



2014-2015 Annual Report



TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

TJCOG.ORG

## A WORD FROM OUR CHAIR

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Take a look at who we are. Seven counties. 43 municipalities. 1,808,479 citizens. By the time you finish reading this, make that 1,808,494 citizens.

Our region is evolving. People are moving here from other parts of the country and the world. The diversity of businesses continues to grow. Rapid urbanization is prompting cities, towns and rural areas to be more deliberate in defining themselves and the role they play in the region. Governments are being asked to do more with less and innovation is becoming essential. All the while, our legislators are rewriting our responsibilities and authorities.

As this evolution occurs, inter-governmental collaboration plays an increasingly important role for our region. We are fortunate to have Triangle J to foster communication and collaboration among our local governments. Through it, we are able to tackle critical regional challenges that cross municipal and county boundaries. And, with the help of Triangle J, our communities are able to accomplish the things we cannot do alone.

This year, Triangle J underwent an exciting change as we brought in a new Executive Director, Lee Worsley. Lee is taking a fresh look at our challenges and opportunities. As he builds upon the strengths of our organization, Lee recognizes that the help that Triangle J gives to our cities and counties filters down to the lives of each of our citizens.

As we go forward, let's remember that we are doing the work of 1,808,494 citizens that depend on us to do our best for them. Each time we come together, we are learning best practices that benefit our citizens. And, each time we collaborate around an issue, we are solving problems on behalf of our citizens. Through Triangle J, we take a little to help residents in our community and we give a little to help those living in other communities.

As you review this year's annual report, you will get a glimpse of the many ways Triangle J Council of Governments works for our region. I encourage you to think about the full potential of Triangle J and how our organization can increase its value to our citizens. Share with us your ideas to help us further our powerful collaboration. Most importantly, please be involved so that we can grow and enhance our region as one of the best places in the world to be a citizen.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Robinson".

**JENNIFER ROBINSON**  
**CHAIR TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**BOARD OF DELEGATES AND COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**TOWN OF CARY**



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## OUR MISSION

To serve as an intergovernmental organization for local elected officials that works proactively on regional issues in order to sustain and improve the quality of life for our citizens.



We dedicate this annual report to our past leader, Executive Director Kirby Bowers, who retired from TJCOG in June 2015.

His stewardship, insight, and vision helped move Triangle J Council of Governments forward,

and his dedication to the region has left an indelible mark. We thank Kirby for his six years of service and wish him well in his new ventures.

## MEMBER COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES

- |                 |               |             |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Chatham County  | Cary          | Princeton   |
| Durham County   | Chapel Hill   | Raleigh     |
| Johnston County | Clayton       | Robbins     |
| Lee County      | Durham        | Rolesville  |
| Orange County   | Fuquay-Varina | Sanford     |
| Wake County     | Garner        | Selma       |
| Apex            | Goldston      | Siler City  |
| Archer Lodge    | Hillsborough  | Smithfield  |
| Benson          | Holly Springs | Wake Forest |
| Broadway        | Kenly         | Wendell     |
| Cameron         | Knightdale    | Zebulon     |
| Carrboro        | Morrisville   |             |
| Carthage        | Pittsboro     |             |



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## REGIONAL PLANNING



TJCOG's Regional Planning Department focuses on developing and managing partnerships, programs and projects that bring local communities together and tackle regional issues. We collaborate with other stakeholders to implement long-term, regional-scale strategies to support economic development, conservation, water resources, energy, and infrastructure.

## Development & Infrastructure

Matching development decisions with infrastructure investments is a critical component of building a distinctive place—one that is both efficient with public dollars and supportive of a high quality of life. The Development & Infrastructure Program emphasizes the links between growth and transportation—including managing the Triangle Area RPO, but also addresses a wide range of issues from housing affordability to broadband investments to green space to changing demographics.

### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Initiated building the next version of the Triangle CommunityViz long-term growth forecast model,

including consultant analysis of growth-shaping factors and convened focus groups of real estate developers and local government planners to define factors that influence development.

#### Provided analysis and served on technical teams

advising the preparation of the Wake Transit Investment Strategy and the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

#### Participated in efforts to better link transit investments

with workforce and affordable housing, including convening a housing practitioners group, providing data and guidance for local community efforts, recommending policy changes to strengthen the transit-affordable housing connection to the NC Housing Finance Agency, and preparing the scope of work and commitment of matching funds for the affordable housing activities of a GoTriangle federal grant application.

#### Partnered with the region's universities

and their host communities on the NC Next Generation Networks (NCNGN) broadband deployment initiative, including facilitating meetings with city and county managers and participating in community engagement panels seeking maximum community benefit from the new deployments.

#### Sponsored research and input

for the preparation of an Equitable Growth Profile for the broader Triangle Region, culminating in a regional equitable growth forum.

### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Built** the next version of Triangle Community Viz to forecast long-term growth in the region to guide decisions about billions of dollars in transportation investments.

**Linked** affordable housing decisions with high quality transit investments.

**Demonstrated** that planned transportation investment will conform to air quality standards.

**Defined** factors where development is most likely to occur in partnership with real estate developers and local planning staffs.

**Tracked** locations for affordable housing in relation to Durham-Chapel Hill light rail transit.

**Completed** three Air Quality Conformity reports.



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## REGIONAL PLANNING

### Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization (TARPO)

Transportation systems are a vital component of the TJCOG region's economy. TARPO provides a forum for the more rural portions of our region that are outside of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (Chatham, Lee, Moore, and Orange Counties) to develop transportation plans, program transportation projects for funding, and share information.

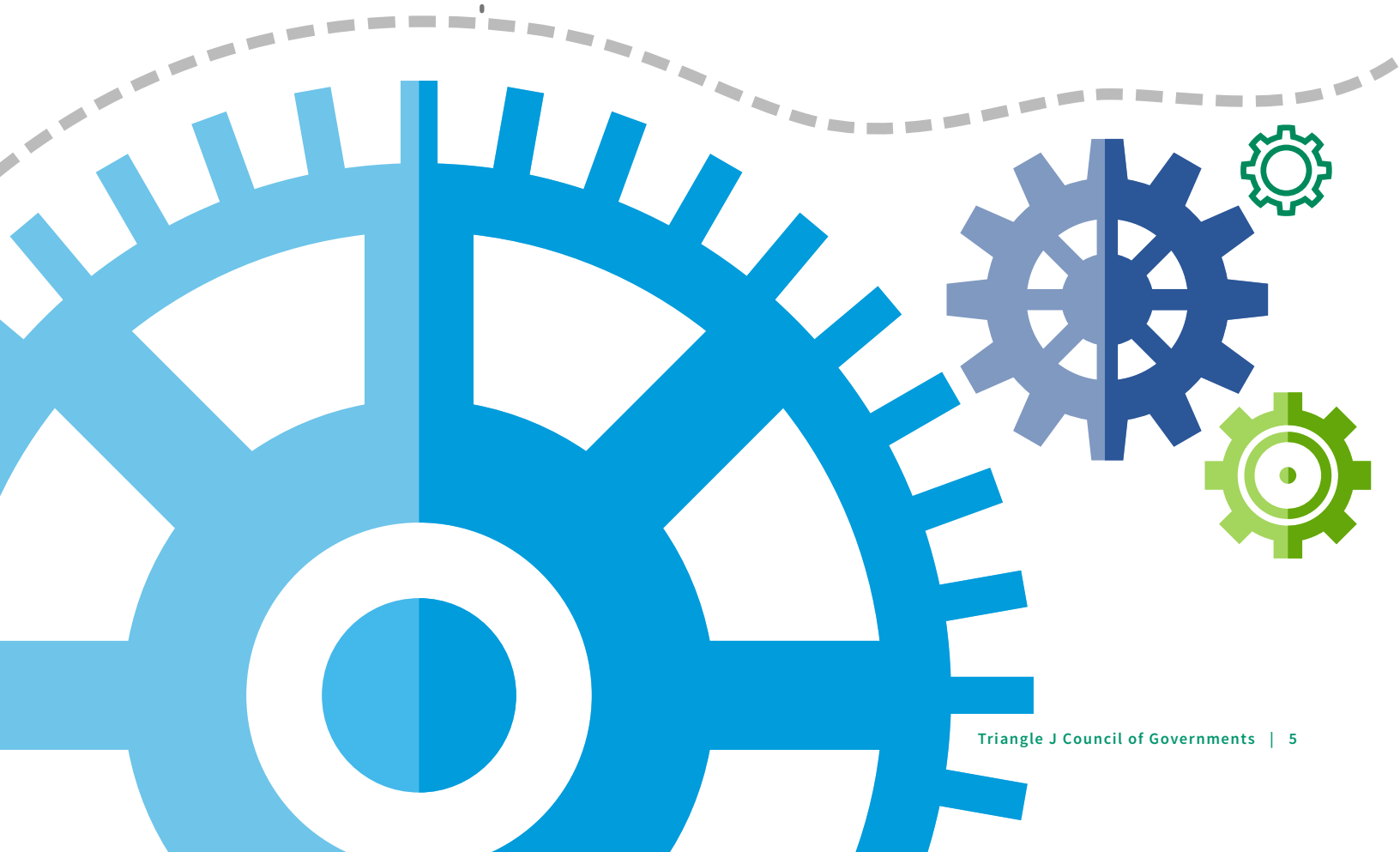
#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Completed** a regional bicycle and pedestrian planning framework for the TARPO planning area, which involved the mapping and inventory of existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the RPO area and the development of a set of policy goals and objectives.

