## TENTATIVE AGENDA & MEETING NOTICE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

## WATAUGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

	TIME	#	TOPIC	PRESENTER	PAGE
	5:30	1	CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER		
		2	APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 5, 2023, Regular Meeting December 5, 2023, Closed Session		1
		3	APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2023, AGENDA		11
	5:35	4	PUBLIC COMMENT  - Will last up to 1-hour dependent on number of speakers	CHAIRMAN TURNBOW	13
	5:40	5	NORTHERN PEAKS STATE TRAIL PROGRESS REPORT	MR. JORDAN SELLERS	15
	5:45	6	PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT MYFUTURENC ATTAINMENT GOAL	Dr. KIM CASE	25
	5:50	7	TAX MATTERS A. Monthly Collections Report B. Refunds and Releases	Mr. Larry Warren	63 65
	5:55	8	OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR DAVID GRAGG	MR. ERIC HESSLINK	71
	6:00	9	MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS A. Proposed Appalachian State University 911 Center B. Boards and Commissions C. Announcements	Mr. Deron Geouque	75 77 81
	6:05	10	Break		81
	6:10	11	CLOSED SESSION Attorney/Client Matters – G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3)		82
Ī	7:00	12	ADIOURN		

## **AGENDA ITEM 2:**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

December 5, 2023, Regular Meeting December 5, 2023, Closed Session



#### **MINUTES**

### WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

The Watauga County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting, as scheduled, on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. in the Commissioners' Board Room located in the Watauga County Administration Building, Boone, North Carolina.

Chairman Turnbow called the meeting to order at 5:36 P.M. The following were present:

PRESENT: Larry Turnbow, Chairman

Charlie Wallin, Vice-Chairman Todd Castle, Commissioner Braxton Eggers, Commissioner Ray Russell, Commissioner

Anthony di Santi, County Attorney

Andrea Capua, County Attorney (arrived at 5:54 P.M.)

Deron Geouque, County Manager Anita J. Fogle, Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Russell opened with a prayer and Commissioner Castle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Turnbow called for additions and/or corrections to the November 21, 2023, regular minutes and closed session minutes.

Commissioner Castle, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wallin, moved to approve the November 21, 2023, regular meeting minutes as presented.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

Commissioner Castle, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wallin, moved to approve the November 21, 2023, closed session minutes as presented.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Turnbow called for additions and/or corrections to the December 5, 2023, agenda.

County Manager Geouque requested to add an out-of-state travel request from Parks and Recreation to Miscellaneous Administrative Matters.

Commissioner Russell, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wallin, moved to approve the December 5, 2023, agenda as amended.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

### **BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

#### A. Election of Officers

County Manager Geouque called for nominations for Chairman.

Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to nominate Commissioner Turnbow for Chairman of the Watauga County Board of Commissioners.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

The meeting was turned over to Chairman Turnbow.

Chairman Turnbow called for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Chairman Turnbow, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to nominate Commissioner Wallin for Vice-Chairman of the Watauga County Board of Commissioners.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### B. Staff Appointments

Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to reappoint the following:

- Deron Geouque as the County Manager
- Anita Fogle as Clerk to the Board
- Monica Harrison and Macy Chirco as Substitute Clerks to the Board
- di Santi, Capua, & Garrett as the Law Firm representing Watauga County as legal counsel for Watauga County
- di Santi, Capua, & Garrett as the Law Firm representing as legal counsel for Watauga County Department of Social Services and the Child Support Enforcement Offices with rates to remain as current and authorized di Santi, Capua, & Garrett to appoint another attorney, at the same rate, in the event their firm had a conflict of interest.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### C. Fidelity Bonds

The following individual fidelity bonds were presented for approval:

<u>Position</u>	Bond Amount	Statutory Requirement
Finance Director	\$1,000,000	No less than \$50,000, per NCGS 159-29
Deputy Finance Director (County Manager)	\$50,000	
Tax Collector	\$50,000	Amount considered reasonable by BCC, NCGS 105-349-c
Register of Deeds	\$50,000	At least \$10,000 but no more than \$50,000, NCGS 161-4
Sheriff	\$25,000	Amount considered reasonable by BCC, but no more than \$25,000 max, NCGS 162-8

Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Castle, moved to approve the individual fidelity bonds as presented and to approve the Finance Director, County Manager, and Chairman of the Board of Commissioners as the authorized signers for disbursements on all County accounts and to approve additional signers and Deputy Finance Officers, on the Inmate Commissary account only, as Randy Greene, James Sharpe, Barry Trivette, and Michael Brown and to approve the official depositories of the County as First National Bank, Truist Bank, NC Capital Management Trust Fund, and Multi-Bank Securities, Inc.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### D. Commissioner Appointments to Boards & Commissions

Chairman Turnbow requested Commissioners review the below list of Commissioner Board appointments, with Commissioner Russell now the representative to the High Country Council of Governments Boards, and let him know preferences for serving.

Board/Commission	Member
Appalachian District Health Department	Castle
Appalachian Theatre Board of Trustees Ex-Officio Member	Wallin
AppalCART Authority	Wallin
Blue Ridge Resource Conservation & Development Area	Turnbow
Caldwell Community College &Technical Institute - Watauga Advisory Board	Eggers
Children's Council	Castle
Child Protection Team	Russell
Cooperative Extension Advisory Leadership Board	Castle
Economic Development Commission (EDC)	Turnbow

Board/Commission	Member
Educational Planning Committee (2 appointees)	Wallin & Russell
EMS Advisory Committee	Castle
High Country Council of Governments Executive Board Rural Transportation Advisory Committee	Russell
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)	Russell
Humane Society	Turnbow
Library Board	Eggers
Motor Vehicle Valuation Review Committee	ВСС
New River Service Authority Board	Wallin
Northwest Regional Housing Authority (five-year term expires Dec. 12, 2024)	Pat Vines
POA Advisory Committee (Home & Community Care Block Grant)	Eggers
Sheriff's Office Liaison	Turnbow
Vaya Regional Board (Region 3)	Russell & Wallin
Social Services Advisory Board	Wallin
Watauga County Arts Council (added February 2020)	Eggers
Watauga County Fire Commission	Turnbow
Watauga County Personnel Advisory Committee	Chair or Vice-Chair
Watauga County Recreation Commission	Russell
Watauga Medical Center Board of Trustees	Russell
W.A.M.Y. Community Action	Wallin
Watauga Opportunities, Inc.	Turnbow
Workforce Development Board (WDB)	Chairman

Commissioner Eggers stated that the Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI) Board no longer met and should be removed from the list. Commissioner Russell questioned having no direct line of communication with the CCC&TI. County Manager Geouque stated that the CCC&TI Board invited the Board of Commissioners to attend a joint meeting twice a year and reminded the Board that Dr. Mark Poarch, Executive Director of CCC&TI always made himself available to the Board and County Manager for questions. Commissioner Russell requested, due to the amount of money the CCC&TI receives from the County, an Advisory Board be reestablished. County Manager Geouque stated that he would contact Dr. Poarch with the concerns.

Chairman Turnbow appointed representatives to the above Boards and Commissions as presented.

#### E. Regular Meeting Schedule

Chairman Turnbow stated that the Board of Commissioners' regular meetings were currently scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 P.M.

Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to retain the regular meeting schedule for the Watauga County Board of Commissioners as follows: the first Tuesday and third Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 P.M.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

County Manager Geouque reminded the Board that the first December meeting in even numbered years had to be rescheduled to the first Monday.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## BID AWARD REQUEST FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION STREAMFLOW REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (STRAP) FOR THE STONE MOUNTAIN BRANCH PROJECT

In July of 2022, the Board accepted a contract with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences for \$159,750 under StRAP. Previous projects have been awarded under this contract.

Ms. Mikey Woodie, Soil and Water Conservation, presented the following bids received for the fourth project under the StRAP Program which is the Stone Mountain Branch Stream Debris Removal Project.

List of Bidding Contractors	Contractor Location	Total Bid Amount	Meets License and Insurance Requirements
W. Brown Construction, LLC	Eastbend, NC	\$60,000	Yes
Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC	Greenville, SC	\$132,180	Yes
WMF Land Service, LLC	Clyde, NC	\$38,889	Yes
Hicks Construction Enterprises Inc.	Sugar Grove, NC	\$52,000	Yes

Ms. Woodie recommended the bid be awarded to WMF Land Service, LLC, in the amount of \$38,889. The award of this project would leave \$28,150 remaining of the \$159,750 awarded initially in the 2022 StreamFlow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) contract which would leave funds for one final project. No County funds were required.

Commissioner Russell, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wallin, moved to award the bid to WMF Land Service, LLC in the amount of \$38,889 from the StreamFlow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) contract for the Stone Mountain Branch Stream Debris Removal Project.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

## FY 2024 SENIOR'S HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION PROGRAM (SHIIP) GRANT/CONTRACT

Ms. Angie Boitnotte, Project on Aging Director, requested acceptance of the grant from the Senior's Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) which was a division of the North Carolina Department of Insurance. The grant was in the amount of \$8,310 and does not require any County match. The funds would be used to conduct outreach, provide open enrollment for Medicare Part D, a volunteer recognition event, counseling clinics, expand Low Income Subsidy (LIS) outreach and enrollment, and the cost of the SHIIP Coordinator's attendance at the SHIIP Coordinator's Training Conference.

Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, moved to accept the grant from the Senior's Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) in the amount of \$8,310 with no County match.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

### MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### A. Parks and Recreation Out-of-State Travel Request

County Manager Geouque requested for Mr. Craig Lands, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, to travel out-of-state to Pigeon Forge, TN, for a trip with senior citizens.

Commissioner Castle, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, moved to approve the out-of-state travel request as presented by the County Manager.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### B. January Meeting Schedule

County Manager Geouque stated that the Board has traditionally cancelled one of the meetings in either December or January depending on how the holidays have fallen. Due to where Christmas

and New Year's fall during the week, staff would recommend the Board cancel the first meeting in January as there would be insufficient time to prepare the Board packets. Historically, December and the first weeks in January have few issues requiring Board action; however, a special meeting could be called if needed prior to the second meeting in January.

Commissioner Castle, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to cancel the January 2, 2024, Board of County Commissioners meeting.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### C. Boards and Commissions

County Manager Geouque presented the following:

#### Watauga Medical Center Board of Trustees

The Watauga Medical Center Board of Trustees has recommended Dr. Paul Dagher, Ms. Meagan Phillips, and Ms. Mary Louise Roberts for reappointment as Board Trustees. Each of their terms would be effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. These are first readings.

Commissioner Russell, who serves on the Watauga Medical Center Board of Trustees, stated that he was honored to have served with each of these who have performed excellent work as Trustees.

