



4/18/24

Centralina CEDD Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 18, 2024
Zoom Meeting
Join by computer: [Meeting Link](#)
Join by phone: Dial 929 436 2866 and enter
Meeting ID: 873 3192 2624

Also, The Centralina Economic Development District **Annual Board Meeting** will convene **on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held in person at Centralina Regional Council Office, located at 10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250, Charlotte NC, 28262. Refreshments will be served.

Time	Item	Presenter
4:00 p.m.	Call to Order	Candice Lowder
	Roll Call	
	Amendments to the Agenda (if any)	
Consent Business Items:		
4:05 p.m. Item 1 5 minutes <i>Page 4-5</i>	Approval of the January 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes The minutes from the January 18, 2024, meeting have been distributed to all members of the Centralina EDD Board for approval. Action/Recommendation: Motion to approve January 18 th meeting minutes.	Candice Lowder
Regular Business Items		
4:10 Item 2 20 minutes <i>Page 7-9</i>	CEDS Update & Regional Conversation Centralina EDD Board members and staff will recap items related to CEDS Implementation. Please be prepared to share how you are contributing to the work of the CEDS as part of the Around the Region reporting. Action/Recommendation: Receive information and share comments and suggestions for CEDS implementation and strategy alignment progress.	Christina Danis and Anna Lu Wilson
4:30 Item 3 10 minutes <i>Page 11-15</i>	FY25 Workplan and Budget Presentation CEDD team will present the FY25 workplan for approval and the Board will review and approve the FY24-25 placeholder budget and matching funds assessment rate and receive a quarterly financial update. Action/Recommendation Motion to approve the Centralina Economic Development District's FY24-25 work plan and FY24-25 place holder budget and matching funds assessment rates.	Christina Danis, and Anna Lu Wilson and Denise Strosser
4:40 Item 4 10 min <i>Page 17-18</i>	State and Federal Partners Report-EDPNC, SCRC Economic Development partners will provide updates on significant initiatives and important topics currently in progress. Action/Recommendation: Receive as information and share relevant CEDD Board member updates as part of the discussion.	Anna Lu Wilson, Melanie Underwood,



4/18/24
Centralina CEDD
Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 18, 2024
 Zoom Meeting
 Join by computer: [Meeting Link](#)
 Join by phone: Dial 929 436 2866 and enter
 Meeting ID: 873 3192 2624

Time	Item	Presenter
4:50 Item 5 30 mins <i>Page 20</i>	CEDS Goal Discussion CEDD Board members can provide feedback on the ongoing work and share ideas on addressing other CEDS recommendations and action items. Action/Recommendation Receive as information and Board interactive activity	Geraldine Gardner
5:20 5 mins	Reflections from Board and Staff	Candice Lowder
5:25 5 mins	Chairman Comments	Candice Lowder
5:30 5 mins	Adjournment	Candice Lowder

Centralina Economic Development District (EDD) complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Centralina EDD will make reasonable accommodations in all programs/services to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Centralina EDD's programs will be available in the most integrated setting for each individual. If any accommodation is necessary for participation, please contact the CED Board Administrator. 10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250 Charlotte, NC 28262, phone 704-348-2701 Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: www.centralinaedd.org.



Centralina
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Item 1



**Centralina Economic Development District
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2024**

Officer Present	Board Members Present	Centralina Staff and Guests Present
Cliff Brumfield, Chair Candice Lowder, Vice Chair Dr. Leslie Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer	Leigh Altman Jenn Bosser Cliff Brumfield Page Castrodale Rod Crider Better Doster Greg Edds Juan Garzón Ronne Grantham Donny Hicks Alan Kathman Bill Thunberg Melanie Underwood	Anna Lu Wilson Geraldine Gardner Christina Danis Narissa Claiborne Guests Mary Lou Bourne Rob Horton Deb Thomas Janet Labar

Call to Order

Chairman Cliff Brumfield called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Narissa Claiborne, Centralina Board Administrator called the roll and noted that a quorum was *not* present.

Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the July 20, and October 19, 2023, Centralina Economic Development District Meeting Minutes

2. Quarterly Financial Update and First Budget Amendment ending September 30 & December 31, 2023.

3. EDA Grant CEDs Annual Update Report

Regular Agenda

Item 4 . UNC Charlotte Welcome & NC Innovation Overview

Betty Doster, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for External Relations & Partnerships first introduced, Deb Thomas, Associate Vice Chancellor to the Board the great work the University of North Carolina Charlotte University is doing in research. Afterward, Ms. Doster introduced Mary Lou Bourne of NC Innovation as she shared information on NCInnovation and their new initiative with the University of North Carolina - Charlotte and how it will involve Centralina counties.

Item 5. CEDS Update & Regional Conversation

Centralina’s Community Economic Development Coordinator Anna Lu Wilson shared a recap with the Board and staff items related to CEDS Implementation, and Working Group Highlights, and engaged the Board in an Around the Region sharing report. Ms. Wilson also left the Board with a call to action to include the Centralina Economic Development District’s logo on their website.

Item 6. State and Federal Partners Report- EDA, SCRC

State and federal economic development partners Ronne Grantham shared a summary detailing the 2024 outlook or significant initiatives currently underway. Ronne Grantham, NCWorks Regional Operations Director shared specifically the initiative of the State’s Workforce Development Boards. Melanie Underwood shared the successes of North Carolina’s State Economic Development including state statistics and goals.

Item 7. Hot Topics- CICOM Tech Hubs Update

Mr. Greg Needham, Dr. Ed Morse, and Dr. Glenn Boreman shared with the Board items related to CICOM Tech Hubs and led the Board on a tour of the Precision Metrology Lab at UNCC College

Comments from the Chair

The next Centralina Economic Development District meeting will be held on April 18, 2024, which is the District’s Annual meeting held at the Centralina Office.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Cliff Brumfield adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.