**Programmed** 17 projects in the TARPO area for funding through the NCDOT Prioritization 3.0 process (including 12 highway projects, 2 aviation projects, and 3 bicycle/pedestrian projects), totaling \$320 million.

*"I really enjoy being an active member of Triangle J Council of Governments. Whether it is attending the TJCOG Delegates meetings, serving as co-chair of the Smart Growth Committee, or being a CORE member, I find all of the programming and events to be beneficial to me as a County Commissioner who values the expertise of TJCOG staff and learning from my fellow elected officials from across the region."*

**WENDY JACOBS  
DURHAM COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER**



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## REGIONAL PLANNING

### Water Resources

Reliable water supplies, good water quality, and resilient watersheds are critical ingredients for a healthy region. The TJCOG Water Resources Program boasts numerous partnerships and programs that help manage water resources in the two river basins that fall within Region J—the Cape Fear River Basin, which contains Jordan Lake, and the Neuse River Basin, containing Falls Lake.

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Completed Triangle Regional Water Supply Plan** that includes a consensus-driven regional approach to meet water supply needs through 2060.

**Completed the first 9-Element Checklists**, which were approved and are now eligible for watershed restoration implementation funding.

**Conducted special case study on the development costs** of low-impact development versus traditional stormwater management with the City of Raleigh, NCDENR, civil and engineering firm Withers & Ravenel, and a Project Advisory Team of stormwater professionals.

**Developed Simplified Guide** to Writing Watershed Restoration Plans and North Carolina 9-Element Plan Checklist.

**Co-founded the NC Watershed Stewardship Network** to empower more effective watershed stewardship because water is critical to economic, environmental, and community health.

**Hosted numerous meetings and workshops**, notably National Drought Mitigation Center for Triangle water systems to serve as U.S. case study for international best practices in drought monitoring and early warning systems.