Commissioner Russell, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, moved to waive the second reading and reappoint Dr. Paul Dagher, Ms. Meagan Phillips, and Ms. Mary Louise Roberts to serve three-year terms, beginning on January 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2026, on the Watauga Medical Center Board of Trustees.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

#### D. Announcements

County Manager Geouque announced that the Annual Employee Christmas Lunch would be held at Dan'l Boone Inn on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, from 11:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The first lunch group would begin at 11:30 A.M. and the second lunch group would begin at 1:00 P.M.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 6:07 P.M., Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to enter Closed Session to discuss Attorney/Client Matters, per G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0 Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Russell, moved to resume the open meeting at 6:58 P.M.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

## **ADJOURN**

Vice-Chairman Wallin, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 P.M.

VOTE: Aye-5 Nay-0

Larry Turnbow, Chairman

ATTEST:

Anita J. Fogle, Clerk to the Board

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## **AGENDA ITEM 3:**

## APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2023, AGENDA

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## **AGENDA ITEM 4:**

## PUBLIC COMMENT

## **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Public Comment will last up to 1-hour dependent upon the number of speakers.

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### **AGENDA ITEM 5:**

## NORTHERN PEAKS STATE TRAIL PROGRESS REPORT

## **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Mr. Jordan Sellers, Blue Ridge Conservancy, will update the Board on the Northern Peaks State Trail Project.

The presentation is for information only; therefore, no action is required at this time.

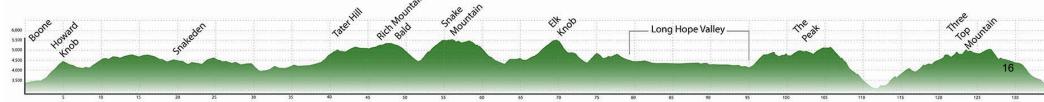
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## The Big Picture

- The Northern Peaks State Trail (NPST) will stretch from Boone to West Jefferson.
- The NPST will traverse the Northern Peaks, also known as the Amphibolite Mountains, which divide the New River and Watauga River watersheds.
- The Amphibolite Mountains include Howard Knob, Snake Mountain, Elk Knob, The Peak,

Three Top Mountain, Paddy Mountain, and Mount Jefferson.

• The final route has yet to be determined, but the NPST will only go through land managed or owned by willing and cooperative landowners. This could include State Parks, NC Game Lands, town and county properties, and private trail easements, etc.

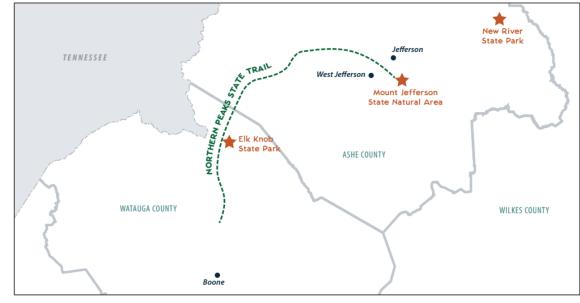
Connect fragmented wildlife habitat Connect habitat and expand the corridor of protected land along the Amphibolites, which are home to nationally-significant ecological areas.

## Connect visitors and dollars to the High Country

The NPST will be the premier hiking trail of NW NC. In NC, regional and state trails directly contribute millions of dollars to local businesses, including retail shops, hotels, and restaurants.

## Connect people to nature and the importance of conservation

The NPST will seek to educate users about invasive species, what makes the Amphibolites unique, and how to practice *Leave No Trace* Principles.





The Nature of the NPST is Connectivity.





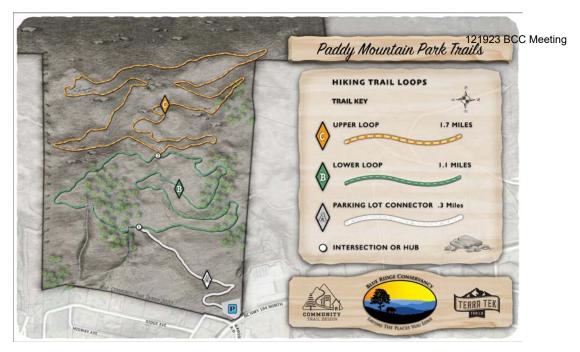




## **Paddy Mountain Park**

- 1. Interlocal agreement with West Jefferson and Ashe County
- 2. Awarded \$100,000 Recreational Trails Program Grant for trails construction.
- 3. Awarded \$500,000 NC Parks and Rec Trust Fund Grant for park infrastructure.
- 4. \$90,000 pledge from West Jefferson and Ashe County for park.
- 5. \$250,000 direct appropriation to West Jefferson for Paddy from NC General Assembly in 2023 NC Budget
- 6. Celebrated groundbreaking for Trail Town Weekend.
- 7. Received all permits for trail construction.
- 8. Trail construction beginning 11/6. Rough estimate is 3-4 months for construction.
- 9. Submitting permits for park infrastructure, aiming for groundbreaking as soon as possible in 2024.

















## **Elk Knob State Park**

### Fall 2022, PARTF Award for \$3.4 million to ELKN

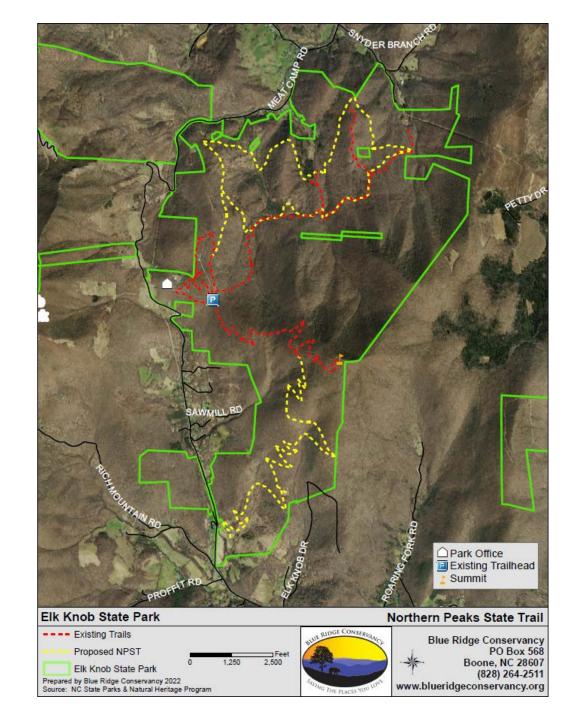
- 1. Northside new 4-5 mile loop construction, existing Backcountry Trail renovations.
- 2. Existing Summit Trail renovations.
- 3. Southside trail head, parking lot, vehicular bridge, restrooms, pavilion, and Southside Approach Trail.

## **Next Steps**

- Completed biological survey on Northside loop and Southside trail.
- 2. Flagging Northside loop with State Parks.
- 3. Goal to break ground on Northside in Spring 2024.
- 4. Summit trail has been renovated for drainage issues.
- All else is TBD.



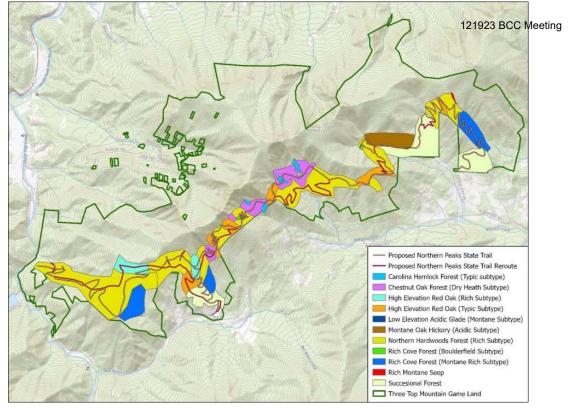






# Three Top Mountain Game Land

- 1. NHP biological study complete.
- 2. Signed contract with trail builder.
- 3. Beginning permitting ASAP.
- 4. Goal to roll from Paddy Mountain to Three Top for trail construction.
- 5. Utilizing NPST's Complete the Trails Program funding for Three Top Mountain.
- 6. NCWRC will move and expand Saddle Gap parking area.
- 7. NPST/BRC will manage the creation of a second parking lot at Ben Bolen, in order to separate hunter and hiker parking.
- 8. Anticipated trail completion is 2025 or 2026.









## **Rivers Street Park**

- 1. Applied for Blue Ridge Energy Community Foundation Grant for Rivers Street Park.
- 2. Town of Boone unanimously passed a resolution in support of the NPST at Rivers St Park proposal
- 3. Preparing for a 2024 Recreational Trails Program Grant with the Town of Boone
- 4. The plan is ~1 mile of hiking trail and Southern NPST Terminus







- BRC awarded two grants to purchase ~48 acres on the northside of The Peak.
- This will expand trail corridor and add to Elk Knob State Park.
- Current acquisition focus is between Elk Knob and The Peak as this will result in nearly half of the NPST corridor.
- Acquisition at Mount Jefferson and Howard Knob also very important.

## **Community Engagement**

- Resolutions of support from Ashe, Boone, Jefferson,
   Watauga, West Jefferson.
- YOTT Proclamations from Ashe, Boone, Watauga, West Jefferson.
- Trail Town Weekend in West Jefferson.
- NPST Hiking Monthly Hiking Series "Amphibo-Hikes."
- NPST social media accounts on Instagram and Facebook.

- NPST Capital Fund (BRC fundraised): ~\$100,000
- Complete the Trail Program NPST allocation
   "\$489,000 (all of which is earmarked for Three Top Mountain).
- New "Great Trails State Fund" established in 2023 NC Budget. Will be another option for trail funding.

## **Moving Forward**

 Priority is to fund feasibility studies for two crucial connections: West Jefferson to Jefferson and Downtown Boone to Howard Knob.





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### **AGENDA ITEM 6:**

## PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT MYFUTURENC ATTAINMENT GOAL

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Dr. Case, MyFutureNC, will request the Board adopt the enclosed resolution regarding educational attainment and credentialing.

Board action is required to adopt the resolution as presented.



#### **COUNTY OF WATAUGA**

#### Resolution to Support the myFutureNC Attainment Goal

WHEREAS, myFutureNC is a statewide non-profit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business and government; and

**WHEREAS,** North Carolina has the goal that 2 million North Carolinians will have a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030; and

**WHEREAS,** Watauga County is committed to ensuring that 79% of individuals ages 25 - 44 have a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030; and

**WHEREAS,** Watauga County, along with other key partners, will help advance the educational attainment of students in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS,** Watauga County agrees that North Carolina faces a gap between the projected needs for citizens with high-quality credentials or postsecondary degrees and the attainment of those high-quality credentials or postsecondary degrees.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Watauga County supports and endorses the attainment goal of myFutureNC that 2 million North Carolinians should have a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030; and

Watauga County supports and adopts the local educational attainment goal of 13,384 individuals with a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030 in Watauga County; and

Watauga County along with leaders in business, education, state and local government, and community organizations will continue to foster collaboration to achieve the goal by developing an action plan, defining success with measurable outcomes, executing on the action plan, and sharing successful practices with MyFutureNC and peer communities.

