



Current Events

COG ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET Sept 28, 2017 at VGCC - Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

September 2017 Work Force Event Calendar, click [here](#).

Useful Regional Information

**Person County 2017 NCHFA Essential Single Family Rehabilitation Loan
Pool Program**

Applications available July 1st. Deadline is **September 29th** by 5:00 p.m.

Click [here](#) for the application.

Click [here](#) for program assistance policy.

**Vance County 2017 NCHFA Essential Single Family Rehabilitation Loan
Pool Program**

Applications available July 1st. Deadline is **September 29th** by 5:00 p.m.

Click [here](#) for the application.

Click [here](#) for program assistance policy.

**USDA Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) - Rural Broadband Access Loan
and Loan Guarantee Program for FY 2017.**

Click [here](#) for more information. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development announced this week that USDA is accepting applications for the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program for FY 2017. Applications will be accepted until **September 30, 2017** under this window.

Camp Butner 75th Anniversary Event

On **September 23**, the Town of Butner will come to life with a nostalgic WWII atmosphere as we salute the 75th Anniversary of one of our Nations' largest WWII training camps, Camp Butner. Click [here](#) for more details.

**Authentic Youth Civic Engagement: A Guide for Municipal Leaders
by National League of Cities Institute For Youth, Education, & Families**

Across the country, municipal leaders are discovering one of their greatest assets: the youth of their city. Increasingly, youth are working with elected officials and other city leaders to tackle the important issues of local government. More and more young people are also discovering that their voices matter to their communities, and that they can make their communities better places to live. This [guide](#) will help local elected officials and other city leaders invite young people to participate in the democratic process. Success comes from blending the unique assets of a city with the collective knowledge and best practice from across the country. Local officials can use this framework to find workable solutions for their own community.

BroadbandUSA published *What Speed Do You Need?* To help community members learn the minimum download speed requirements for their local institutions. Communities with existing broadband connectivity can use [this infographic](#) to quickly determine if their institutions have the speeds that they need, and communities seeking to enhance broadband access can understand baseline speed requirements. Click [here](#) to access this new resource.

Be Ready: September is National Preparedness Month

The [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) (FEMA) will recognize September as National Preparedness Month. Each week will highlight different topics around disaster planning and response for both individuals and communities. Public and community stakeholders can find ways to participate through FEMA's Disaster Preparedness Month site [here](#). Free publications are available [here](#). The hashtags #NatlPrep and #PlanAhead will be used on social media to draw awareness to the campaign.

Employment Trends

According to the US Department of Labor Statistics, as compiled by [NC Rural Center](#), 41 of North Carolina's rural counties (80 in total) have seen declines in employment from May 2016 - May 2017. Of North Carolina's 6 urban and 14 suburban counties, only one, Cumberland saw losses in employment. For Kerr-Tar's five counties, it was a net gain of over 1,400 jobs. [Click here](#) to view the profile for your county.

Kerr-Tar Regional Labor Market Review for August 2017

Click [here](#) for the most recent trends for the Region in the Labor Market as presented by the NC Department of Commerce.

Planning & Economic Development

The Planning and Development Department is pleased to introduce Bernard Clark. Bernard is our new Mobility Manager. In his duties, he will be responsible for the administration of the region's NCDOT 5310 Grant. Bernard obtained a BA degree in Public Administration from North Carolina Central University. He returned back to his alma mater where he is currently completing his Masters in Public Administration with a concentration in Urban Planning. Bernard comes to Kerr-Tar after completing internships with the Durham City/County Planning Department, The North Carolina Department of Transportation, and North Carolina Central University's Transportation Department. Please join us in welcoming Bernard to Region K!

Additional TAC/TCC Meeting Scheduled

Kerr-Tar TAC/TCC will meet on **Thursday, September 21, 2017**. Meeting is from 3-5pm at the KTCOG office. This meeting has been scheduled in case the TAC/TCC needs more time to consider and approve the Kerr-Tar highway project submittals

and alternate criteria by the NCDOT deadline of September 29, 2017. For more information contact [Aga Strubant](#).

Broadband RFP

The COG is pleased to announce the release of a [Broadband RFP](#). The deadline to receive proposals is September 25, 2017. The COG understands the need for broadband within the region and is excited about this opportunity.

North Carolina Lakes District Regional Bike Plan Maps and 2017 North Carolina Highway Maps Available

New Lakes District Regional Bike Plan and NCDOT 2017 North Carolina Highway maps are available. The COG has distributed these maps throughout region. Maps are available county-wide at: County Managers' Offices, Planning Departments, Parks and Recreation Departments, Chambers of Commerce, and Economic Development Commissions. Please visit your local offices to obtain a copy.

