



TRIANGLE J
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

2022-2023
Elected Official

GUIDE

TJCOG REGION

7 COUNTIES **40** MUNICIPALITIES



Mission Statement

Triangle J Council of Governments is a member-driven organization serving as a leading resource to connect communities and enhance their strategic priority outcomes through regional policy, collaboration, and technical assistance at the local, regional, and state level.

Vision Statement

Triangle J Council of Governments is the premier regional organization that addresses the needs of members by leading work focused on comprehensive, innovative, timely, and reliable solutions for the region.

TJCOG Focus Areas

Aging & Human Services

- Administer federal funding and programs
- Connect older adults to resources and info
- Assist local service providers

Contact us if you're interested in volunteering with Triangle J Area Agency on Aging, or if you have questions about Aging & Human Services. Reach out to our team at aging@tjcog.org.

Focus Area Lead: Mary Warren, mwarren@tjcog.org

Resources

- [Area Plan for Aging & Human Services 2020-2024](#)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [NC Division of Aging & Adult Services Demographics & County Profiles](#)
- [Older Americans Act](#)

Environment & Resilience

- Improve coordination of natural resources
- Administer sustainable programs to offer cost-savings to local communities and residents.
- Provide expertise and capacity

Contact us if you have questions about air, water, waste, energy, or recovery/adaptation/resilience.

Focus Area Lead: Emily Barrett, ebarrett@tjcog.org

Resources

- [Project Sunroof](#)
- [Jordan Lake One Water](#)
- [Triangle Regional Resilience Assessment](#)
- [Climate Resilience Projects](#)
- [Solid Waste Consortium](#)
- [Triangle Sustainability Partnership](#)
- [Clean Water Education Partnership](#)

TJCOG REGION

TJCOG Focus Areas

Community & Economic Development

- Facilitate coordinated regional projects
- Build local capacity to attract investment
- Connect communities to U.S Economic Development Administration

Want to get involved? Join the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Steering Committee and/or Focus Groups.

Focus Area Lead: Lindsay Whitson, lwhitson@tjcog.org

Resources

- [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\)](#)
- [Foreign Trade Zone Map](#)
- [Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Story Map](#)
- [Tri-COG FEEDS \(Food Ecosystem Economic Development Strategy\)](#)

Member Support & Strategy

- Comprehensive federal and state grant assistance
- Pool resources to address shared operational challenges in local governments
- Facilitate networks of peer staff and elected officials

Subscribe [HERE](#) to learn about strengthening the public workforce and ensuring local governments understand and can access federal/state assistance. Reach out to our team if you need help with operational or capacity challenges!

Focus Area Lead: Alana Keegan, akeegan@tjcog.org

Resources

- [Workforce Survey of TJCOG Local Government Management](#)
- [Triangle Trends Report](#)
- [ARPA & Audit Considerations](#)
- [UNC School of Government ARPA Page](#)
- [Local Infrastructure Hub](#)

Housing

- Provide education, technical assistance, and data
- Administer home repair and weatherization programs
- Partner with local organizations to improve processes for housing assistance

Focus Area Lead: Lindsay Whitson, lwhitson@tjcog.org

Resources

- [Model Collaborative Home Repair Example](#)
- [Fayetteville Housing Study](#)
- [Close to Home: Affordable Housing Analysis of Triangle Passenger Rail Corridor](#)
- [Utilizing 4% Tax Credits](#)
- [Affordable Rental Housing Report & Strategy Toolbox](#)
- [Supporting Affordable Homeownership in the Triangle](#)

Mobility & Transportation

- Administer the Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization (RPO) and provide technical assistance for the region's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).
- Conduct regional and local travel-demand, growth forecasting, and land use modeling
- Lead projects to support energy-efficient modes of travel

How to get involved: Join your local MPO or RPO; Participate in Triangle Clean Cities Coalition; Apply for funding

Focus Area Lead: Matt Day, mday@tjcog.org

Resources

- [2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan](#)
- [Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization \(TARPO\) Comprehensive Transportation Plans](#)
- [Analyses of affordable housing, etc in potential rail corridor](#)
- [Annual Impact Reports for Triangle Transportation Choices](#)

ABOUT TJCOG

Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) serves as a resource and support hub for local governments, community members, and partners across Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Orange, and Wake counties. Our work is rooted in the belief that our region thrives when we come together with a common vision and plan for the future. We advance this goal through the support of regional policy, collaboration, and technical assistance.

Member Benefits

- 1 Voting Seat on TJCOG Governing Board
- Free Technical Assistance Hours
- Access to TJCOG Office & Conference Space
- Peer Learning Networks
- Member News & Resources
- Federal and State Advocacy & Policy Monitoring
- Community Planning Assistance
- Grant Writing & Administration
- Cost-Sharing & Shared Purchasing
- Low-Cost Training & Workshops
- GIS & Data Services
- Human Resources Support

Organizational Principles

All TJCOG projects and programs are expected to incorporate the five principles for the organization. These principles reflect an organizational desire to be responsive, proactive, and reflective of the region we serve.

