

Triangle J Council of Governments



Region J

Annual Report 2000-2001

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*Ellen Reckhow

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**Executive Committee*

2001-2002 Officers

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Regionalism will ensure our bright future

This year stands as a very special time in the life of the Triangle J Council of Governments. During a time of national emergency, a budget crisis for state government, and the realization of an economic downturn, regionalism has become more important than ever. Finding shared purpose as we plan for the future is good common sense.

Triangle J has made significant strides by living its mission “as an intergovernmental organization working proactively on regional issues.” Indeed, efforts to plan together for our future have seen Region J grow with the addition of Moore County. Planning initiatives have expanded to include Project Impact and the Center of the Region Enterprise (CORE). The CORE initiative in particular is a wonderful example of regional cooperation that shows great promise in local government coordination of land-use planning, transportation issues, and design principles for a multi-jurisdictional area. Triangle J was also an effective voice with the General Assembly in advocating local government issues during the 2001 legislative session.

It has been an important time for me personally as well. As I leave office in December due to my decision not to seek re-election, I will have completed a commitment begun almost 10 years ago. I expect to return in the near future to work with you again at some level of public service.

Meanwhile, the remainder of this year will be very effectively led by our new chair, Tom Moore of Johnston County. Under his leadership, Triangle J’s passion on growth management, aging issues, regional economic and environmental initiatives and progress on transportation will be demonstrated. Let us all resolve now to seek ways to cooperate with each other on local government policies and services. When our nation and our state are grappling with issues of war and recession, North Carolina’s cities and counties will be their steadfast partners assuring adequate public services to our citizens. Region J’s local governments will be at the front



leading the way.

This annual report provides information about Triangle J’s activities during the last year. I trust you will find this material helpful and of interest regarding your council of governments’ work. Staff members and contact information are listed should you have any questions or desire further material on a particular issue or service.

Permit me to express my thanks to all of our delegates, the executive director, and the Triangle J staff for your individual and collective dedication. The future is truly bright when we all work together as a region.

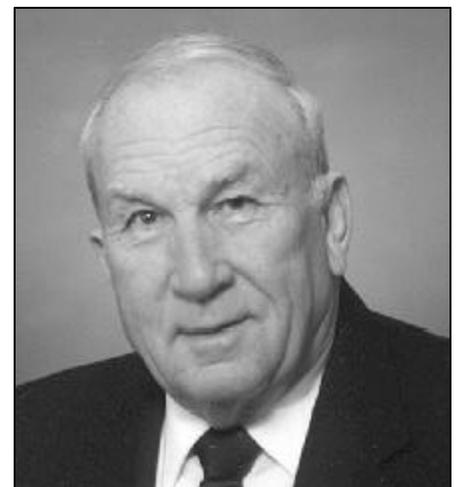
— **Floyd B. McKissick, Jr.**



Benson Kirkman



Bert Matthews



Thomas Moore

“No set of issues related to the health of North Carolinians is more important or more complicated than those dealing with long-term care for the state’s older adults, people with disabilities, and their families.”

The Triangle J Area Agency on Aging fully concurs with these opening words of the final report submitted to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services by the Institute of Medicine’s Task Force on Long Term Care.

TJCOG’s ombudsman program worked with Friends of Residents in Long Term Care to plan two significant events. A “Conversation With Friends” honored front line workers and gave them a chance to discuss issues with local decision-makers. “The Mission Possible Conference — Creating Change in the Long Term Care Continuum” featured national speakers who proposed a new philosophy of resident-centered care that creates an environment in which individuals want to live and work.

TJCOG’s three regional ombudsmen provided ongoing training, information and technical assistance to the 144 Community Advisory Committee volunteers appointed by county commissioners to visit nursing and adult care homes on a regular basis. During the year, 41 new appointees were trained. The ombudsmen facilitated 23 resident councils in facilities and 18 family councils.

They also conducted 41 training sessions and 81 community education sessions.

As advocates for residents’ rights, with an objective to enhance the quality of care and quality of life for residents and seeking first to work with facility administrators to mediate and resolve issues, the regional ombudsmen investigated and resolved more than 600 complaints during the program year.

The program publishes the “Ombudsman Quarterly” to inform the public about long-term care issues, resources and options. It also provides a toll-free access to the program for residents outside the local telephone access area.

Another objective of the Area Agency on Aging is to assist income eligible adults, aged 55 and older, secure part-time



Staff, from left:

- Terri Taylor**
- Margie DeWoskin**
- David Moser**
- Nacy Washington**
- Linda Grimm**
- Kathy Ruffner-Linn**
- Ellison Jones**

positions with local organizations with the aim of placing them in public and private sector jobs. During the year, 35 participants of the Aging Employment and Training Program were placed in permanent employment (a 50-percent placement rate that exceeds the national 35 percent minimum). Forty-one participants entered the program that has an average of 71 workers placed in non-profit agencies, governmental organizations, businesses and industry.

