CENTRAL PINES
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Executive Director's REPORT

Lee Worsley
Executive Director
Central Pines Regional Council

MAY
2026

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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Message from Lee

Lee Worsley

CPRC Executive Director

I was honored to be able to present my Recommended Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Central Pines Regional Council Budget to the Board of Delegates at the April Board meeting. The Board will be considering adoption of the budget during their May meeting.

Following my budget presentation, I developed two supplemental pieces to do a deeper dive on a couple important budget issues facign the Regional Council.

The first is around our Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman Program and the second is around our discretionary funding. I would encourage you to review both as they give you good insight into the type of work the Regional Council is doing and also some of the challenges we face into the future.

Budget Breakdown: At Capacity - The Future of Ombudsman Services

READ MORE

Budget Breakdown: Discretionary Funding & Organizational Capacity - Building What's Next

READ MORE

Major Metro Regional Council Highlight

Regional Trail Network

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) has built a regional trail network through its Central Ohio Greenways (COG) initiative. Established in 2015, the COG Board was created to address growing demand to expand trail mileage, increase access, and encourage trail use for all residents. What began as a roughly 230-mile network has grown to nearly 400 miles of existing trails spanning a 15-county region, connecting parks, neighborhoods, rivers, businesses, and cultural destinations.

MORPC has structured the initiative with strong intergovernmental and cross-sector partnerships - bringing together local government staff, elected officials, advocacy groups, and planning firms to advance regional collaboration, trail marketing, and funding development. The recently launched Trail Towns of Central Ohio program further demonstrates the initiative's breadth, convening an inaugural cohort of six communities for a year-long series of workshops focused on storytelling, marketing, and promotion to highlight walkable and bikeable destinations connected by the trail network.

Read About Central Ohio Greenways →

Local Government Member Request Dashboard

Our Member Services Team maintains a real-time Member Request dashboard that helps to track incoming requests from our local governments, rate of utilization by members, and emerging areas of need.