*“There are truly many great benefits we all share with our membership in the TJCOG. Where else can one go to hear and participate in the latest discoveries, projects, and accomplishments of a group of professionals dedicated to the common cause of creating a better environment for us and our children and to make our great country self dependent on fueling our future. I am very appreciative for the opportunity to be involved in such a worthwhile organization and to learn and participate in shaping our ambitious goals to make our city, state and country a cleaner and better place to work and live.”*

**TIMO K. PAKKALA, ALTERNATIVE FUELS MANAGER, CAPITAL FORD**

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## REGIONAL PLANNING

### Energy & Environment

We continue to support local actions to reduce petroleum dependency in transportation through education and outreach. Our goal is to reduce barriers to alternative transportation fuel adoption, and activities center around alternative fuel vehicles, fuel economy improvements, idle reduction, and vehicles miles traveled reduction. 2014-2015 initiatives included Triangle Clean Cities Program, SADI Grant, and Best Workplace for Commuters.

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Secured** Southeast Alternative Fuel Vehicle Demonstration Initiative (SADI) grant of \$365,985 Federal Share and \$375,896 Cost Share.

**Continued** displacement of oil consumption and emissions through alternative fuel promotion and bike/ped/transit collaboration.

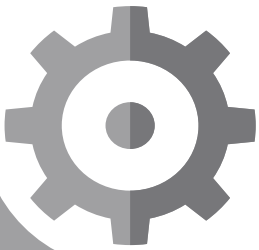
**Reduced** over 4m gallons of gasoline equivalent.

**Saved** more than 2 million gallons of gasoline, and eliminated more than 23 million kilograms of carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas) emissions, which is equivalent to removing 4,000 passenger cars.

**Reduced** 51.1 million miles of commute miles traveled on our region's roadways, and avoided 4.2 million vehicle trips.

**Supported** 23,818 alternative transportation users.

**Partnered** with local transit agencies in Moore, Lee, Chatham, and Orange Counties to update Locally Coordinated Human Service Transit Plan.



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## AGING & CAREGIVER SERVICES



Triangle J Area Agency on Aging leverages its knowledge, skills, and advocacy voice to support the region's older adults. Our mission is to promote the highest level of well-being of older adults by partnering with organizations to provide a comprehensive system of opportunities, services, and protective supports. Additionally, we are a resource center offering assistance and training for family caregivers and other family members.

### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Launched pilot testing phase** of "TJCOG Livability Self-Assessment for Municipalities," with five municipalities in the region using the self-assessment tool and accompanying toolkit and providing feedback on possible refinements.

**Participated in Wake County Action Plan** for Adults and Adults with Disabilities, 2015-2019 and the Master Aging Plan 2012-2017 for Orange County.

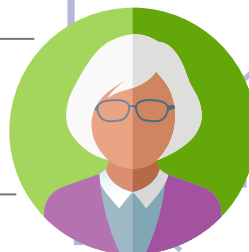
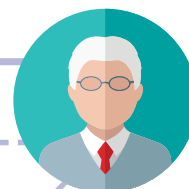
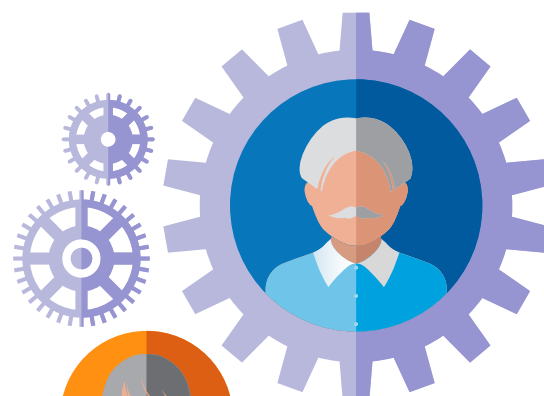
**Continued MIPPA outreach** (Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act) on financial assistance for Medicare Part D prescription plans.