The employment program also developed training for the Governor's Work First Business Council as part of North Carolina's Financial Literacy Resources effort. This training — "Thrifty-Rich: How to Live Well without Spending a Lot" — was presented at conferences, workshops and to small groups throughout the region.

An information and education effort of the Area Agency on Aging resulted in training 250 older adults and agency staff on accessing Internet resources. At 17 sites in the region, two years of Internet connections, printers, digital cameras and software were put in place as TJCOG implemented an end-of-FY2000 grant from the N.C. Division of Aging that accompanied generous computer donations from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

By the end of FY2001 the Internet training designed specifically for older adults was made available on disk and the Area Agency on Aging was set to launch its new Web site at www.tjaa.org. The site will feature an array of links to national and state resource information and connections to program supports offered by local providers.

Area Agency on Aging staff continued to support the senior center certification process through the state Division of Aging. Wake County's Whitaker Mill (Raleigh), Eastern Wake (Wendell) and Northern Wake (Wake Forest) sites were certified as Centers of Excellence in 2001.

Older adults in the seven-county Region J area are fortunate to receive support from quality services offered through local non-profit and governmental agencies. Area Agency on Aging staff performed compliance monitoring site visits for 26 distinct services, reporting the results to county commissioners and managers. County Home and Community Care Block Grant funding plans now involve more than \$5.5 million to provide such services as in-home aide, meals, transportation, senior center services and information assistance.

Part of the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act in December 2000 included funding for a National Family Caregiver Support initiative. The Triangle J Area Agency on Aging was able to hire a family caregiver resource specialist to assist with the development of support programs for families caring for an older person, as well as grandparents caring for grandchildren under the age of eighteen. With direction from the Region J Aging Advisory Council to focus on respite help and training for caregivers, work began to engage local groups who would help develop proposals. In addition to respite care and training assistance, a multi-year plan will be prepared to address information assistance, access to available resources, and supplemental services to assist caregivers.



Staff:

Greg Tanner
Jill Al-hafez Passmore

Economic Development

Staff worked with the Foreign Trade Zone #93 Rates, Tariffs and Legal Review Board and with Longistics, the operator of the general-purpose site at the World Trade Park adjacent to Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Longistics continues to operate the Departure Drive (Raleigh) site for the Dudson China Company of Great Britain. The Triangle has the most active general purpose zone in North Carolina. The sub-zone application for Pergo (laminated flooring company) in Garner has been suspended by the U.S. FTZ Board due to industry opposition. Merck Pharmaceuticals is currently the only operating sub-zone in FTZ #93.

TJCOG renewed a \$35,000 contract with the state Department of Commerce for administration of foreign trade zones through June 2001. TJCOG continued the contract to administer the Global TransPark foreign trade zone and also contracted with the Piedmont Triad Partnership for similar services. Pamela Davison will continue to work with the foreign trade zones programs for FTZ #93 and throughout North Carolina following her retirement.

Other sub-zone applications were approved by the U.S. FTZ Board for Consolidated Diesel in the Global TransPark and for Volvo Heavy Equipment in Buncombe County. A major expansion on FTZ #57 is still under review; if approved, eight new sites will be available to serve the Catawba Valley region.

Davison served as the CEO of the World Trade Center North Carolina through June 30, when she retired from TJCOG. She will continue as the secretary of the WTCNC Board of Directors and her FTZ office will be located at the Center. Angela Lewis, TJCOG's finance director, was re-appointed to serve as the WTCNC's chief financial officer. The two continue to provide oversight on programs and management of WTCNC. In February, Davison and WTCNC staff and directors accompanied N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall on a trade mission to the MercoSur region of South America. The group included several North Carolina telecommunication companies. They were hosted by the president of Uruguay, attended meetings with major trade groups and hosted a reception with the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo. The trip was sponsored by the federal Market Developer Cooperator Program (MDCP) grant to North Carolina.

Since 1997, the WTCNC has coordinated the MDCP activities of the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, the International Trade Division of the N.C. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Export Assistance Centers in North Carolina. That program, funded by the federal Department of Commerce, is an effort to increase exports from small to medium-sized companies in North Carolina to designated foreign countries. The grant ended in February 2001. A follow-up application will be submitted next year.



Staff: Pamela Davison

In keeping with TJCOG's efforts to internationalize the Triangle, Davison continued to work with the North Carolina World Trade Associations, serving on the Board of Directors. She also serves as vice-chair of the N.C. District Export Council (DEC). DECs offer policy advice to the U.S. Export Assistance Centers and, through them, to the U.S. secretary of commerce. She attended the U.S. DEC conference in Reno in June.

