

BEAUFORT COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



AGENDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD 3:00-5:00 PM Wednesday, December 15, 2021

**Hybrid Meeting at the Skills Center 705 Page Rd, Washington NC
and on Zoom at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87571693328>

or by phone: +16465588656 then enter 87571693328#

For Assistance Please Call: 252-946-3970 or 252-495-1359

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|--|---|
| 1. Welcome to all | Chairman Ed Booth |
| 2. Golden Leaf Foundation Update | Scott T. Hamilton, President CEO GLF |
| 3. Approval of September minutes | Chairman Ed Booth |
| 4. Community Reports | |
| Aurora | Clif Williams |
| Bath | Bubs Carson |
| Belhaven | Ricky Credle |
| Chocowinity | Joy McRoy |
| | Pantego |
| | Washington |
| | Washington Park |
| | Chad Keech |
| | Don Sadler |
| | Dylan Bowen |
| 6. Community College Update | Dr. David Loope, President |
| 7. Beaufort County Reports | Commissioner John Rebholz
County Manager, Brian Alligood |
| 8. Beaufort County Business Update | Randy Roark |
| 9. NC East Alliance / EDPNC Updates | Trey Goodson / Sarah Bernart |
| 10. BCS-BAC Joint Workforce Planning Committee | Vicky Hamill, Gregory Smith & Sara Watson |
| 11. BCED Reports & Budget | Martyn Johnson, Director |
| 12. Adjourn | |

**The next Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for
3:00 – 5:00 PM Wednesday, January December 19, 2021.**

Scott T. Hamilton
President, CEO
Golden LEAF Foundation
301 N. Winstead Avenue
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
Phone: 252-442-7474
shamilton@goldenleaf.org
<https://www.goldenleaf.org/>



Scott T. Hamilton became the third president of the Golden LEAF Foundation in November 2019. In this role, Scott is responsible for working with the Golden LEAF Board of Directors to develop and implement the foundation's grantmaking priorities and strategies, overseeing the work of the staff and consultants that manage the foundation's investments, and managing the day-to-day operations of the organization.

Hamilton previously served as executive director of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) located in Washington, D.C., a Federal-State partnership with the mission to innovate, partner and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia. During his tenure, he led a staff of more than 55 to invest nearly \$675 million to support education and workforce training, highway construction, water and sewer system construction, leadership development, small business start-ups and expansions, energy, and health. Prior to joining the ARC in 2014, Hamilton served in leadership roles with various county and regional economic development organizations in North Carolina, including most recently as president and CEO of AdvantageWest, a nonprofit regional economic development partnership serving the 23 westernmost counties of North Carolina.

Hamilton is a current member and past president of the North Carolina Economic Developers Association and has held leadership positions with numerous boards and organizations across North Carolina, including the North Carolina Economic Development Board. He served for 11 years as a gubernatorial appointee to the North Carolina Commission on Workforce Development.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Hamilton received additional training and certification in economic development from the University of North Carolina School of Government and the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is also a graduate of the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma and the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center.

Golden LEAF was created to receive 50 percent of the annual payments made by cigarette manufacturers to North Carolina under the historic 1999 Master Settlement Agreement that included 46 states. State leaders at the time recognized this rare opportunity to create an organization and build an endowment dedicated to meaningful economic transformation across our state, rather than simply spend the money every year in the state budget.

Through the efforts of the GLF talented and dedicated Board of Directors, GLF have built an endowment that has funded hundreds of millions of dollars in grants and covered all of our operating expenses with investment income alone. It's a story that makes other states envious. It's a story that we pledge to build upon to make even better.

The Golden LEAF Board of Directors adopted a long-term strategic plan in February 2021 to help address some of the economic challenges facing North Carolina. The goal of the strategic plan is to help Golden LEAF become more effective, efficient, and impactful in moving the economic needle in rural, economically distressed, and tobacco-dependent North Carolina communities.