ADOPTED by the Watauga Cou	nty Board of Commissioners on this, day of	, 20 <u> </u>
ATTEST:	Larry Turnbow, Chairman Watauga County Board of Commissioners	
 Anita J. Fogle, Clerk to the Board	_	

## myFUTURENC 2 million by 2030



## **Watauga County Commissioner**

December 19, 2023



# myFUTURENC

## House Bill 664

To ensure that the State remains economically competitive, the State shall ensure that by the year **2030**:

# 2 MILLION

25- to 44-year-olds will have completed a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree



## myFutureNC LEADERSHIP

Governed by a cross-sector board of directors comprised of NC education sector heads, policymakers, philanthropists, and business leaders. Additionally, the myFutureNC Advisory Board of Commissioners includes 59 individuals representing 36 North Carolina counties.



## **Advisory Board of Commissioners**

- Dr. Mark Poarch, President, CCC&TI
- Mr. Michael LaBrose, Commissioner, Caldwell County
- Dr. Todd Roberts, Chancellor, NC School of Science and Mathematics
- Mr. Jeff Toner, Owner, James Tool Machine & Engineering, Burke County

121923 BCC Meeting

## **Board of Directors**

John A. Fraley, Chair
Lynn Good, Vice-Chair
MC Belk Pilon, Secretary and Treasurer

Deanna Ballard Kathryn Black Marshall Cherry Dr. Jeff Cox John F.A.V. Cecil **Geoff Coltrane** Eric C. Davis Ann Goodnight Peter Hans Kevin Howell Rep. Donny Lambeth Senator Michael Lee **David Mounts Gonzales** Anna Spangler Nelson Gary Salamido Machelle Baker Sanders Catherine Truitt

Dr. A. Hope Williams

## North Carolina repeats as America's Top State for Business in 2023





Last year's performance includes the creation of nearly 29,000 new jobs and \$19.3 billion in investments — the result of statewide collaboration, partnership, and hard work by our economic development community, including but not limited to ...

- myFutureNC
- North Carolina Community College System
- North Carolina Regional Councils of Governments
- North Carolina's 20 Local Workforce Development Boards
- North Carolina's 100 Counties
- North Carolina's 552 Municipalities
- The University of North Carolina

statement from Commerce Secretary Machelle Baker Sanders (LINK)

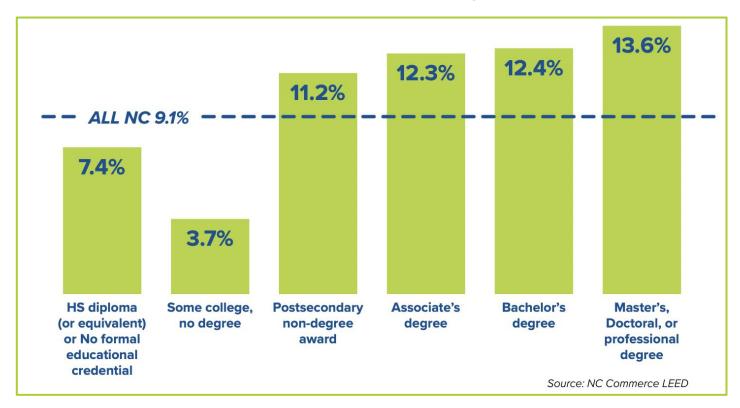






## MINIMUM EDUCATION LEVELS FOR FUTURE NC JOBS

## The majority of NC occupations will require post-secondary education in the form of credentials or degrees.











## UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES

332,103

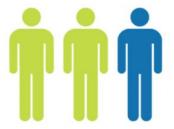
**job openings** in North Carolina (as of August 2023)



of North Carolinians aged 35-44 did not earn a **family-sustaining wage** in 2021

# 1.2 million

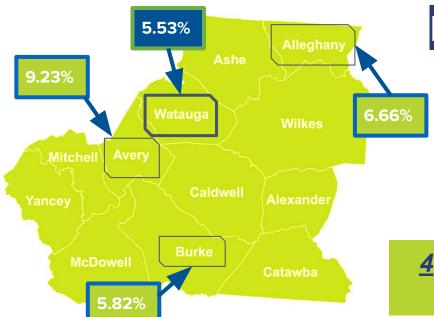
North Carolinians aged 25-44
without a postsecondary degree
or credential as of 2021



**Nearly 2 in 3** prospective students identify cost as a top barrier to enrollment



## **COUNTY ATTAINMENT GAINS (2018 - 2021)**



## Educational Attainment: Adults Ages 25-44

- **▶ Population declined 1%** (2018-2021)
- # of individuals holding postsecondary degree
   or credential grew 8% in same period.

<u>4</u> - NW Prosperity Zone counties with +5% increases over 3 years <u>16</u> - NC counties with +5% increases

	Total population (aged 25-44)	Do not hold a degree/credential	Hold a degree/credential
2018	142,046	85,670	56,376
2021	140,670	79,551	61,119
Net change	(1,376)	(6,119)	4,743
Percent change	-0.97%	-7.14%	8.41%





## **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: 25-44 year olds**

North Carolina: 57% with | 43% without

## Northwest Prosperity Zone



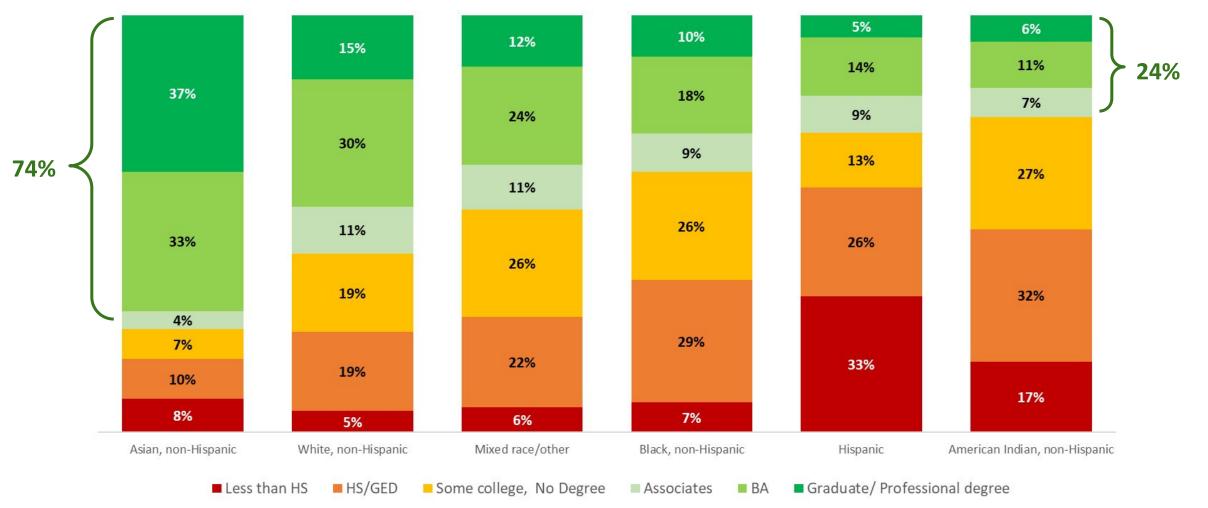
% of residents aged 25-44 with/without a postsecondary degree/credential	With	Without
Alexander County	35%	65%
Alleghany County	33%	67%
Ashe County	43%	57%
Avery County	40%	60%
Burke County	38%	62%
Caldwell County	38%	62%
Catawba County	47%	53%
McDowell County	40%	60%
Mitchell County	42%	58%
Watauga County	68%	32%
Wilkes County	41%	59%
Yancey County	39%	61%

Approximately **329,000**North Carolinians aged
25-44
have some college, but
no degree.

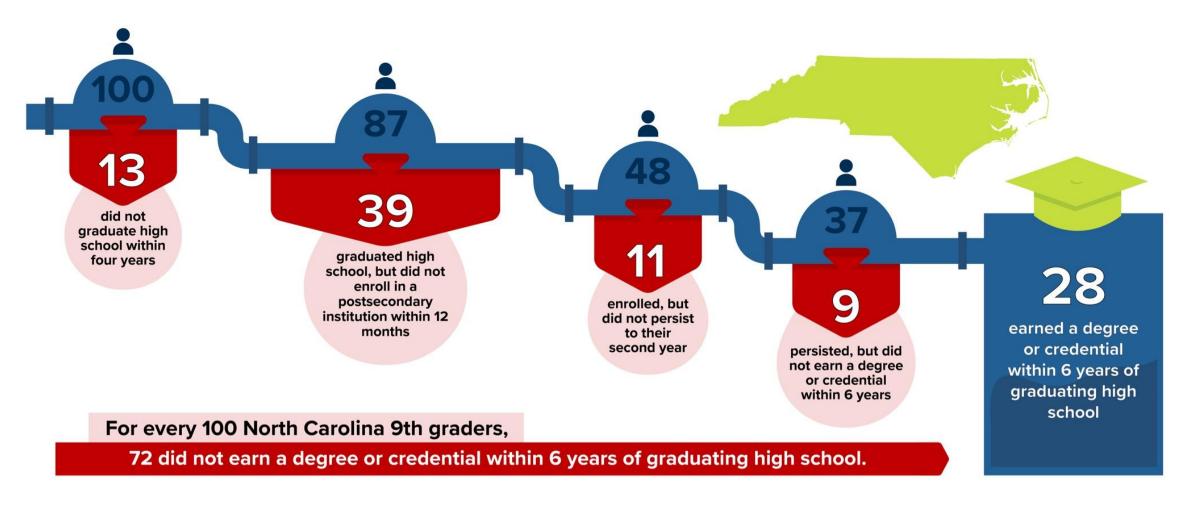
22,386 in the Northwest Region

## **TRACKING TOWARDS 2 MILLION BY 2030**

## 2021 Attainment by race/ethnicity of North Carolinians 25-44-year-olds



# **LEAKY PIPELINE**





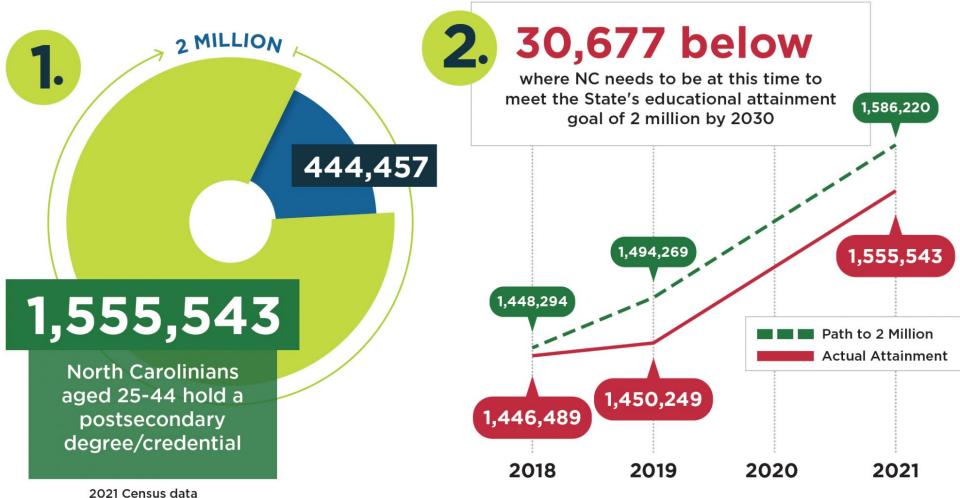
# The Leaky Pipeline

	On-time High School	On-time postsecondary	If enroll coll	ege on-time	
	Graduation Rate	enrollment rate	Persist to 2nd Year	Graduate within 6	
Alexander County	87%	52%	78%	64%	29
Alleghany County	88%	59%	77%	53%	27
Ashe County	85%	52%	78%	56%	25
Avery County	90%	62%	74%	65%	36
Burke County	91%	50%	77%	59%	27
Caldwell County	87%	54%	77%	62%	29
Catawba County	87%	55%	74%	65%	31
McDowell County	85%	43%	65%	59%	21
Mitchell County	76%	55%	83%	58%	24
Watauga County	92%	60%	81%	68%	37
Wilkes County	89%	53%	77%	59%	28
Yancey County	88%	44%	72%	65%	25



Of 100 9th graders, how many would graduate high school on-time, going to college on-time, and earn a degree or credential within 6 years?

