

Hillsborough • Wake County • Clayton
Holly Springs • Goldston • Lee County
Pittsboro • Durham County • Durham
Benson • Sanford • Apex • Smithfield
Cary • Wake County **ANNUAL REPORT**
Broadway • Orange County • Carrboro
Chapel Hill • Hillsborough • Rolesville
Fuquay-Varina • Garner • Holly Springs
Knightdale • Apex • Morrisville • Raleigh
Chapel Hill • Wake Forest • Wendell
Chatham County • Goldston • Pittsboro
Durham • Durham County **1999-2000**
Johnston County • Rolesville • Broadway
Wendell • Zebulon • Garner • Clayton
Chatham County • Raleigh • Fuquay-Varina
TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Cary • Knightdale • Zebulon • Morrisville
Benson • Sanford • Carrboro • Smithfield
Orange County • Wake Forest • Wendell
Johnston County • Goldston • Lee County

Members and Delegates

Chatham County
*Uva Holland

Smithfield
Vic Ogburn

Wake County
*Yevonne Brannon

Raleigh
Kieran Shanahan

Goldston
Vacant

Lee County
*Bert Matthews

Apex
Donald Grimes

Rolesville
Nancy Kelly

Pittsboro
*Charles Devinney

Broadway
Tommy Beal

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Nels Roseland

Wake Forest
Kim Marshall

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*Ellen Reckhow

Sanford
*Winston Hester

Fuquay-Varina
Jim Hunsberger

Wendell
William Connolly

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*Floyd McKissick

Orange County
*Alice Gordon

Garner
*Don Rohrbaugh

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Bob Matheny

Johnston County
*Thomas Moore

Carrboro
Alex Zaffron

Holly Springs
Hank Dickson

**Executive Committee*

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*Don Johnson

Chapel Hill
*Pat Evans

Knightdale
Joe Bryan

Clayton
Ronald Gurganus

Hillsborough
Frances Dancy

Morrisville
Gordon Cromwell

Officers

1999-2000

Chair
Don Johnson
Mayor, Town of Benson

First Vice Chair
Ellen Reckhow
Durham County Commission

Second Vice Chair
Yevonne Brannon
Wake County Commission

Secretary/Treasurer
Floyd McKissick
Durham City Council

2000-2001

Chair
Ellen Reckhow
Durham County Commission

First Vice Chair
Yevonne Brannon
Wake County Commission

Second Vice Chair
Floyd McKissick
Durham City Council

Secretary/Treasurer
Thomas Moore
Johnston County Commission

In 1972, the state legislature divided North Carolina into 18 regional planning districts, identifying them with the letters A through R. It also passed legislation to allow cities, towns and counties to create councils of government to serve those regions. The Triangle J Council of Governments, so named because it serves Region J, includes local governments in Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee, Orange and Wake counties. Membership in TJCOG is voluntary. The organization strives to promote harmony and cooperation among its members, seeking to anticipate and deal with regional problems in ways that respect the autonomy of all local governments within the region.

As each of us who serves in local government strives to move our communities forward, it has become clear that we must seek common purpose in planning for the future of our cities, towns and counties. Regionalism, more than anytime before, has come of age and stands as a beacon of common sense when our communities are confronted with the myriad challenges facing the Triangle J region.



Over the past 12 months, the Triangle J Council of Governments has accomplished much and now enjoys an opportunity to lead the way into tomorrow. The council's Regional Principles Project, the work of our Smart Growth Committee, monitoring and planning for water resources, the Area Agency on Aging, the World Trade Center, and much more manifest the regional – and sometimes global – activities of your council of governments.

Next year will be rich and intense with initiatives focused on growth management, environmental issues, water resource management, finding new revenue sources for local governments, providing services to our member local governments, and advocating regional solutions to the challenges that do not respect political boundaries. In fact, your board of delegates has already completed its planning retreat for the year and refined the organization's mission statement to reflect new purpose and identity.

This annual report will provide you with a sense of where we have been over the past year, where we are today, and where we are going in the future. The future is here as we begin a new millennium and our attention is dedicated to those things at hand focusing on stewardship and public service at the regional level.

