



January 27, 2017

Quote: The most important person is the one you are with in this moment. *Leo Tolstoy*

ECC assists City of New Bern and Craven Community College to receive \$1,298,250 EDA grant

ECC receives Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding to maintain a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region and among other things to assist those local governments and qualified entities to apply for EDA funding. The award was just announced for the \$2,596,500 project. ECC assisted the City of New Bern and Craven Community College to jointly apply for funding to renovate the city's old electric utility building into a regional workforce training center. For more information or for assistance to apply for EDA funding, contact ECC Executive Director Judy Hills at jhills@eccog.org

ECC welcomes Community Planner Miss Ryan Griffith

ECC would like to welcome Miss Ryan Griffith to Eastern North Carolina, and to our staff. Ryan has accepted the position of Community Planner here at ECC and started this week. She will be assisting us with transportation, technical assistance, grant writing and GIS projects. She has an extensive background in target market analysis, project management, and municipal planning. Ryan is also nationally certified in floodplain management, charrettes, and form based codes. When you meet her, please help us in welcoming her to the area! rgriffith@eccog.org

Highway 70 Plugin Electric Vehicle (PEV) study completed

The 18-month PEV project conduct by ECC is complete. It is important that this effort not end here. This document provides a guide for continuing to move forward. At the Highway 70 Association meeting last week the new NC DOT Secretary Jim Trogdon spoke via conference call. He has instructed the DOT staff to look ahead to envision the future including driverless cars. This PEV effort dovetails with the Secretary's progressive thinking. We encourage you to read this report, or at least read the recommendation section. It would be appropriate for the MPOs and RPOs to include some of these recommendations in their FY 17/18 plan of work. Eastern NC continues to remain behind the piedmont and western areas of NC in installing public PEV charging stations. This potentially negatively impacts tourism and may keep more progressive companies from choosing our area to build or relocate. This report is available on the ECC website: <http://www.eccog.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/pev-study-report.pdf>

Plastic Bag and Film Recycling Forum

"The Who, What, When, Where, and Why" will be held Friday, February 10th, 2017 9:15 AM to noon at the Sneads Ferry Environmental Education Center located at 1330 NC-210, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460. There is no registration and no fee associated with this event. For more information contact Lisa Rider at Lisa_Rider@onslowcountync.gov

SOG Water and Wastewater Finance Strategies Workshop

This year's workshop will include sessions on rate setting and legal updates including the recent court decision related to impact fees. The session will also highlight innovative water and wastewater partnerships, and will address capital planning and capital funding sources (grants and loans). This year's workshop will be held at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill February 28th to March 1st. Click here to register: <https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/water-and-wastewater-finance-strategies> Seats are limited and the program often sells out. The program is eligible for a range of professional development credit programs – check the registration page for more details.

NC Water Collaborative Survey

The North Carolina Source Water Collaborative (NCSWC) is a statewide partnership of non-profit organizations, university programs, state, local and federal agencies, professional associations, and regional councils of government that works to protect drinking water through non-regulatory approaches. The [NCSWC](#) is developing resources to assist public and elected officials in protecting and preserving their drinking water sources and would like your guidance. Please take a few minutes to fill out [this survey](#) to ensure these resources are helpful and relevant to your work.

2018 Recreational Trails Program Grant Cycle

The 2018 grant cycle for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is now open. The RTP is a federal grant program authorized by Congress with the intent of helping fund trails and trail-related recreational needs at the State level. At the State level, the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DNCR) has assigned that responsibility to the Division of Parks and Recreation and its NC Trails Program. The North Carolina Trails Committee is a [seven-member advisory committee](#) who will review all applications and make recommendations for funding with the Secretary of DNCR having final approval authority for North Carolina. The Grant Application – Form A will be available from Tuesday, January 17, 2017 until Friday, February 24, 2017. Click [here](#) to access the application.

319 Water Quality implementation grant cycle open

Proposals are now being solicited for projects that implement a DWR-approved watershed restoration plan to restore the water quality of waters impaired at least in part by nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. Approximately \$1.2 million in federal funds are available for water quality restoration projects. Funds are provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. Attached is the Request for Proposals (RFP) and application form for the FY 2017 319 Grant cycle. State and local governments, interstate agencies, public and private nonprofit organizations including academic institutions are all eligible to apply. Applications are due by April 28, 2017. Please view the attached RFP and visit the Division of Water Resource's 319 grant program web site (<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/planning/nonpoint-source-management/319-grant-program>) for additional information regarding program requirements and project eligibility. An application form to apply for Section 319 Grant funds may be downloaded from the program web site. For questions about the FY 2017 319 RFP or project eligibility for 319 grant funding, please contact Heather Jennings at 919-807-6437 or heather.b.jennings@ncdenr.gov.