Emergency Medical Services

The Region J EMS Advisory Council this year focused on educating the general public regarding the changes in service delivery over the past several years; this is a two-year project to increase public awareness throughout the region. The first year focused on developing materials and public service announcements to increase media involvement and support for community-based skill training programs such as CPR and First Aid. Targeted populaces include school systems, the elderly, Spanish/Latino residents and other segments. Second-year goals include ensuring that 911 information is consistent for all agencies/counties; increasing awareness to significantly lessen abuse on the system; increasing the number of lay persons trained to assist victims of emergencies until help arrives; and increasing awareness of individual county structures and services they provide.

In July TJCOG's Regional Appearance Committee and the Wake County Capital Trees Program co-sponsored a statewide training workshop focused on the use of CITYgreen software. CITYgreen is an innovative Windows-based application for ArcView and is used for mapping urban ecology and measuring the economic benefits of trees, soils and other natural resources. CITYgreen calculates the economic and environmental benefits nature provides in stormwater management, air quality, water quality, summer energy and wildlife habitat. The workshop was held at Southeast Raleigh High School; training was performed by staff of the software developer, American Forests.



Renée Boyette, member services officer, also serves on the executive committee of the North Carolina Urban Forest Council, a non-profit organization that supports communities in their urban forest management efforts.

In the fall of 2000, the Regional Appearance Committee distributed nearly 700 trees received through a grant from the National Tree Trust. In January 2001, the Regional Appearance Committee received a grant of 1,100 seedlings from the National Tree Trust. The seedlings were potted and are housed at the City of Raleigh's Marsh Creek Parks and Recreation Maintenance Facility. They will be

distributed in the fall of 2001 at no cost to community groups for plantings on public property in Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Orange and Wake counties.

The cable consortium completed franchise negotiations with Time Warner Cable for 16 local governments. The consortium provided technical assistance on other cable issues and conducted rate reviews for more than 25 members of the TJCOG Cable Consortium.

Staff: Renée Boyette

TJCOG continued to administer the drug and alcohol testing program. Sixty-one alcohol tests and 707 drug tests were performed for member governments and the Triangle Transit Authority. Staff also coordinated a supervisory training

session for nearly 40 participants from 12 member governments, TTA and TJCOG.

TJCOG hosted a breakfast for the legislative delegation representing Region J. Staff gathered legislative agendas from individual jurisdictions and developed a regional agenda. TJCOG's Regional Legislative Committee reviewed and revised the agenda, which was subsequently approved by the TJCOG Board and presented to the legislative delegation. Approximately 10 legislators and 40 elected officials and staff from the region attended.

Emergency Medical Services continued

The Region J Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team was very active in skills enhancement training, responding to 21 requests and providing planning assistance for the September 2001 state CISM conference. The team's clinical director, Dr. Peter Smith, is one of the few nationally certified instructors in North Carolina and is the designated instructor for the two-day pre-conference basic training. The team also completed an application process through the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF), the national certification group, for National Team Registry. This approval places the regional team on the list to respond to National Foundation requests on a nationwide basis.

Staff: Peggy Handon



Information Services

Geographic information systems (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 Economic Development. These services included consulting, data manipulation and analysis, map production, modeling, and creation of new coverages.

GIS services were also provided to the Research Triangle Foundation, Triangle Transit Authority, Conservation Trust of North Carolina, Eno River Association, Triangle Greenways Council, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, the towns of Apex, Cary, and Zebulon, the city of Raleigh, the counties of Durham, Orange, and Wake, North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina, Tetra-Tech, various realtors and development firms, students and private parties.

Staff participated in the North Carolina Center for Geographic Information and Analysis Million Acres project, which will continue through FY2002. TJCOG is serving as a pilot location for the collection, evaluation and transfer of open space data, and helping define the ideal structure for the data. This project complements TJCOG's long-term continuing effort to maintain comprehensive regional trails and open space coverages.

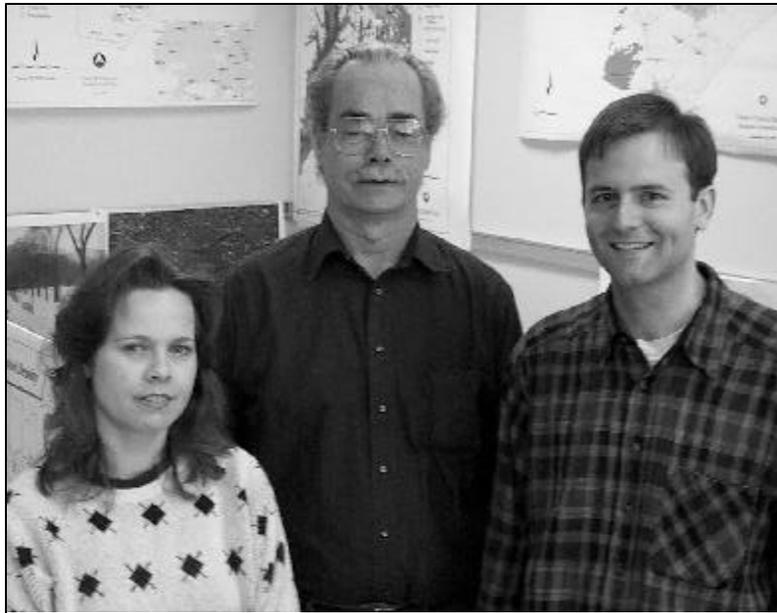
TJCOG provided extensive GIS support to the Regional GreenPrint project, updating and correcting coverages, creating new coverages, and generating a number of maps.

