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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events

- Henderson Community Day: **Saturday, August 5, 10:00am-2:00pm @ Turning Point CDC**
- Bike Safety Rodeo: **Wednesday, August 9, 9:30am, @ South Elementary School, Person County**
- Kerr-Tar RAAC Meeting: **Wednesday, August 9, @ KTCOG Office**
- TAC/TCC Meeting & Public Hearing: **Thursday, August 24, 3:00 pm @ KTCOG Office**
- Kerr-Tar COG Board Meeting & Public Hearing for 5310: **Thursday, August 24, 7:00 pm @ KTCOG Office**
- COG Office Closed: **Labor Day, September 4**
- **Save the Date: Falls Prevention Fair, Wednesday, September 20, 10:00am-1:00pm @ Vance-Granville Community College Civic Center**
- **Save the Date: 2023 Kerr-Tar COG Annual Banquet & Awards Ceremony, Thursday, September 28, 6:30pm @ Carlee Farm, register [HERE](#)**

STIP Prioritization Update: Public Input Submission Phase

The N.C. Department of Transportation is asking the public to provide input on what transportation projects they would like to see included in the state’s next 10-Year transportation plan for 2026-2035. With a goal of increasing safety, reducing congestion and promoting economic growth, NCDOT uses data and local input to determine which projects get funded in the 10-year plan based on a specific formula created in accordance with the Strategic Transportation Investments law. The law allows NCDOT to use its funding more efficiently to enhance North Carolina’s infrastructure, while supporting economic growth, job creation and a higher quality of life.

We want your input! The purpose of this communication is to invite and encourage your participation in the development of North Carolina’s transportation network. A statewide 30-day public comment period to submit project ideas will be **held between July 31 and September 1**. During this period, the public can send project suggestions through a short, interactive survey found on the **2026-2035 STIP webpage**.



There will also be week-long open houses held at all 14 NCDOT highway division offices across the state. People can provide input or speak to NCDOT staff about potential projects in a particular area.

After all input for potential projects is collected, the list of project scores and a draft statewide mobility project list are expected to be released by Spring 2024. There will be another public comment period regarding regional impact projects in Spring 2024, with the same process taking place for division-level projects in Fall 2024. The 2026-2035 draft STIP is scheduled to be released in early 2025, with approval by the Board of Transportation in the summer.

NCLM American Rescue Plan Webinar

Webinar Info

When: Wednesday, August 30
Time: 10:00am - 11:30am
Cost: FREE
Format: Virtual
Registration: Click [HERE](#) to register

Throughout 2023, the N.C. League of Municipalities and its partners will be hosting free webinars to help cities and towns navigate the American Rescue Plan. Scheduled and previously hosted events can be found [HERE](#). The next webinar is **August 30 from 10:00am - 11:30am** and will share information regarding the ARP Service Line and how you can begin to access these tools.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
2023 KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS

Annual Banquet & Awards Ceremony

September

THURSDAY | **28** | AT 6:30 PM

CARLEE FARM
1003 CARLEE FARM RD
OXFORD, NC 27565

Register HERE

RSVP by September 20, 2023

KTAAA Presents: Falls Prevention Fair



LEAVES MUST FALL, BUT SENIORS DON'T NEED TO!

FALLS PREVENTION FAIR

Falls are NOT a normal part of aging! Get ready for a day of fun, and enjoy a wide range of activities that will inspire and challenge you to prevent falls and help you live without fear of falling.

FREE EVENT!



FREE LUNCH TO FIRST 100 ATTENDEES!

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
10:00AM-1:00PM**

VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CIVIC CENTER

- FREE PRESCRIPTION SCREENINGS • OCCUPATIONAL & PHYSICAL THERAPISTS ONSITE
- BRING YOUR CANE OR WALKER TO GET THEM INSPECTED FOR SAFETY • FREE PRIZES, DRAWINGS, & SWAG • BINGOCIZE & TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS DEMONSTRATIONS • BALANCE & STRENGTH EXERCISES • RESOURCE VENDORS & SO MUCH MORE!

FEATURING:



**FALLS PREVENTION IDOL
COMPETITION**



For more information, call (252) 436-2040 or email stucker@kerrtarco.org

Falls Prevention Fair: Leaves Must Fall, But Seniors Don't Need To!

Falls are NOT a normal part of aging! Get ready for a day of fun, and enjoy a wide range of activities that will inspire and challenge you to prevent falls and help seniors live without fear of falling. In recognition of Falls Prevention Awareness Week, the first annual Kerr-Tar Region Falls Prevention Fair will be held **September 20, 2023** from **10:00am-1:00pm** at **Vance Granville Community College Civic Center**. This **FREE** event will feature \$500 in cash and prizes, and fun day of information and activity, including:

- Physical & Occupational Therapy students from Duke and UNC
- Medication Screenings
- Durable Medical Equipment mechanics from Medical Arts Pharmacy to tune up walkers, rollators, and wheelchairs
- EMS, First Responders and Community Paramedics from all over the region
- Demonstrations of all Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Programs – and on-the-spot sign up for classes
- Fun, games, food, and prizes!
- And....the greatest Falls Prevention Skit contest known to humankind, **Falls Prevention Idol!** The winning team will take home \$250 in cash!