10 Year State Transportation Improvement Program Approved for NCDOT

The N.C. Board of Transportation approved the [2018-2027 State Transportation Improvement Program](#), which identifies transportation projects that [will receive funding](#) from 2018 to 2027. The Program was approved in August 2017 after an almost two year process.

2018 NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative

The N.C. Department of Transportation is accepting proposals from communities for the [2018 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative](#). The program provides funding for municipalities across the state to develop comprehensive bicycle or pedestrian plans.

Smaller communities with populations of less than 5,000 can also apply to develop combined bicycle and pedestrian plans. Further, communities of any size may apply for the development of a corridor/area plan. Also eligible are counties with population of less

than 50,000 who may apply for a bicycle or pedestrian plan.

The deadline for application, to be submitted electronically, is **Thursday, Nov. 9 at 5 p.m.** Award recipients will be notified by March 2018.

This program is sponsored by the department's Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation and the Transportation Planning Branch. Since 2004, approximately \$5.0 million has been awarded through this program to 183 municipalities across the state.

Proposals are divided and judged in geographical groups to help establish equitable distribution of funding across the state. The selected awardees commonly incorporate a diverse mix of municipalities from large cities to small towns.

Plans funded are not for one specific project, but represent a comprehensive strategy for expanding bicycle and pedestrian opportunities within a given municipality. The plans address facilities, programs, policies and design guidelines that encourage safe walking and bicycling.

For more information on the 2018 NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative, contact Nick Scheuer at (919) 707-2608 or urscheuer@ncdot.gov.

October Community Workshops for NC Public Transportation Division Strategic Plan

Public Input Welcomed as Strategic Plan is Developed

RALEIGH – This October, stakeholders and the public are invited to provide input at community workshops across the state as part of the North Carolina Public Transportation Statewide Strategic Plan. The workshops are free and open to the public. No registration is necessary to attend.

The N.C. Department of Transportation is developing the Public Transportation Statewide Strategic Plan to improve bus, rail, and paratransit services across the state by better matching transit services to the needs of North Carolinians. To provide feedback online, please visit <https://ncstransitplan.metroquest.com>.

For more information, dates, and locations on the Public Transportation Statewide Strategic Plan, please visit <https://www.ncdot.gov/nctransit/strategicplan/>.

INFRA GRANTS

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is now soliciting applications for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) discretionary grant program. Authorized under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act's Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects program, INFRA grants will fund critical freight and highway projects across the country. The INFRA program will make approximately \$1.5 billion available to projects that are in line with the Administration's principles to help rebuild America's crumbling infrastructure.

Prospective INFRA applicants are encouraged to look through the full [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#). Applications are due by 8:00 PM EST on **November 2, 2017**. The Grants.gov "Apply" function is now open.

***More information about INFRA grants, including frequently asked questions and other guidance, can be found at <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/infra/grants>.

Aging



Matter of Balance Class

The Kerr Tar is offering two Matter of Balance classes in Granville County. A Matter of Balance is designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. Participants learn to set realistic goals to increase activity, change their

environment to reduce fall risk factors, and learn simple exercises to increase strength and balance. Class information is as follows:

North Granville Senior Center, starting on **September 12, 2017**. For more information, please call the senior center at (919) 528-0848.

Senior Tar Heel Legislature

There are vacancies in the Senior Tar Heel Legislature. The purpose of the Senior Tar Heel Legislature is to advise and inform the North Carolina General Assembly regarding issues impacting the lives of persons aged 60 and over in North Carolina. Senior Tar Heels attend regional meetings and state meetings. The NCSTHL meets three times a year in Chapel Hill. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3-4.

If you are interested in being a Senior Tar Heel Legislature click [here](#).

Franklin County – Delegate, Vacant—Alternate, Vacant

Granville County – Delegate, Annette Meyers—Alternate, Sue Bryant

Person County – Delegate, Robert Allen—Alternate, Vacant

Vance County – Delegate, Sandra Butler Tubbs—Alternate, Vacant

Warren County – Delegate, Charles Jefferson—Alternate, Vacant

Bed Bugs Workshop

The Kerr-Tar AAA will host a workshop on **November 3, 2017** at the COG office from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on the topic, “Bed Bugs and Similar Pests: The Control Factor”. A fee will be associated with this program to cover materials and meals. If you have any questions regarding either of these workshops, please contact [Kim Hawkins](#), Regional Ombudsman at (252) 436-2050.

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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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.

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