# **TRACKING TOWARDS 2 MILLION BY 2030**





# Locally Owned & Driven Work = 2 million by 2030

How might we collaborate to increase our collective impact?

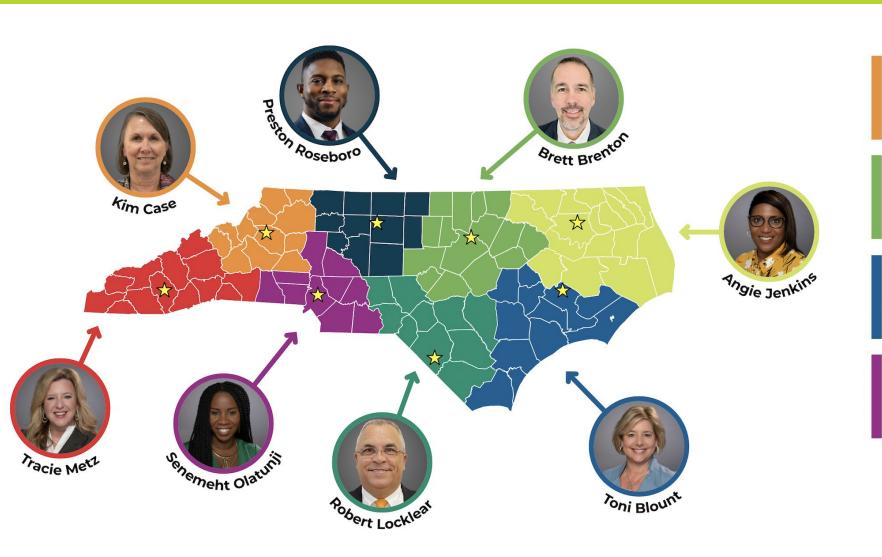




Chief Keith, CCC&TI
Watauga Campus



# REGIONAL IMPACT MANAGERS



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NORTHEAST Dr. Angie Jenkins angie@myfuturenc.org (252) 287-8991

SANDHILLS Dr. Robert Locklear robert@myfuturenc.org (910) 374-5728

WEST Dr. Tracie Metz tracie@myfuturenc.org (828) 226-3049





# We believe a better educated North Carolina is the key to economic prosperity and upward mobility for all citizens.

# AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

# To achieve our goal, myFutureNC will:

- Accelerate Action
- Monitor & Report Progress
- Identify & Advocate for Policy Solutions

79%

Voter

### Population Spotlight

2010 Census: 9.535.483 2020 Census: 10,439,388 Change: 903,905













Broadband (2020)



4.8%

Unemploymen

Rate (2021)

### **Educational Attainment**

North Carolina residents ages 25-44, 2021





26% 14%

Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding

### **Top Opportunities** for Growth

These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for North Carolina to improve future attainment outcomes



college-and-career-ready scores in Math is



Increasing the number of 3-8 graders earning Increasing the number of 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K is one of the three biggest one of the three biggest opportunity areas for opportunity areas for 35 counties



### **Transition to Postsecondary**

Increasing the number of high school seniors enrolling in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 30 counties

### Impact of Covid-19 on **Education Pipeline**

Covid-19 has affected critical transition points along the education continuum

K-12 Enrollment (district schools) -3.4% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Nostsecondary Enrollment -6.2% 2021 vs. 2020

### ► FAFSA Completion -3.4% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Nostsecondary Intentions -5.3% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

### Data Disruptions

· College-and-Career-Ready in Reading · College-and-Career Ready in Math Chronic Absenteeism



### How students in North Carolina traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year North Carolina needs:

(level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 87% vs. 32%), 2022

complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%)

- · 14,245 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal:
- · 278,954 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 29%). 2022 · 339,640 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores
- 8,667 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 87%), 2021
- 213,622 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 27%), 2021
- North Carolina has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 321:1.

## 58% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022. (20.839 more need to

- https://www.mvfuturenc.org/ourwork/first-in-fafsa • 75% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary
- 55% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12



49% of North Carolina students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-vacs)

**School Choice** 1,779,410 total students were enrolled in K-12 in North Carolina in the 2021-22 school

Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.





### **Career and College Preparation** 67,484 high school





32,458 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (32%) (2021)

Students in North Carolina completed 53,728 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science: Human Services: and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in North Carolina, 2021 Overall Female Black Hispanic White Low-Income Not Low-Income

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed

# **2022 COUNTY ATTAINMENT PROFILES**

- 100 Unique County Attainment Profiles
- Local Performance on Key Indicators
- Recommended Local Goals
- Opportunities for Growth

**WEB LINK** qrco.de/dataresources

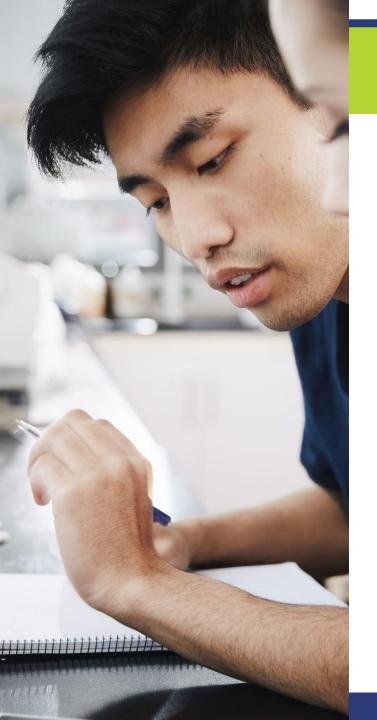








121923 BCC Meeting



# FOUR KEY TRANSITION AREAS

### **Academic Readiness**

Building the foundation Pre-K to 12; high-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.

### **College & Career Access**

Activities that prepare students to navigate the transition to postsecondary include gaining experience in college-level coursework and applying for financial assistance.

### **Postsecondary Completion**

Student progression and educational attainment from high school graduation to postsecondary completion.

### **Labor Market Alignment**

Alignment between the skills of college graduates and the needs of North Carolina employers.

### **Postsecondary Foundations for Success**

- **Broadband** access, affordability, and adoption
- Data analysis of key performance indicators for educational attainment

# 18 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



	2025 Goal	2030 Goal	Current date	a Year, Source
ACADEMIC READINESS				
NC Pre-K Enrollment	62%	75%	51%	2022, NCDHHS
College-and-Career-Ready   Reading	62%	73%	31%	2023, DPI
NAEP 4th Grade Reading	41%	42%	32%	2022, NCES
College-and-Career-Ready   Math	71%	86%	35%	2023, DPI
NAEP 8th Grade Math	39%	42%	25%	2022, NCES
COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS				
Chronic Absenteeism	13%	11%	31%	2022, DPI
High School Graduation	92%	95%	86%	2023, DPI
Act Performance	66%	70%	43%	2023, DPI
FAFSA Completion	72%	80%	62%	2023, NCSEAA
Postsecondary Enrollment	44%	47%	40%	2021, Census
POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION				= 5
First Year Persistence Rate	79%	80%	75%	2022, NSC
Postsecondary Completion Rate: 4 Ye	78%	80%	77%	2022, NSC
Postsecondary Completion Rate: 4 Ye	77%	80%	75%	2022, NSC
Postsecondary Completion Rate: 2 Ye	46%	45%	48%	2022, NSC
WORKFORCE ALIGNMENT				
Labor Market Alignment	84%	85%	84%	2021, NC Commerce
% Opportunity Youth	10%	9%	12%	2021, Census
Labor Market Participation Rate	85%	86%	83%	2021, Census
Family-Sustaining Wage	60%	66%	57%	2021, Census

### **LEGEND**

Met/Exceeded 2025 Goals

1-5% Away from 2025 Goal

6-10% Away from 2025 Goal

11%+ Away from 2025 Goal



# 2022 COUNTY PROFILES - OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

- Adult & Non-Traditional Learners
- Chronic Absenteeism
- College & Career-Ready in Math
- College & Career-Ready in Reading
- Opportunity Youth
- Earning College Credit in High School
- FAFSA Completion

- First-Year Persistence
- NC Pre-K Enrollment
- Postsecondary Completion
- School Counselors
- Transition to Postsecondary
   (On-Time College Enrollment)
- High School Graduation

# WHY FAFSA MATTERS TO 2 MILLION BY 2030

# **Transition to Postsecondary**

- FAFSA completion required for Federal Pell & state need-based grants and some scholarships.
- NC leaves over \$100 million in Federal unclaimed dollars on the table each year.
- 88% of high school seniors who complete a FAFSA attend college, compared to 49% of students who do not.

















