

## Around the Region

### COG Calendar:

- Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, CEDS meeting @ House of Ribeyes.
- Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, Office closed.
- Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, COG Board Meeting.

### COG Board Meeting

Next COG Board Meeting is Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Renee Boyette from Triangle J COG, Director of the Foreign Trade Zone #93. The audit will also be presented.

### CEDS Meeting

The first meeting for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee will be held on **Thursday, January 12, 2017** at the House of Ribeye's in Oxford, NC.

### SAFER Applications Period Open

The FY 2016 [Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grants \(SAFER\)](#) application period will open on Monday, January 9, 2017 at 8 am ET and will close on Friday, February 10, 2017 at 5 PM ET. As you begin preparing your application, it is important to be sure to thoroughly read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) as there are substantial changes to the FY 2016 SAFER Grant Program. The SAFER Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will also be an important tool as they provide more detailed information on the changes and new requirements.

[FY 2016 Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#)

[FY 2016 Application Checklist](#) This checklist will help you prepare your SAFER grant application

[FY 2016 Self-Evaluation – Hiring of Firefighters](#) Career, combination, and volunteer fire departments

[FY 2016 Self-Evaluation - Recruitment and Retention - Fire Departments](#) Combination & VFDs

[FY 2016 Self-Evaluation - Recruitment and Retention – Interest Organizations](#) National, State, Local, or Tribal Volunteer Firefighters Interest Organizations

[FY 2016 SAFER Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

SAFER Grants Help Desk: If you have questions about the technical assistance tools listed below, call the toll-free number at 1-866-274-0960; or [firegrants@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@fema.dhs.gov).

### USDA Rural Development Releases 2016 Year End Report

The [U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development](#) has detailed its work from 2016 in a year-end report. The 2016 Progress Report highlights Rural Development's impact on job creation and economic development through key investments in place-based initiatives and infrastructure improvements. The report can be found [here](#).

## HUD Publishes New Rule on Broadband and Resilience

The [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) published a rule requiring jurisdictions to evaluate broadband and resilience in planning activities. Aligned with the department's Consolidated Plan, [the rule](#) issued in the December 16 Federal Register requires that state and local governments assess broadband access as a part of its planning process. Additionally, if low-income residents have limited access to broadband services within a given area, state and local jurisdictions must consider expanding broadband services to these populations as a part of future HUD investments. The rule also requests that state and local jurisdictions consider integrating resilience with natural hazard risk in planning processes. The rule's effective date is January 17, 2017.

## 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 ([mwarren@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:mwarren@kerrtarcog.org)). Click [here](#) to view the brochure or [here](#) for an application.

## Access to Care for Rural People with Disabilities Toolkit

This new toolkit, developed by the University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center, provides information, strategies, and resources to help rural communities improve access to care for people with disabilities. Browse program models and examples, and learn how to implement, evaluate, and sustain a program in your community and disseminate program results. [Read more...](#)

# Planning & Economic Development



## CEDS Committee

The CEDS Strategy Committee meeting will be held at The House of Ribeyes in Oxford located at: 102 Roxboro Rd. on Thursday, January 12. Ms. Hillary Sherman, North Carolina's Economic Development Representative will provide participants with an overview of the CEDS Process and answer any questions committee members may have. The meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. Feedback from the NC Tomorrow Survey will be discussed. For more information contact Michael Kelly ([mkelly@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:mkelly@kerrtarcog.org)).

## NC Small Cities Community Development Block Grant

The COG in conjunction with the Town of Warrenton has been working closely with North Carolina Department of Commerce officials in applying for a NC Small Cities Community Development Block Grant. The funds will go towards renovating a 7,554 sq. ft. restaurant located in Warrenton's Historic Downtown District. The final application along with accompanying materials was submitted for review to Department of Commerce staff in December. Upon the release of funds, the renovation will bring about much needed jobs and increased revenue to the area. Kerr-Tar COG is administering the grant for Warrenton.

## Brownfields Community-Wide Assessment Grant

The COG successfully submitted to EPA a Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grant Application for FY 2017 in December. If awarded, this grant will assist the region in locating and studying abandoned and underutilized petroleum and hazardous substance-contaminated sites.

## TCC Change in Leadership

The TCC has a new Chair, Mr. Barry Baker and Vice-Chair, Mr. Ken Krulik. The two were nominated and unanimously voted in by the full Committee at the December 14, 2016 TAC/TCC meeting. Both are Planning Directors for Granville and Warren Counties respectively. Barry previously served as the TCC Vice-Chair. This change in leadership is due to the departure of Mr. Michael "Mike" Ciriello, TCC Chair and Person County Planning Director.