Centralina
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Item 2



Centralina Economic Development District Cover Sheet

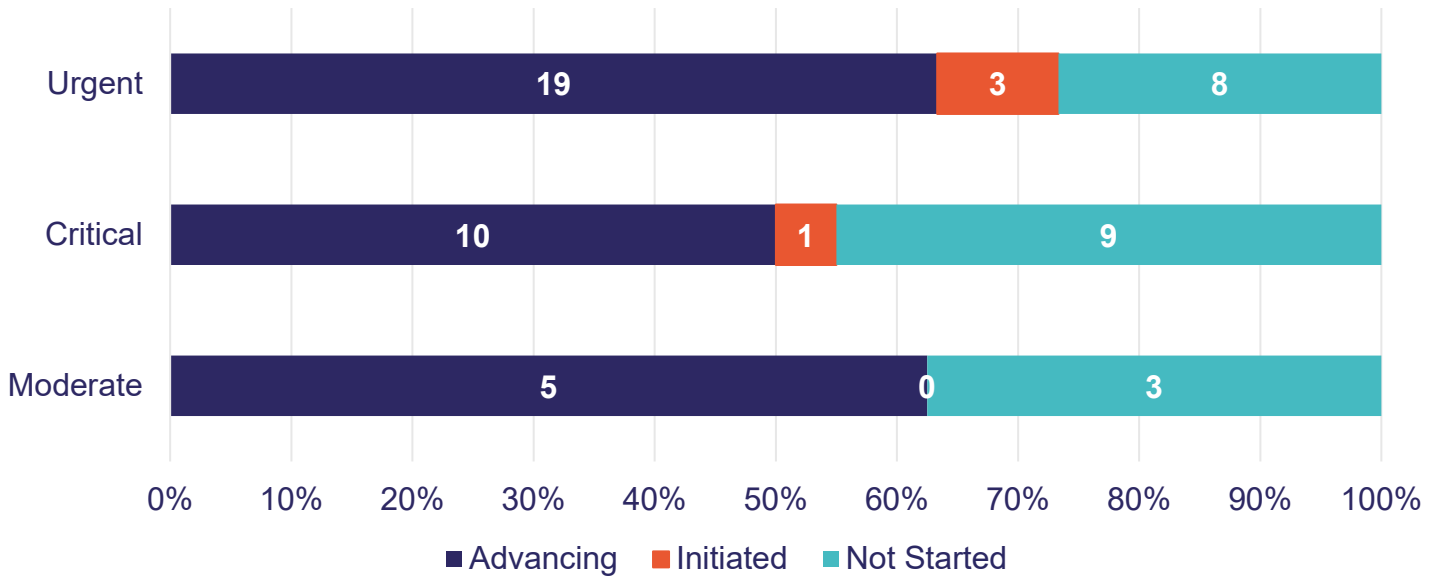
Board Meeting Date:	April 18, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Anna Lu Wilson	Presentation Time:	20 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Christina Danis	Phone Number:	704-385-4790			
		Email:	ccdanis@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Anna Lu Wilson	Phone Number:	704-385-4790			
		Email:	alwilson@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	CEDD Admin	Department Head Approval:	C. Danis			
Title: CEDS Update and Regional Conversation						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
<p>Centralina EDD staff will recap items related to CEDS Implementation of Goals 1, 2, & 3. Please be prepared to share how you are contributing to the work of the CEDS as part of the Regional Conversation.</p>						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>The Centralina EDD team is actively collaborating with partners to advance the <i>urgent</i> Recommendations and Action Items outlined in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). This report out includes information on Digital Equity Inclusion planning, the Role of Childcare forum, CONNECT Beyond initiative and the CICOM Tech Hub Strategy Development.</p> <p>The CEDS Dashboard provides an overview of the progress made on the identified initiatives and an overall visualization of the CEDS Goals, Recommendations, and performance metrics. Keeping the Centralina EDD Board members well-informed about the status of the CEDS Prosperity for All action items and progress contributes to the successful implementation of the strategic plan.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive information and share comments and suggestions for CEDS implementation and strategy alignment progress.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	CEDD Dashboard 04182024.pdf					

CEDS Implementation

March 2024

Quarterly Progress Report

CEDS Action Items Dashboard



In this quarter, updates to action items marked **Urgent** have increased by 5 (or 20%). This means items have changed from either *Initiated* or *Not Started* to *Advancing*. Considering all of the 58 action items listed in the CEDS, 38 are currently experiencing progress which is a significant rise from 28 last quarter.

Moreover, there are **4 Urgent** items requiring immediate attention because they have *Not Started* and need to see positive movement before June 2024 to maintain pace with the outlined objectives. Please take a moment to review the following action items and offer assistance with implementation if possible.

Prioritizing CEDS Urgent Action Items to Initiate

- **Promote connectivity** within region's entrepreneurial ecosystem through linkage of entrepreneurial resources, support groups and state-wide organizations such as NC IDEA
- **Support the regular leadership** convening of community colleges, universities and health care institutions to build networks and explore project specific collaborations.
- **Develop an anchor institution strategy** that identifies opportunities to enhance procurement, hiring, workforce development and other levels of inclusive growth
- **Seek economic development leader advocacy** for major transportation projects and support for competitive funding applications, even for projects that are located outside of a leader's county

Highlights & Accomplishments January – March 2024

Regional Engagement

- Centralina EDD hosted a forum to discuss the Role of Childcare in the NC Economy. There were 26 attendees from local government and economic development partners. **Goal 1 – 3.1**
- Centralina Workforce Development is participating in a Childcare working group as part of the Good Jobs Great Cities grant received by City of Monroe. **Goal 1 – 3.3**
- Centralina Planning hosted a Joint Roundtable Meeting between the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO and the Charlotte Regional TPO. There were 80 attendees from across the region. **Goal 2 - 2.1**
- In February Centralina hosted two FEMA Regional Disaster Recovery Financial Administration trainings supported by NCAROG to help municipalities improve pre-disaster resiliency, mitigation and post-disaster recovery efforts to assist local governments in managing funding assistance. **Goal 2 – 3.3**
- Centralina recently featured the progress of the EDA Tech Hub Strategy Development grant in the February issue of the Centralina Lines newsletter. **Goal 3 – 4.1**