Staff provided extensive GIS, management information systems (MIS), and Web site maintenance for the Cape Fear River Assembly and the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA), including completion of the Cape Fear and upper Neuse riparian buffer studies. Staff also provided GIS/MIS support services for several on-going water resources planning and management initiatives,

including : UNRBA Watershed Management Plan development, Jordan Lake Nutrient Response Modeling Project and watershed partnership effort, Regional Long-Term Hydrologic and Nonpoint Source Assessment Project, and several local projects, such as the Roberson Creek initiative.

Staff updated and provided a prepress version of the American Tobacco Trail map.

TJCOG served as a pilot site for the Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee project to investigate the feasibility of updating Powell bill municipalities via Web site uploads.



TJCOG sponsored a November gathering of local government GIS professionals to share information and resources, facilitate information exchange and develop neighboring GIS contracts.

Staff:
September Barnes
Bob Bacon
Jeff Essic

GIS staff completed a grant proposal to assist in the creation and regional support of GIS metadata and participated in metadata training sessions. TJCOG continues to develop and improve its in-house GIS coverage catalog, to create metadata where appropriate, and provide Federal Geographic Data Committee compliant metadata to NCCGIA.

GIS and MIS staff participated in the following statewide and regional committees: Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee, N.C. ArcInfo Users Group, and the Communications and Automated Resources Committee.

Staff participated in the bi-annual North Carolina GIS conference in Winston-Salem displaying map posters, distributing copies of the Metro Map and benefiting from a number of information and educational sessions.

The Regional Principles Project focused on strategies to implement a set of eight principles for regional development adopted by the TJCOG Board of Delegates, the Greater Triangle Regional Council, and the Triangle Smart Growth Coalition — a group of business, environmental, professional and civic organizations. TJCOG recruited more than 120 experts for technical teams to analyze strategies to implement these principles. Based in part on the teams' analyses, the TJCOG Smart Growth Committee recommended the following legislative initiatives to enable local governments to implement the Regional Principles:

1. A state-region-local planning partnership with the following elements:
 - community planning standards,
 - regional planning standards,
 - plan compatibility and implementation consistency,
 - a smart growth toolbox,
 - state and local targeted funding, and
 - integrated land use, capital improvement, transportation and air quality planning and funding.
2. Adequate and stable funding for transportation, green space, affordable housing and town centers, including expanded authority for local and regional revenue sources, including impact fees and/or impact taxes, and revenue and/or tax base sharing programs.
3. Enabling legislation to authorize local inclusionary housing programs.
4. Enabling legislation to authorize local transfer of development rights programs.
5. Support for the preparation of regional "greenprint" plans for preserving open space.

Information Systems continued _____

MIS staff redesigned and programmed the Web sites of TTA and the Town of Knightdale and provided consulting, HTML authoring and development services to TTA and the towns of Fuquay-Varina and Zebulon. Staff helped the Clean Cities Coalition and the Triangle J Area Agency on Aging greatly expand their web offerings. TJCOG's intranet was expanded and made more integrated, and now includes mechanisms for communication of project activities, and tracking the free hours program.

These legislative recommendations were adopted by the Board of Delegates and endorsed by the Greater Triangle Regional Council. They were incorporated into TJCOG's legislative agenda and highlighted at a legislative breakfast. Each of the recommendations was also included in the recommendations of the North Carolina Legislative Commission to Address Smart Growth, Growth Management and Development Issues. TJCOG, city and county staff, and elected officials worked with legislative leaders and advocacy organizations to present these recommendations to the General Assembly.

The Green Space and Affordable Living technical teams prepared strategy briefs on tools and techniques to implement the Regional Principles, including:

- inclusionary housing programs,
- state fair-share housing programs,
- land banking for affordable housing,
- state comprehensive permit programs for affordable housing,
- regional green space plans,
- resource protection ordinances,
- green space set-aside programs,
- green space mitigation programs,
- transfer of development rights,
- purchase of development rights, and
- agricultural economic development programs.