**Began work on HIPAA compliance** and policy development.

**Participated in the 2015 Aging Well Summit** in Durham County.

**Provided technical assistance** for North Carolina's voluntary senior center certification program, including for the Clayton Center, Johnston County's first designated Center of Excellence.

**Championed personalized music programs**, such as Music in My Mind, for individuals having challenges with memory or mood.





# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Foreign Trade Zone #93



Triangle J Council of Governments is the grantee of the Research Triangle Area's full-service, multi-site Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) #93 that has been in operation since 1983. The intent of FTZ #93 is to stimulate international trade in the 14-county service area, thereby creating new jobs in companies using the FTZ program. FTZ #93 benefits the public in myriad ways.

- Help facilitate and expedite international trade.
- Provide special customs procedures as a public service to help firms conduct international trade related operations in competition with foreign plants.
- Encourage and facilitate exports.
- Help attract offshore activity and encourage retention of domestic activity.
- Assist state/local economic development efforts.
- Create employment opportunities.

#### FTZ USERS

Cormetech, Inc.  
Dudson China USA  
GlaxoSmithKline  
Holly Springs Business Park  
Imperial Center Business Park  
World Trade Park  
Merck Sharp and Dohme  
(Durham and Wilson)  
Revlon Consumer Products  
Southern Lithoplate

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Added** Sampson County to the service area.

**Obtained** approval for Site 6, GlaxoSmithKline in Zebulon.

**Grew** Zone 93 to include 3 magnet sites, 4 subzones, and 3 usage driven sites.

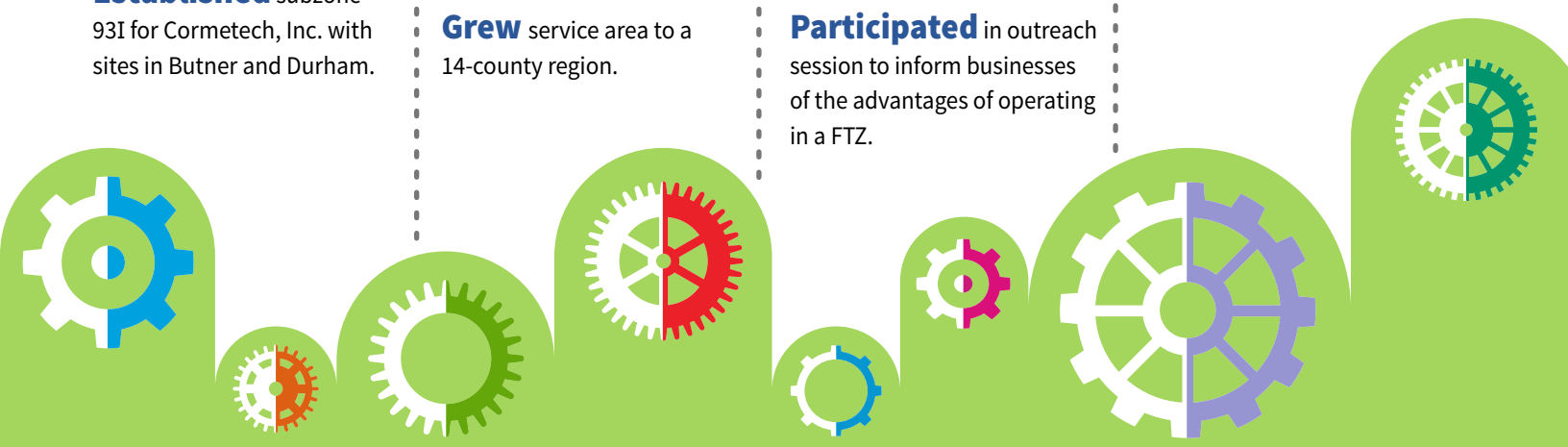
**Staff received**

Accredited Zone Specialist designation.