I invite all of you to think regionally and to embrace the common purpose of our efforts to make the Triangle J region the best in North Carolina. This is a challenging time to be in local government and to be active with the council of governments. Come join in the future at Triangle J.

*Ellen Reckhow, Chair
Triangle J Council of Governments*



Yevonne Brannon



Floyd McKissick



Thomas Moore

Y2K brings changes to Triangle J COG

The year 2000 brought many changes throughout Region J. And while anticipated Y2K problems never surfaced, changes in local government personnel abounded. Long-time city and county managers announced plans to retire or take new positions as did transportation directors, planners, law enforcement leaders and others. There were changes at Triangle J too. Early in January, president Chick Krautler announced he would leave his post to become the executive director of the Atlanta Regional Commission.

Krautler, who joined Triangle J in 1994, had seen the organization through major changes that included a new dues formula, staff reduction and a shift in program priorities. He involved Triangle J in immediate issues facing the Triangle and revived its reputation for bringing government, business and civic leaders together to solve regional problems. Krautler left Triangle J in a good position to attract a new leader.



Angela Lewis

And he left Triangle J in good hands until that new leader could be found. Angela Lewis, who has worked for the organization more than 21 years, took over the reins in March and held them securely until Dee Freeman was hired as executive director on Aug. 1. As finance director, Lewis holds responsibility not only for Triangle J, but also for the World Trade Center North Carolina, the Greater Triangle Regional Council and the Upper Neuse River Basin Association.

A native of Great Britain and a graduate of Leeds University, Lewis brought her characteristic grace under pressure to the position of interim executive director. In addition to managing the day-to-day activities at Triangle J, she guided the development of a new pay and job classification plan and managed the nationwide search for a new executive director.

In March, representatives of Triangle J and the Greater Triangle Regional Council signed a memorandum of agreement to assure an effective, cooperative working relationship between the two organizations and to establish the roles of each with regard to a new executive director position for GTRC. Created in 1993 following recommendations developed during the World Class Region Conference held the year before, GTRC had operated as a membership organization guided by an executive committee with administrative and technical support from Triangle J. Under the new agreement, Triangle J will continue to provide this support and will also provide office space and services to the executive director. A steering committee with members from both organizations will guide GTRC efforts.



Pam Wall

In the spring, Pam Wall was hired as GTRC's first executive director. She came to the Triangle from the Asheville area where she had spent the past several years managing the visioning process for Asheville/Buncombe County.

Since she has been in the position, GTRC has become the liaison organization from the region to the Council on Competitiveness in Clusters of Innovation Project. The Triangle region is one of just six regions in the country participating in this project to identify clusters of development. And, at the request of the chambers of commerce in Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Cary, GTRC is serving as an umbrella organization in researching the opportunity for the development of a regional visioning process.

Long-term care continues to present critical challenges. Growth in the number of long-term care beds throughout Region J and awareness of the ombudsman program resulted in a 216 percent increase in contacts over the past two years. About 85 percent of the complaints investigated are resolved by the ombudsman program.

TJCOG's three regional ombudsmen, working with the survey format devised by the Western Piedmont Area Agency on Aging, achieved a 49 percent response rate from long-term care facilities in the region. With results indicating the Triangle has the most acute shortage of dental care of any metropolitan area in North Carolina (only in rural mountain counties do dental shortages compare with those in the Triangle), efforts to address this problem will take shape during the 2000-2001 program year.

Together with Durham County commissioners and the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee (NHCAC), the regional ombudsmen conducted a roundtable discussion with all 11 nursing home administrators to share concerns and explore solutions to critical issues.

As a way to expand public awareness, during this year Durham County began publishing on its Web site the minutes of the NHCAC. The visit reports from both the Adult Care Home CAC and the NHCAC also began appearing on the Orange County Web site.

Region J's ombudsmen, following up on the desires of the NHCACs,

expanded the residents' rights training to include interpretations of the rights, observations of conditions that indicate rights violations, and information-gathering questions. This approach was shared as a "best practice" at the federal Region IV ombudsman conference. Similar continuity of approaching residents' rights will be extended to the Adult Care Home CACs during the next program year.

Region J's ombudsmen participated in the development of long-term care legislative agenda items – these were recognized by the National Ombudsman Resource Center as a "best practice model."