NCACC Best Practices Models

Recently the research team at the county commissioners' association (NCACC) was charged with finding and profiling on our web site "Best Practices" and models to share with all 100 counties. Their goal is to use these stories and examples to both honor great work and ignite the creativity of county leadership when thinking of how to improve and transform their communities and governments. They have chosen to start with three areas: 1. Economic Development- this can be traditional development efforts that were particularly successful or notable, or less traditional successes using grassroots partners and community economic development and downtown development practices. They don't have to be BIG. In fact smaller successes are the best to profile. But big is good too! 2. Poverty - again this is wide open. I know some areas are working on this through affordable housing, early childhood education, or food stability. Others may have great social service programs. Or whatever else seems to fit the bill. 3. Efficiency and Effectiveness of government - This is focused on how you have found to do our important work for our counties even more effectively. Awesome process improvement and budgeting strategies would fit in here, along with many other things. If you give them a lead, they will call you and set up some time to talk. If your idea fits with NCACC goals, then will set up a longer interview with you, or whomever you suggest, to really create a profile. These examples do not all need to be county government driven. But they do need to at least include the county as a supporter. If you have ideas please drop Linda Millsaps a note directly at Linda.millsaps@ncacc.org.

Eastern Disaster Relief Funding Updates

The NC Association of County Commissioners and NC League of Municipalities are again partnering to hold free information sessions across the state where local government leaders will get an update from Dan Gerlach, President of the Golden LEAF Foundation, on the status of the grant application process for Eastern Disaster Relief Funding and what to expect in the coming months. This is your opportunity to ask questions about the process and get prepared for next

steps. There will be six sessions in all starting February 9. Click [here](#) to see dates and to register. Duplin County—2/10 at 10 AM and Craven County 2/10 at 2 PM.

SOG Coates' Canons: Legislative Preview

January 25th the North Carolina General Assembly returns to Raleigh to begin the business of the new biennium. Here at the School of Government, we are all waiting anxiously to see what bills will be filed in our respective areas of work. While Christine and I would rather not try to predict the topics that will be of interest this year, we can preview some of the bills that have already been drafted and ideas that have been recommended by oversight committees or study commissions. While there is no guarantee that these ideas will make it into actual legislation this session, these types of proposals often garner some interest because legislators and others have invested a significant amount of time in studying the issues involved and crafting solutions. If you want to get a jump start on just a few of the bills or committee recommendations that may surface this session, [read on...](#)

NCSU economist Dr. Mike Walden—you decide on education and skill acquisition

"I was part of a panel of four economic colleagues – including persons from universities as well as the private sector – who addressed 900 attendees at this year's North Carolina Chamber Economic Forecast Conference. We were peppered with questions from the panel moderator about economic trends, economic forecasts and economic public policy....I and my economic colleagues also agreed education and skill acquisition are the keys to future economic prosperity for more people in North Carolina. We argued for continued efforts to strengthen K-12 education as well as an expansion of opportunities for students at the high school level to be exposed to vocational and technical occupations. More apprenticeships and collaborative programs with businesses in designing curriculum would also be helpful." If you don't subscribe to Mike's column, we encourage you to do so. <https://cals.ncsu.edu/news/tag/you-decide/>

Symposium: The Future of Banking in Rural North Carolina

"What happens when the last bank leaves town? Faced with changing economies, demographics and banking technology how do rural communities face the challenge of having financial services for their residents and businesses? The Future of Banking in Rural North Carolina symposium will be held on February 16 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at [The Rural Center in Raleigh](#). Speakers include the Federal Reserve Bank, the FDIC, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Consumer Bankers Association. The cost is \$100.00 and scholarships are available. Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

RRS Two Part Spring Webinar Series on ADA compliance

NC Recreation Resources Services is offering a webinar "The Americans with Disabilities Act: Where We Are and Where We Should Be" on Tuesday, February 21 (Part 1) and Tuesday, March 21 (Part 2), both between 10am – 12pm. Cost: \$40 – Two Part or \$15 – Individual Session. Please join John McGovern, President - Recreation Accessibility Consultants for a two part webinar addressing ADA and Universal Design for parks and recreation. John consults on access and inclusion for federal agencies, states, counties, park, forest preserve, and conservation districts, municipalities, and other local governments, businesses and nonprofits. His goal is to help every agency make parks, facilities, and programs open and accessible for people of all abilities. [More Information and Registration](#)