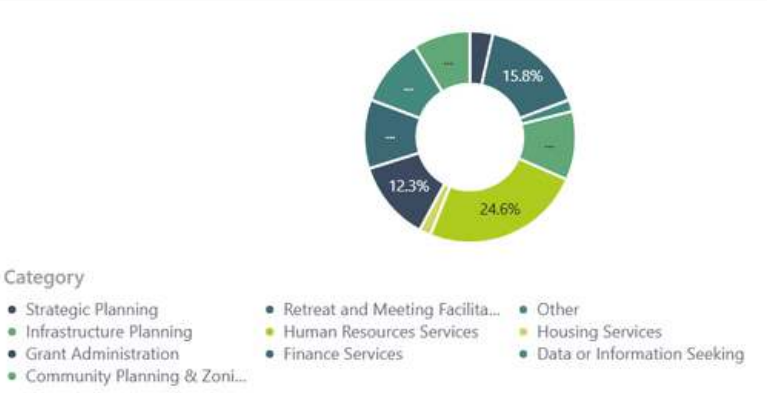
Member Requests

25-26 Requests
57

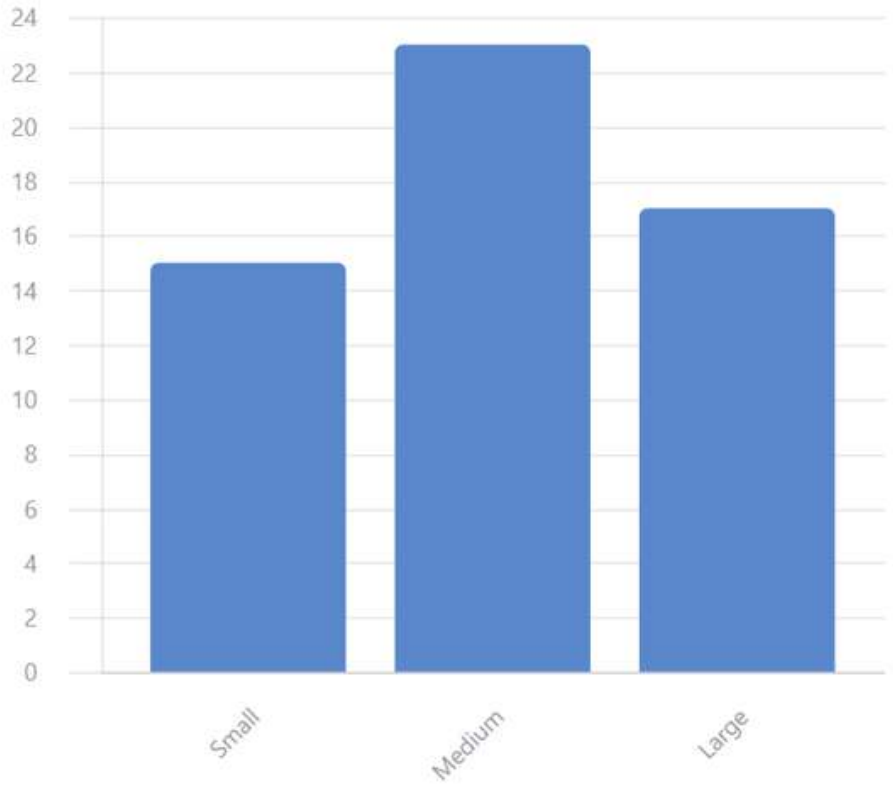
24-25 Requests
60

25-26 Space Reservations
106

Request by Category



Requests by Size



NARC Updates

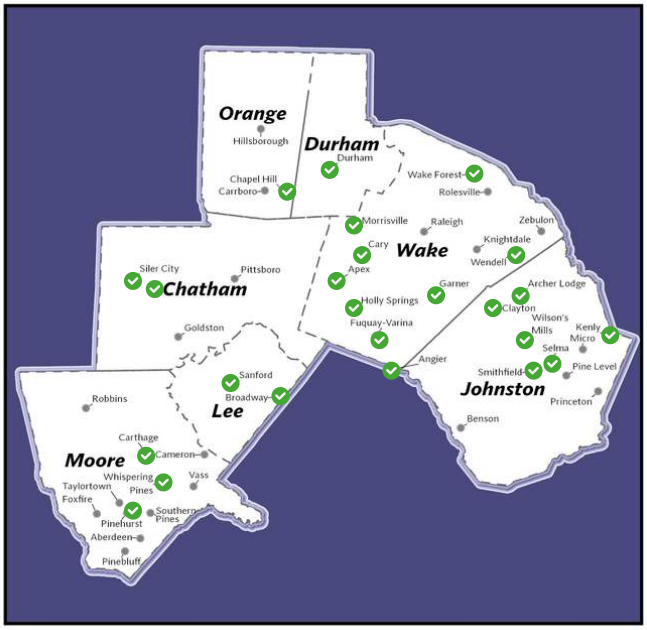
NARC
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

The National Association of Regional Councils publishes a Transportation Thursdays and an eRegions Update each week. Here is a selection of items from those newsletters that may be of interest.

- Civic Leaders Outline Key Surface Transportation Priorities
- FERC Tees Up June Decision on Data Center Interconnection Reform
- Virginia Governor Amends Data Center Cost-Shifting Bills
- NJTPA Releases New Guidebook on Resilience Hubs
- DOT Publishes Five-Year Strategic Plan Covering Safety, Infrastructure, and Innovation
- House Aims to Pass Amended Housing Bill This Week
- Americans Oppose AI Data Centers in Their Area
- Senators Raise Concerns Over Potential Transportation Funding Cuts
- Cantwell Warns of Deep Transportation Cuts Without Funding Renewal
- FEMA Review Panel Report Shifts More Responsibility to States
- EPA Launches Interactive Permitting Map

CPRC with Lee Tour

As many of you know, I have a goal to visit all fifty local governments this year. I am beginning my tour by scheduling visits with local governments with a manager or administrator, and then will be turning to our Mayor-Council local governments next. You can follow along with the hashtag #CPRCwithLee.