Area Agency on Aging staff assisted several active aging planning efforts. The Strategic Planning Committee in Chatham County conducted focus groups and began laying the groundwork for addressing the issues of Chatham's aging community. Durham's Keeping in Step group agreed to also serve as United Way's senior issues team, not only setting forth priority community needs but making these known to local officials and legislators. Orange County's Master Aging Plan process involved area agency staff on the steering committee and the subcommittee on the severely disabled. Area agency staff also served on the Wake County senior issues team for the United Way.

Area agency staff helped to develop a senior center certification process through the state Division of Aging. Chatham County's Pittsboro Senior Center served as one of two pilot sites and successfully earned a Senior

Center of Excellence certification. (Facilities meeting less rigorous levels of functions can be certified as a Senior Center of Merit.) During the next program year area agency staff will assist other senior centers throughout the region with this certification process.

A cooperative arrangement between Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC), Triangle J Area Agency on Aging, and the North Carolina Division of Aging is bringing together older adults, computers and the Internet. A total of 30 computers will be provided to senior centers along with installation, two years of Internet access, a printer and a digital camera.

Triangle J Area Agency on Aging developed an Internet training specific to seniors which will be made available to all the centers as their computers are installed. The intent of this entire effort underscores the mission of the area agency to help seniors stay "connected" to family and friends, to decrease isolation, and to help them live lives of independence and quality while remaining in their own homes for as long as possible.

Twenty-seven participants in the Senior Community Service Employment Program were placed in permanent employment. The SCSEP was awarded an additional \$45,300 from the National Council on the Aging which will be used to promote the hiring of older workers by Triangle area businesses. This is one-tenth of the value of the program that continues to involve eighty-eight participants at thirty-one community worksites.

Economic Development

Staff worked with the Foreign Trade Zone #93 Rates, Tariffs and Legal Review Board on a number of recommendations including the activation of the new general-purpose site at the World Trade Park adjacent to Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Logistics continues to operate the Departure Drive site for the Dudson China Company of Great Britain. There is also a new sub-zone application under review by the U.S. FTZ Board for Pergo (laminated flooring company) in Garner. When approved, this will bring to three the number of operating sub-zones in the Triangle.

TJCOG again renewed the \$35,000 contract with the state Department of Commerce for administration of foreign trade zones. TJCOG also holds a \$12,000 contract to administer the Global TransPark foreign trade zone and a contract with Piedmont Triad Partnership for similar services.

Other sub-zone applications were completed for Consolidated Diesel in the Global TransPark and for Volvo Heavy Equipment in Buncombe County. A major expansion on FTZ

#57 was submitted that would serve the Catawba Valley region.

In February the board of directors of the World Trade Center North Carolina named Pamela Davison as the interim CEO; Angela Lewis continues to serve as the chief financial officer. The two provide oversight on programs and management of WTCNC. In May, Davison accompanied N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall to an international commodities trade fair in Dalian, China as the guest of the city of Dalian. In July she took a small trade mission to Vietnam and Bangkok to sell North Carolina environmental products and services to the ASEAN region. The trip was sponsored by the US Department of Commerce International Trade Administration.

Staff helped WTCNC coordinate the activities of the Kenan Institute and the International Trade Division of the state Department of Commerce for the Market Developer Cooperator Program. That program, funded by the US Department of Commerce, is an effort to increase exports from

small to medium-sized companies in North Carolina to designated foreign countries.

In keeping with TJCOG's efforts to internationalize the Triangle, staff member Pamela Davison continued to work with the North Carolina World Trade Association. She also serves on the District Export Council, offering policy advice to the U.S. Export Assistance Centers serving North and South Carolina.

WTCNC organized with the state and U.S. departments of commerce the North Carolina portion of the U.S. Ambassadors NAFTA Trade Education Tour featuring the ambassadors to the country's largest trading partners, Canada and Mexico. WTCNC also hosted the ambassadors from Brazil and Uruguay at the center and, as a further part of a reverse trade mission under the federal MDCP grant, participated in and brought a Brazilian Telecom Association executive to the annual conference of the N.C. Electronics, Information and Telecommunications Association.

