



ECC's JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER



REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

"PLANNING AHEAD: A RESILIENCY AND INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT / PROJECT RESOURCE ROUNDTABLE"



The introduction, "Setting the Stage - aligning community needs with State and Federal funding priorities," was moderated by Jay Bender (Pollocksville Mayor). Panelists included: (L to R) Andy Fox (NCSU Coastal Dynamic Design Lab - College of Design), Holly White (NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency [NCORR]), and Vic Damato (NC Division of Water Infrastructure, Viable Utilities Unit).



ECC's Board Room was at capacity hosting the Roundtable, eighty-six registered for the 4 1/2-hour event, which offered a platform for state and local leaders to interact, sharing strategies and practices.



"From Vision to Implementation... to Revision" was moderated by Mackenzie Patak (Hometown Strong). Panelists included: Schumata Brown (Maysville Town Manager), Chris Suggs (Kinston Council Member), and Twig Rollins (Magnolia Town Manager).



Participants peppered Presenters with questions diving deeper into their topic area and their own municipality's resiliency needs, the Roundtable format had opportunities for individual follow up between public official and presenter.



Bob Taylor (NCDEQ, Viable Utilities Unit) led a participatory exercise, which included a grant project planning worksheet, the form is available at <https://www.rebuild.nc.gov/nc-resilient-communities-funding-forum-grant-project-planning-worksheet/open>.



Moderator, Justin Nolan (Environmental Finance Center at UNC, School of Government) was heard saying, "Raleigh, we have a problem... unclear objectives, numerous challenges," other thought-provoking questions were responded to by Panelists: Bob Taylor, Kasen Wally (Division of Coastal Management, Resilient Coastal Communities), and Helene Wetherington (NCORR, FEMA Community Disaster Resilience Zones).



"We have the funding. Do we have a project?" Moderator, Chris Baillie (NC Coastal Federation) and panelists Marquis Crews (NC Pandemic Recovery Office [NCPRO], NCOSMB) and Kaine Riggan, via Zoom (NCDPS, BRIC/FMA Lead) presented on their unique programs and provided helpful suggestions to improve future grant applications from the participants.



Andrea Webster (NCORR) presented the Resilience Exchange Tool - a versatile database to search vulnerability maps and the hazards that affect North Carolina, such as climate, severe weather, flooding, water quality, and many other topics. Seasonal change affects the results generated by the data, which are posted in real time during the search; numerous funding opportunities also are posted on the Resilience Exchange Tool. To access the database, visit <https://www.resilienceexchange.nc.gov/>.



"Overview of Grant Writing / Administration Resources" was the day's final presentation. ECC's Holly Lippitt & Sara Deskar briefly spoke about their grant work. Holly provided a handout, citing specific Resilience Exchange opportunities and other resources (federal, state, and community foundations). Sara spoke about her outreach/ engagement role with FEMA's FMA Assistance Program. And Donald Hughes with Ania Hairston (NC League of Municipalities [NCLM]) spoke about the ARP Team's work.

NCDOT TO HOLD THE DIVISION 3 STIP PUBLIC MEETING FOR DUPLIN AND ONSLOW COUNTIES ON JULY 8TH

TO PRIORITIZE FUTURE PROJECTS BASED ON A POINTS' SYSTEM FOR THE 2026-35 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (STIP)

The Division 3 NCDOT Public Meeting will be held on **July 8th from 4:00-6:00 PM** at the NCDOT Division 3 Office, which is located at 5501 Barbados Blvd., Castle Hayne, NC, 28429.

Follow these instructions to learn more about NCDOT's process.

1. Prepare for the public meeting, first, view the short, outreach video at <https://youtu.be/zwW5YC6QMHU>.

2. Access NCDOT's MetroQuest website, after viewing the video, in readiness to provide public comments for STIP future planning consideration. Review the MetroQuest information at <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/stip/development/Pages/default.aspx>.
3. Follow the 2nd link, which remains open between June 17 and July 17, 2024, <https://metroquestsurvey.com/oq8i8y>, and add to the public comment.
4. Watch for the NCOT STIP regional scores that will be announced later this summer. Somewhat later, projects will be prioritized within each Division for the 2026-2035 STIP.

NCLM HOSTS ETHICS TRAINING ONLINE

The \$60 class is available now from the NC League of Municipalities (NCLM) from the AML On-Demand catalogue, visit <https://members.nclm.org/Courses-Events/AML-On-Demand-Catalog>.