Up to this point, I have visited:

Morrisville	Sanford	Archer Lodge	Wendell
Selma	Broadway	Apex	Clayton
Pinehurst	Carthage	Wake Forest	Angier
Holly Springs	City of Durham	Garner	Smithfield
Kenly	Siler City	Chatham County	Whispering Pines
Chapel Hill	Cary	Wilson's Mills	Fuquay-Varina

I also have upcoming visits scheduled with Hillsborough, Wake County, Johnston County, and Raleigh.

2026-2029 Strategic Plan

The 2026–2029 Strategic Plan was adopted at the April 2026 Board of Delegates meeting and takes effect July 1, 2026. The plan introduces five new Strategic Focus Areas that take a more holistic, outcomes-based approach to CPRC's work by emphasizing regional impact beyond individual services. The full Strategic Plan is available at the link to the right, along with new color themes that visually represent each Focus Area.

CLICK HERE!

Financial Report

Below you will find the Board Financial Reports for the month of April.

Month Ending: April 2026

Central Pines Regional Council

Revised Budget	Revenue Collected	Expense Disbursed	Rev Over(Under) Exp
32,928,173	19,178,860.00	17,617,236.31	1,561,623.69

Member Dues Budgeted	Member Dues Collected	% Collected	% Remaining
928,000	877,815.16	95%	5%

Q3 Top Funding Agencies
1. NC Dept of Aging & Adult Services
2. Wake County
3. NC Department of Transportation
4. City of Raleigh
5. Durham VA Medical Center
6. NC Housing Finance Agency
7. City of Durham
8. Environmental Protection Agency
9. Housing for New Hope
10. US Department of Housing & Urban Development

Month Ending: April 2026

Triangle West TPO

Revised Budget	Revenue Collected	Expense Disbursed	Rev Over(Under) Exp
6,496,071	2,537,963.44	3,465,104.99	(927,141.55)

Member Dues Budgeted	Member Dues Collected	% Collected	% Remaining
905,937	787,950.00	87%	13%

Q3 Top Funding Agencies
1. NC Department of Transportation
2. City of Durham
3. Town of Chapel Hill
4. Durham County
5. Orange County

Core Value Highlights

Each month during our All Staff meeting, we recognize employees who have exhibited one of our Core Values. These nominations come from members of our leadership team during our Leadership Team meeting a few weeks prior to the All Staff meeting. Staff members recognized during May included:

ABBY MANNING

Service to Our Members and Thought Leadership

In Abby's role providing planning technical services to Vass and Goldston she has created new and better processes and has re-designed official documents making them look cleaner and formatted in a way that's easier for the Board's we work with to digest. Additionally, in her two months with Central Pines, I have had three separate outside partners compliment Abby on her professionalism and thoroughness.
- Christopher Lawson

HANNAH SCHUTTE

Well-Informed Leadership

Guided the agenda development and meeting structure for the HR Consortium, Strategy and Innovation Group, and Solid Waste Consortium, while also supporting a joint Managers/Solid Waste Meeting. She put a lot of thought into the gatherings and worked hard to make sure she brought insight and guidance to each group.
-Alana Keegan

GRACE BERRY

Excellent Customer Service

It was a very busy month for our team and Grace has been an immense support to all of us, continually reaching out to offer help, putting together materials and resources quickly and effectively, and taking on a range of new tasks for the first time.
-Alana Keegan

BETH SIEDEL

Solutions & Results

Beth has been simultaneously leading the development of the 26-27 budget message and website redesign RFP, in addition to her regular responsibilities. She's done an amazing job working with internal and external stakeholders to ensure we have the right information and are giving the right guidance, while also analyzing what a new site will need and providing strategic guidance for an overwhelming number of vendor RFP questions.
-Alana Keegan

JENNA KOLLING

Well-Informed Leadership

Jenna recently gave presentations to the technical committees and executive boards of both the Capital Area MPO and the Triangle West TPO to educate them about the results/benefits of the "Triangle Transportation Choices" travel demand management program that CPRC manages on the MPOs' behalf. She did a great job of communicating about a program that is often difficult to describe or understand and helping the decision makers understand more about the impact of the program.