Falls Prevention Idol is a skit competition that will headline the fair, a chance for teams of seniors to inspire and challenge others to take proactive action to prevent falls in their own lives. By creatively presenting various fall prevention actions and recommendations, senior volunteers can bring about real change in their peers. Empowering others to move from awareness to action!



Franklinton Senior Center's Lunch at Owen's Park



On Thursday, July 27 the Franklinton Senior Center enjoyed a summer event with their Lunch in the Park at Owen's Park in Louisburg. It was a HOT but exciting day, as about 40 older adults joined in for fun, food and games! Our aging staff was present offering support and educating attendees on the great programs the KTAAs offers to the region!

Listen to our Ombudsman on WIZS

Listen to WIZS Radio on **Wednesday, August 2** for Regional Ombudsman Kim Hawkins' discussion on Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) about finding a nursing home or assisted living placement for a loved one: what you need to know, questions you should ask, what will help you know you are choosing the right place.

It'll be a great segment, so make sure to tune in!



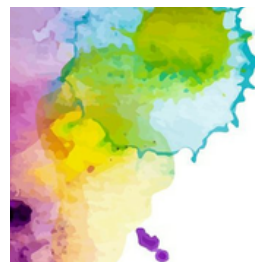
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren support groups are launching in Granville and Vance Counties. Stay tuned for more details! Call Family Caregiver Support Specialist Michael Patterson at (252) 436-2040 or email mpatterson@kerrtarcog.org if interested.

Aging with Gusto

Find out what you can do to live your best life! Drop by the annual Aging with Gusto event **Tuesday, August 29 from 9:00am-12:00pm** at **Person County Center** (304 S Morgan St, Room 123, Roxboro). There will be vendors, door prizes, workshops, and more!



Mi Centro Bicycle Helmet Giveaway

On Monday, July 17, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program Coordinator Kenia Gomez-Jimenez partnered with Granville Vance Public Health (GVPH) to surprise 40 Mi Centro students at Dabney Elementary School with a bicycle helmet giveaway! Mi Centro is a three-week summer program through Vance County Schools that prepares upcoming Pre-K Latino students ages 4-5 for an English-speaking academic setting. The helmets provided were supplied to GVPH through the 2023 NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative. A huge thank you to Mi Centro and GVPH for their continued partnership!



Traffic Safety Fun w/Turning Point CDC

On Monday, July 31, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program Coordinator Kenia Gomez-Jimenez delivered a fun traffic safety class for Turning Point CDC's Summer Learning Program students. Kenia kicked off the class with a lively Traffic Safety Jeopardy game, which allowed students to develop and demonstrate bicycle and pedestrian safety knowledge. The game also taught students the great impacts walking and biking to school can have for their health and environment. The lesson was followed by an interactive "Read with a Firefighter" reading experience led by Vance County Fire Department staff. The book read was called "Franklin's Bicycle Helmet." Sparky, the City of Henderson Fire Departments' mascot, even made a surprise visit! The students then enjoyed a fun fire truck tour led by local firefighters. Thank you to all of the community partners involved in this fun event!



Henderson Community Day

Turning Point CDC will be hosting their 13th Annual Community Day on **Saturday, August 5 from 10:00-2:00 pm**. This is a special opportunity for residents to come together for fun and fellowship and to support local businesses. Turning Point CDC will be providing free backpacks with school supplies to youth who attend, and access to educational resources all day long. The Kerr-Tar COG's Safe Routes to School Program will be in attendance giving away helmets to the first 50 children. The giveaway is being held in partnership with the Henderson Optimist Club. The event will be held at Turning Point CDC, located at 2495 US 1/Hwy 158 in Henderson.



South Elementary Bike Rodeo

The Person County Sheriff's Office will be hosting an exciting Bike Rodeo for children age 4-12 at **South Elementary School** on **Wednesday, August 9!** The event will begin at **9:30am**. Make sure to bring your own bike and parents must be present in order for children to participate. All children who participate will be receiving a **FREE** bike helmet, while supplies last. For more information, contact Captain Cheryl Hughes at (336) 597-0500.



Funding Forecast



Check out these **HOT** funding opportunities!

- **HOPE VI Main Street Grant**
 - The HOPE VI Main Street Program provides grants to communities smaller than 50,000 in population to assist in the renovation of a historic, traditional central business district, or "Main Street" area by replacing unused, obsolete, commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units. More information [HERE](#).
- **USDA Rural Energy Funding Programs**
 - These programs, authorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014, offer funding to complete energy audits, provide renewable energy development assistance, make energy efficiency improvements and install renewable energy systems. Read more [HERE](#).
- **Golden Leaf Site Program**
 - Through this program, Golden LEAF will provide support to communities to identify potential sites for economic development, enable completion of due diligence on sites already identified, or extend public utilities to or conduct grading and clearing of sites for which due diligence has been completed. More information [HERE](#).