Centralina
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Item 3



Centralina Economic Development District Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	April 18, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Anna Lu Wilson	Presentation Time:	10 minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Anna Lu Wilson, Denise Strosser	Phone Number:	704-385-4790			
		Email:	alwilson@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Anna Lu Wilson	Phone Number:	704-688-6502			
		Email:	cdanis@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	CEDD Admin	Department Head Approval:	C. Danis			
Title: FY25 Workplan Forecast & Budget Presentation						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
CEDD team will present the FY25 workplan for approval and the Board will review and approve the FY24-25 placeholder budget and matching funds assessment rate and receive a quarterly financial update.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>During this annual meeting, the Board reviews and approves the proposed FY25 work plan for future activities. The annual work plan is guided by the goals and objectives outlined in the EDA's planning grant to the Economic Development District. It serves as the support system for the CEDS and is aligned with the strategic priorities of the Centralina Regional Council.</p> <p>Additionally, the CEDD Board reviews and approves the District's annual placeholder budget. The projected revenue sources are matching funds (assessment rate), 2022-24 EDA Planning Grant, 2025-27 EDA Planning Grant, and Southeast Crescent Regional Commission Local Development District Grant.</p> <p>The proposed assessment rate remains unchanged for fiscal year 2025 and will be used to fund the required match of the EDA Planning Grants.</p> <p>The primary expenditures are personal costs and associated contracts for the EDD website regional economic data dashboard, contract services provided by Lightcast.</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Motion to approve the Centralina Economic Development District's FY24-25 work plan and FY24-25 place holder budget and matching funds assessment rates.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Approval of the workplan and budget is required because this is the last meeting prior to the start of the new fiscal year.					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	Proposed placeholder budget in the amount of \$189,045.					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	FY24-25 Proposed Budget and 3/31/2024 quarterly financials and Proposed FY24-25 Workplan.pdf					

Background

CEDD FY24-25 Workplan aligns with the current FY22-24 EDA Planning Grant requirements and works to achieve the following grant deliverables:

- Implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Region for the period of 2023-2028;
- Utilization of the CEDS and CEDS process to foster collaborative regional economic development efforts;
- Implementation of the Action Plan of the CEDS including grant writing, planning and technical assistance, other economic development assistance, training, travel and other related activities, if directly associated with CEDS Implementation;
- Coordination of federal, state, and local funds to optimize the implementation of the CEDS action plan and progress toward the attainment of regional goals, objectives and vision;
- Providing reports, data and regional information as requested by EDA in a timely manner;
- Supporting EDA outreach;
- Ensuring that the EDD complies with EDA regulations particularly those regarding eligibility, designation and CEDS;
- Completing Annual CEDS Updates, GPRA, Financial and Progress reporting.

FY25 Work Plan

July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

Goal 1: Lead regional collaboration in support of the CEDS planning and CEDS implementation.

- Foster cross-community collaboration through the CEDD Board, the regional Workforce Development Boards and the CEDS Working Group.
 - Facilitate Board and Stakeholder reporting of CEDS implementation activities in their networks and organizations.
- Track and communicate CEDS implementation activities and regional impact.
 - Monitor **tracking system for Performance Metrics** in CEDS and report out quarterly.
 - Utilize CEDS Workforce Development Boards, Working Groups and CEDD Board Briefings and staff related activities to inform Performance Metrics.
- Directly apply for or support stakeholder applications for federal and state funds to aid in CEDS implementation.
 - Collaborate with EDA Tech Hub (CICOM) consortium to advance the workforce development initiative for optics and precision metrology career pathways.