Emergency Medical Services

The Region J EMS Advisory Council completed a strategy planning session during the year. The process included a documented summary of the program as it is today as well as recommendations for either enhancing current programs and services or establishing new ones. NCDOT developed an "Agenda for the Future" for EMS programs a few years ago and much of the council's attention in the process was relative to this agenda. The strategy plan will serve as a reference document for many and a guide for the council over the next three to five years. Part of the continued process is to seek resources

and funding to support big-ticket items and pilot research projects.

A revamping of the EMS Advisory Council was one recommendation resulting from the process. The new council structure will include representatives from business and commercial industry (especially with research and medicine), financial institutions and specific cultures (aging population, school systems, etc.).

The Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team responded to 23 requests within the region and

was an active part of the response (17 interventions by the team) to the flood disaster that resulted from Hurricane Floyd in the state last fall. Staff served as one of two of the state's SERT coordinators. The team acquired a new clinical director who brings valuable resources/accreditations with him. Peter J. Smith, Ph.D., is a private practice psychologist who relocated to the area five years ago. He was clinical director for the Coast Guard team in Maine and is International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF) instructor-certified. ICISF is the national certification group that oversees the CISM program.

In November, the Regional Appearance Committee and the North Carolina Urban Forest Council co-sponsored *TreeMendous Communities*, a statewide educational conference focused on municipal tree ordinances. Featured speaker was Nick Motto, a planner with Maryland's Prince George's County.

Renée Boyette, member services officer, was elected treasurer of the North Carolina Urban Forest Council, a non-profit organization that supports communities in their urban forest management efforts.

In January, the Regional Appearance Committee received a grant of 900 seedlings from the National Tree Trust. The seedlings were potted and housed at the city of Raleigh's Marsh Creek Parks and Recreation Maintenance Facility. They will be distributed in the fall of 2000 at no cost to community groups for plantings on public property in Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee,

Orange and Wake counties.

The Regional Appearance Committee and the Capital Trees Program were awarded a federal grant through the N.C. Division of Forest Resources' Urban and Community Forestry Program to conduct a workshop on the use of American Forests' CITYgreen software. The workshop was planned for July 2000 at Southeast Raleigh High School. The grant also provided the software for TJCOG, CTP and the school.

The cable consortium continued franchise negotiations with Time Warner Cable and provided assistance with the franchise transfer (TWC/AOL/Media One) to consortium members.

TJCOG continued to administer the drug and alcohol testing program. Forty alcohol tests and 699 drug tests were performed for member governments and the Triangle Transit Authority. Staff also coordinated a

supervisory training session for 36 participants from eight member governments, TTA and TJCOG.

During this second year of the \$260,088 HUD grant, TJCOG placed eight graduate students in community building internships at government and non-profit agencies. The students are from the public administration programs at North Carolina State University and North Carolina Central University and the regional planning program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Staff continued to monitor the activities of the state legislature's Study Commission on the Future of Electric Service in North Carolina.

Renee Boyette served as staff to the executive director search committee, screening applications, answering applicant questions, and arranging for video interviews and background checks.

Town of Benson Mayor Don Johnson, TJCOG's outgoing chairman, receiving appreciation award from Durham County Commissioner, Ellen Reckhow, TJCOG's FY 2001 chair



Information Systems/GIS

GIS services were provided to almost all in-house departments including regional planning, the Area Agency on Aging, Clean Cities, solid waste, water resources and EMS. These services included consulting, map production and creation of new coverages.

GIS staff secured a grant to assist in the creation and regional support of GIS metadata, and participated in metadata training sessions.

The Upper Neuse Riparian Buffer Study was completed which identified priority protection and non-forested areas along streams in the upper Neuse River basin. Many GIS coverages and the latest land cover data were used by staff for this Clean Water Management Trust Fund project.

Staff created GIS bathymetry coverages of Jordan Lake from early maps drawn by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This data, along with many other coverages related to the Jordan Lake watershed, were distributed on CD-ROM to potential environmental engineering firms bidding for the Jordan Lake Nutrient Response Model.

GIS data have been created and gathered and analyses and services performed on the Cape Fear River basin for the Cape Fear River Assembly under a two-year contract.

TJCOG and the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments continued creating a number of GIS coverages and analyses in support of the upper Cape Fear riparian buffer studies.