The TJCOG Smart Growth Committee, chaired by Durham County Commissioner Ellen Reckhow, brings together elected officials, local and state government staff, university researchers and interested residents to share information about programs designed to guide growth. This year's meetings addressed the legislative agenda for implementing the Regional Principles, mixed-use development projects in the region, the use of fiscal policies to guide growth, affordable housing strategies, regional development trends and green space protection strategies.

The Triangle GreenPrint Project brings together the Triangle J Council of Governments, the Triangle Land Conservancy, and the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation with local governments and other partners to develop a green space plan for the region. The project is designed to link green space investments made at the local level into a functioning regional green space network. The technical phase of the

Regional Planning

project was conducted in the fall of 2000, and the information collected is being summarized in a Phase I report. The project partners are planning Phase II of the project to solicit public comment and involvement. The U.S. EPA and the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation have committed \$45,000 for Phase II, which will result in the preparation of a draft GreenPrint plan.

TJCOG and the N.C. Center for Geographic Information and Analysis launched a Triangle Green Space Database, working with local governments, nonprofit conservation organizations, universities and other partners to develop a common green space database and mapping system for the Triangle. The project will facilitate the sharing of information across jurisdictional lines and support collaborative efforts to plan and protect a linked network of green space throughout the region.

TJCOG initiated Project Impact to undertake actions that protect families, businesses and communities by reducing the effects of natural disasters. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is providing \$300,000 — to be matched by \$100,000 in local funds and in-kind services — to identify and assess risks, develop and prioritize hazard mitigation strategies, build a partnership and long-term plan to implement the strategies, and educate and communicate with regional decision-makers about risks and mitigation.

To continue the work begun through the Regional Principles Project, TJCOG has applied for foundation support for continuation of a Regional Affordable Living Program to incorporate affordable housing in growth management

programs, so there will be a mix of housing in all new large developments, especially near jobs and in transit service areas.

TJCOG continues to be an active participant in regional transportation planning, providing technical support for 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.



Staff: Ben Hitchings

TJCOG hosts the Durham-Wake Work Group, elected officials who meet quarterly to address issues along the border of the two counties. A major focus of the group this year was to lay the groundwork for a planning and design workshop and set of guidelines for the area incorporating the Research Triangle Park and the Raleigh-Durham Airport.

TJCOG staff worked with Durham Area Designers and the UNC Center for Urban and Regional Studies to produce a three-day design workshop for redevelopment of the South Square Mall area in Durham, a potential Phase Two regional transit station location.



Beth Timson, Kim Douglass and Sig Hutchinson join others in identifying important natural areas in the region during a Triangle GreenPrint workshop held at the RDU Airport Authority Building. Timson is a senior planner with the Durham City/County Planning Department. Douglass, a former open space planner with Wake County, is stewardship director for the Triangle Land Conservancy. Hutchinson chairs the Wake County Open Space Advisory Committee.

Moore joins Region J

Region J changed its shape in September 2001 when Triangle J's Board of Delegates unanimously approved Moore County's request for membership.

Moore County, along with Anson, Montgomery and Richmond counties, made up Region H which was served by the Pee Dee Council of Governments until that COG's dissolution on June 30, 2001.

Now North Carolina has 17 multi-county planning jurisdictions rather than 18. Region H no longer exists. Its remaining counties were absorbed into Region F (Anson); Region G (Montgomery); and Region N (Richmond). These regions are served by the Centralina COG, the Piedmont Triad COG and the Lumber River COG, respectively. This realignment was proposed by the state Department of Administration and became effective July 1.



Regional Planning continued

TJCOG managed a Cost of Community Services Study for Wake County. This analysis divides county land into three categories — residential, commercial/industrial, and farm/forest — and compares the local governments' revenues that each category generates with the expenditures that it requires for public services. The study is designed to help local governments evaluate the impact of agriculture and other land uses on local government finances.

TJCOG helped local government agencies and other planners and researchers locate and map statistical data from the Census and other organizations.

Senior planner Ben Hitchings assisted members of the Johnston County Open Space Task Force during the past year as they developed a strategic plan for protecting open space in the region's fastest growing county. Hitchings earned his American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) designation. He also chaired the legislative committee of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association.



**Staff: John Hodges-Copple
Lanier Blum**

Senior planner Lanier Blum helped the Orange County Affordable Housing Task Force conduct a needs assessment and analysis of planning tools. She chaired the policy committee of the N.C. Low-Income Housing Coalition, as TJCOG and the Coalition worked together to support the housing initiative on the TJCOG legislative agenda.

TJCOG staff continued to provide support for the Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project program, a local-state-federal partnership which has been in existence since the late 1980s. The project involves water quality monitoring and stream flow gaging in several of the region's water supply watersheds. Monitoring activities are conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey and the state Division of Water Quality at 22 locations in the Triangle region, and several streamflow gaging stations are funded through the program. TJCOG was instrumental in getting the Cape Fear River Assembly to provide \$28,975 of funding support for the project for FY2001, and in getting the Assembly to approve continued supplemental funding support for the next two fiscal years.