The plan distilled the Board's vision into these strategic priorities:

- To increase job creation and economic investment in rural, economically distressed, and tobacco-dependent communities
- To improve workforce preparedness in rural, economically distressed, and tobacco-dependent communities
- To increase the value of North Carolina's agriculture industry
- To improve the competitiveness, capacity, and vitality of targeted communities
- To have, and be recognized for, excellence in organizational collaboration, innovation, and impact

Link to the GLF strategic plan:

<https://www.goldenleaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Golden-LEAF-Strategic-Plan-FY2022-2026.pdf>



SCOTT HAMILTON BEAUFORT COUNTY VISIT AGENDA

Wednesday December 15, 2021 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Guests:

Scott T. Hamilton, President CEO GLF with Board Member(s)

Email: shamilton@goldenleaf.org

Web: www.goldenleaf.org

Kasey Ginsberg, Director of External Affairs GLF

Mobile : 252-955-1059

Email: kinsberg@goldenleaf.org

Web: www.goldenleaf.org

Town of Aurora Team:

Clif Williams, Mayor Town of Aurora

Mobile: 252-637-8778

Email: clif.williams@aurind.com

Web: <https://auroranc.us>

Judith Lannon, Aurora Town Clerk

Mobile: 252-635-7227

Email: aurora@embarqmail.com

Web: <https://auroranc.us>

Major General Kurt Ryan US Army Retired

Chairman Aurora Leadership Council

Mobile: 717-462-3926

Email: ryankj88@gmail.com

Web: <https://www.auroralife.us/alc>

Anthony Tyre, MA, NCC, LCMHC, LCAS-A

Program Director, Eastern Community Care Foundation

Office: 833-781-6474

Email: a.tyre@eccfnc.org

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Dr. William Booth, II

President Alpha Life Enrichment Center

Mobile: 252-945-5355

Email: alphalife1@yahoo.com

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/AlphaLifeEnrichmentCenter>

BEAUFORT COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Beaufort County Economic Development Team:

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Beaufort County Economic Development Advisory Board Chair
Mobile: 252-945-3191
Email: ed.booth@co.beaufort.nc.us
Web: <https://co.beaufort.nc.us/>

Martyn Johnson, Director BCED
Phone: 252-495-1359
Email: martyn.johnson@beaufortcdc.com
Web: www.beaufortcdc.com

Susan Squires, ED Specialist BCED
Phone: 252-946-3970
Email: susan.squires@beaufortcdc.com
Web: www.beaufortcdc.com

Beaufort County Community College Team:

Dr. David Loope
President Beaufort County Community College
Phone: 252-940-6202
Email: dave.loope@beaufortccc.edu
Web: <https://www.beaufortccc.edu/>

Ben Morris, Dean, Business, Technology, & Public Services
Beaufort County Community College
Phone: 252-940-6374
Email: Ben.Morris@beaufortccc.edu
Web: <https://www.beaufortccc.edu/programs/business/home>

Conner Jones, Lead Instructor Boat Building Program
Beaufort County Community College
Phone: 252-940-6380
Email: connor.jones@beaufortccc.edu
Web: <https://www.beaufortccc.edu/catalog/2020-2021/boat-building-diploma>



Wednesday December 15, 2021 Agenda

1:00 PM Arrive Aurora Town Hall
Address: 295 Main St, Aurora, NC 27806
Phone: (252) 322-4611

Meet with Town of Aurora Team and Tour Town

Topics of Discussion:

- Aurora Leadership Council Strategic Plan
- Aurora Industrial Park
- BCCC Satellite Facility – Industrial Training and General Education
- Food desert and grocery store
- Housing
- Tourism
- Low/Moderate Income Jobs