Staff trained to use modeling software that member governments are using, including MIKE BASIN, a river basin management GIS model, and CITYgreen for urban forestry modeling. Staff also attended classes in Visual Basic and JavaScript.

Zoning information for Orange County was obtained from hard copy maps and added to their digital parcel coverage. The digital zoning data for Hillsborough, Chapel Hill and Carrboro were also included to create a county-wide zoning layer.

One of the long-term continuing GIS efforts was the updating and verification of the regional trails and open space coverages.

Staff created a "User's Map" for the Triangle Rails to Trails Conservancy, showing completed sections of the American Tobacco Trail. This map is distributed to hikers and others interested in opened portions of the trail.

GIS staff continued providing mapping and database support for Triangle Transit Authority's Phase I rail project.

GIS products and technical support were also provided to Triangle Land Conservancy, Duke University, The News & Observer, EPA, city of Raleigh, city of Durham, town of Rolesville, Johnston County, Orange County, Fortis Homes, Hughes & Associates, WK Dickson, ESRI, Tetra Tech, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Jacobs Group, Fonville Morisey, SouthTrust and KCI.

GIS and MIS staff participated in the following state-wide and regional committees: Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC); Traffic Analysis Zone Modeling Team; Wake Automated Data Systems (ADS); NC ArcInfo Users Group (NCAIUG); Affiliated GIS Users Group and the Communications and Automated Resources Committee (CAAR).

In fiscal year 1999-2000, TJCOG changed Internet access providers and access methods. TJCOG had previously used Interpath's frame relay, and changed to a DSL line provided by GTE. This new access method is much less expensive, much faster and has been trouble-free. Staff also changed the in-house mail and ftp servers, moving from Sun-based Solaris to Intel-based Linux.

Staff continued to maintain TJCOG's Web hosting service, providing Web hosting assistance to TTA, Fuquay-Varina, Knightdale and Hillsborough. Staff created and maintained new Web pages for the Cape Fear River Assembly and the Upper Neuse River Basin Association, and entered into contracts to update the TTA and Knightdale Web sites, in addition to maintaining and updating TJCOG's site. MIS staff also provided technical assistance to Orange County's Web site, writing and updating PERL scripts to enhance the online completion of forms.

The *Regional Development Choices Project* culminated in the adoption of eight development, conservation and mobility principles for the region:

- 1. Smart Pattern of Development.** Clearly define land areas that are appropriate for development, as well as environmentally sensitive, historic, natural or recreational land areas that need protection. Pursue policies and strategies that are both equitable and consistent with these identifications.
- 2. Walkable Communities.** Design new and preserve existing neighborhoods and communities to foster walkability, safety and a sense of place.
- 3. Affordable Living.** Ensure the costs associated with living in the region are affordable for all.
- 4. Green Space.** Preserve more natural areas and open space, and provide for their local and regional interconnection.
- 5. Integrated Transportation.** Create a seamless, regional, multimodal transportation system which interlinks new and existing residential, employment, commercial and recreational areas.
- 6. Enhanced Civic Realm.** The civic realm should be viewed as a legacy to future generation.
- 7. Mixed-Use Activity Centers.** Promote different, mixed-used centers of various scales for each city, town and crossroads in the Triangle to serve as centers of civic, social, educational, cultural and economic life, and as transportation hubs.
- 8. Shared Benefits.** Share the region's resources to improve the quality of life for all Triangle residents.

The principles were adopted by the TJCOG Board of Delegates, the membership of the Greater Triangle Regional Council and the organizations belonging to the Triangle Smart Growth Coalition, a collection of business, environmental, professional and civic organizations.

With the adoption of the eight regional principles, TJCOG initiated the *Regional Principles Project*, designed to develop tools and techniques to implement the eight regional principles. Supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation, the *Regional Principles Project* is a partnership of 14 local, regional and state government, business, civic and environmental organizations.

The project will:

- describe and analyze a pattern of development based on the eight regional principles,
- develop strategies to implement the principles,
- support visualizations and design charrettes that demonstrate the application of the principles, and
- conduct community outreach and participation.

A steering committee and technical teams involving more than 120 people have been established to work on the project. As part of the project, staff has been working closely with the members and staff of the North Carolina Legislative Commission to Address Smart Growth, Growth Management and Development Issues.