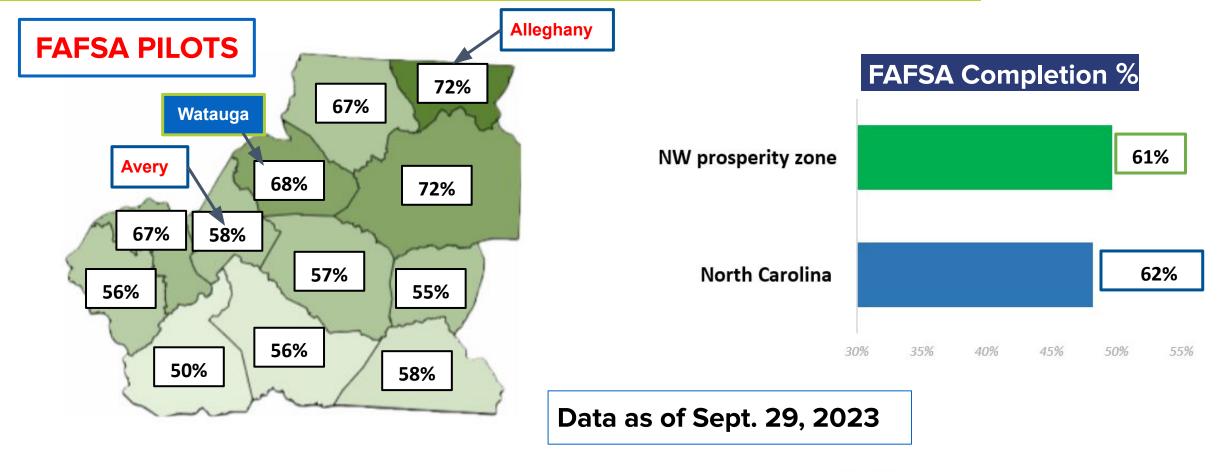




UNLOCK THE OPPORTUNITIES



# **FAFSA Completions and Spring '23 Pilots**









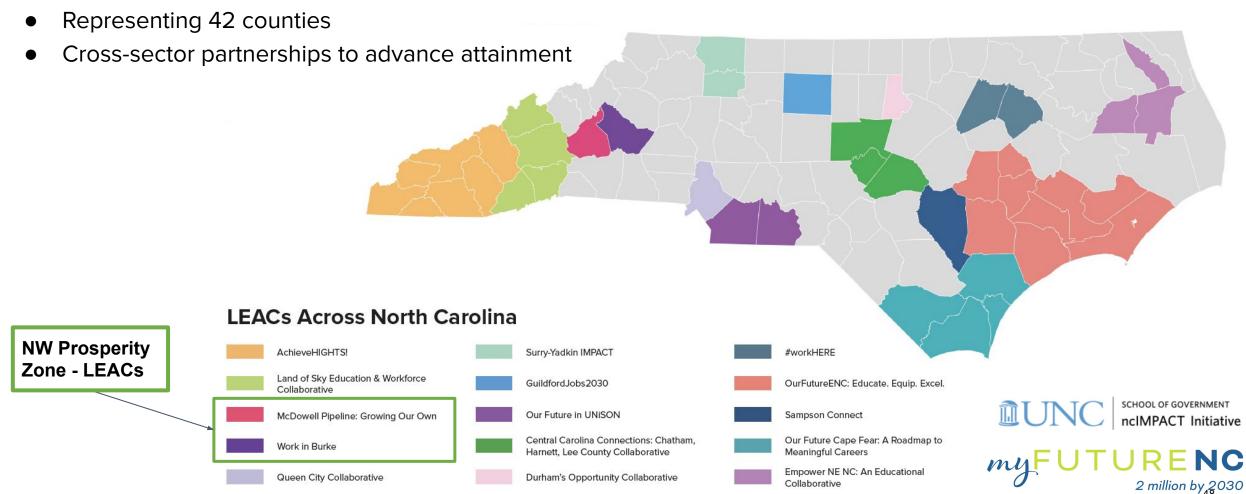






# LOCAL EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT COLLABORATIVES (LEAC)

15 Local Educational Attainment Collaboratives (LEAC)



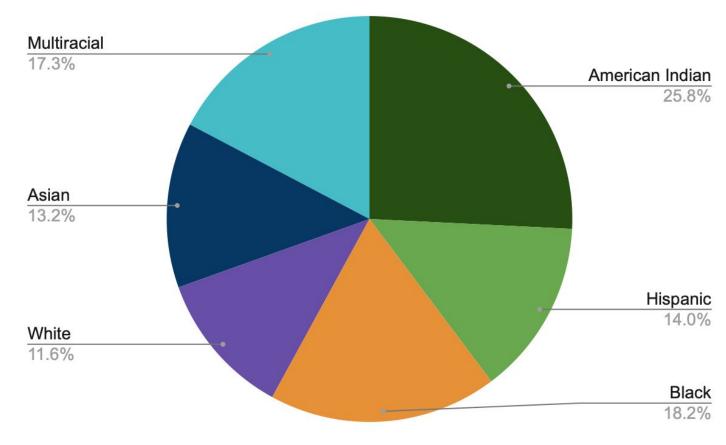
## **OPPORTUNITY YOUTH**

Opportunity youth are teen and young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are not enrolled in school or working.

# 1 in every 9

16 to 24-year-olds is not in school or working.

# Who are NC's Opportunity Youth?



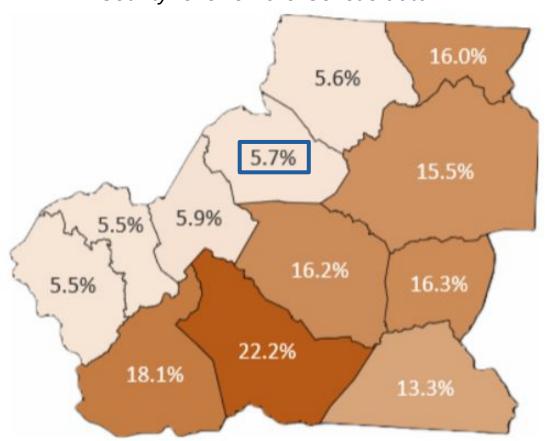


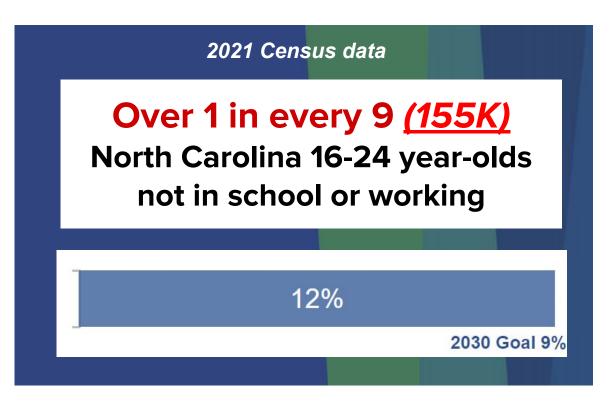
# **NC Northwest Prosperity Zone**



## **OPPORTUNITY YOUTH**

County-level is 2019 Census data





**2030** Goal = **9%** or less

# **ADULT LEARNERS: NC RECONNECT - ENROLLING AND CREDENTIALING**

Approximately **329,000** North Carolinians aged 25-44 have some college, but no degree.

22,386 in the Northwest Region

### **IMMEDIATE IMPACT in NC**

Direct outreach efforts resulted in contacting nearly 9,000 previously enrolled adult learners, with **21%** ultimately re-enrolling



### Cohort 1

Blue Ridge CC **Durham Tech** Fayetteville Tech Pitt CC Vance-Granville CC

### Cohort 2

Caldwell CC&TI Central Carolina CC Forsyth Tech Lenoir CC Wilkes CC

### Cohort 3

Catawba Valley CC Davidson Davie CC Brunswick CC Edgecombe CC College of the Albemarle

# of potential adult learners

189K

**WEB LINK** grco.de/ncreconnect





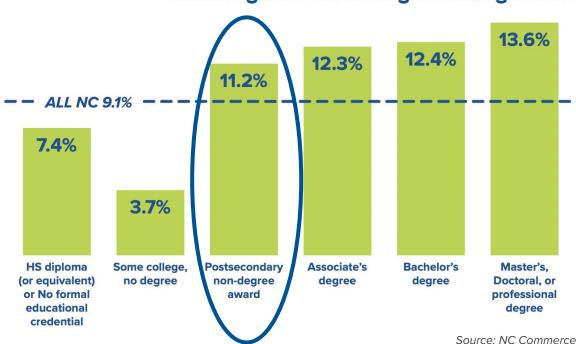




# NC WORKFORCE CREDENTIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

# **©NC WORKFORCE CREDENTIALS**

Defining and Counting Non-degree Workforce Credentials for North Carolina



Co-led by the NC Community College System,
Department of Commerce, and Department of
Public Instruction; supported and advised by
the myFutureNC Board

 Identifies and supports the utilization of valuable non-degree workforce credentials for employers and NC citizens









WEB LINK qrco.de/nccareers



# NC WORKFORCE CREDENTIALS - CREDENTIAL CATEGORIES

Essential or Career credentials for high-demand industries can be earned through North Carolina Community Colleges and other training partners— sometimes even in high school.

**MORE INFORMATION:** nccareers.org/credentials

# Foundational Credentials

Credentials demonstrating standard or baseline skillsets

Examples: Safety, Soft Skills, ServSafe

# **Essential Credentials**

Credentials with Pathways leading to sustainable-wage careers

Examples: Vet Tech,
Nurse Aide I, Pharmacy,
Technician, Construction
Labor

# Career Credentials

Credentials supporting sustainable-wage careers

Examples: CDL, Law Enforcement, Lineworker, HVAC Technicians

# **Advanced** Credentials

Credentials supporting career progression

Examples: Marine Welding, Certified Cisco Network Professional, Computed Tomography







## CONNECT CONVENE COMMUNICATE COLLABORATE COMMIT

# **Attainment-Focused Communities**

- 1. Endorse State Attainment Goal
- 2. Adopt Local Attainment Goal
- 3. Develop Local Attainment Action Plan
- 4. Execute Action Plan
- 5. Increase Local Attainment



# Watauga County's share of the 2 million by 2030 goal

Stretch Goal: 13,384 Total Individuals (79%)

Anticipated with all the things we are already doing: 12,693

The additional individuals needed to reach the goal: **691** 



# **NEXT STEPS TOWARD LOCAL ATTAINMENT**

Join cross-sector local leaders to become attainment-focused by:

- 1) endorsing the state goal;
- 2) adopting the local goal; and
- collaborating with local partners to develop and execute Caldwell County's local educational attainment plan.

To review your <u>local county data</u> and determine **what you are already doing** to increase educational attainment, contact:

**Kim Case, Ed.D.**, Regional Impact Manager, NW Prosperity Zone <a href="mailto:kim@myfuturenc.org">kim@myfuturenc.org</a>



# MUFUTURENCE NO CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF T

2 million by 2030





# Watauga County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%) 2030 Proposed Watauga County Attainment Goal: 13,321 (79%)

### **Population Spotlight**

2010 Census: 51,079 2020 Census: 54,086 Change: 3.007

### **Growth Rate**

**County** 



\$54,004 Median Household Income (2020)

Child Poverty Rate (2020)



89% Households with Broadband (2020)



Home Owners (2020)



Voter Registration Rate (2021)

Boone-Wilkeshoro 12 1923 BCC Meeting Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro **Local Education Agencies: 1 Charter Schools:** 1



Unemployment Rate (2021)

### **Educational Attainment**

Watauga County residents ages 25-44, 2021





Have Degree or Credential 67.8%

Less than high school

vs. **9.5%** 

State

High school graduate (including GED)

Some college, no credential

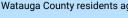
credential

Short-term

Associate dearee

Bachelor's degree

Graduate or professional degree



No Degree



16%

11% 8% 11%

31%

19%

Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding

### **Top Opportunities** for Growth

These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Watauga County to improve future attainment outcomes.