2:00 PM Depart for Skills Center 705 Page Rd, Washington NC

2:35 PM Tour BCCC Boat Building Classroom, Workshop and Spray Booth

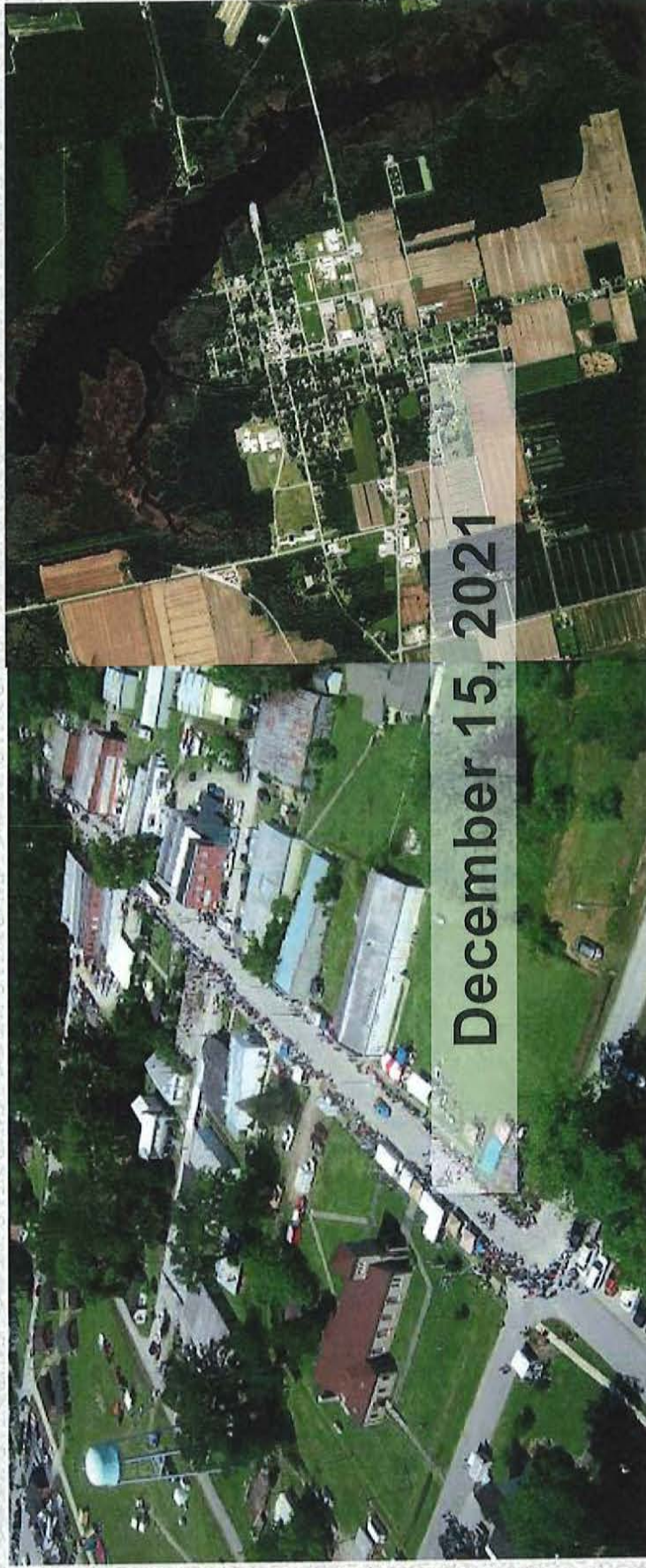
3:00 PM Presentation to BCEDAB on

4:00 PM Depart for Rocky Mount NC



Welcome Mr. Scott Hamilton

Golden LEAF Foundation



"A Call to Action"



Agenda and Topics of Discussion

- Welcome by Mayor Clif Williams
- Aurora Leadership Council Strategic Plan Overview
- Update on Aurora Industrial Park
- Beaufort County Community College Workforce Development Center – Aurora Campus
- Food Desert and Lack of a Full-Service Grocery Store in Richland Township
- Housing Shortfall Discussion
- Tourism Discussion
- Window Tour of Aurora



Aurora Leadership Council (ALC) Mission Statement

Unify and mobilize the government, business, faith, civic and education leaders from Aurora and the greater Richland Township with the purpose; via a **volunteer committee process**; to explore opportunities, propose solutions, and act on viable plans to grow, enrich and develop the community, supporting long term prosperity and a brighter future for our citizens.