Local Government Food System Survey

The Upper Coastal Plain, Kerr-Tar, and Triangle J Councils of Governments have identified regional food system development as a key strategy in our regions to help drive economic development. This three COG partnership is participating in a project called **Tri-COG Food Ecosystem Economic Development Strategy** to promote rural-urban connectivity by exploring strategies to circulate more money in the local economy through farming and food.



As partners in this work, it is integral to hear from you and your colleagues about your experience and interest in food system development in your community by answering this short ten question survey [HERE](#).

ARPA Storytelling: Tell Us More!



Signed in March 2021, now over two years later, many of our Kerr-Tar region municipalities have implemented their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to benefit their communities. Share your community's story with us, let us know how the ARPA funds positively impacted development in your community! To share your story, email Marley Spencer, Regional Project Manager, at [mspencer@kerrtarco g.org](mailto:m Spencer@kerrtarco g.org)

Franklin Co. Top 10 of Visit NC Farms Asset Views for state of North Carolina

The Kerr-Tar region is an active participant on the Visit NC Farms app, created to connect users to farm experiences, markets, locally sourced restaurants, and events in North Carolina. Ranging from pick your own opportunities, locally sourced cuisine, to NC wineries, there is something for everyone! The app is available on iOS and Android systems and users can sign up for updates regarding special farm fresh events occurring in their area of choice

Are you ready to list your Kerr-Tar region farm, market or event on Visit NC Farms? Contact Marley Spencer, Regional Project Manager, at [mspencer@kerrtarco g.org](mailto:m Spencer@kerrtarco g.org) to get started!



Division of Water Infrastructure Announces Fall 2023 Grant Funding Application Training

The Division of Water Infrastructure in the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality will provide training for completing and submitting applications for the **Fall 2023 Drinking Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Loan and Grant** funding round. Applications for loan and grant funding for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater projects must be received by the Division no later than **5:00pm on October 2, 2023**. Application training will be offered August 2 through August 10 in Asheville, Hickory, Wilmington, Winterville, and Raleigh. The Aug. 10 Raleigh training session will also offer virtual participation via WebEx and will be recorded and posted on the Division website. There is no registration cost. Potential funding applicants are strongly encouraged to attend an in-person session or listen to a training session online. Training will cover important information including:

- Funding Programs
- Application Package Completion
- Priority Rating Systems
- Funding Timelines
- Instructions on how to apply for Lead Service Line Replacement/Inventory funding & Emerging Contaminants funding



RSVP to jennifer.haynie@deq.nc.gov (919) 707-9173 prior to the desired session and provide your name, organization, email address, phone number, and the desired training location. All training sessions contain the same content. Application materials will be available on the Division website before training begins. For more information, including the complete schedule and locations for the Fall 2023 application training sessions, and funding availability, click [HERE](#).

Water Infrastructure Funding Announced



Gov. Roy Cooper's office has announced **\$223 million** in local drinking water, wastewater and storm water projects in the latest round of awards by the State Water Infrastructure Authority. The grants and low-interest loans are part of \$2.8 billion in funding for water-related infrastructure over the past two years, made possible by state and federal legislation. Congratulations to the **City of Henderson** for an award of **\$400,000** for a Stormwater Asset Inventory and Condition Assessment and the **Town of Warrenton** for an award of **\$750,000** for projects at the Waste Water Treatment Plant!

Success Story: *Tonya Parrish*

Tonya Parrish, an Army Veteran, had no problem finding employment when she separated from service in 2014. Discouragement came many years later, during the pandemic downturn in 2020. Tonya found herself unemployed from her contractor position and fighting financial obligations. She applied for jobs, but no responses were received. She entered the NCWorks Career Center through word of mouth to meet with the Veterans Employment Services Consultant. After a general discussion and assessment, it was clear that Tonya possessed the skills and work experience needed within our workforce. The Veterans Employment Services Consultant mapped out an employment plan and a functional resume while, in turn, partnering with NCWorks Business Services, who arranged a meeting with the CEO of White Insurance & Financial Services, which happened to be looking for an Associate. Tonya interviewed and was offered the position to which she was hired as a full-time employee in July. Tonya stated, "I cannot wait to start working and complete the insurance certification." Tonya could not thank us enough as she looks forward to beginning her new career. Congratulations!



VGCC WIOA Success Story

Two VGCC WIOA Youth participants completed truck driving training on Thursday, July 27: Elijah Daniel and Keyon Green of Granville County. The training started May 22 and with hard work and dedication, both completed successfully! Elijah Daniel even received perfect attendance. Both participants are currently actively seeking employment. Congratulations to Elijah and Keyon!



[CLICK HERE FOR KERR-TAR LABOR MARKET UPDATE](#)





KERR-TAR

Council of Governments

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](#)

Executive Director

Diane Cox
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Area Agency on Aging

Nancy Francis
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Planning & Development

Vacant

Workforce Development

Lou Grillo
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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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