assistance.

Click [here](#) to view the ethics training video.

An ethics slide presentation is available, [here](#), then click on *2017 MPO-RPO Ethics Training* on the right side of the page.

Granville County Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update (CTP Update)

Granville County has the oldest CTP (2008) in the Kerr-Tar RPO and is in the process of being updated. The Granville County Transportation Planning Committee, CAMPO and Kerr-Tar RPO staff are currently working with NCDOT on the update. A comprehensive public survey was undertaken this past fall to find out about transportation needs for the County. Currently we are looking at average annual daily traffic and projections of future highway capacity in the County. We will also look at pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation needs at the upcoming monthly meetings. The Granville County Transportation Planning Committee normally meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Granville Expo Center.



Projects Evaluated in Prioritization 4.0

The NCDOT has released a web map which provides a visualization of all projects evaluated in Prioritization 4.0 for all transportation modes throughout North Carolina, including committed projects from the first five years of the NCDOT 2016-2025 STIP. Please click [here](#) to view the interactive map.

2018-2027 Draft STIP

The 2018-2027 Draft STIP has been released. The NC Department of Transportation released the Draft 2018-2027 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) on January 4, 2017. You can access the Draft STIP [here](#). We are in Division 5 from pages 109-160. The press release with details describing the STIP process can be found [here](#). The Final STIP is expected to be approved in June.

SPOT P4.0 Update

To find out when open-house public information meetings are to be held across the state to review projects within the Draft FY18-2027 STIP and to see the Draft 2018-2027 STIP Flier please [click here](#). The Division 5 & 6 meeting will be held in Lillington from 5-7 pm on **April 10, 2017** at Harnett County Government Complex-Commons, 307 Cornelius Harnett Boulevard. People who cannot attend a meeting in person can also provide feedback via phone, fax and E-mail.

Transportation Legislation of Interest

[Traffic Impact Analysis Timeframe](#)-House-Filed 3/29/17
[Material Fact Disclosure Clarifications](#)-House-Filed 2/1/2017, Senate 3/30/2017
[DOT/roadside memorials](#) –House – Filed 3/29/2017
[DOT/surveying information in plans](#) –House – Filed 3/28/2017
[Ferry transportation authority](#)-Senate-filed 3/27/2017
[DOT/Funding preliminary engineering](#) –House –Filed 3/23/2017
[RTPO attendance policy](#)-Senate-Filed 3/23/2017
[Short term lease/Highway tax fund](#) Senate-Filed 3/22/2017
[Terminate agreement for tolling of I-77](#) House –Filed 3/7/2017
[No Powell Bill Funds/Sanctuary Cities](#) House –Filed 3/6/2017
[Transportation mega project funding](#) House –Filed 3/1/2017
[License plate readers in State ROW](#) House –Filed 3/2/2017
[State infrastructure bank revisions](#) House –Filed 3/1/2017
[STI/Regional & Division Weighting](#) House –Filed 2/9/2017
[DOT/DMV changes](#) -House - Filed 2/16/2017, Senate - Filed- 1/25/2017
[Maintenance Bond for subdivision roads](#) House- Filed 2/21/2017

Rural Impact County Challenge: A National Effort to Combat Rural Child Poverty

Small towns and rural communities are home to millions of Americans, are a vibrant part of our nation's economy, and include some of the most beautiful landmarks in the country. Rural America provides the vast majority of food, energy, and environmental benefits for the rest of the country. Additionally, rural communities are the source of nearly 90 percent of renewable water resources, and home to important service sector and manufacturing hubs. Despite this critical role in our nation's economy, too many Americans in rural areas are not sharing in our nation's economic growth. A full 85 percent of our country's persistent poverty counties are in rural America. Lack of opportunity for rural kids and families is often compounded by other challenges, including distance from health and early learning programs, lack of access to public transportation, and higher rates of drug and substance abuse. But for all kids, the road to successful adulthood relies on a strong foundation of access to basic health, nutrition, high-quality early education, strong schools, and support from parents and caregivers . . . <http://www.naco.org/rural-impact-county-challenge-national-effort-combat-rural-child-poverty>

Planning & Economic Development Continued

Census Bureau releases 2016 population estimates for MSAs and counties

The US Census Bureau released 2016 population estimates for Metropolitan/Micropolitan Statistical Areas and counties. Total population and components of change (ie births, deaths, and migration) are included in the release. The Raleigh Metropolitan Statistical Area - Franklin, Johnston, and Wake Counties – was one of 4 MSAs that were among both the 25 fastest growing and the 25 largest numeric growth from 2015 to 2016. 66 North Carolina Counties grew over the past year while 1/3 of the counties either saw no population change or lost population. Data is available through the American FactFinder tool at <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

Planning for Millennials: What Do They Want and How Do Agencies Prepare?