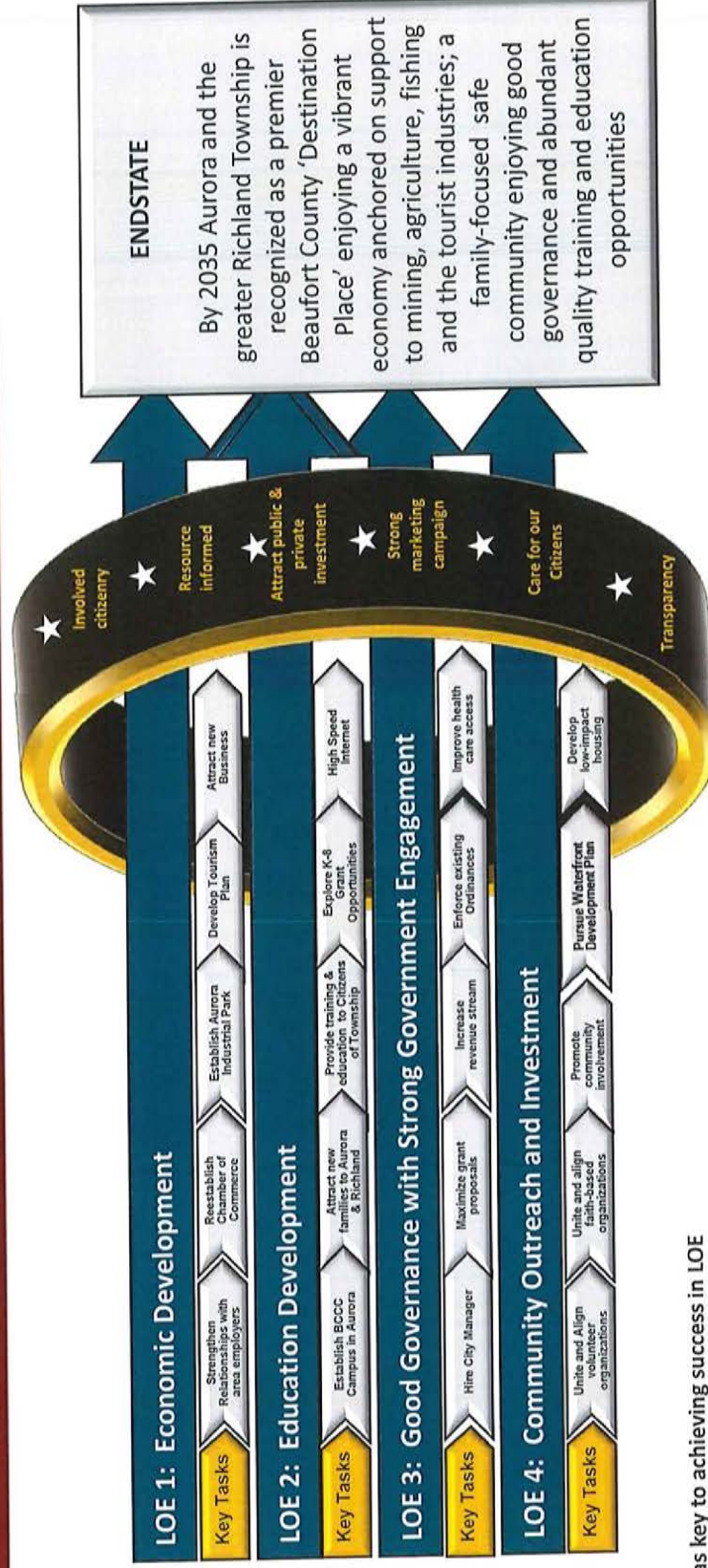
Publish a strategic plan

ALC Strategy Construct

ALC Mission. Unify and mobilize the citizens from Aurora and the greater Richland Township, with the purpose to explore opportunities, propose solutions and act on viable plans to grow, enrich and develop the community, supporting long term prosperity and a brighter future for our citizens.

Committee Alignment

- Business
- Real Estate
- Tourism
- Grants
- Education
- Grants
- Government Relations
- Resources
- Grants
- Volunteerism
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Faith-based
- Real Estate



LOE - Line of Effort

Key Task - defined as key to achieving success in LOE

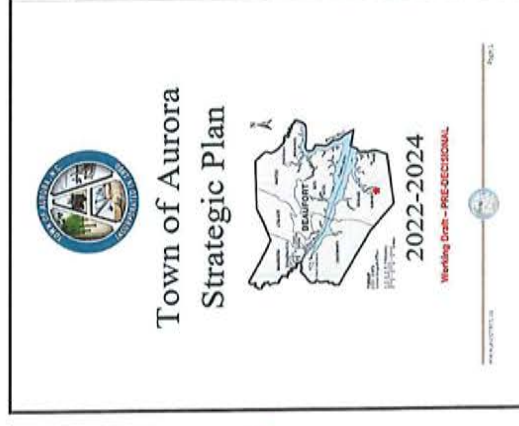
Aurora – 'Beaufort County's Great Destination Place'