### **Math Performance**

45% of Watauga County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the state goal of 86%.



### **Reading Performance**

42% of Watauga County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the state goal of 73%.



### **FAFSA Completion**

65% of Watauga County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state goal of

### **Impact of Covid-19 on Education Pipeline**

Covid-19 has affected critical transition points along the education continuum.

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)

-1.8% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Nostsecondary Enrollment

**-0.1%** 2021 vs. 2020

3.3% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Nostsecondary Intentions

-2.5% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

### **Data Disruptions**

- · College-and-Career-Ready in Reading
- · College-and-Career-Ready in Math
- Chronic Absenteeism



ncdemography.org

### How students in Watauga County traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year Watauga County needs:

- · Watauga County has met the goal for Pre-K enrollment. (Goal: 75%).
- 42% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4) or 5) in reading; 657 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2022
- 45% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math; 869 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2022
- 92% of 9th graders graduate within four years; 11 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2021
- Watauga County has met the goal for chronic absenteeism. (Goal: **11%)**. 2021

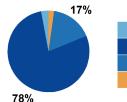


Watauga County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 317:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

### **School Choice**

5,830 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Watauga County in the 2021-22 school vear.

Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.



Charter (3%) District (78%) (17%)Home Private (2%)

### Career and College Preparation



278 high school students took at least one AP course (19%) versus 7% in peer counties (2021).



202 graduates participated in **Career & College Promise** programs (58%) versus 49% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Watauga County completed 167 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Architecture and Construction; and Hospitality & Tourism.

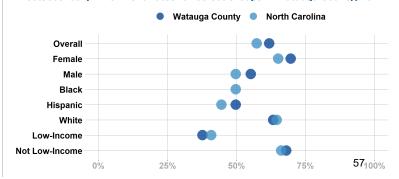
### • 65% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022; 50 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%. 2022 https://www.myfuturenc.org/ourwork/first-in-fafsa/

- 82% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 69% in peer counties. 2021
- 60% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 50% in peer counties. 2021



48% of Watauga County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 59% in peer counties.

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Watauga County, 2021



**ACADEMIC READINESS** 

### Success of Watauga County High School Graduates

### Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 50% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 13% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 37% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college</p>
- 83% of college-goers attended an in-state college
- 81% of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 68% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

### **Adult Learners**

Watauga County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

24 Basic Skills

419 Continuing Education

819 Curriculum



19% of Watauga County residents have **student** loan debt; 4% of debt holders had **student loans in** default. 2020

### In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

### 84.0%

of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

### Top areas of misalignment:

Health Science (below and above bachelor's)
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
(below bachelor's)
Business Management & Administration

17 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

(bachelor's)

### **UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:**

**5.202** graduates in 2020

69% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021

\$44,421 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

### In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

3.616 in Basic Services

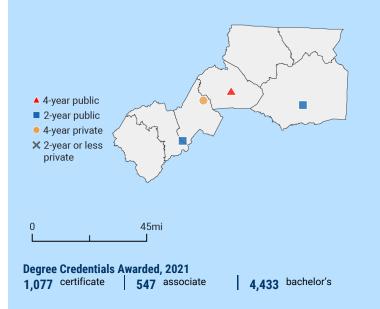
1.617 in Career Services

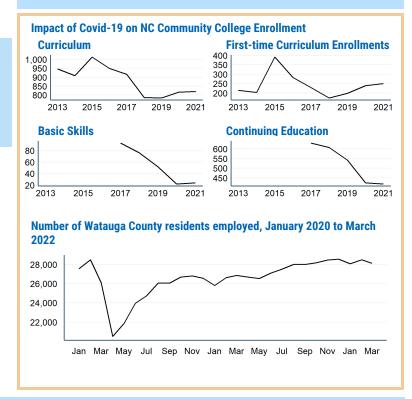
245 in Education Services



**5.7%** of young adults ages 16-24 in Watauga County were **not working and not in school** versus **15.2%** in peer counties. 2019

### Postsecondary assets in Boone-Wilkesboro Prosperity Zone sub-region





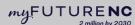
### **Promising Attainment Practices**

The new **Promising Attainment Practices Database** is a curated, searchable, and filterable collection of about 250 county, region, and state-level initiatives and programs that directly address various components of the state's attainment challenge. The Database allows local and regional initiative leaders and other stakeholders to identify groups across the state who are developing or operating initiatives designed to boost attainment.

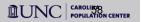
Follow link to discover how Watauga County has been meeting local needs:

https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt\_search=Watauga

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/







# myFUTURENC 2 million by 2030

### **OUR VISION AND MISSION**

**VISION:** North Carolina employers have the necessary skilled workforce to meet business demands and every individual in the labor market earns a family-sustaining wage in a personally fulfilling career, positioning our state to remain economically competitive now and into the future.

**MISSION:** myFutureNC promotes a shared vision for an education-to-workforce continuum across North Carolina – from early childhood through adulthood – and aligns and supports, local, regional, and state actions that will dramatically increase attainment of industry-valued credentials and postsecondary degrees. myFutureNC promotes work of all sectors and helps find and fill gaps to drive educational access and attainment outcomes that align with and fulfill employer needs.

### **OUR GOAL**

To ensure North Carolina remains economically competitive now and into the future, we must meet the state's educational attainment goal – to have 2 million North Carolinians ages 25-44 hold an industry-valued credential or postsecondary degree by 2030.

# 2 MILLION BY 2030 1.55M 444K 2M

### **OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

and convene partner stakeholders to communicate and advance promising practices. Propose solutions through the curation and distribution of data and research.

**IDENTIFY & ADVOCATE FOR POLICY SOLUTIONS:** Collaborate with sector leaders and partner stakeholders to identify and advocate for effective policies.

### **MONITOR & REPORT PROGRESS:**

2030

Monitor and report progress on the 2 million by 2030 goal. Identify attainment trends and gaps through the curation and distribution of data.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES**

1.2 million

North Carolinians aged 25-44 without a postsecondary degree or credential as of 2021.

**Only 28%** 

of 9th graders will earn a college degree or industry-valued credential within 6 years after graduation as of 2021.

367,590

**job openings** in North Carolina (June 2023).

154,989

16 to 24-year-olds are **not in school or working** as of 2021.

### **IMPORTANT DATA AND TOOLS**

- Degree Ticker and Progress Toward 2 Million by 2030
- Key Performance Indicators
- County Profiles
- Data Trends Workbook
- FAFSA Tracker

• Promising Attainment Practices Database

2022

Recommended County Attainment Goals

These data products and tools are available on our website. Visit **dashboard.myfuturenc.org** 



### **REGIONAL IMPACT MANAGERS**



Reach out to our Regional Impact Managers to learn more about how you can work to increase attainment in your area of North Carolina:

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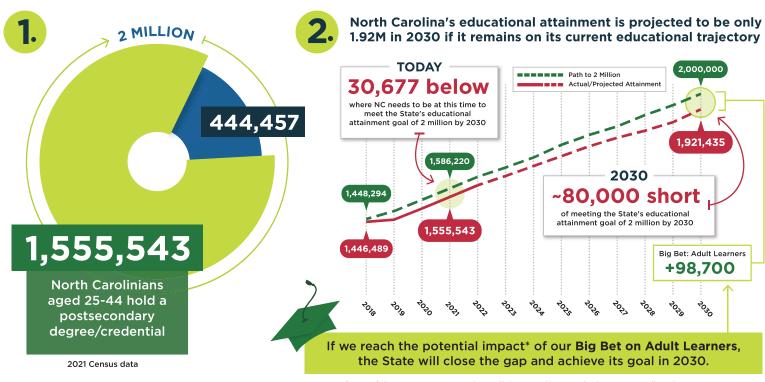
DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL IMPACT
Dr. Jeff McDaris

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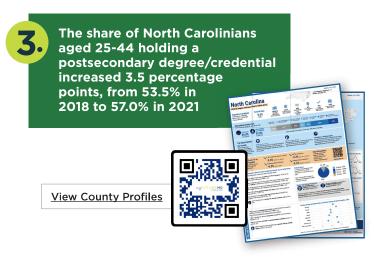
myFUTURE NC

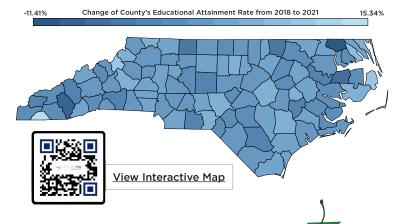
# 4 FACTS ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA'S EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

### myFUT<sup>12</sup><sup>1923</sup> RCMe\*INC 2 million by 2030



\*If 30% of the current -329K North Carolinians aged 25-44 who have some college but no degree re-enroll in college and earn a degree or credential, 98,700 additional individuals will hold a degree or credential by 2030.



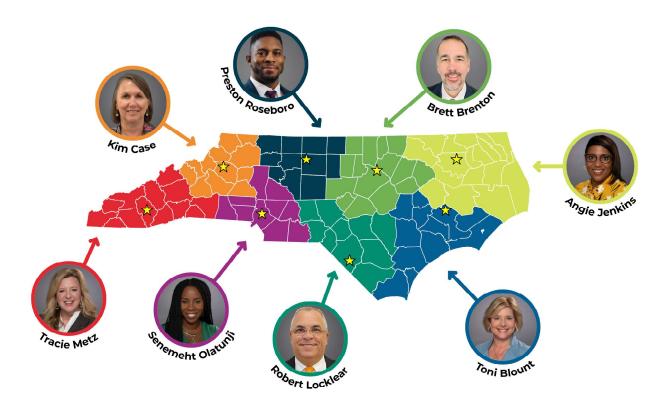


4.	75 - of 100 -	
	NC counties increased the educational attainment in the last three years	

	EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RATE		
COUNTY	2018	2021	GROWTH
Clay	40.83%	56.18%	15.35%
Dare	46.97%	57.03%	10.06%
Avery	30.94%	40.17%	9.23%
Pasquotank	39.90%	47.95%	8.05%
Currituck	41.82%	48.61%	6.79%
Alleghany	26.57%	33.23%	6.66%
Moore	57.18%	63.26%	6.09%
Johnston	44.37%	50.36%	5.98%
Richmond	31.57%	37.46%	5.89%
Burke	32.53%	38.34%	5.82%
			61



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### **AGENDA ITEM 7:**

### **TAX MATTERS**

A. Monthly Collections Report

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Mr. Larry Warren, Tax Administrator, will present the Monthly Collections Report and be available for questions and discussion.

The report is for information only; therefore, no action is required.