Additionally, she has been asked to give a presentation at the upcoming North Carolina Model Users Group meeting to share information with other transportation modeling professionals around the state about the work she did on improved performance measures for the most recent Metropolitan Transportation Plan update.
-Matt Day

JENISHA, CAROLYN, CHARLENE, AND TRACY

Excellent Customer Service and Solutions & Results

Jenisha Henneghan, Carolyn Pennington, Charlene Purkett & Tracy Burton spent their Saturday educating & assisting people about aging services at the Women's Health Awareness conference on April 11th. Their help and support made the event a huge success for CPRC & CPAAA! Thank you!
-Jennifer Link

When I needed help designing maps for Goldston's Land Use Plan (Adopted April 13th) Karyl did not hesitate to jump in and create them. Her help with Goldston's Land Use Plan has been crucial in producing a professional and well-designed document. Thank you Karyl!
-Chris Lawson

KARYL FULLER

Service Alignment & Well-Informed Leadership

Karyl recently presented to the General Assembly's House Select Committee on North Carolina's Transportation Future about the role of Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs) in NCDOT's project prioritization and funding process - following testimony from Karyl and other speakers, the committee recommended conducting a study of potential changes to the state's transportation funding law. Karyl also recently presented to a group of emerging leaders in the Sandhills region about RPOs and the transportation decision making process.
-Matt Day

Internal
PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

David always goes above and beyond when given a task. Our members enjoy working with him, and he excels at organization and project management.
-Nominated by Colleen McGue

What makes David awesome is his consistent engagement and support. As a representative of one of our funders on the TDM grant, he goes beyond expectations by staying actively involved - asking thoughtful, timely questions and showing a clear interest in the work.

What stands out most to me is David's reliability and willingness to support the grant team, even in situations that are unusual or don't have a clear precedent. This has been especially evident in a couple of recent situations. One can count on him to be thoughtful, responsive, and collaborative. That level of dependability, combined with his positive approach, makes him a valued partner and someone I truly enjoy working with.
-Nominated by Shuchi Gupta

Andres's work brings him into contact with a wide range of stakeholders, from students and educators to businesses, community partners, and decision-makers. What stands out most is his thoughtful, solutions-oriented approach. Whenever he encounters a challenge, he takes the time to think it through and comes prepared with clear, practical ideas to move things forward. That kind of initiative and clarity make him an invaluable team member.

Equally important is the energy he brings to work. He connects easily with others, and in his everyday interactions, whether within his team, across the organization, or with external colleagues, he helps create a more fun, positive, and friendly environment. People naturally enjoy working with him and being around him.
-Nominated by Shuchi Gupta

Melissa does incredibly challenging work with the unhoused community in Chatham County, often both physically and emotionally. I'm constantly blown away by the impact that she makes on people's lives and the sheer amount of empathy she has.
-Nominated by Erin Young

External

PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

During the month of May, we celebrate our Public Service Employees and all the hard work they do for our communities. The individuals below have been nominated by their colleagues for their incredible contributions to our region. Read their full nominations at the link below.

READ MORE

DARYL HEDGSPETH

City of Durham Impact Team Manager - Environment & Street Services

TIM GAINER

City of Raleigh Operations Supervisor, Yard Waste Center

CARLOS LYONS

City of Durham Senior Operations Manager, Collections Environmental & Street Services

JOSH WOMACK

Village of Pinehurst Fire Captain

MELISSA BIELBY

Village of Pinehurst Library & Archives Supervisor

LORYN CLARK

Town of Chapel Hill Deputy Town Manager

DURHAM CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Durham County

TANIA DAUTLICK

Executive Director of Keep Durham Beautiful & City of Durham Employee

Upcoming Events

Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

LOGO Career Expo
Sat., August 29,
1-4 pm in Raleigh

We are currently accepting registration for County & Municipal Employers for the 2026 Local Government Career Expo.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT career expo

REGISTER NOW