ALC Committees

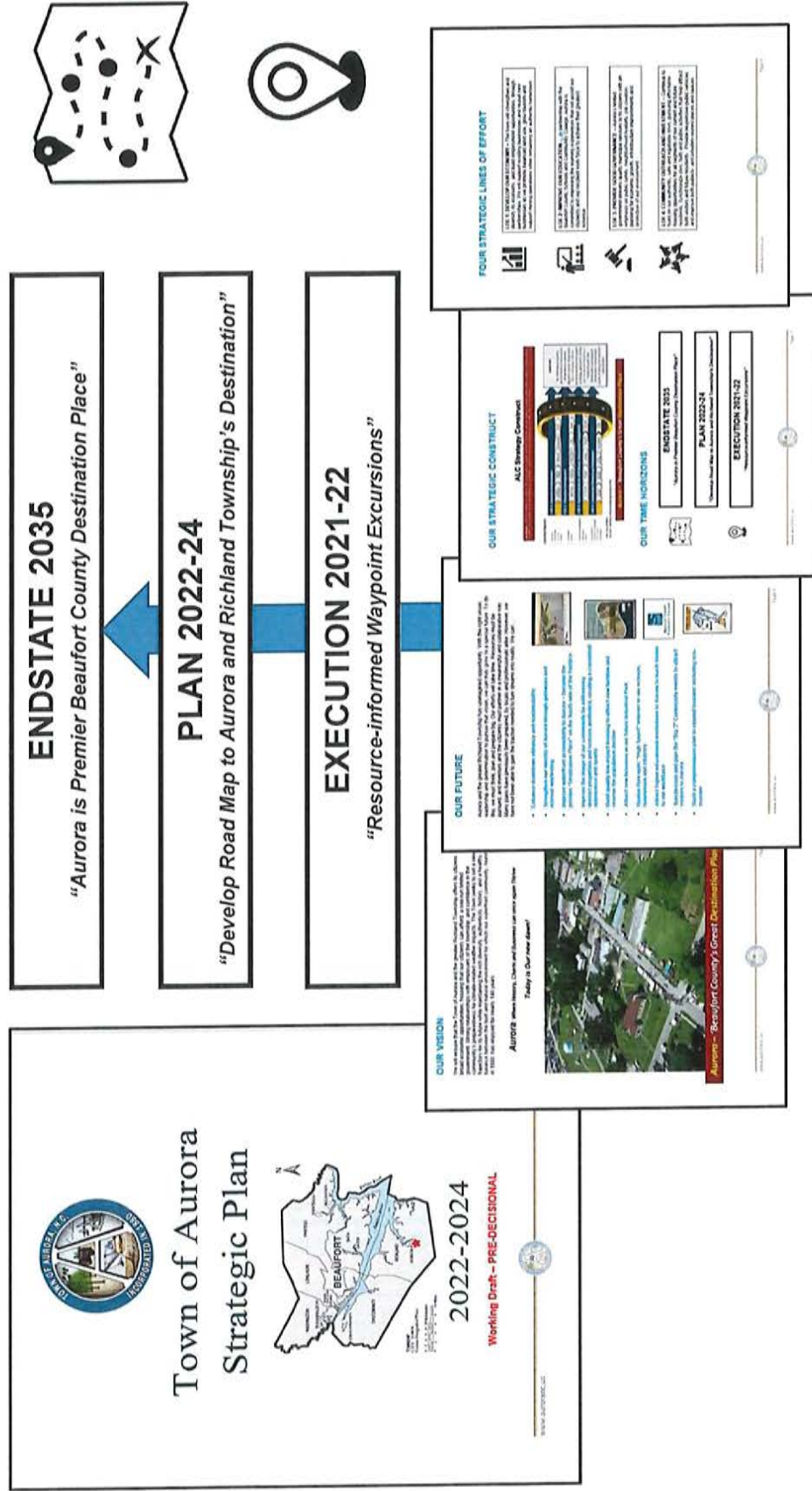
Committee

Government Relations Committee
Business Development Committee
Real Estate Development and Permitting Committee
Resources / Grants Committee
Education Committee
Tourism Committee
Faith-based Committee
Diversity and Inclusion Committee
Civic Organization Committee



Committee Sign-up at <https://www.auroralife.us/alc>

Time Horizons





1.3 - Aurora Industrial Park

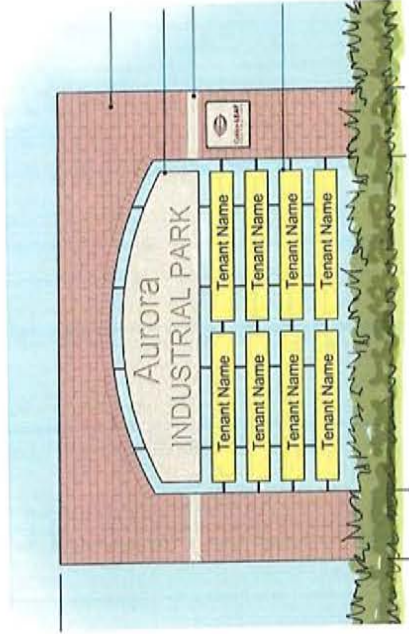
\$950,000 Grant from Golden LEAF Foundation

Mission

Develop Industrial Park vicinity Aurora, NC.

Purpose

- Boost economic development
- Increase new and existing job growth to Aurora and Richland Township
- Provide safe, attractive work environment for businesses
- Host offices, educational facilities, laydown yards, fabricating and repair facilities in support of Regional business activity.



Concept

- 51 acres rezoned for commercial use
- Town sewer and water capacity adequate to support development
- Area possible for future growth
- Concepts for subdivision include two access points.