### Monthly Collections Report

### Watauga County

Bank deposits of the following amounts have been made and credited to the account of Watauga County. The reported

totals do not include small shortages and overages reported to the Watauga County Finance Officer

Monthly Report November 2023

	Current Month	Current FY	Current FY	Previous FY
Canaval Country	<u>Collections</u>	Collections	<u>Percentage</u>	<b>Percentage</b>
General County Taxes 2023	11.045.650.04	<b>24</b> ( <b>22</b> 040 40	44000	
Prior Year Taxes	11,945,650.94	24,677,018.43	56.98%	54.46%
: :::::::	49,018.47	250,073.59		
Solid Waste User Fees	998,243.07	1,901,639.58	55.61%	53.30%
Green Box Fees	0.00	0.00	NA	NA
Total County Funds	\$12,992,912.48	\$26,828,731.60		
Fire Districts				
Foscoe Fire	195,384.42	412,945.31	60.55%	59.11%
Boone Fire	435,518.12	806,417.91	60.30%	58.58%
Fall Creek Service Dist.	4,905.63	8,005.48	58.70%	55.29%
Beaver Dam Fire	33,661.77	77,237.14	54.71%	52.21%
Stewart Simmons Fire	114,902.08	251,396.57	61.72%	58.35%
Zionville Fire	51,498.86	93,113.96	58.21%	56.61%
Cove Creek Fire	112,243.40	207,487.23	58.04%	58.39%
Shawneehaw Fire	44,373.79	100,562.46	62.90%	59.94%
Meat Camp Fire	112,798.98	194,966.18	59.94%	55.24%
Deep Gap Fire	89,867.45	160,927.66	58.98%	58,37%
Todd Fire	22,807.41	46,307.00	60.29%	61.11%
Blowing Rock Fire	193,969.95	436,018,54	62.42%	59.93%
M.C. Creston Fire	1,476.35	3,958.68	48.52%	48.47%
Foscoe Service District	40,948.24	69,351.65	62.40%	63,90%
Beech Mtn. Service Dist.	4.55	356.24	12.88%	22.50%
Cove Creek Service Dist.	271.00	307.45	91.33%	85.76%
Shawneehaw Service Dist	2,037.39	4,644.94	54.67%	45.37%
Total Fire Districts	1,456,669.39	2,874,004,40		
<u>Towns</u>				
Boone	1,562,797.79	3,886,602.56	44.39%	39.65%
Municipal Services	15,977.81	61,620,84	26.51%	39.87%
	209211101	01,020.04	20.3170	30.8770

Total Town Taxes

\$1,578,775.60

\$3,948,223.40

Total Amount Collected

<sub>1</sub>\$16,269,465.99

\$33,650,959.40

\_Tax Collections Director

Tax Administrator

### **AGENDA ITEM 7:**

### TAX MATTERS

B. Refunds and Releases

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Mr. Larry Warren will present the Refunds and Releases Reports. Board action is required to accept the Refunds and Releases Reports.



	CAT YEAR BILL EFF DATE PROPERTY JUR	VALUE		
OWNER NAME AND ADDRESS	REASON REF NO		CHARGE	AMOUNT
1524406 BOWDEN, CHARLES SOUTHERLAND, PEGGY 547 MARANATHA BLVD BLOWING ROCK, NC 28605	RE 2023 2941 11/01/2023 1887-33-0628-000 F12 TAX RELEASES 11805 ADVENT CHRISTIAN CAMPGROUND LEASE PROP		F12 G01	31.40 199.71 231.11
1545742 BRANCH BANKING & TRUST CO PROPERTY TAX COMPLIANCE PO BOX 167 WINSTON SALEM, NC 27102-0167	RE 2023 38737 11/29/2023 4 2910-24-4543-000 C02 TAX RELEASES 11825 VALUE REDUCED FROM A 2022 APPEAL	108,700	C02 G01	1,532.62 1,299.67 2,832.29
1776900 CADENA, FEDERICO LAGUNA, MARIA 334 JENWILL DR DEEP GAP, NC 28618	RE 2023 1000034 11/20/2023 2960-64-6858-000 F10 TAX RELEASES 11824 SINGLE WIDE MOBILE HOME RELEASE AS REAL PROPERTY AND BILLED AS PERSONAL		F10 F10 G01 G01 G01 SWF SWF	37.20 37.20 37.20 299.83 299.83 236.59 80.00 80.00
1503076 CARTER, EDITH C/O MARGARET C MARTINE PO BOX 268 FERGUSON, NC 28624	RE 2023 2928 11/01/2023 1887-24-9098-000 F12 TAX RELEASES 11806 ADVENT CHRISTIAN CAMPGROUND LEASE PROP		F12 G01	43.15 274.43 317.58
1503436 DAVIS, BARBARA H P O BOX 1361 LENOIR, NC 28645	RE 2023 2949 11/01/2023 1887-34-0421-000 F12 TAX RELEASES 11807 ADVENT CHRISTIAN CAMPGROUND LEASE PROP		F12 G01	44.65 283.97  328.62
1503438 DAVIS, GEORGE HAROLD 2201 OLDE FARM RD HUDSON, NC 28638-8922	RE 2023 2946 11/01/2023 1887-34-0255-000 F12 TAX RELEASES 11803 ADVENT CHRISTIAN CAMPGROUND LEASE PROP	62,800	G01	31.40 199.71 231.11
1066042 GRUBB, GLENN A AND PAMELA W 176 NATURES WAY BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2022 42411 11/08/2023 2913-97-3011-000 F09 REFUND RELEASE 11821 HOUSE WAS ON THE WRONG PARCEL RELEASE SWF	0	SWF	80.00



	CAT YEAR BILL EFF DATE PROPERTY JUR	VALUE	
OWNER NAME AND ADDRESS	REASON REF NO	CHARGE	AMOUNT
1066042 GRUBB, GLENN A AND PAMELA W 176 NATURES WAY BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 42413 11/08/2023 2913-97-3011-000 F09 TAX RELEASES 11822 HOUSE WAS ON THE WRONG PARCEL	0 SWF	102.87
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RELEASE SWF  RE 2023 1000167 11/07/2023 1993-00-2230-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11809 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	54.55 346.94 401.49
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308  BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000168 11/07/2023 1993-00-2230-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11810 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	46.45 374.39 420.84
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000169 11/07/2023 1993-00-2230-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11811 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	46.45 374.39 420.84
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000161 11/07/2023 1993-00-8633-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11812 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	226.70 1,441.81 1,668.51
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000162 11/07/2023 1993-00-8633-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11813 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	193.25 1,557.60 1,750.85
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000163 11/07/2023 1993-00-8633-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11814 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	193.25 1,557.60 1,750.85
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000164 11/07/2023 1993-11-2038-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11815 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	4.45 28.30  32.75
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT LIVING TRUST PO BOX 308 BOONE, NC 28607	RE 2023 1000165 11/07/2023 1993-11-2038-000 F06 TAX RELEASES 11816 PROPERTY IS IN PRESENT USE PROGRAM	0 F06 G01	3.75 30.23 33.98



		CAT YEAR BILL PROPERTY	. EFF DATE JUR		VALUE		
OWNER NAME AND ADDRESS		REASON	J0K	REF NO		CHARGE	AMOUNT
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT L PO BOX 308	IVING TRUST	RE 2023 1000166 1993-11-2038-000 TAX RELEASES		11817		F06 G01	3.75 30.23
BOONE, NC 28607		PROPERTY IS IN PR				-0.0	33.98
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT L PO BOX 308	IVING TRUST	RE 2023 1000158 1993-20-6423-000 TAX RELEASES	F06	11818		F06 G01	227.35 1,445.95
BOONE, NC 28607		PROPERTY IS IN PR	RESENT USE PRO	GRAM			1,673.30
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT L PO BOX 308	IVING TRUST	RE 2023 1000159 1993-20-6423-000 TAX RELEASES	11/07/2023 F06	11010	0	F06 G01	195.45 1,575.33
BOONE, NC 28607		PROPERTY IS IN PR	RESENT USE PRO	GRAM			1,770.78
1761070 MARJORIE HELEN WRIGHT L PO BOX 308	IVING TRUST	RE 2023 1000160 1993-20-6423-000 TAX RELEASES	0 11/07/2023 F06	11820		F06 G01	195.45 1,575.33
BOONE, NC 28607		PROPERTY IS IN PR	RESENT USE PRO	GRAM			1,770.78
1852779 METZGER, EMILY R 112 BUCKHEAD DR		RE 2023 2951 1887-34-0543-000 TAX RELEASES	11/01/2023 F12	11804	112,200	F12 G01	56.10 356.80
IRMO, SC 29063		ADVENT CHRISTIAN	CAMPGROUND LE	ASE PROF	•		412.90
1505331 RIVENBARK, WARREN ET AL C/O ELOISE WOOD 6254 TEAL STREET WILMINGTON, NC 28403  1857192 STOUT, GEORGE STOUT, LUANNE 1728 SW 3RD TER CAPE CORAL, FL 33991	-	RE 2023 2943 1887-33-0712-000 TAX RELEASES		11808	75,700	F12 G01	37.85 240.73
WILMINGTON, NC 28403		ADVENT CHRISTIAN	CAMPGROUND LE	ASE PROF	•		278.58
1857192 STOUT, GEORGE STOUT, LUANNE 1728 SW 3RD TER		PP 2023 1543 4320 TAX RELEASES		11823	0	F09 G01 SWF	4.00 25.44 102.87
CAPE CORAL, FL 33991							132.31
1505049 TRIVETTE, LARRY MAX 270 TRIVETTE HEIGHTS		RE 2022 10866 1943-80-0786-000 REFUND RELEASE INCORRECT AMOUNT	5 11/29/2023 F04	11026	14,900	F04 G01	7.45 47.38
SUGAR GROVE, NC 28679							
1505049 TRIVETTE, LARRY MAX 270 TRIVETTE HEIGHTS		RE 2023 10820 1943-80-0786-000	0 11/29/2023 F04	11827	14,900	F04 G01	7.45 47.38
SUGAR GROVE, NC 28679		TAX RELEASES INCORRECT AMOUNT	OF ACREAGE	11027			54.83
DETAIL SUMMARY	COUNT: 25	RELEASES	5 - TOTAL		927,600		17,973.83



RELEASES - CHARGE SUMMARY FOR ALL CLERKS

YEAR C	ΑT	CHARGE		AMOUNT	Γ
2022 R 2022 R 2022 R	E	F04 G01 SWF	BEAVER DAM FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE SANITATION USER FEE	7.45 47.38 80.00	3
			2022 TOTAL	134.83	3
2023 R 2023 R 2023 R 2023 R 2023 R 2023 R 2023 R 2023 P 2023 P 2023 P	E E E E E P	C02 F04 F06 F10 F12 G01 SWF F09 G01 SWF	BOONE RE BEAVER DAM FIRE RE ZIONVILLE FIRE RE DEEP GAP FIRE RE BLOWING ROCK FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE SANITATION USER FEE MEAT CAMP FIRE PP WATAUGA COUNTY PP SANITATION USER FEE	1,532.62 7.45 1,390.88 111.60 244.55 14,076.75 342.87 4.00 25.44	5 5 7 0
			2023 TOTAL	17,839.00	<u></u>
			SUMMARY TOTAL	17,973.83	3