## 2017 Kerr-Tar RPO TAC/TCC Meeting Schedule:

Meetings will take place from **3-5PM at the Kerr-Tar COG Offices at 1724 Graham Avenue, Henderson, NC**  
Four meetings have been scheduled for 2017-Please note that additional meetings may need to be scheduled as required.

### 2017 TAC/TCC Meeting Schedule

**Wednesday March 8, 2017** (this is the only meeting that is not on the same day as the COG Board)

**Thursday May 25, 2017**

**Thursday August 24, 2017**

**Thursday November 30, 2017**

## CMAQ Applications for FFY 18-19

CMAQ Applications for FFY 18-19 will need to be submitted to Ann Stroobant by **Thursday, February 23, 2017** for evaluation and review. Franklin, Granville, and Person Counties, as well as towns within these counties, are eligible to apply for Kerr-Tar RPO CMAQ funding if you are within the RPO boundary. For more information, please click [here](#) to visit the NCDOT CMAQ Project Website.

## K-FLEX USA

K-FLEX USA will be expanding its operations in Franklin County. In November, Governor McCrory and the North Carolina Department of Commerce announced K-FLEX was expanding its manufacturing facility. K-FLEX was fortunate to have been the recipient of both a Job Development Grant (JDIG) and a Building Reuse Grant from the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Rural Division. Under the terms of the company's JDIG, the company is eligible to receive up to \$1.1 million in total reimbursements. The \$45 million expansion will add 100 jobs and an additional 360,000 square feet to the company's Youngsville plant location. Kerr-Tar COG is administering the grant for Franklin County.

## SPOT P4.0 Update

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. Also the press release with details describing the STIP process can be accessed [here](#).

## Nominations Open for 2017 Great Places in North Carolina!

It's time to start thinking about the many places in our state that deserve recognition in 2017! We are once again celebrating the great places of North Carolina and the planners, business leaders, elected officials, and partnerships that create and sustain these places. Nominations will be accepted from January 3-31, 2017. This year's found categories include: Great Main Streets, Great Transformations, Great Historic Rehabilitations, and Great Public Space. Nominate unique areas of interest in your local city, county, or town. More information may be obtained by clicking [here](#).

## NC Ethics Commission

The NC Ethics Commission has asked us to remind our Kerr-Tar TAC members that **SEI and RED forms are due by April 15, 2017**. Click [here](#) for the link to the website which contains useful information and instructions.

# Workforce Development



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



## NC Youth Summit

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual NC Youth Summit will take place April 7-8, 2017 in Cary. This event is sponsored by many of the state's Workforce Development Boards. The annual NC Youth Summit:

- Brings together young adults from different cultures and backgrounds
- Fosters relationships that drive a passionate movement among young adults as future leaders
- Provides young adults the opportunity to engage, listen, and share in issues to determine commonalities, differences, and develop solutions for future success
- Empowers young adults to make a difference in their communities
- Strengthens collaborative efforts among the state's Youth Programs

The Youth Summit also offers professional development, employment training, and engaging speakers. Pre-conference activities include college tours, vendor booths, and networking opportunities. For more information about how young adults can get involved with the NC Youth Summit or other workforce development activities, contact [Ben Foti](#).

## NC IEI to host Focus Forum on the Economics of Early Childhood Investment

The Institute for Emerging Issue's (IEI) is proud to announce its newest program of work – kidonomics: The Economics of Early Childhood Investment. In it, we will examine the connections between early childhood investments, North Carolina's economy, and the development of a well-trained workforce. Preparing our youth today for the skills they will need tomorrow is crucial for their success as adults. But when exactly should we begin preparing our kids? Are there wider, long-term impacts on the economy and to a skilled workforce? Please join us at the Hunt Library on NC State University's campus for a Focus Forum on February 7, 2017. This event will bring together some 350 leaders from across the state—from business, government, education, and faith communities—to learn about the topic and to find consensus about its importance to our future wellbeing. Given the nature of the issue, including its impact on local budgets and economic development prospects, we are particularly interested in participation by local leaders like you—elected officials, economic developers, business and community leaders, workforce developers, and school superintendents. For more info contact IEI Assistant Director Pat Cronin with any questions at [pcronin@ncsu.edu](mailto:pcronin@ncsu.edu).