2.1 - Aurora Workforce Development Center (BCCC)



- 4,000 sq. ft. building adjacent to Contractor Village
- Funding: \$2.5 million from the State; \$100K donation from Nutrien
- Will include two classrooms, one large lab space, two offices, two bathrooms, one storage room
- Training courses for Nutrien and other contractors: hydraulic/pneumatic training, John Deere diesel engine training, forklift training, leadership training, OSHA training
- Courses for general public: Adult Basic Education, GED, English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Will enable employees to avoid one-hour drive to Washington campus



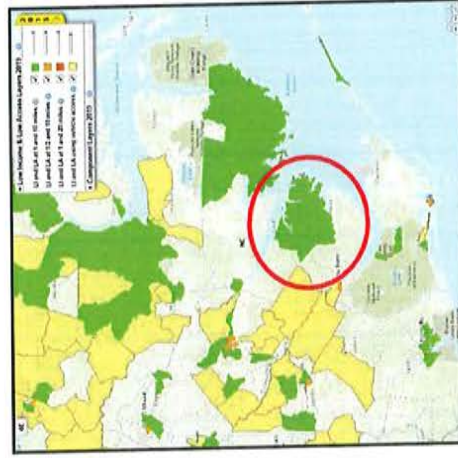
1.6 - Aurora / Richland Township Food Desert

USDA Food Desert

Key Task

1.6 - Re-establish a Full-Service Grocery Store vicinity Aurora

Strategy



History

- Lost grocery store in 2011 timeframe – severe weather event
- Lack fresh fruits and produce for sizeable geographic area
- Nearest grocery store 22-44 miles round trip (Bayboro, Chocowinity)
- Low-income citizens growing dependence on free food programs
 - Eagles Wings
 - C.O.S.T.

1.5.1 – Establish Aurora "Food Desert Task Force" to ID viable solutions to bring a full-service grocery store to Richland Township. **The USDA defines a food desert as "parts of the country vapid of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthful whole foods."** They also say at least 500 people and/or at least 33% of the population has to live more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. (For rural areas, the distance is more than 10 miles.) Aurora and Richland Township easily qualify for designation as a Food Desert, as our citizens have to travel long distances to reach stores where they can buy healthy food at reasonable prices.

1.5.2 – Explore a number of state-sponsored programs that have been implemented in 2018 to help improve access for food deserts in North Carolina. Apply for community-transformation grants provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Currently, Richland Township and the North-eastern portion of Pamlico Township are classified as both Low income (LI) and Low Access (LA) zones as of 2019 by the USDA Economic Research Service. More information can be found at [USDA ERS - Go to the Atlas](#)

1.5.2 – Solicit local, regional and national food chains for consideration to re-establish a full-service grocery store in Aurora to service the citizens of Richland Township and portions of NE Pamlico Township.



4.5 - Housing Shortfall – Strategic Risk

Bailey's Creek Development

Key Task

- 4.5 - Develop Low-impact affordable housing to attract new families in support of economic growth



History

- Many homes in Aurora suffered irreparable damage in 2011 Hurricane
- Aurora lacks available housing to sustain job growth
- Adequate land available in town-limits
- Pristine waterfront attractive to future home owners

Strategy

4.5.0 – Expand Aurora ETJ - Grow Town of Aurora new or restored housing by **100** units by 2025 and **200** units by 2030.

4.5.1 – Establish Affordable Housing Task Force (Real Estate and Permitting Committee).

4.5.1.1 - Improve access to housing to stimulate population growth.

4.5.1.2 - Work with landowners on developing economically viable multi-family housing through permitting a wide range of housing types with engaged stakeholders.

- 1.- Conserve and reuse historic structures.
- 2.- Condemn and remove historic structures that are uneconomical to restore/repurpose.

4.5.2 – Expand the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction for planning and development purposes, including request from Nutrien (PCS Phosphate Company, Inc) to gift or sell at cost the following:

- Phase I – approximate 103-acre tract of land North of Aurora ETJ to Bailey's Creek boundary. This includes 92 suitable acres for development. 2021 tax value on all four tracts is \$106,871 Beaufort County records list the below details:

- GPIN 6557-84-6647 (77.72 Acres) tax valued at \$83,528 (2021)
- GPIN 6567-04-2595 (8.58 Acres) tax valued at \$4,448 (2021)
- GPIN 6567-04-7513 (10.12 Acres) tax valued at \$5,878 (2021)
- GPIN 6557-93-1981 (6.64 Acres) tax valued at \$13,017 (2021)