ECC offers a number of services at reduced cost for member governments. Contact ECC if you need a price for these services. pflanagan@eccog.org

- Posting of county and municipal jobs on the ECC website (free to member governments)
- Asset mapping and management plans to meet grantor requirements for infrastructure funding
- Maps (all sizes);
- Digitizing of existing paper maps;
- Special studies (e.g., pay classification);
- Staffing for planning and zoning boards;
- GPS services;
- GIS mapping services;
- Mapping water, sewer and stormwater systems
- Map scanning (will make that ratty looking map look almost new and give you a digital copy);

- Surveys (citizen, special issue, employee, P&R);
- Various types of plans (P&R, revitalization, redevelopment, business development, etc.);
- Interim help (finance, planning);
- Staff training (communication, customer service, team building, managing employees, grant writing, grant management, etc.)
- Executive Searches (managers, executive directors, police chiefs, etc.)
- Assistance in determining eligibility for Economic Development Administration (EDA) infrastructure grants

Workshops/Meetings/Events/Webinars/Deadlines coming up soon

- 1/31 DERPO TAC meeting at ECC 2nd Floor Conf. Room 10:00 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 2/1-3 NC City County Management Seminar in Durham [click here for information](#)
- 2/7 NC IEI Focus Forum—Kidonomics at Hunt Library NCSU <https://iei.ncsu.edu/kidoNomiCs/>
- 2/8-9 SOG [Essentials of County Government](#) in Raleigh
- 2/10 SOG Managing Conflict on your Board. Greenville. Click [here](#) for more information.
- 2/10 Local Food Conference at UNCW Burney Center 8 AM to 3:30 PM
<http://www.feastdowneast.org/local-food-conference>
- 2/10 Plastic bag and film recycling—9:15 AM to noon—Snead Ferry Environmental Ed Center. Free.
Lisa_Rider@onslowcountync.gov
- 2/10 Eastern Disaster Funding Update in Duplin County 10 AM Click [here](#)
- 2/10 Eastern Disaster Funding Update in Craven County 2 PM Click [here](#)
- 2/15 Required ethics training for elected officials of ECC member governments 6-8 PM at ECC office eccadmin@eccog.org
- 2/16 The future of banking in NC—Raleigh—9 to 3. Click [here](#)
- 2/21 P&R ADA compliance Part 1 webinar 10-12 [More Information and Registration](#)
- 2/21-22 SOG Fund Accounting at SOG. <https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/fund-accounting-principles-practices>
- 2/22-23 SOG [Essentials of County Government](#) in New Bern
- 2/24 SOG Meeting Procedures for Local Governments. Asheville. click [here](#) to register.
- 2/28-3/1 SOG Water & Wastewater Finance Strategies Workshop in Chapel Hill. [Click here](#) to register.
- 3/9 ECC Executive Committee meeting 6:00 PM ECC office—2nd floor conference room lmorgan@eccog.org
- 3/10 SOG [Strategic Planning for Elected Officials](#)
- 3/14-16 SOG Community Development Academy in Chapel Hill. [Click here for information.](#)
- 3/16 ECRPO TCC and TAC meeting—LaGrange Community Center 9:30 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 3/17 SOG Social media for local government [Click here for more information...](#)
- 3/21 DERPO TCC meeting at ECC 2nd Floor Conf. Room 10:00 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 3/21 P&R ADA compliance Part 2 webinar 10-12 [More Information and Registration](#)
- 3/24 SOG [Strategic Planning for Elected Officials](#)
- 3/29 NCLM Town Hall Day
- 4/11-13 SOG Community Development Academy in Chapel Hill. [Click here for information.](#)
- 4/14 Good Friday Holiday—ECC office closed
- 5/9 NC Rural Center Rural Day
- 5/28 DERPO TAC meeting at ECC 2nd Floor Conf. Room 10:00 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 5/11 ECC Executive Committee meeting 6:00 PM ECC office—2nd floor conference room lmorgan@eccog.org
- 5/18 ECRPO TCC and TAC meeting—LaGrange Community Center 9:30 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 5/23 DERPO TCC meeting at ECC 2nd Floor Conf. Room 10:00 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 5/29 Memorial Day Holiday—ECC office closed
- 5/30 DERPO TAC meeting at ECC 2nd Floor Conf. Room 10:00 AM pflanagan@eccog.org
- 6/8 ECC General Membership Meeting 6:00 PM ECC office 2nd floor conference room lmorgan@eccog.org

Note: The material contained in this bulletin is a compilation from a number of electronic and print sources.

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