The TJCOG Smart Growth Committee entered its second year, chaired by Durham County

Commissioner Ellen Reckhow. The committee brings together elected officials, local and state government staff, university researchers and interested residents to share information and undertake topics related to smart growth and growth management. Among the issues addressed at meetings this year were adequate public facility programs, transportation demand management, affordable housing, regional development trends and farmland protection and rural enterprise.

TJCOG continues to be an active participant in regional transportation planning, serving in technical capacities in support of the two transportation Metropolitan Planning Organizations (the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO and the Capital Area MPO), the planning studies of the Triangle Transit Authority, the work of the Regional Transportation Alliance, the Regional Transportation Strategy and the Regional Transportation Model.

Lanier Blum, AICP, joined the regional planning team this year as a senior planner. Blum has extensive experience in housing and community development issues and is developing TJCOG's portfolio in these areas. Ben Hitchings, also a senior planner, continues to build TJCOG's expertise in open space, farmland protection and rural enterprise planning.

John Hodges-Copple, regional planning director, traveled on an Eisenhower Fellowship to New Zealand to study regional planning and regional governance innovations enacted by New Zealand local, regional and central governments over the last decade.

Water Resources

Monitoring of several drinking water supply sources in the region continued under the Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project. This local-state-federal partnership began in the late 1980s.

Monitoring activities are conducted by the USGS and the state Division of Water Quality at 22 locations in the Triangle region. Also, important USGS flow gauging stations are operated under the program. The Cape Fear River Assembly is providing \$28,975 per year for two years for this cooperative monitoring project, as a result of TJCOG's efforts to pursue supplemental funding for the project.

TJCOG continued to assist the Upper Neuse River Basin Association in efforts to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan for the 770-square-mile upper Neuse basin. TJCOG provided extensive technical planning and geographic information systems support services for this project under a fee-for-service contract with the Association's watershed management consulting firm.

After a couple years of hard work, TJCOG was successful in establishing the Upper Cape Fear River Basin Association. The association provides a forum for interested organizations to cooperate on water quality monitoring, research and management activities in the Haw, Deep and Rocky river basins. To

date, 17 local governments and four private industries have joined the association and provide about \$120,000 in annual funding for this effort. Coordinated water quality monitoring is conducted at 44 sampling locations under a contract with a private laboratory. Piedmont Triad Council of Governments (PTCOG) and TJCOG provide coordinated support services under a fee-for-service contract with the Association.

TJCOG continued to provide extensive support for the development of a watershed management study and plan for Jordan Lake. Working in close partnership, TJCOG and PTCOG organized the Haw River/Jordan Lake Watershed Partnership to provide a forum for interested parties to work together on water resource issues of mutual concern in the Jordan Lake watershed. With funding support from seven local governments (Burlington, Graham, Greensboro, Mebane, Orange Water and Sewer Authority, Pittsboro and Reidsville), TJCOG awarded a \$380,000 contract for the completion of an advanced water quality model for Jordan Lake and the major tributaries to the lake. More than 50 organizations have been invited to provide input during the development of the model. The Cape Fear River Assembly provides funding support for the watershed partnership effort. The models will

be completed by April 2002. When completed, the models will be used to evaluate alternative management strategies for controlling point and non-point source nutrient loads in the lake's 1,690-square-mile watershed. TJCOG and PTCOG provide coordinated administrative and technical support services for the modeling project under a fee-for-service agreement with the seven local governments funding the project.

Under a contract with the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund, TJCOG completed a study of riparian buffer protection and restoration needs within the Upper Neuse River basin. A similar project is in progress for the Upper Cape Fear River basin, and will be complete by the end of September 2000. TJCOG also continued to provide technical assistance under fee-for-service agreements with the Cape Fear River Assembly.

TJCOG staff continued to provide technical assistance to local governments on a variety of water resources issues, including evaluation of opportunities for inter-local partnerships for providing water and sewer service. Staff also participated on several state task forces working on issues such as Jordan Lake water allocation, water quality monitoring and stormwater management.