1.4 - Future of Tourism

Diversify Tourism

Key Task

1.4 – Attract New Tourism and Develop Tourism Plan



- 4.1 – Develop Waterfront
- 1.4.6 – Fossil museum/festival
- 1.4.11 – Revitalize Aurora's History Museum

History

- Aurora and Richland Township is ripe for future tourism development
 - Aurora Fossil Museum
 - Aurora History Museum
 - Eco-Tourism
 - Fishing, Hunting, Boating
- Lacks hotel, motel and B&B accommodations

Strategy

- 1.4.1 – Create and adopt a tourism mission statement
- 1.4.2 - Recruit Volunteers with local knowledge, expertise and resources to serve as a force attracting and collaborating in the design and implementation of events, activities, tours, transportation and program logistics.
- 1.4.3 – Create a Brand that is consistent and reflects the personality of the town. The brand will be used to market the town effectively through digital and traditional avenues.
- 1.4.4- Create a Community Advocacy Plan. This is a business plan and political road map for building and managing the visitor economy for the destination. It allows us to share this information with our stakeholders so that they can use it as a guide to manage and invest in the Destination. AKA Destination Management Plan (DMP)
- 1.4.5 – Identify Lodging and Camping Opportunities to attract the overnight guest.
- 1.4.6 – Support the Aurora Fossil Museum and their mission. Particularly, The Fossil Festival.
- 1.4.7 – Publish collateral and Aurora and Richland Township visitors guide.
- 1.4.8 – Establish an independent Visitors Center within the Town.
- 1.4.9 – Seek the guidance of Associations and Organizations in the public and private sector.
- 1.4.10 – Establish viable and attainable Revenue Streams to support the Tourism Development efforts.
- 1.4.11 – Revitalize Aurora History Museum (Historic Jail Building), and establish building on the National Historic Registry



Summary

Projects to Focus Development

- Aurora Industrial Park – full occupancy, expansion
- Beaufort County Community College (BCCC) – Aurora Campus
- High Speed (Fiber Optic) Broadband Internet to Aurora and Richland Township
- Bailey's Creek Low-Impact Housing development – Grow Population
- Main Street & Waterfront Development - ISO Tourism, economic development
- Severe Weather Resiliency – Infrastructure Improvements
- Seek investor to establish a full-service grocery store – ISO Quality of Life
- Cleanup and beautification of existing properties in town limits
- Collective refurbishment of Historic buildings on Main Street
- Refurbishment of the Aurora Historical Museum – ISO Tourism

Martyn Johnson

From: Fred Fletcher <ffletcher@fletcherstrategies.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:37 AM
To: Martyn Johnson
Subject: COVID ALERT
Attachments: Fred Fletcher.vcf

Michael, I want to let you and Ken know that I performed a home COVID test Saturday afternoon and tested positive. It has not yet been confirmed by an official PRC test but thought I should let you know just in case it is.

My symptoms are mild and I have a stash of therapeutics for just this situation. I'll keep you posted as things progress.

In the meantime...

MAKE SOMEBODY'S DAY GREAT!!

Fletch



FLETCHER
STRATEGIES
INNOVATE / DISRUPT

Fred Fletcher, Jr.
Chief Strategist & Disruptor
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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BEAUFORT COUNTY NC

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Beaufort County Economic Development Advisory Board Monthly Board Meeting Minutes September 15, 2021

Present: Ed Booth, Andrew Fisher, Ricky Cradle, Randy Roark , Al Powell , David Loope, Clif Williams, John Rebholz

Absent: Archie Griffin, Don Sadler , Frank Etheridge, Joy McRoy, Donald Sadler Chad Keech, Rich Morin, Bubs Carson

Other Attendees: Martyn Johnson, Brain Alligood, Trey Goodson, , Sarah Bernart, Denise Desatnick, Kelly Andrews, Vicky Hamill

Welcome and Introduction: Martyn Johnson

Speaker: Kelly Andrews, Director of Economic Development for Pitt County

- Introduction
 - Discusses the importance of partnership between Beaufort and Pitt County with us being in a Combined Statistical Area.
 - Working on a new strategic plan for the county.
 - Pitt County is well positioned to become an economic powerhouse in NC, wanting to focus on innovation, expansion of the tax base, sustainable jobs, and opportunities for all citizens to find financial stability and economic mobility.
- Goals
 - Recruitment of talent and industry
 - 20 active projects
 - 12 new investments
 - 8 expansions
 - No site/building 6 out of 12 EDPNC opportunities + 1 consultant request
 - 1 250,000+
 - 1- Rail served site
 - 2 50,000-75,000 sf
 - 3-100,000-200,000 SF
 - Technology Enterprise Center
 - 1 new tenant
 - 1 potential tenant
 - 1 tenant received \$50,000 from Mid-East Commission to grow business
 - Greenville Produce
 - \$35,000 NC Commerce Building Reuse Grant with 5% county match