2024-25 ECC BUDGET APPROVED

During ECC's General Membership Board Meeting on June 13th, unanimous approval was given for the 2024-2025 Budget. For additional information on ECCs Budget contact David Bone, ECC Executive Director, at dbone@eccog.org or by phone at (252) 638-3185, Ext. 3005.



Talent Attraction



IEDC members, Consultants - Rhett Flood and Mike Chmura.



Retention



ECC HOSTS A TALENT ATTRACTION AND RETENTION WORKSHOP ON JUNE 25th

In partnership with the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), ECC hosted a Talent Attraction & Retention workshop for members and other partners on June 25th. We had a wonderful workshop and discussion! Thank you to our presenters, all the participants, funding organizations, and partners.

Funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission supported this effort. IEDC members, Rhett Flood and Mike Chmura, provided the program. Rhett is Executive Director of Forge Young Talent, a young professional organization in Topeka, Kansas, focused on providing young people with the skills and resources needed to succeed in their careers. Mike is an economist from Wadsworth, OH, and is with Chmura Economics and Analytics. He works extensively with local communities and economic development organizations to assess their needs and key labor market trends and is well versed in economic and fiscal impact studies / modeling.

Following the workshop, Rhett and Mike spent the next few days meeting with stakeholders from individual counties or small groups of counties / cities and facilitated conversations on how they may strengthen their talent

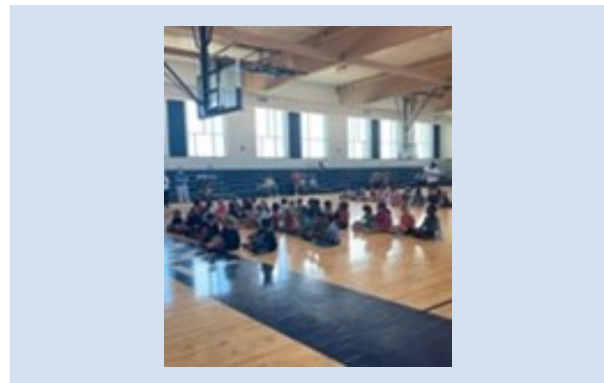
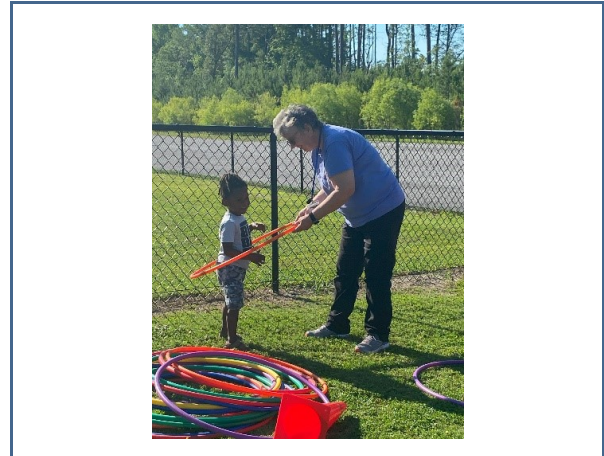
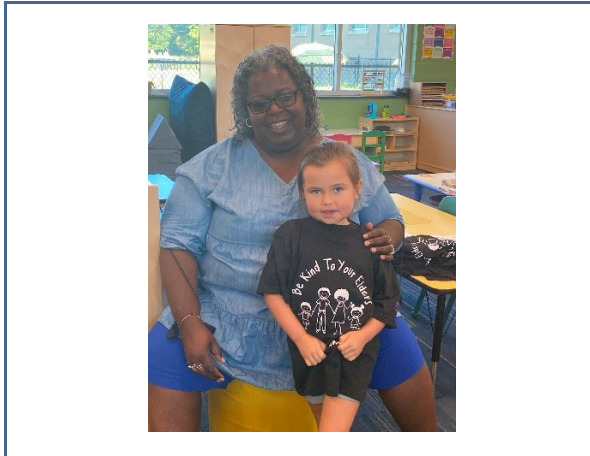
NEWS OF ECC STAFF

With mixed emotions of joy and loss, the ECC congratulates Becca Eversole's acceptance to become the Town of Carrboro's Transportation Planner. She dutifully has served as ECC's Senior Transportation Planner for the past 4 1/2 years. We wish her well and much success in her new position!