Staff: Pat Davis

The Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) continued its efforts to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan for the 770-square-mile upper Neuse basin, and TJCOG staff continued to provide technical planning and geographic information systems support for that effort. Following the resignation of the UNRBA's executive director in March 2001, TJCOG was requested to provide all support services for the UNRBA, with the understanding that TJCOG would hire an upper Neuse watershed program coordinator in FY2002.

TJCOG, in partnership with the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, continued to provide technical and management support services to 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. There are 17 local governments and four private industries participating in the Association, that together 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.



TJCOG continued to provide extensive technical and project management support services for the Jordan Lake Nutrient Response Modeling Project. TJCOG manages the project on behalf of the seven local governments that have funded this \$410,000 modeling project (Burlington, Graham, Greensboro, Mebane, Orange Water and Sewer Authority, Pittsboro and Reidsville). When completed, the modeling tools will be used to evaluate the environmental effectiveness and cost effectiveness of alternative nutrient management strategies for the Jordan Lake watershed. Future nutrient limits for wastewater treatment facilities in the watershed must be substantiated by the model. TJCOG and PTCOG are working in close partnership to inform and involve more than 50 watershed stakeholder organizations in this effort.

In partnership with several local governments and non-profit organizations such as the Upper Neuse River Basin Association, the Lower Neuse Basin Association and the Cape Fear River Assembly, TJCOG spearheaded the Clean Water Education Partnership (CWEP) initiative. The CWEP program will establish a collaborative, cost-effective nonpoint source pollution education and awareness program involving mass media. TJCOG received FY2002 CWEP program funding commitments of approximately \$120,000. The education campaign will start in the fall of 2001.

TJCOG continued to provide technical assistance to local governments on a variety of water resources issues, including evaluation of opportunities for interlocal partnerships to provide water and sewer service. Staff also participated on several state task forces working on issues such as Jordan Lake water supply storage allocations (Round 2 and Round 3) and water quality monitoring and research.

TJCOG's Water Resources Advisory Committee continued to consider important regional water resources planning, management and protection issues. Of particular note, the committee discussed the proposed interbasin water transfers associated with Jordan Lake Round 2 water supply allocations, but did not reach consensus on the issue. The committee also considered

The Greater Triangle Regional Council was created in 1993 following recommendations developed during the World Class Region Conference held the year before. GTRC is a membership based organization guided by an executive committee and an executive director, Pam Wall, who has served in this leadership role since March 2000.

Larry Monteith recently retired as GTRC chair and the council named Richard T. "Stick" Williams as his successor. Williams has a strong desire to move GTRC to a more action-oriented role in regional planning. In the past, GTRC has served as a think tank to research and report on issues of regional importance. Membership agreed, and in June decided to focus all efforts and resources on regional transportation issues. In addition to working with existing groups addressing this issue, GTRC will concentrate on developing action plans and benchmarks to measure the region's progress.

The council has agreed to build membership to the full capacity of 40. Five new members from the private sector have joined and the council is recruiting four additional members.



Executive Director: Pam Wall

For the past year, GTRC has served as the liaison organization from the region to the Council on Competitiveness on the Clusters of Innovation Project. The Triangle region is one of only six regions in the country participating in this project to identify existing clusters and emerging innovative projects. Professor Michael Porter of Harvard University is leading the research team from Monitor Research Group in Boston. In October 2001, UNC President Molly Broad will host Porter as he presents the report to Triangle leaders.

Pam Wall is working with the current Leadership Triangle program to focus its group projects on issues studied by the GTRC over the past several years. Topics chosen include water resources and wastewater management, a regional strategic plan, transportation, the lack of regional cooperation and the changing diversity and culture of the Triangle.

Water Resources continued

the High Performance Building Guidelines Project, and provided recommendations for the Clean Water Education Partnership initiative.

Several major and challenging water resources issues will require TJCOG's involvement and consideration in FY2002. Those issues include, but are certainly not limited to, consideration of:

- the Round 3 requests for Jordan Lake water supply storage allocations;
- the results of the Jordan Lake Nutrient Response Model, and implications for point and nonpoint source nutrient management in the Jordan Lake Watershed;
- the need for additional water supply capacity, and of a regional strategy for developing required capacity in a timely, economical and environmentally acceptable manner; and
- the need for increased interlocal cooperation to meet long-term water and sewer service needs, including the need to develop the ability to return reclaimed water to the Cape Fear River basin (which is required as a condition of recently-approved Jordan Lake water allocations to several member governments).

Solid Waste Management

In February TJCOG unveiled the 170-page *High Performance Guidelines: Triangle Region Public Facilities*.