- Monitor Centralina’s State budget appropriations request for CEDS implementation.
- Specific Centralina Led Projects Aligned to CEDS Implementation:
 - Centralina Learns Series – professional development webinars to support business engagement leaders across workforce and economic development organizations by collaborating on talent solutions and addressing business needs. Supports **Recommendation 2.1**
 - MyFutureNC Engagement. Raise awareness about educational attainment through cross-sector collaboration between leaders in education, business, and government. Supports **Recommendation 2.6.**
 - The Role of Childcare – Southeast Crescent Regional Commission Local Development District Capacity Building Grant provides resources to explore childcare needs as it related to the economy and business growth. Supports **Recommendation 3.1**

Goal 2: Support continued regional implementation of critical infrastructure, mobility and resilience initiatives vital to economic recovery.

- Support Centralina Regional Council’s efforts to implement the CONNECT Beyond regional mobility plan and the Regional Freight Mobility Plan.
- Address the Digital Divide to ensure equity, economic mobility, and regional prosperity for all.
- Specific Centralina Led Projects Aligned to CEDS Implementation:
 - CONNECT Beyond -Implementation and Advancing the Plan Committee work supports **Recommendations 1.1-1.4**
 - Regional Digital Inclusion Plan- Begin implementing a strategy to counties to ensure all individuals have access to broadband and digital literacy skills. **Recommendation 5.2.**
 - North Carolina Association of Regional Councils of Government (NCARCOG) - Providing support services to local governments related to disaster recovery and resilience which supports **Recommendation 3.3.**
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grant– An EPA-funded program to develop an emission reduction plan and greenhouse gas action plan and encourage clean tech jobs the future will support **Recommendation 3.2.**

Goal 3: Administer the Centralina Economic Development District and support regional information sharing on US Commerce Dept./EDA.

- Serve as a bridge between regional stakeholders and the EDA by facilitating information and access.
 - Facilitate in-person regional meetings for EDA staff and learning events about EDA grants.
 - Participate in EDA Representative meetings and direct support.
 - Offer Centralina Learns events and EDA listening sessions.



- Provide technical assistance on federal funding applications and EDA grant administration services upon request.
 - Facilitate Letters of Support
 - Assist in identifying CEDS-related Goals and Recommendations aligned with partner applications.
- Enhance regional data portal and integrate with other Centralina data/mapping services.
 - Market new data services to members
 - eIMPACT/Lightcast dashboard updates
 - Regional clean tech economy jobs dashboard



CEDD Financial Statements and Proposed FY2025 Place Holder Budget
As of March 31, 2024

	FY24 Placeholder Budget	FY24 Proposed Amendment #1 9/30/2023	FY24 Proposed Amendment #2 12/31/2023	FY24 Actual 3/31/2024	FY25 Place Holder Budget
Assessment					
Anson County	1,133	1,133	1,133	1,133	1,133
Cabarrus County	8,450	8,450	8,450	8,450	8,450
Gaston County	6,553	6,553	6,553	6,553	6,553
Iredell County	7,872	7,872	7,872	7,872	7,872
Lincoln County	4,919	4,919	4,919	4,919	4,919
Mecklenburg County	30,150	30,150	30,150	30,150	30,150
Rowan County	4,878	4,878	4,878	4,878	4,878
Stanly County	3,407	3,407	3,407	3,407	3,407
Union County	8,516	8,516	8,516	8,516	8,516
City of Charlotte	28,822	28,822	28,822	28,822	28,822
Town of Mooresville	2,678	2,678	2,678	2,678	2,678
Total Equity Contributions for Matching	107,378	107,378	107,378	107,378	107,378
Other Income					
Grant Income					
EDA Planning Grant 2022-2024	70,000	72,949	72,949	59,730	36,000
EDA Planning Grant 2025-27	0	0	0	0	35,000
SCRC LDD Federal Revenue - FY24 allocation	0	21,333	21,333	15,201	10,667
SCRC LDD Federal Revenue - FY25 allocation	0	0	0	0	21,333
Total Grant Related Income	70,000	94,282	94,282	74,931	103,000
Total Income	177,378	201,660	201,660	182,309	210,378
Expenses					
CEDC/CEDS Administration	145,000	168,550	168,491	132,975	179,698
Contracted Services	28,000	28,000	28,000	1,300	28,000
Travel and Training	2,500	2,500	2,500	1,051	1,000
Meeting Related Cost	0	250	250	100	200
Software & Webhosting	1,500	1,000	1,000	22	1,000
Miscellaneous	378	1,360	1,419	114	480
Total Expenses	177,378	201,660	201,660	135,562	210,378
Change in Fund Balance	0	0	0	46,747	0
Less Fund balance allocated	0	0	0	(46,747)	0
Less deferred revenue	0	0	0	0	0
Net Change in Fund Balance	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Balance Beginning	45,391	45,391	45,391	45,391	45,391
Fund Balance Ending	45,391	45,391	45,391	45,391	45,391