Solid Waste Management

TJCOG organized a February “Solid Waste Future Search” attended by elected officials, managers and solid waste planners from TJCOG member governments, plus private sector waste haulers, recycling companies and others involved in solid waste issues in the Triangle. The three-day event engaged 63 participants in a series of exercises to identify future visions of how the region could deal with and work together on solid waste management. The Triangle Region Solid Waste Planners Committee began working on a strategy for following up on ideas generated at the event.

TJCOG’s Industrial Ecosystem Development Project, which brings together Triangle region businesses and other facilities to share energy, water and materials, received international recognition this year. European agencies paid for Judy Kincaid, solid waste/materials resources program manager, to visit France in the fall and Italy in the spring to make presentations

regarding this unique project. In May, the state Energy Division initiated funding for another phase of the project. During this phase, the project will focus on creating partnerships within eight specific geographic clusters of industries in the region.

More than 50 architects, facility managers, contractors and other professionals began a TJCOG-coordinated project to write a model guideline for designing sustainable public facilities. The result of the project will be a model document that can be used by Triangle-area local governments and public school systems to set mandatory standards for the buildings they design and construct. These standards will include achieving goals in the areas of site selection, water conservation, energy efficiency, indoor air quality and materials conservation and recycling.

A record number of callers – 4,426 – used the TJCOG regional household hazardous waste information hotline during the year. TJCOG also expanded its household hazardous waste public outreach program by printing Spanish translations of its popular brochures.



Solid Waste Future Search event

Additional Activities

TJCOG received additional support this year from the state Energy Division to continue its work with the Triangle Clean Cities Coalition. Clean Cities is a federal program to lower dependence on foreign oil and improve air quality by expanding the alternative fuels market. TJCOG is working with a group of regional stakeholders to develop a program plan for increasing alternative fuel vehicles and support infrastructure. Once the plan is approved by the U.S. Department of Energy, the region will be awarded a Clean Cities designation and become eligible for

federal funding to help put the plan into action. TJCOG received \$100,000 from the state Division of Air Quality’s Mobile Source Emissions Reduction Grant program this year to help with administrative costs of the program as well as a public education campaign on alternative fuels.

TJCOG continued to work with the state Division of Air Quality’s Air Awareness Campaign in the Triangle. Staff helped coordinate the second End-of-the-Ozone-Season luncheon and awards ceremony that recognized

the efforts of the region’s 90-plus Air Quality Coalition members.

TJCOG staff earned national recognition for the directory of North Carolina’s regional councils published last year in conjunction with the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils. The 44-page publication earned an Award of Excellence in a competition sponsored by Communications Concepts Inc.

Financial Report

<u>Programs</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
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Technical Services.....	\$ 431,638
Regional Planning	258,270
Economic Strategies.....	153,464
Aging Services	5,647,920
Water Resources	298,121
HUD Work Study Program	129,742
Solid Waste Management.....	182,847
Total Program Expenditures	\$7,102,002

Revenues in Excess of Expenditures.....	\$ 35,803
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Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	351,059
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Fund Balance, End of Year	386,862
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<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Received</u>
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Federal Government Grants	\$3,188,175
State Government Grants	2,774,208
Local Contributions.....	517,210
Special Local Contributions.....	241,958
In Kind/Contract Services	48,394
Interest Income	32,264
Program Income/Fees.....	333,153
Miscellaneous.....	2,443
Total Revenues.....	\$7,137,805

It is my good fortune to have the opportunity to serve as the executive director of the Triangle J Council of Governments. Equally, it is my pleasure to become a resident of this area where I can live and work within one of the most dynamic regions in the nation.

This is an important time in North Carolina for councils of government and regionalism. The need to understand the regional perspective is demonstrated in the work of the state legislature on smart growth initiatives and the major issues associated with growth here in the Triangle. I am very proud to be a part of an organization that has been at the forefront of regional activity and innovation for so long.



Members of the General Assembly in the 1970s were ahead of their time when they created the state's 18 planning districts and authorized the creation of regional councils of government to oversee these districts. Now government, business and community leaders are finally realizing what legislators knew decades ago – that we live in regions and that every decision one local government makes affects neighboring local governments. We truly are members of a larger community. Fortunately, the COGs have been fostering regionalism through their various programs for nearly 30 years and are in a position to lead whatever efforts necessary to ensure adequate public services in the face of a population and development boom.