This document provides local governments and school systems with a tool to promote and measure cost-effective, efficient, durable, and environmentally sound public structures. The Guidelines were developed as a joint effort of more than 50 local professionals who create and manage public buildings in Durham, Orange and Wake counties. The document describes specific measures to save energy and water, reduce the use of materials, reduce indoor pollutants, and achieve other goals. For approximately one-third of the 45 topics covered in the document, an existing local building project is provided as an example.

The document also includes a long list of resources to help professionals learn. This extremely useful document is now being adopted around the Triangle and beyond. State legislation requires the UNC system, the community college system, and state construction projects to implement a total of 10 pilot projects using the Guidelines during FY2002. Moreover, the State Energy Office has funded a TJCOG program to provide local presentations

and workshops on achieving high performance public buildings.



Staff: Judy Kincaid

In order to promote markets for recyclable material in the Triangle, TJCOG published three reports in April. They are titled *Scrap Wood Availability in the Triangle J Region*, *Markets for Scrap Wood in the Triangle J Region*, and *Markets and Local Government Collection Options for Used Electronics in the Triangle J Region*. TJCOG partnered with several other organizations in order to produce these reports, including N.C. State Cooperative Extension, Wake County Solid Waste Management Division, and N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

The TJCOG regional household hazardous waste (HHW) information hotline was enhanced this year by enabling callers to speak directly to the TJCOG HHW program manager. The recorded information on the hotline (919-287-8051) is now in both Spanish and English. TJCOG continues to save money for the local programs through regional purchasing of print, radio and TV advertising.



Job well done

Ellen Reckhow accepts a plaque in appreciation of her service as TJCOG chair during FY2000-2001. Making the presentation is her successor, Floyd B. McKissick, Jr.

N.C. Department of Administration Secretary Gwynn Swinson accepts a plaque designating DOA as a member of the Triangle Clean Cities Coalition from U.S. Department of Energy Deputy Assistant Secretary Tom Gross during the “Advancing the Choice” conference. Gross presented plaques to all coalition members, recognizing each as “a leader in improving air quality, strengthening the local economy and enhancing public awareness of alternative fuels through its commitment to and participation in the U.S. Department of Energy’s Clean Cities Program.” He also presented a plaque to Ellen Reckhow, TJCOG chair, recognizing the Triangle as a Clean Cities region.



TJCOG continues to serve as a regional focus for improving air quality and stimulating the domestic fuels market through increasing the use of alternative fuels such as ethanol, biodiesel, compressed natural gas, propane and electricity. Through funding provided by the State Energy Office and a grant from the state Division of Air Quality, TJCOG is home to the Triangle Clean Cities Coalition, a group of more than 34 public and private stakeholders committed to increasing the use of alternative fuels. After the Coalition completed a program plan, the region was officially designated into the U.S. Department of Energy’s Clean Cities program in March. U.S. Representative David Price, officials from the U.S. DOE and local elected officials were among the 200 participants in the designation celebration which took place as part of the “Advancing the Choice” conference, a day-long event on the topic of alternative fuels.

There are more than 1,700 alternative fuel vehicles and 44 refueling stations in the Triangle. Coalition goals include increasing the number of AFVs by 60 percent and

displacing more than a million gallons of conventional fuels with cleaner burning alternative fuels by 2004. Working with the State Energy Office, the Triangle Clean Cities Coalition, the Alternative Fuels Consortium and N.C.

Representative Joe Tolson, TJCOG staff has helped craft HB1213, proposed legislation that will provide funding for the incremental costs of alternative fuel vehicles and cost-sharing grants for refueling infrastructure.



Staff: Anne Tazewell

T J C O G continued to assist the state D ivision of Air Quality with its air awareness campaign in the Triangle. Staff helped coordinate the third annual End-of-the O zone-Season

luncheon to recognize the region’s m any Air Quality Coalition m embers, and provided adm inistrative support for the Coalition’s Care-for-the Air Road Race. Proceeds from this annual race benefit sum m er camp s sponsored by the A m erican Lung Association for children with asthm a and other respiratory diseases.

From the Executive Director

It's been a year of accomplishments

On August 1, 2000 the Triangle J Council of Governments and I embarked on a new adventure in local government and regionalism—a new era in the life of the organization as the 21st century unfolds, and a new beginning in my professional career as a public servant.

It has been my sincere honor and pleasure to serve Triangle J as executive director. My appreciation is extended to each of you for the opportunity to share this part of my professional life with you and the other public officials in Region J. I feel a keen sense of accomplishment as Triangle J has experienced a marked increase in regional activities and city and county officials have become more engaged regionally.

Based on goals and objectives established by the Board of Delegates, Triangle J created a Regional Legislative Agenda that resulted in a variety of activities associated with advocating the legislative needs of Region J local governments. Our membership had the opportunity to meet with legislative delegations from across the region to personally talk about the money it takes to provide local government services, the protection needed for existing local government revenue sources coming from state government, the vast issues surrounding growth management, critical transportation concerns, and the value we place on our water

resources. Throughout the year, Triangle J has pursued these plus a number of other regional legislative goals set by the Board.

