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## ECC FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

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### REGIONAL UPDATES

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**PLEASE COMPLETE THE ECC MEMBER SURVEY** – ECC wants YOUR input about our programs and services. We want to know how we are doing, what we can do better, and what additional services you would like us to provide. **We will use this information as we plan for our strategic goals and budget for 2024-25.** Please complete the following survey by February 21st:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024ECCMemberSurvey>.

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**ECC WELCOMED CITY OF JACKSONVILLE MANAGEMENT / STAFF TO ECC OFFICE FOR RETREAT:** ECC welcomed Jacksonville City Manager Joshua Ray and City staff for part of their Department Directors' Retreat on January 29th. We enjoyed hosting them at our office! We encourage ECC members to consider using the ECC Board / Training Room for retreats. If you are interested in reserving the ECC Board Room for a retreat, please contact Executive Director David Bone.

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**ECC TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS, ESPECIALLY NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND STAFF - “NCDOT STIP/SPOT 101” on Feb. 13, 9:00-12:00:** ECC Rural Planning Organization (RPO) staff will provide a transportation training session on Feb. 13th in the ECC Board Room. This training will provide an overview of NCDOT's State Transportation Improvement



Plan (STIP), the SPOT Prioritization process, which is used to add new projects to the STIP. In addition, other topics will include a summary of the Strategic Transportation Improvements law, the process to create a new STIP, and the role played by a Rural Planning Organization (RPO). And finally, there will be discussion of the Prioritization process that takes a new transportation project from concept to construction. North Carolina's prioritization method is known as SPOT, which also will be reviewed step by step.

This event was planned as an in-person training, and we hope to see you there. For additional information, please contact Becca Eversole at [beversole@eccog.org](mailto:beversole@eccog.org) or Mickey Anderson at [manderson@eccog.org](mailto:manderson@eccog.org).

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**GIS WORKSHOP - Feb. 20, 9:00-4:30.** ECC in partnership with Colliers Engineering and Design will host the workshop in 2 parts - the morning session (9:00-12:00) will focus on an introduction and the basics of GIS, whereas the afternoon session (1:00-4:30) will be dedicated to more complex uses of GIS. Please register according to your interest - for the morning session - OR the afternoon session - OR for both sessions. Space is limited to 35, whether for the AM, PM, or all day. Use the QR Code on the flyer or register on the GIS Workshop link, <https://events.r2o.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ek7yiv5y791186d6&oseq=&c=&ch=>

# GIS Workshop



**February 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00a – 4:30p**

Eastern Carolina Council is hosting a GIS Workshop on February 20<sup>th</sup> for the first 35 who register from member governments.

The GIS topics will be delivered through two sessions, participants may attend either or both:

- **Morning Session (9 – Noon)**
  - ✓ Intro to Geospatial Technology
  - ✓ GIS Products Overview
  - ✓ Mapping Basics
- **Afternoon Session (1 – 4:30PM)**
  - ✓ Field Operations
  - ✓ Geospatial Data Management
  - ✓ Asset Management

Geographic Information Systems is a computerized technology that can be used to create, manage, analyze, and display geographically referenced information. Whether your community is fully embracing GIS or not using it at all, we invite you to join our workshop!



**Lunch Provided!**

(Noon -1PM)

To Register, scan here:



(252) 638-3185  
www.eccog.org  
233 Middle St., Suite 300  
New Bern, NC 28560



**Ethics Training for Elected Officials – Wed., Feb. 21, 6:00-9:00 PM.** ECC's partner, Attorney David Baxter of Sumrell Sugg, will provide the required ethics training for newly elected and re-elected local government officials. The training will be held at the ECC Offices, and a light dinner will be served. A virtual option is also available, but to maximize the training experience, in-person participation is encouraged. (A Zoom link will be shared with registered participants prior to the training.) To register for the event, visit, <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ek33u70f5c0f38f9&llr=gppuxoyab>.



**REGISTER FOR THE 2024 MAIN STREET CONFERENCE, "IGNITE, ACTIVATE, & EMPOWER ... MAIN STREET," WHICH WILL BE HELD IN GOLDSBORO – MARCH 12-14:** Registration is now open. If you ever thought about going to the Main Street Conference and have not, this year would be a great time to go. Encourage Town leadership and staff to attend and participate! Registration - Contact Sharon Tripp, our Conference Registration Coordinator at [info@ncmainstreetconference.com](mailto:info@ncmainstreetconference.com).

**ECC IN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (IEDC) TO CO-SPONSOR WORKSHOPS (APRIL - JUNE) & PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE REGION'S MUNICIPALITIES:** IEDC is a non-profit organization with a membership of more than 5,000 who serve economic developers; it is the largest organization of its kind. Currently, IEDC assists ECC with several regional projects and is also available to support other individual communities in our region through a variety of projects.

**REGIONAL PROJECTS** – During April, May, and June IEDC will be assisting the ECC region achieve economic resilience through 3 strategies that are incorporated into our 2023 – 2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) regional plan, which is available online at <https://eccog.org/economic-development-planning/>. Workshops will focus on: Development of Regional Military Retention Strategies/Action; Workforce Housing Strategies; and Talent Attraction and Retention Strategies.