1. Service to Our Members
2. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
3. Data-Driven Decision Making
4. Thought Leadership
5. Service Alignment

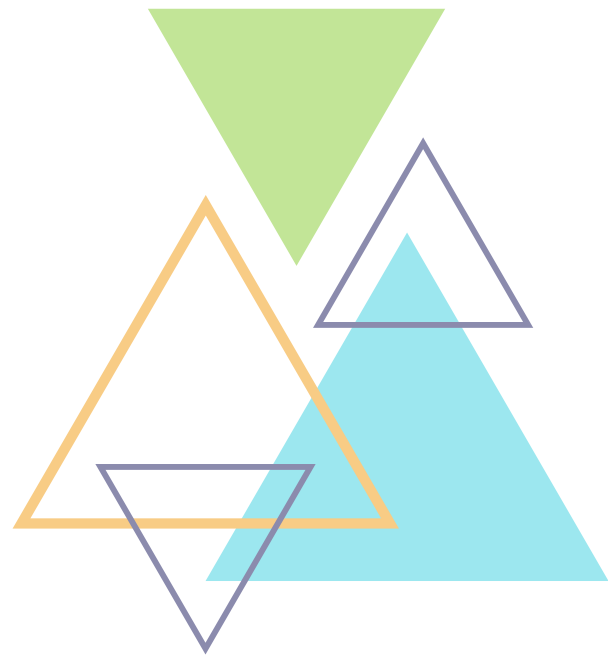
Get Updates & News

- Subscribe to [The Week Ahead Newsletter](#)
- Become your community's [TJCOG Board Delegate](#)
- Think regionally. Have an idea of how to tackle an issue collaboratively? Let us know!
- Connect with us on social media @TJCOGnc

Membership

Membership is available to all local governments in our region. We strive to meet the needs of every member, regardless of their size or government type.

Our membership currently includes all 7 counties and 40 municipalities.



RECOMMENDED PARTNER RESOURCES

NC Association of County Commissioners



The NCACC is a non-partisan organization that serves as the official voice of all 100 counties on issues considered by the General Assembly, Congress, and federal and state agencies.

Services for Counties:

- [Risk Management](#)
- [NC Property Tax Solution](#)
- [Cost-Recovery & Cost-Savings Programs](#)
- [Disaster Preparedness & Recovery](#)
- [County Outreach Services](#)
- [County Management Fellowship](#)

Events & Training:

- [Annual Conference \(every August\)](#)
- [Essentials of County Government](#)
- [District Meetings](#)
- [Legislative Goals Conference](#)
- [County Assembly Day](#)
- [Leading Your County Governing Board](#)
- [Local Elected Leaders Academy](#)

[County Mapbook](#)

Each year NCACC compiles a series of county data maps to highlight demographic, economic, health, and education information for all 100 counties.

The NCACC strive to assist and support NC counties in planning for and utilizing national opioid settlement funds, managing strategic health initiatives, and maximizing resources through outreach, education & collaboration.

[Opioid Settlement Assistance](#)

RECOMMENDED PARTNER RESOURCES

NC League of Municipalities

- **Essentials of Municipal Government** - The UNC School of Government and its Center for Public Leadership and Governance and NCLM staff will conduct a training, “Essentials of Municipal Government”, January 23-24 in Kannapolis. This two-day, in-person training will give newly elected municipal officials a clear understanding of municipal government authority and explore the many internal and external relationships involved in governing. To register, click [HERE](#). visit <https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/essentials-municipal-government>.
- **NCLM New Mayors School** – February 9, 2023 – NC Mayors Association Membership Meeting – Raleigh - Learn about your role as a mayor OR get to know the ins and outs of what your town’s mayor is tasked with, including information about the budgeting process. Registration opens on/about January 9, 2023 at <https://www.nclm.org/events-training/event-details?ID=484>.
- **Advancing Municipal Leaders (AML)** - On-Demand - Have you recently been elected, appointed, or serving in your first term as a municipal elected official? Are you a veteran elected and want refresher training? AML On-Demand is for you. AML self-paced courses are designed to assist elected and appointed officials with navigating the challenges of learning how municipal governance works and leading municipal employees and elected officials. For more information and/or to sign up for AML Weekly Newsletter, visit <https://www.nclm.org/events-training/advancing-municipal-leaders>.



RECOMMENDED PARTNER RESOURCES

UNC School of Government

As you make the transition from campaigning to governing, the UNC School of Government is here to help. For more than 90 years, the SOG has offered training programs, research and writing, and real-time advising to North Carolina's public officials. They have built a legacy of trust based on being nonpartisan, policy neutral, and responsive. Three relevant resources available to you include:

1. **Expert Advising & Consulting** - SOG faculty are available by phone and email to consult on their areas of expertise.
2. **Legislative Reporting Service** - This free website provides immediate access to the daily business of the NC General Assembly.
3. **Coates' Canons** - This NC Local Government Law Blog is a joint effort of SOG faculty. Posts range from updates on legal developments to providing detailed analysis of complicated legal issues.

The Center for Public Leadership & Governance

You don't govern alone. The Center for Public Leadership & Governance (CPLG) has many offerings to help you gain skills to lead and manage change in your community. Within the center resides the Local Elected Leaders' Academy (LELA). It's a place within the SOG to help local elected officials and offers pathways for learning and recognition designed to meet your needs at any phase of your tenure in public office.