During FY2000-01 Triangle J moved ahead with a number of initiatives including: the creation of the Financial Stability Committee, quarterly regional managers' meetings, the regional GreenPrint project, inclusion of Moore County as the newest Triangle J member, continuation of the Regional Principles Initiative, unveiling of the High Performance Standards Program, implementation of the Family Caregiver Program, conclusion of cable television franchise renewals, continued work with the Greater Triangle Regional Council, collaboration with the World Trade Center, efforts to expand foreign trade zone activities, initiation of the Clean Cities Program, assumption of responsibilities with the Upper Neuse River Basin Association, and much more. What a year!

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of Triangle J and the life of each of our member local governments. Much has been done and a great deal remains for which to dedicate our time and energies.

— **Dee Freeman**



Staff, from left:

**Veronica Glynn
Angela Lewis
Edythe Natrass
Mary Jane Chapman
Benny Keith**

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Pam Wall, Executive Director	919-558-2708	pwall@tjcog.org
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Committees and Affiliated Organizations

Aging Advisory Council

Chair: Becky Heron
Staff: David Moser

Aging Community Advisory Committees

Chatham County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Vacant
Staff: Greg Tanner

Chatham County Nursing Home CAC

Chair: John Cooper
Staff: Jill Al-hafez Passmore

Durham County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Billy Griffin
Staff: Jill Al-hafez Passmore

Durham County Nursing Home CAC

Chair: Ruth Wallace
Staff: Jill Al-hafez Passmore

Johnston County Joint CAC

Chair: Carol Belisle
Staff: Greg Tanner

Lee County Joint CAC

Chair: Willard Garren
Staff: Greg Tanner

Moore County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Margaret K Shields
Staff: Greg Tanner

Moore County Nursing Home CAC

Chair: Vivienne Ulansey
Staff: Greg Tanner

Orange County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Carol Gunther-Mohr
Staff: Jill Al-hafez Passmore

Orange County Nursing Home CAC

Chairs: Jack Vogt, Ricki Hudson
Staff: Jill Al-hafez Passmore

Wake County Adult Care CAC

Chair: Sherry Harris
Staff: Pam Barger

Wake County Nursing Home CAC

Chair: Brenda Martin
Staff: Pam Barger

Cable Consortium

Staff: Renée Boyette

Clean Cities Coalition

Staff: Anne Tazewell

Critical Incident Stress Management Team

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

FTZ #93 Rates, Tariffs and Legal Review Board

Chair: Jennifer Dirienzo
Staff: Pamela Davison

Greater Triangle Regional Council

Chair: Richard T. "Stick" Williams
Executive Director: Pam Wall

Region J Senior Tar Heel Legislature

(Appointed by the Aging Advisory Council)

Chatham County

Delegate: Uva Holland
Alternate: Bill Dudenhausen

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

Moore County

Delegate: Gladys Britt

Orange County

Delegate: Ann Johnson

Wake County

Delegate: Jack Kimbrell
Alternate: Marie McBride

Financial Report

Regional Appearance Committee

Co-chairs: Benson Kirkman, Mark Smith

Staff: Renée Boyette

Regional Legislative Committee

Chair: Floyd McKissick

Staff: Renée Boyette, Dee Freeman

Safety Consortium

Staff: Renée Boyette

Smart Growth Committee

Chair: Ellen Reckhow

Staff: John Hodges-Copple, Lanier Blum,

Ben Hitchings

***Triangle Region Solid Waste Planners
Committee***

Chair: Gayle Wilson

Staff: Judy Kincaid

***Triangle Regional Principles Project Steering
Committee***

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, Inc.

Chair: Becky Heron

Watershed Program Coordinator: Chris Dreps

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

Inactive Committees

Electric Deregulation Policy Committee

Construction and Demolition Waste Task Force

Regional EMS Advisory Committee

Programs

Expenditures

Technical Services	\$ 493,487
Regional Planning	567,013
Economic Strategies	161,897
Aging Services	6,201,258
Water Resources	330,693
HUD Work Study Program	4,851
Solid Waste Management.....	177,269
Total Program Expenditures ...	\$7,936,468

Revenues in Excess of Expenditures	\$ 25,154
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	386,862
Fund Balance, End of Year	412,016

Revenues

Received

Federal Government Grants	\$3,008,633
State Government Grants	2,981,466
Local Contributions	1,050,035
Special Local Contributions	231,501
In Kind/Contract Services	55,515
Interest Income	30,897
Program Income/Fees	571,896
Miscellaneous	31,679
Total Revenues	\$7,961,622

TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Mission Statement

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.



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