

Executive Director's Report

November 15, 2017

I am happy to share some of the work accomplished since the last Board of Delegates meeting. If you have questions about any of these items, feel free to contact me at lworsley@tjco.org or (919) 558-9395.

Aberdeen, Pinehurst and Southern Pines

TJCOG Planner Jenny Halsey and I met with the managers of Aberdeen, Pinehurst and Southern Pines on November 8. The purpose of the meeting was to put final touches on a draft charter for the joint Aberdeen/Pinehurst and Southern Pines group that TJCOG will be facilitating, as well as to begin brainstorming potential topics for the group to work on. Additionally, I received an endorsement from the managers to put together a Moore County Managers group, facilitated by TJCOG. The group will bring together the municipal managers and county manager to discuss issues of importance.

Assisting Town of Robbins

The Town Manager of Robbins, the state US EDA representative, and myself met on November 6 to discuss potential EDA assistance opportunities for the Town. I am also following up with UNC Chapel Hill on potential resources and we will continue working with Robbins on opportunities as they develop.

Regional Mayor and Chairs Meeting

The Regional Mayors and Chairs met on November 2 to hear a presentation from TJCOG Regional Planning Director John Hodges-Copple on TJCOG's work on Transit Oriented Design for the Durham/Orange Light Rail project and recently begun work around the Wake Transit Plan. View John's presentation (attached) for your information.

Regional Emissions Reductions with Passenger Rail Promotion

NCDOT has done extensive work to improve the passenger rail infrastructure throughout the State of North Carolina. TJCOG will be working collaboratively with Piedmont Triad Regional Council and Centralina COG to develop and implement a program that encourages passenger rail use along the corridor linking the urban crescent of North Carolina. Specifically, this project will form partnerships with Chambers of Commerce, Downtown Development Associations, Transit Authorities and Convention and Visitors Bureaus to form an education and marketing campaign targeted at increasing utilization of this existing and newly improved transportation system for accessing these metropolitan areas. Additionally, this project will provide education on first-mile/last-mile solutions for travelers once they arrive at their destination. The program's goal is to help to divert thousands of avoided vehicle trips and significantly reduce the emissions generated from travel to economic centers within the state. Working in tandem with the current update to the NCDOT Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan, this project will leverage existing and established TDM programs and capabilities in the designated metro regions to expand the engagement, education and outreach efforts to a broader array of businesses and travelers.

Brownfields Technical Assistance

TJCOG will be engaging with member governments over the next few months to assess interest to start a regional brownfields program. We will be soliciting feedback from member committees to provide us information on their current programs, challenges, and missed opportunities. TJCOG could write the grants on behalf of member governments, handle the program administration, or assist in other ways. For more information, please contact Alana Keegan at akeegan@tjco.org

Triangle J Staff to Participate in Affordable Housing Panel

The Leadership Triangle Alumni Network hosted an affordable housing forum last January, which TJCOG Regional Planning Director John Hodges-Copple moderated. Leadership Triangle is planning the second forum in the series tomorrow morning, and TJCOG staff members John Hodges-Copple, Julia Katz and Aspen Romeyn will be facilitating or presenting during the event. Here are details about the event and we encourage you to attend.

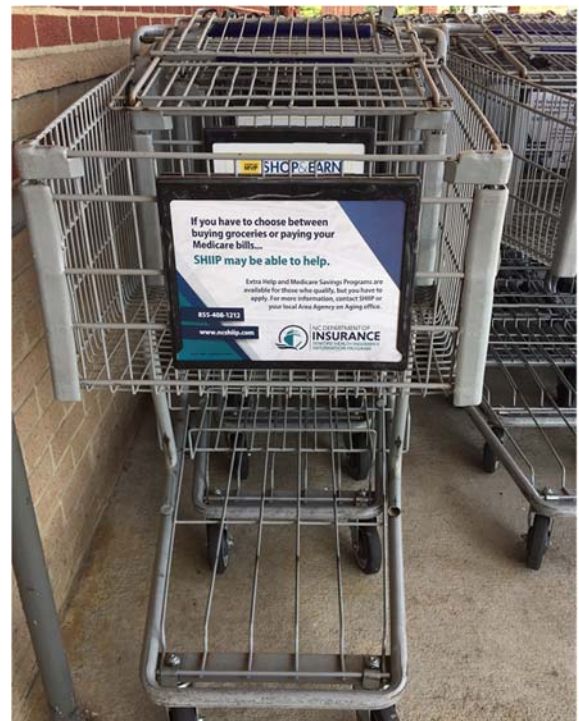
Leadership Triangle Alumni Network (LTAN) Affordable Housing Forum Part II

November 16th, 8:00am – 11:30am at the Frontier

Affordable housing has been named as a top priority in communities across the region. What will it look like in your neighborhood? Join Leadership Triangle for a discussion on the role of urban neighborhoods in ensuring that everyone has a safe, decent place to live and the opportunity to build better lives.

Be on the Lookout...

for the SHIIP! The Triangle J Area Agency on Aging, in partnership with the NC Department of Insurance's SHIIP program, has launched a new Food Lion shopping cart ad campaign around the region. These ads encourage lower income seniors to apply for Extra Help in paying for a Medicare prescription drug plan. The open enrollment period for selecting a Medicare drug plan begins October 15, 2017 and runs through December 7.





TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

World Class Region

A RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE TOWN OF CLAYTON FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF THE TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS REGIONAL SUMMIT

Whereas, Triangle J Council of Governments held its first annual Regional Summit, “A Future Together: Connecting Our Urban & Rural Communities” on September 28, 2017; and

Whereas, at the request of the Board of Delegates and in recognition of the diversity of our region, the Regional Summit was held outside of the urban core of the Triangle J region; and

Whereas, the Town of Clayton, a member government of Triangle J, sponsored the Regional Summit at The Clayton Center, an event and performing arts venue; and

Whereas, the Town of Clayton elected officials and staff members provided outstanding assistance to Triangle J staff before, during and after the Regional Summit, ultimately making the event a success.

Now, therefore it be resolved, that the Triangle J Council of Governments’ Board of Delegates, on behalf of a grateful region, expresses its utmost appreciation to the Town of Clayton for above and beyond support to the Triangle J Regional Summit and to the organization.

Adopted and approved this 15th day of November, 2017.

ATTEST:

Ronnie Currin, Chairperson

Lee Worsley, Executive Director