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69



RELEASES - JURISDICTION SUMMARY FOR ALL CLERKS

JUR	YEAR	CHARGE			AMOUNT
C02 C02	2023 2023		BOONE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE		1,532.62 1,299.67
			C02	TOTAL	2,832.29
F04 F04 F04 F04	2022 2022 2023 2023	G01 F04	BEAVER DAM FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE BEAVER DAM FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE		7.45 47.38 7.45 47.38
			F04	TOTAL	109.66
F06 F06	2023 2023		ZIONVILLE FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE		1,390.85 10,338.10
			F06	TOTAL	11,728.95
F09 F09 F09 F09	2022 2023 2023 2023	F09 G01	SANITATION USER FEE MEAT CAMP FIRE PP WATAUGA COUNTY PP SANITATION USER FEE		80.00 4.00 25.44 205.74
			F09	TOTAL	315.18
F10 F10 F10	2023 2023 2023	G01	DEEP GAP FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE SANITATION USER FEE		111.60 836.25 240.00
			F10	TOTAL	1,187.85
F12 F12	2023 2023		BLOWING ROCK FIRE RE WATAUGA COUNTY RE		244.55 1,555.35
			F12	TOTAL	1,799.90
			SUMMARY	TOTAL	17,973.83

### **AGENDA ITEM 8:**

### **OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR DAVID GRAGG**

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Mr. Eric Hesslink, Parks and Recreation Program Assistant, will request the Board approve out-of-state travel for Assistant Aquatics Director David Gragg, to travel to Kingsport, TN for Lifeguard Instructor Training.

Board action is required to approve the out-of-state travel.



### WATAUGA COUNTY TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AND TRAVEL ADVANCE REQUEST

DATE   Dec 1, 2023	BUDGET ACCOUNT NUMBER 10-6121-439500
NAME: David Gragg	TITLE Assistant Aquatics Director DEPARTMENT Parks and Recreation
DESTINATION Kingsport, TN	MEETING DATES FROM: Dec 28, 2023 TO: Dec 30, 202
Out of State travel?  If yes, BCC approval is required and must be	DEPARTURE December 28, 2023 RETURN December 30, 2023
signed by County Manager.	Purpose LGI Certification
Overnight	Name of Hotel/Motel
Accommodations NO Required?	Rate per night/person  Government OYES Discount?  NO
Method of Transportation:	County Vehicle Personal Vehice CAir COther
Cost	Explanation:

Estimat	ed Expenses				TOTALS
Please indicate r	RATION FEES: neals and/or banquets n registration fee.				225.00
MEALS	Breakfeast:	3	X	8.00	24.00
	Lunch:	3	X	10.00	30.00
	Dinner:	3	X	16.00	48.00
LODGING	Single Rate:		X		
*OTHER			NAV		
	TOTAL				327.00

Remarks: In the event of a staff shortage	, the class will be taken March 25-27, 2024.		
Are funds requested in advance?	If settlement has not been made on	I believe this trip to be necessary	
Yes No Form is Mathematically Correct:  Yes Approved as corrected	this advance within 20 working days after completion of travel, I authorize this amount to be deducted from my next paycheck.	and beneficial to Watauga County and funds were provided for this purpose in this departments appropriate budget account.  Department Head	
Finance Staff/Date	Employee/date	County Manager (Out of State)	

# 121923 BCC Meeting Cart Empty

# American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Training



**Lifeguard Instructor Training** 

The purpose of the American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor course is to train instructor candidates to teach courses and presentations in the American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor program by developing their understanding of how to use the course materials, how to conduct training sessions and how to evaluate participants' progress.

This course is designed to teach you how to teach and lead an American Red Cross Lifeguard Course. It is dedicated to developing the knowledge and skills you will need to plan and teach courses in the American Red Cross Lifeguarding Program.

This course includes the following certifications: American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Certification (valid for 2 years). Course fee includes a current copy of the American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Manual. This course is approximately 25 hours in length.

Course fee: \$200 for members | \$225 for nonmembers | \$75 deposit required

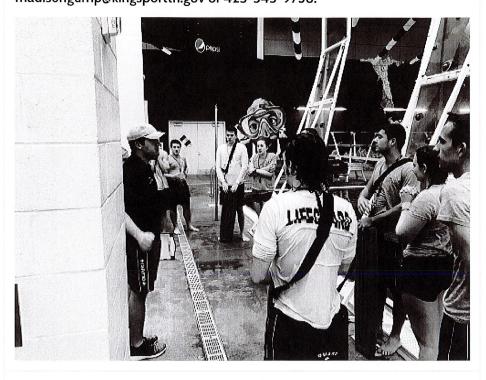
To participate in the course you must meet the following prerequisites (if the pre-test is failed, \$75 is non-refundable):

- 1. Must be 17 years old by the last day of class
- 2. Possesses a current basic level certification in Lifeguarding/First Aid/AED.
- 3. Has successfully completed the online Introduction to the lifeguarding Instructor Course prior to the pre-course skills session.
- 4. Has obtained all instructor and participant materials before entering the first session of the instructor course.
- 5. Has successfully completed the pre-course skills session.

The pre-course skills session is designed to evaluate instructor candidates' lifeguarding, CPR, and AED skills. Instructor candidates must successfully demonstrate competency in the pre-course skills session. Instructor candidates who do not demonstrate competency in the pre-course skill session prior to the start of the course cannot continue in the Lifeguarding Instructor Course.

Course work will include physical exercise. If a medical condition or disability exists that might prevent participation in the activities, or there are questions about fully participating in the Lifeguard Instructor Course, please contact the facility to discuss this with an instructor before the course begins. For additional information, please contact Madison Gump at madisongump@kingsporttn.gov or 423-343-9758.





LGI Decembe... Aquatics C... 17/up TH-... 12/28-... 8am-... 5/8 \$225

LGI March 20... Aquatics C... 17/up M-W 03/25-... 10am... 0/8 \$225

KAC Lifeguard Course 6 Lifeguard Training ... \$225

KAC Lifeguard Instructor 2 American Red Cros... \$90

**Review Course** 

Phone: 423-229-9400 (tel:423-229-9400)

Online: Contact Us (https://www.kingsporttn.gov/government/comments-or-questions/)

Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/ThisIsKingsport)

### **AGENDA ITEM 9:**

### MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Proposed Appalachian State University 911 Center

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

The County was recently made aware of the University's initiative to create their own 911 center through a third-party vendor. The County received no communications regarding this critical issue to our citizens and visitors, and the negative impact that it would pose on lifesaving services. Upon inquiring of the University's intention, the County was informed they were in the "exploratory" phase and the lack of coordination and communication was an oversite.

However, based on additional information received, it is apparent that this project is well beyond the exploratory phase. The County, Sheriff, and the Town of Boone are united in the opposition to the University's proposed 911 center. Our organizations have worked hard and long to enhance and improve the provision of 911 services as was evident by the Town of Boone consolidating with the County. The County has addressed any concerns put forth by the University and has not received any communications regarding unresolved issues. Thus, the County is at a loss as to the reason for the University's desire to create a 911 center and duplicate a service already provided while unnecessarily delaying lifesaving services.

Mr. Will Holt, Emergency Services Director, will be on hand to detail the impact of the University's proposed 911 center. Note – a meeting with all parties involved in this matter was scheduled for December 11, 2023 but was cancelled by Chief Stephenson. However, staff received on December 14, 2023 a request to reschedule the meeting to December 18, 2023. Staff is working to determine if all parties involved are able to attend on that date.

This update is for information only; therefore, staff is only seeking Commissioners input and direction.

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### **AGENDA ITEM 9:**

### MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### **B.** Boards and Commissions

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

### Watauga County Planning Board

The four (4) year At-large Planning Board term of Ms. Kimmy Tiedemann will expire in December. Ms. Tiedemann does not wish to be reappointed. A Volunteer Application was received from Mr. Matt Vincent who has expressed interest in serving on the Planning Board. This is a first reading.



# WATAUGA COUNTY

Department of Planning & Inspections

126 Poplar Grove Connector Suite 201 • Boone, North Carolina 28607

07 (828) 265-8043 TTY 1-800-735-2962

Voice 1-800-735-8262 or 711

FAX (828) 265-8080

### Memorandum

Date: December 11, 2023
To: Deron Geouque
From: Jason Walker

Re: Planning Board – Appointment of New Member

Kimmy Tiedemann who serves as an At-Large member for the Planning Board has her appointment term ending this month. She has indicated that she no longer wishes to serve on the Planning Board.

We currently only have one person who had expressed an interest in serving on the Planning Board, Mr. Matt Vincent of VPC Construction. Attached is a copy of Matt's Volunteer Application.

# Volunteer Application Watauga County Boards And Commissions

If you are a Watauga County resident, at least 18 years old, and willing to volunteer your time and expertise to your community, please complete the application below and click on Print Form. Please sign and mail or fax to:

Watauga County Commissioners' Office 814 West King Street, Suite 205 Boone, NC 28607 Phone: (828) 265-8000 Fax: (828) 264-3230

ome Address:				
ty:		Zip:		
elephone: (H)	(W)	(Fax)		
mail:				
lace of Employment:				
ob Title:				
In Order To Assure C	County wide Representation F	lease Indicate Your Town	ship Of Residence:	
Bald Mountain	Stony Fork			
New River	Brushy Fork		Cove Creek	
Beaver Dam	Meat Camp		○ Shawneehaw	
Blue Ridge	Blowing Rock		Caurel Creek	
Elk	North Fork		Boone	
100 P	n, Please Indicate If You Live			
Foscoe-Grandfather Community		Valle Crucis Historic District		
Howards Creel		Winklers Creek Watershed		
Coduitoria	w River Watershed	C Extraterrito	nai Alga	
We Ask Your Help In Following Questions	Assuring Diversity Of Member	ership By Age, Gender, An	d Race, By Answering T	
Gender		Ethnic Background		
		African American	O Hispanic	
C Female		Caucasian	Other	
		Native American		
Please List (In Order Of P	reference) The Boards/Comr	nissions On Which You W	ould Be Willing To Serve	
1.				
2.				
-				
a				

# Volunteer Application Watauga County Boards And Commissions (Continued)

### **AGENDA ITEM 9:**

### MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

C. Announcements

### **MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

The January 2, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners has been cancelled. The next regular meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 5:30 P.M.

### **AGENDA ITEM 10:**

### **BREAK**

### **AGENDA ITEM 11:**

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Attorney/Client Matters – G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3)