ECC TO ASSIST COMMUNITIES WITH THE FEMA FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ECC Community Planner Sara Deskar recently began working with NC Department of Public Safety on ECC's FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program in a 2-year project to assist NC Emergency Management, local governments and property owners. In particular, Sara will assist jurisdictions with community engagement and constructing FMA Applications that will seek funding to assist homeowners that have been severely affected by flooding. The State has identified Eastern Carolina counties (Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Onslow, Pamlico, and Wayne) that have demonstrated high percentages of repetitive flood damaged properties covered by the National Flood Insurance Program. Please contact Sara to learn more about her role and what possible mitigation assistance she may offer at sdeskar@eccog.org or by phone at (252) 638-3185, Ext. 3006.

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS 2024



ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS REGIONAL EVENTS

Annually from Mother's Day to Father's Day, the state of North Carolina has established Elder Abuse Awareness month. Providers and community organizations held opportunities in their communities to promote dialogue and action on the issue of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. And providers across the region held events to include elder abuse awareness walks, presentations, Scam Jams, and informational fairs. Attendees were provided with information on elder abuse to include types of abuse, how to report abuse, current scam information, and how to prevent abuse.

ECCAAA staff delivered Elder Abuse Awareness "Be Kind to Your Elders" t-shirts throughout the region during Elder Abuse Awareness month. The t-shirts were given to children to promote being kind to your elders in collaboration with the region's NC Partnership for Children programs - and to help spread awareness.



SENIOR TAR HEEL LEGISLATURE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you know an individual age 60 and over who is looking for a volunteer opportunity to advocate for older adults in North Carolina? Eastern Carolina Council Area Agency on Aging is looking for individuals to volunteer to be a Senior Tar Heel Legislature (STHL) member. STHL members provide information to senior citizens on the legislative process and matters being considered by the North Carolina General Assembly. They promote citizen involvement and advocacy concerning aging issues before the North Carolina General Assembly and assess the legislative needs of older citizens by convening a forum modeled after the North Carolina General Assembly. ECCAAA currently has Delegate and Alternate positions available. For further information and to learn about the North Carolina Senior Tar Heel Legislation, please visit <https://ncseniortarheellegislature.org> or contact David Rosado, Eastern Carolina Council Human Services Manager, at drosado@eccog.org, (252) 638-3185.

Eastern Carolina Council Area Agency on Aging Senior Tar Heel Delegate Opportunities

| County | Delegate | Alternate |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|
| Carteret County | X | X |
| Craven County | X | |
| Greene County | | X |
| Jones County | | X |
| Onslow County | | X |
| Pamlico County | | X |



REGIONAL AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Eastern Carolina Council Area Agency on Aging (ECCAAA) is seeking volunteers in Carteret, Craven, Greene, Jones, and Pamlico counties to represent their county on the ECCAAA Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC). The purpose of RAAC is to serve as advocates for older adults and family caregivers. RAAC members actively promote all beneficial programs. Members advise the Area Agency on Aging staff on the interests of

senior adults and family caregivers by keeping informed of issues impacting these individuals and they serve as liaisons between their counties and the RAAC. RAAC members assist the Area Agency on Aging and local service providers in assessing the needs of senior adults and family caregivers. They also advise the Area Agency on Aging on matters relating to the development and administration of their 4-year Area Plan.

The RAAC meets quarterly on the Second Monday of each month at 10:00 AM, in New Bern, NC. The meetings are held in January, April, July, and October. For further information becoming a RAAC member and how to apply, please contact David Rosado at drosado@eccog.org or (252) 638-3185.

Eastern Carolina Council Area Agency on Aging RAAC Opportunities

| County | Number of Positions |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Carteret County | 2 |
| Craven County | 3 |
| Greene County | 1 |
| Jones County | 1 |
| Pamlico County | 1 |

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS / EVENTS

ECC office closed for July 4th Holiday, Thurs., July 4.

ECC Executive Committee Meeting, July 11, 6:00 PM Dinner, 6:30 PM Meeting, ECC offices.

ECRPO TCC/TAC Meeting, July 18, 9:30-11:30 AM, La Grange Community Center (410 E. Washington St., La Grange).

DERPO TCC Meeting, Hybrid, July 23, 10:00-11:30 AM, ECC Board Room and via Zoom.

DERPO TAC Meeting, July 30, 10:00-11:30 AM, ECC Board Room.



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

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