

Center Of the Region Enterprise

Mission

The mission of the Center Of the Region Enterprise, or CORE, is to bring together elected leaders and regional partners to:

- share information about development, infrastructure and green space plans and projects along the border between Wake and Durham Counties;
- provide guidance to staff on development, infrastructure, and green space issues; and
- initiate projects, programs, and agreements to address these issues.

Value

The CORE Work Group is a convenient opportunity for elected officials and senior planning staff to address issues of mutual interest and develop projects, programs, and agreements to address these issues.

Description

The CORE Communities Work Group:

- is a vehicle for communication and cooperation among its members and partners;
- may initiate projects to address issues of mutual interest;
- consists of up to two (2) representatives from each member jurisdiction, appointed by the governing boards of member jurisdictions;
- is an independent Work Group, not a committee of the Triangle J Council of Governments;
- relies on the planning directors or their designees to serve as liaisons between jurisdictions and with each community's elected officials and staff; and
- meets quarterly at the Triangle J Council of Governments with host responsibilities rotating among the member jurisdictions.

Partners

Member jurisdictions of the CORE Work Group are the Towns of Cary and Morrisville, Cities of Durham and Raleigh, and Durham and Wake Counties. Membership in the Work Group is distinct from participation in specific projects or agreements that might arise from Work Group discussions. Partner organizations that have participated in projects include the Research Triangle Foundation, the region's two Metropolitan Planning Organizations, GoTriangle, North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority, and Chatham County.

Management and Administration

The CORE Work Group is guided by its members. Representatives are appointed by their respective jurisdictions to the Work Group. Responsibility for chairing Work Group meetings rotates among the membership. The planning directors of the member jurisdictions have primary responsibility for Work Group activities; these responsibilities, which may be designated to a staff member, include:

- providing primary guidance on projects undertaken by the CORE Work Group,
- communicating with one another about plans and projects that affect neighboring jurisdictions,
- communicating with their elected officials and staff about Work Group meeting schedules and agendas – including host community responsibilities, and
- following through on guidance or requests provided by the Work Group elected officials.

Meetings are arranged by the Triangle J Council of Governments staff and held at the COG office. The COG staff also work with the planning directors or their designees on agenda items and to notify their elected officials and appropriate staff about the meetings.

Background

The genesis of the Work Group was a desire to determine rational annexation and utility service areas for Durham City, Raleigh, Durham County and Wake County along the Wake-Durham county line north of I-40. Work Group discussions led to the development of three types of agreements:

- an interlocal cooperation agreement among the member jurisdictions of the Work Group;
- an annexation agreement between the City of Durham and the City of Raleigh; and
- a model three-party utility agreement that can be used to establish the conditions of utility provision between a city (e.g. Durham or Raleigh), a county (Wake or Durham) and a developer.

Work Group members found the discussions productive and have continued meeting to share information about development and infrastructure projects near the county line and community plans related to development, transportation networks and facilities, green space, and other infrastructure.

The Work Group initiated the Center Of the Region Enterprise, or CORE, project to take a longer-term, comprehensive look at development, mobility and green space opportunities in the region's center; the *CORE Workshop Report* remains the framework for CORE activities. The Research Triangle Foundation, RDU, and MPOs were invited to participate in Work Group meetings because of their central role in development and infrastructure in the CORE area. GoTriangle, NCDOT, Chatham County, and organizations such as the Regional Transportation Alliance often attend meetings, which are open to all.

Staff Contacts

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