**Established** subzone 93I for Cormetech, Inc. with sites in Butner and Durham.

**Grew** service area to a 14-county region.

**Participated** in outreach session to inform businesses of the advantages of operating in a FTZ.



*"It is a sincere honor and privilege to serve on the TJCOG Rates, Tariff, and Legal Review Board (Foreign Trade Zone). Renee Boyette provides consistently superior professional guidance and oversight in our myriad deliberations. Ably supported by other TJCOG staff (led by our dynamic new executive director Lee Worsley, who personally devotes his valuable time to our cause), Renee thoughtfully directs her college interns and her colleagues to work cohesively and effectively, in tandem with our Board members, to discharge our important duties and responsibilities in this increasingly important realm of international trade, global commerce and related import/export issues germane to the Triangle J Region."*

THOMAS WHITE, DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP, NC STATE UNIVERSITY

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## MEMBER SERVICES



Triangle J Council of Governments' Member Services provides myriad customized services to benefit all of our members.

We support participating government leaders through trend spotting, program implementation, and communications that all help boost collaboration and community building, all while focusing on member interests, concerns, and demands.

### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Hired** new Executive Director, Lee Worsley.

**Recruited** new members, Siler City and Robbins.

**Co-hosted** National Association of Regional Councils Conference.

**Grew** to 37 member governments.

**Coordinated and administered** drug and alcohol testing program, including 818 drug tests and 103 breath alcohol tests.

**Continued** work on identifying training gaps and training facility gaps for the Emergency Response and Security Planning Committee in the region.

*"TJCOG has been very helpful over the years, providing a forum for public safety agencies (law enforcement, fire, and emergency management) from all the member counties to come together and address issues of interoperability and mutual concern. And they have helped me in some unexpected ways as well, including providing in-depth expertise on environmental issues pertaining to our vehicle fleet. TJCOG is a unique repository of expertise for its member governments."*

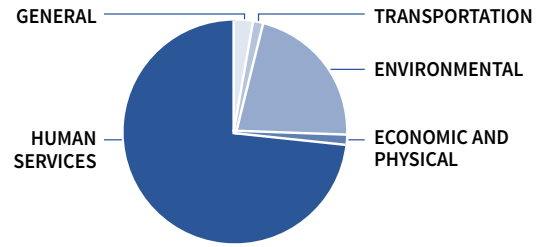
**SKIP KIRKWOOD, M.S., J.D., NREMT-P, EFO, CEMSO**  
**EMS DIRECTOR FOR DURHAM COUNTY**



# FINANCIAL REPORTING FY 14-15

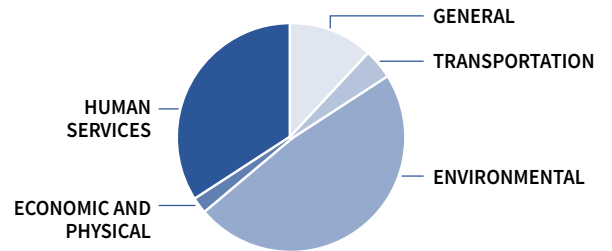
## Expenditures

General Government	\$382,038	3%
Transportation	\$134,240	1%
Environmental Protection	\$2,726,997	22%
Economic and Physical Development	\$69,463	1%
Human Services	\$9,226,600	73%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,539,338</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Expenditures WITHOUT PASS-THROUGHS

General Government	\$382,038	12%
Transportation	\$134,240	4%
Environmental Protection	\$1,568,961	48%
Economic and Physical Development	\$69,463	2%
Human Services	\$1,119,734	34%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,274,436</b>	<b>100%</b>



