



## Talking Points for Introductory Meetings with Congressional Delegation

### Q. What is CCOG and How Does It Impact My Constituents?

A. Centralina is ...

- ... a North Carolina state-chartered regional council of local governments from a 9-county southern piedmont region in and around Charlotte.
- ... a voluntary membership association of over 65 cities, towns and counties working together to help grow jobs and the economy, control the cost of government, and improve quality of life. *[I serve on the Centralina Board of Delegates as my jurisdiction's appointed representative.]*
- ... the designated agency to receive and disburse funds from many federal programs that impact the lives of your constituents daily, including those of the **Older Americans Act** and the **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**.

Centralina works closely with the **Economic Development Administration, Housing and Urban Development, Dept, of Transportation**, and the **USDA's Rural Development**, developing regional strategies and facilitating collaborative implementation.

Centralina also provides professional and technical services to communities in our region, to help them tackle problems, align programs and resources, and carry out best practice solutions.

With the vision of our Board of Delegates (elected officials from each member unit,) and the support of a staff of professionals, Centralina leads regional collaborations and helps communities with the challenges they face in economic development, workforce development, local and regional planning, and in providing **services to the aging and persons with disabilities**.

~~~~~ [as time permits, expand with:] ~~~~~

### Centralina helps your constituents in many ways:

- *Aging Services* – The **Centralina Area Agency on Aging** serves your older and disabled residents (through our counties) with programs and services that support independent living, advocacy for seniors, and support services for caregivers.
- *Workforce Development* – The **Centralina Workforce Development Board** provides leadership and resources to ensure a qualified workforce is available for area employers.
- *Economic Development* – The **Centralina Economic Development Commission** prepares and implements U.S. Department of Commerce strategic plans and grant applications to create jobs and promote community economic growth. The **Community & Economic Development Department** works to improve housing and public infrastructure.
- *Planning* – **Centralina's Regional Planning Department** supports collaboration between local governments, and provides land use and transportation planning services that help communities improve quality of life and be more efficient.
- *Professional and Technical Services* – Centralina provides local governments with professional and technical services in **strategic planning, management and recruitment**.
- *CONNECT Our Future* – **Connect Our Future** provides a Framework for Growth that responds to the needs residents have expressed, and engages all communities in preparing for future challenges using CONNECT products, services and strategies developed through regional collaboration.

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Senators:	Richard Burr ( R ); Tom Tillis ( R )
House Districts:	5-Virginia Foxx ( R ); 8-Richard Hudson ( R ); 9-Robert Pittenger ( R ); 10-Patrick McHenry ( R ); 12-Alma Adams ( D )