## AGING

### Healthy Eating

Kerr Tar Area Agency of Agency was awarded with a \$2,500 Triangle North Health Foundation Grant for Healthy Eating For Older Adults. Healthy Eating™ is a program for seniors age 60 and better who want to learn more about how nutrition and lifestyle changes can promote better health. The program focuses on heart and bone healthy nutrition strategies to help maintain or improve wellness and prevent chronic disease development or progression.

Healthy Eating™ uses the USDA's MyPlate™ as a framework. The main components of the program include:

- Self-assessment and management of dietary patterns by each participant
- Goal setting, problem solving, group support, self-monitoring and other behavior change strategies
- Education through both group interaction and the expertise of a Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist, when needed
- Group support

Brochures regarding this program will be available at the area senior centers. Melissa Catlett and Jillian Hardin will facilitate the training and workshops. Workshops begin in May. If you are interested in this FREE workshop, contact the AAA. We are registering for workshops in May and June 2017.

## Respite Vouchers Available for Caregivers in Need

Duke Family Support Program and Kerr Tar Area Agency on Aging are teaming up for two events in January to distribute respite vouchers to families caring for individuals with dementia. The first event will be held on **Tuesday, January 17th** at the Oxford Senior Center, 107 Lanier St, Oxford, NC. The second event will be on **Wednesday, January 18th** at the Vance County Senior Center, 126 S. Garnett St, Henderson, NC. Janeli Smith and Bobbi Matchar from the Duke Family Support Program will meet with caregivers of loved ones with dementia and offer counseling, education and/or respite vouchers. Funding for these events are provided by Project C.A.R.E. Project C.A.R.E. (Caregiver Alternatives to Running on Empty) is the only state-funded, dementia-specific support for families who take care of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias. Respite vouchers are issued in amounts up to \$500 per voucher. Caregivers receive a reimbursement for respite services upon receipt of completed signed record of respite (time sheets). Respite services may include in-home care, adult day care, group respite, institutional care, companion care or other emergency respite. Call Melissa Catlett, Family Caregiver Specialist at 252-436-2040 to make an appointment for one of these events.

## 2017 RAAC/STHL Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, February 8, May 10, August 9, & November 8  
Meetings times: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Location: Kerr Tar COG Office, Graham Avenue, Henderson  
For more information about RAAC/STHL contact Suja Jacob ([sjacob@kerrtarco.org](mailto:sjacob@kerrtarco.org)).

Click [here](#) to view the  
AARP  
Livability Face Sheets.



## Senior Games Entry Packets

Senior Games entry packets will be in senior centers by the end of January. Please check with your senior center to pick one up. Contact Melissa Catlett ([mcatlett@kerrtarco.org](mailto:mcatlett@kerrtarco.org)) for additional information.

## Safely Aging in Place in Rural America

Discusses the health challenges faced by older Americans as they age in place in rural communities, including issues such as limited access to care, social isolation, and higher rates of chronic illness and poverty. Going forward, providing individually tailored support, connecting to local resources, and offering services via telehealth will be necessary to meet the healthcare needs of America's aging rural population. [Read more...](#)

## How to Make Senior Friendly Public Spaces

Much as we might not like to admit it, getting older can usher in a host of physical, cognitive, and lifestyle changes that affect the way we move through the world. Signs get harder to read, getting through narrow store aisles can be a trial, and falling becomes a very real cause of potentially life-threatening injuries. The challenge for all of us — not just those who are reaching senior status — is that our cities and public spaces need to be designed for the ease and comfort of everyone, whether we're children or adults, and whether we're living with a disability or in peak physical condition. "An age-friendly city encourages active ageing by optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age," says the World Health Organization. "In practical terms, an age-friendly city adapts its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities." These considerations are becoming more and more pressing as our population ages: according to the Administration on Aging, the number of U.S. adults over age 65 is expected to more than double from 2000–2030 . . . [read more...](#)



## Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments

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We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[www.kerrtarcog.org](http://www.kerrtarcog.org)

## Executive Committee

### Chairman

Barry Richardson  
Warren County

### Vice Chairman

Quon Bridges  
City of Oxford

### Treasurer

Jimmy Clayton  
Person County

Sidney Dunston | Franklin County  
Zelodis Jay | Granville County  
Tommy Hester | Vance County  
John Alston | Warren County  
Linda Jordon | Town of Butner  
Eddie Ellington | City of Henderson  
Joe Shearon | Town of Louisburg  
Henry Daniel | City of Roxboro  
Walter Gardner | Town of Warrenton

David Smith | At-Large  
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

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**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.