**IEDC PROVIDES FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES:** IEDC member volunteers help provide recommendations through funding from US EDA. If your community has an interest in meeting with an economic development volunteer to discuss opportunities and strategies for Workforce Housing or Talent Attraction and Retention during weeks listed above, please email David Bone at [dbone@eccog.org](mailto:dbone@eccog.org).

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## AGING UPDATES

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**NC ASSOCIATION ON AGING CONFERENCE IN NEW BERN – MARCH 13-14** – The North Carolina Association on Aging will hold its Annual State Aging Training Conference March 13- 14, 2024, at the Riverfront Convention Center in New Bern, NC. Each spring, NCAOA hosts the North Carolina State Aging Conference for aging service providers, students, and seniors. The conference is an opportunity for attendees to learn and sharpen skills, meet experts and influencers face to face, mix, and mingle, and form new relationships and strengthen existing ones. For further information visit, <https://www.ncaoaging.org/conference-trainings>.

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**SENIOR GAMES IN THE REGION:** Register and participate in your region!

**Carteret Senior Games** will be held from March 26 - April 30, 2024. For further information and to register visit

<https://ccpr.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/87/37th%20Annual%20SG%20Packet.pdf>

**Neuse River Senior Games (Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, and Pamlico County)** 2024 participant registration is available on February 1, 2024. The Neuse River Senior Games will run from April 8 - May 24, 2024. For further information and to register visit <https://www.ncseniorgames.org/neuse>.

**Onslow Senior Games** will be held from April 13 - May 6, 2024. For further information and to register visit <https://www.onslowcountync.gov/1683/Senior-Games>.

**Wayne County Senior Games** will be held from April 1 - April 30, 2024. For further information and to register visit <https://www.ncseniorgames.org/wayne>.

**We Congratulate Amanda Young for her Certification in Support Group Facilitation!** ECCAAA staff member, Amanda Young, attended the Dementia Alliance North Carolina support group facilitator training on January 24, 2024, and received her certification.

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## UPDATES

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### **UNC SOG – NCLM ESSENTIALS OF MUNICIPAL GOVT. COURSES – JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2024**

– The UNC School of Government (SOG) and the NC League of Municipalities (NCLM) continue to partner to offer the Essentials of Municipal Government courses in various locations in February. If your entire council attends the course, it provides a great opportunity for elected officials to spend time with one another and get to know each other better.

The remaining dates and locations for the Essentials of Municipal Government courses are:

Feb. 15–16 – Hilton Asheville Biltmore Park

Feb. 22–23 – Chapel Hill, School of Government (Hybrid)

To register and for information on the hotel room block for each location, please click on the following link: <https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/essentials-municipal-government>.

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**GRANT WRITING and GRANT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH ECC** – We provide grant writing services to member communities and will continue to accept grant writing projects on a case-by-case basis, according to availability and other considerations. If you are interested in ECC helping your community with grant writing or grant administration, please contact Planning Director, Larry Faison at [Lfaison@eccog.org](mailto:Lfaison@eccog.org) or (252) 638-3185.

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## **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS / EVENTS**

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### **UNC, SOG - NCLM Essentials of Municipal Government Course - January - February 2024.**

The remaining dates and locations for the Essentials of Municipal Government courses are:

Feb. 15–16, Thurs.-Fri. – Hilton Asheville Biltmore Park.

Feb. 22–23, Thurs.-Fri. – Chapel Hill, School of Government (Hybrid).

**ECC Executive Board Meeting**, ECC Offices, Feb. 8, Dinner 6:00 PM, Meeting 6:30 PM.

**ECC Workshop for Elected Officials & Staff, "NCDOT STIP/SPOT 101,"** ECC Offices, Feb. 13, 9:00-12:00.

**ECC hosts GIS Workshop**, ECC Board Room, Feb. 20, 9:00-4:30 - morning and/or afternoon sessions.

**Ethics Workshop for Elected Officials**, ECC Offices /Hybrid, Feb. 21, Light Dinner 6:00, Training 6:30-9:00 PM.

**Eastern NC Managers Meeting** (includes 4 COG regions) - focus on Budgeting, Beaufort County Community College, Building 10, Feb. 29, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. (Pre-registration and payment required through ECU.)

**Grant Writing Workshop**, ECC Training Room, March 5-6, 9:00-4:30.

**NC Mainstreet Conference**, March 12-14, Paramount Theatre, 139 S. Center Street, Goldsboro.

**NC Association on Aging Conference**, March 13-14, Riverfront Convention Center, New Bern.

**ECC General Membership Board Meeting**, ECC Offices, March 14, Dinner 6:00, Meeting 6:30 PM.

**Eastern Carolina Council**  
**233 Middle Street, Suite 300, Suite 300, P.O. Box 1717,**  
**New Bern, NC 2853-1717**  
**Office (252) 638-3185**

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**CONNECT WITH US**



Eastern Carolina Council | PO Box 1717, New bern, NC 28560

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