Centralina

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Item 4

Centralina Economic Development District Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	April 18, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Anna Lu Wilson	Presentation Time:	10 Minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Anna Lu Wilson, Melanie Underwood,	Phone Number:	704-385-4790			
		Email:	alwilson@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Christina Danis	Phone Number:	704-688-6502			
		Email:	cdanis@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	CEDD Admin	Department Head Approval:	C. Danis			
Title: State and Federal Partners Report-EDPNC, SCRC						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
Economic Development partners will provide updates on significant initiatives and important topics currently in progress.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
<p>The Centralina EDD Board must stay informed about current state and federal programs that strategically align their impact with the ongoing efforts of the CEDDS.</p> <p>The EDD board is fortunate to have board members who represent workforce and economic development at the state level. In addition, the EDD team engages in federal-level work through the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) Local Development District (LDD).</p>						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive information and share relevant CEDD Board member updates as part of the discussion.						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	NC Commerce Workforce Update					



State of NC Workforce

Submitted by: Veronica Grantham, Regional Operations Director, Southwest Prosperity Zone, North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Solutions

- Andrea DeSantis named Assistant Secretary of Commerce for the NC Division of Workforce Solutions
 - Appointment is effective April 3, 2024
 - Succeeding Chet Mottershead, who is retiring at the end of April
 - Dr. DeSantis recently served as a Policy Advisor for Governor Cooper – focused on workforce development and higher education.
- Press release can be found at <https://www.commerce.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2024/04/03/andrea-desantis-named-assistant-secretary-commerce-nc-division-workforce-solutions>

April 4, 2024



Centralina

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Item 5

Centralina Economic Development District Cover Sheet

Board Meeting Date:	April 18, 2024	Agenda Item Type:	Consent:		Regular:	X
Submitting Person:	Anna Lu Wilson	Presentation Time:	30 Minutes			
Presenter at Meeting:	Geraldine Gardner	Phone Number:	704-351-7130			
		Email:	ggardner@centralina.org			
Alternate Contact:	Anna Lu Wilson	Phone Number:	704-385-4790			
		Email:	alwilson@centralina.org			
Submitting Department:	CEDD Admin	Department Head Approval:	C. Danis			
Title: CEDS Goal Discussion						
Description of Agenda Item: <i>(This wording will be used to summarize the item on the agenda cover page.)</i>						
CEDD Board members can provide feedback on the ongoing work and share ideas on addressing other CEDS recommendations and action items.						
Background & Basis of Recommendations:						
Over the last 15 months, the Centralina EDD team has been diligently progressing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) which defines a long-term vision and goals for fostering economic growth in the region. During our July 2023 meeting, board members identified priorities among these goals and recommendations. It is crucial to maintain a clear understanding of how these action items align with the work of board members and we continue to move forward with implementation.						
Requested Action / Recommendation:						
Receive as information and Board interactive activity						
Time Sensitivity: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Budget Impact: <i>(none or explain)</i>	None					
Attachments: <i>(none or list)</i>	None					