This webinar will be held on **May 11, 2017** 2:00 – 4:00PM EDT. TRB will conduct a webinar about research projects conducted in different US states that investigate millennials' travel behavior, preferences and needs, and strategies for engaging millennials in transportation projects. The presenters will share their research findings, discuss how states can use these findings to guide transportation planning decisions, and provide suggestions for additional research and collaboration. Click [here](#) to register. Presenters will also highlight research from [NCHRP Report 750](#) <http://www.trb.org/Main/Blurbs/171200.aspx>, Volume 6: The Effects of Socio-Demographics on Future Travel Demand. Millennials are now the largest generation in the United States, and understanding their travel preferences and behaviors is critical to the development of long-range transportation planning. This webinar was organized by the TRB Standing Committees on Statewide Multimodal Transportation Planning, Public Involvement in Transportation, and Transportation and Sustainability. Participants must register in advance of the webinar, and there is a fee for non-TRB Sponsor or non-TRB Sustaining Affiliate employees. A certificate for 2.0 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) will be provided to attendees who register and attend the webinar as an individual. This webinar is eligible for 2.0 Certification Maintenance Credits from the American Institute of Certified Planners.

NC Bike Summit - November 3-4: Wilmington, NC

The 2017 NC Bike Summit promises to be packed full of information useful to bicycle advocates, transportation planners, business owners, elected officials, tactical urbanists, public health practitioners, and livability and sustainability professionals. The mission of the summit is to: Foster collaboration; Educate and Inform; and Promote bicycling as a valid form of transportation and as an economic driver. Visit <http://www.bikewalknc.org/nc-bicycle-summit/>

Workforce Development

To see April events and trainings held at Local Career centers, please click [here](#). For more information please contact Kelly Hundley at khundley@kerrtarcog.org

NCWorks Career Center Visit

Will Collins, Asst. Secretary of NC Department of Commerce / Executive Director - NC Works, visits NCWorks Career Center. Also pictured, Monica Satterwhite, NCWorks Career Center Manager (left), and Michelle Muir, Regional Operations Director(center).



Game-changing Pathway Strategies: A Triangle Regional Career Pathways Collaborative Event

All partners throughout the Triangle Region with a role in career advising are invited to attend the upcoming career awareness event on **Friday, May 5th, 2017** from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. The Triangle Regional Career Pathways Collaborative is presenting this half-day professional development series that will delve into in-demand occupations, skill demands of the industry, and information to help you better understand the regional landscape so that you can provide more informed advice to students, customers, and clients. The relationship between workforce development and economic development is a close one. A skilled workforce brings in business and more career opportunities for our citizens, but they need to be ready! Click [here](#) for more details. Click [here](#) to register.

NCETA Conference

Deborah Cozart, Performance & Accountability Coordinator, will be attending the NCETA Conference in Wilmington, NC **April 19th-21st** to celebrate 50 years of excellence. Click [here](#) for more information on the conference.



AGING

Save the Date – Region K World Elder Abuse Awareness Walk

Please MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the 3rd Annual Region K World Elder Abuse Awareness Walk to be held on **June 15, 2017**. This year the event will be hosted by Vance County. Start time is 8:30 am with Registration; Walk to start at 9:30 am. Location has been set as, Dabney Elementary, 150 Lanning Road Henderson, NC. If you have any questions or wish to register as a vendor please contact [Kim Hawkins](#), Regional Ombudsman at (252)436-2050 or 1(866)506-6223. We are looking forward to seeing you on June 15, 2017 in Vance County.



SHIIP/Medicare

Low Income Subsidy/Extra Help Outreach Events:

Franklin County

May 26, 2017 @ Franklinton Senior Center –602 E Macon St., Franklinton, NC 27525

Connection Between Place and Health for Older Adults

A new [report](#) from the [Population Reference Bureau](#) summarizes recent research conducted by [National Institute on Aging](#) supported researchers and others who have studied the association between neighborhood characteristics and the health and well-being of older adults. Research finds that the social, economic, demographic, and physical characteristics of communities may influence older residents' health and well-being. Neighborhood characteristics affect people of all ages, but older adults – classified here as adults over age 50 – may be affected more than other groups. This research can inform policy decisions about community resource allocation and development planning. Click [here](#) to download the report.

Administration on Aging Releases Annual Report on Older Americans

The [Administration on Aging](#) (AoA) has compiled information on older populations within an annual report. The report, A Profile of Older Americans: 2016, provides insight into 15 areas including population and education. Click [here](#) to access the publication.

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments

1724 Graham Avenue
P.O. Box 709
Henderson, NC 27536

PHONE:
(252) 436-2040

FAX:
(252) 436-2055

E-MAIL:
info@kerrtarcog.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.kerrtarcog.org

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Bryan Pfohl | At-Large

Danny Wright | At-Large

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

Contacts

Executive Director

Diane Cox

dcox@kerrtarcog.org

Planning & Development

Michael Kelly

mkelly@kerrtarcog.org

Workforce Development

Vincent Gilreath

vgilreath@kerrtarcog.org

Aging

Jillian Hardin

jhardin@kerrtarcog.org

Kerr-Tar
Regional Council
Of Governments



MISSION STATEMENT

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.