It is a time when there is great opportunity for Triangle J and its member local governments to be at the heart of regionalism and the provision of a quality of life heretofore unequalled for our residents. I look forward to my work at Triangle J and to its role as an extension of our local governments in leading the way into the 21st century.

–Dee Freeman

Dee Freeman became Triangle J's executive director on Aug. 1, 2000. He has nearly 30 years of experience in North Carolina local government, most recently as city manager of Shelby and Brevard. He is a former member of the Land of Sky Regional Council's Board of Directors (Asheville). Freeman holds a BS from North Carolina State University and earned his MPA from Appalachian State University. Freeman is also a graduate of the Municipal Administration Program of the Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Committees and Affiliated Organizations

Aging Advisory Council

Chair: Becky Heron
Staff: David Moser

Cable Consortium

Staff: Renée Boyette

Aging Community Advisory Committees

Chatham County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Elizabeth Hains
Staff: Greg Tanner

Chatham County Nursing Home CAC

Chair: John Cooper
Staff: Jill Al-hafez

Durham County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Jacqueline Allen
Staff: Jill Al-hafez

Durham County Nursing Home CAC

Co-chairs: Ruth Wallace, Joan Pepper
Staff: Jill Al-hafez

Johnston County Joint CAC

Chair: Steve Stickland
Staff: Greg Tanner

Lee County Joint CAC

Chair: Louise Groome
Staff: Greg Tanner

Orange County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Cherie Rosemond
Staff: Jill Al-hafez

Orange County Nursing Home CAC

Co-chairs: Jack Vogt, Rebecca Bradley
Staff: Jill Al-hafez

Wake County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Vandi Bradow
Staff: Pam Barger

Wake County Nursing Home CAC

Chair: Heather Burkhardt
Staff: Pam Barger

Clean Cities Coalition

Staff: Anne Tazewell

Construction and Demolition Waste Task Force

Chair: Blair Pollock
Staff: Judy Kincaid

Critical Incident Stress Management Team

Clinical Director: Peter Smith, Ph.D.
Staff: Peggy Handon

Electric Deregulation Policy Committee

Chair: Floyd McKissick
Staff: Renée Boyette

FTZ #93 Rates, Tariffs and Legal Review Board

Chair: Jennifer Dirienzo
Staff: Pamela Davison

Greater Triangle Regional Council

Executive Committee Chair: Larry Monteith
Executive Director: Pam Wall

HUD Work Study Committee

Co-chairs: Linda Lacey, Rebecca Winders,
Elizabethann O-Sullivan
Staff: Renée Boyette

Regional Appearance Committee

Co-chairs: Benson Kirkman, Mark Smith
Staff: Renée Boyette

Regional EMS Advisory Committee

Chair: Gerald Brown
Staff: Peggy Handon

Region J Senior Tar Heel Legislature

(Appointed by the Aging Advisory Council)

Chatham County

Delegate: Uva Holland
Alternate: Betty Wilson

Durham County

Delegate: Lorene Bradley
Alternate: Cecil Patterson

Johnston County

Delegate: Hernando Palmer
Alternate: Jane Patterson

Lee County

Delegate: Mary Lou Lewis
Alternate: Velner Jones

Orange County

Delegate: Ann Johnson

Wake County

Delegate: Jack Kimbrell
Alternate: Marie McBride

Safety Consortium

Staff: Renée Boyette

Triangle Region Solid Waste Planners Committee

Chair: Gayle Wilson
Staff: Judy Kincaid

Smart Growth Committee

Chair: Ellen Reckhow
Staff: John Hodges-Copple, Lanier Blum, Ben Hitchings

Upper Cape Fear River Basin Association

Chair: Allan Williams
Staff: Pat Davis

Upper Neuse River Basin Association

Executive Director: Lisa Martin

Water Resources Advisory Committee

Chair: Bert Matthews
Staff: Pat Davis

Water Supply Monitoring Steering Committee

Chair: Robert K. "Kim" Fisher
Staff: Pat Davis

World Trade Center North Carolina

Chair: Clark Plexico
CEO: Pamela Davison

Even though the winter of 2000 brought one of the hardest snow storms in years to Region J, dedicated TJCOG staff found ways to make it to work.





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