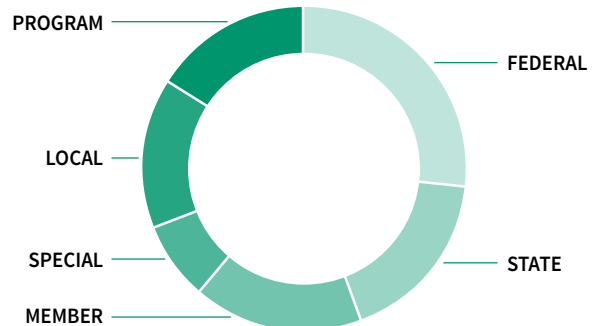
## Revenues

Federal Government Grants	\$910,919	7%
State Government Grants	\$591,568	5%
Federal and State Pass Through	\$9,233,071	73%
Member Assessments	\$562,848	4%
Special Assessments	\$510,656	2%
Local Aging Share	\$285,110	4%
Program Income/Fees	\$540,168	4%
Other Income	(\$43,356)	
Interest Income	\$173	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$12,591,157</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Revenues WITHOUT PASS-THROUGHS

Federal Government Grants	\$910,919	27%
State Government Grants	\$591,568	18%
Member Assessments	\$562,848	17%
Special Assessments	\$510,656	8%
Local Aging Share	\$285,110	15%
Program Income/Fees	\$540,168	16%
Other Income	(\$43,356)	-1%
Interest Income	\$173	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$3,358,086</b>	<b>100%</b>



# HONORING PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS



Advanced Energy Corporation  
Air Components & Systems Ltd.  
Alliance AutoGas  
American Alternative Fuels  
American Rivers  
Biogen Idec  
BuildSense  
CAMPO  
Cape Fear River Assembly  
Capital Ford of Raleigh  
Carolina Center for Medical Excellence  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
    Partnership to Improve Dementia Care and Reduce  
    Use of Antipsychotics  
Central Carolina Community College  
Chatham County Music & Memory Collaborative  
Danforth Construction Group  
DCHC MPO  
Downtown Durham, Inc.  
Duke Energy  
Duke University School of Medicine- Division of Geriatrics  
Durham-Chapel Hill-Orange Work Group  
Durham Nursing Home Administrators Round Table  
Durham Partnership for Seniors  
e-Energy Alternatives  
Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association  
Ferrellgas  
Friends of Residents in Long Term Care  
GAIN Clean Fuel  
Heritage Propane  
Keystone Energy Solutions  
Knapheide Truck Equipment Company  
Land-of-Sky Regional Council  
Legal Aide  
Logistics  
Long Term Care Community Advisory Committees  
Love's Travel Stops  
National Clean Cities Program  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
NC Association of Area Agencies on Aging  
NC Clean Energy Technology Center  
NC Coalition on Aging  
NC Cooperative Extension  
NC Culture Change Coalition  
NC Department of Transportation  
NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
NC Healthcare Information and Communications Alliance, Inc./  
    NC Consumer Advisory Council on Health Information  
NC LANE (Local Area Network for Excellence)  
NC Next Generations Networks  
NC Nutrient Scientific Advisory Board  
NC Office of the State Fire Marshal  
NC Propane Gas Association  
NC School of Science and Mathematics  
NC Solar Center  
NC State University  
Orange County Long Term Care Learning Collaborative  
Orange Water and Sewer Authority  
Parker Gas Co. Inc.  
Partnership to Eliminate Adult Victimization in Durham  
Pentair Pool and Spa  
Piedmont Biofuels  
Piedmont Natural Gas  
Piedmont Triad Council of Governments  
PSNC Energy  
RDU Airport  
Regional Transportation Alliance  
Research Triangle Park Foundation  
Siemens  
SmartCommute@RTP  
Solid Waste Educators of the Triangle (SWEET)  
SolvCore Fuel Cell Technologies  
Thalle Construction  
Triangle Regional Model Executive Committee  
Triangle Transit  
Trillium  
UNC Chapel Hill  
UNC School of Social Work, Field Education Program  
UPS  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Upper Cape Fear River Basin Association  
Urban Land Institute – Triangle Chapter  
Wake County GOLD Coalition  
Waste Industries  
White's International Trucks  
Wilson Community College



TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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