- Retention of talent and industry
 - 12 industry visits
 - 6 plant tours
 - 36 partner engagements
 - Industry research project resulted in some companies raising wages for workers
 - Partnering to tackle key issue: workforce development and matching jobs with job seekers
 - Product development
 - Place-making
 - Relationships
- Site Development
 - Request for Qualifications for Farmville Corporate Park shell building
 - Continued discussions with the GENCA on Indigreen shell project
- Pitt County Industrial Site - 130 Acres
 - Electricities Smartsite Certified
 - Private developer group visit
 - New fencing and mowing contract
- Want to focus on what we can do together
 - Marketing together as a combined statistical area
 - Makes sense as many residents frequent both areas
 - Also have many things in common, median household income, home values, etc....
 - Complementary assets, boat building, bio processing, waterfront living
 - Announced the expansion of Thermofisher
 - In 9 months, 800 new jobs and 650 million dollars' worth of investment
 - Most of our GDP is manufacturing between both Counties
 - Wages are higher in manufacturing
 - Adding our population together we are 200,000+ residents which is the key to getting noticed by some bigger projects
- Questions
 - Martyn: When will the traffic situation improve
 - Kelly: We recognize its a frustrating issue, but it's a sign the area is growing, and we should be grateful for the expansion.
 - Dr. Loope: Traffic is a bigger issue than you are thinking and could be preventing people from visiting Greenville. Not sure what the solution is but aware that residents of Cypress Landing don't frequent the area because of the traffic.
 - Kelly: We might overinflate how bad the traffic situation when you compare us to other major metropolitan areas that outside investors would be relocating from
 - Brian: We look at strategic corridors and are aware that 264 is going to be upgraded to highway status, but roads near Chocowinity (33) can get congested and are less ideal for getting back and forth between Pitt and Beaufort County, but we have heard that Pitt does not view the road (33) as strategic of a corridor.
 - Kelly: Will ask the planning department for a study into the corridor and potential solutions to the traffic problems.
 - Dr. Loope: People would go quickly to Greenville if it was convenient.
 - Martyn: What impact did Covid have on your census numbers?

- Kelly: Survey that gauged moving during the pandemic and Greenville showed up as the number one spot in the poll. Most likely a small sample but still an interesting finding. Census findings stayed steady; no great growth compared to previous years but did not go down.
- Kelly: The County has received half of its ARP funds and we were curious how you were planning to use your funds.
 - Brian: We did a lot of legwork regarding broadband with town halls and community meetings. Now looking at a water sewer and a storage center that would allow us to store emergency supplies in the event of natural disasters. Looking at upgrades in the jail and medical stuff. Broadband water, and medical but will have to wait and see what the legislature allows.
 - Kelly: Have 6 million allocated for broadband, but the state continues to up the allowance for those projects so we may not even have to use all of those funds.
 - Brian: Read the other day that 90% is going to be used for recreation.
 - Kelly: This is something that only we would invest money in (hard to find other sources for funding) so we need to invest in it to promote a better quality of life in the town and ensure people continue to do jobs and stay in the region.
- Dr. Loope: Are you a tier 1 or tier 2 county?
 - Kelly: We are a tier 2 county.

Motion to approve August minutes: Clif Williams
Second: Ricky Craven

Community Reports:

Aurora, Clif Williams: Inching closer and will soon be making an announcement.

Bath, Bubs Carson: Absent

Belhaven, Ricky Craven: Just had our first annual ICW Festival, just had the second community yard sale with more people than last time. Good fishing had a contest with more than 50 participants. Decent boating activity. In discussions with wildlife about boat ramps, we already have approval.

Chocowinity, Joy McRoy: Absent

Pantego, Chad Keech: Absent

Washington, Don Sadler: Absent

Washington Park Boyd: Absent

Community College Update, Dr. Loope: Have a number of customized training programs that are running, forklift, OSHA training, sic sigma, Greenbelt, and are implementing an Airbnb small business academy at the small business center, which has to be directly approved by the company. We are happy to have that program start. Launching an upholstery academy with diamond in the rough, a Washington company. Running motorcycle safety classes for two- and three-wheel bikes, just entered a partnership with cam Ann, a Canadian company that has lent

us three motorcycles to use in training. Partnered with various boat companies in the region, send customers to us and then they get a reduced tuition as a result.

County Reports: Brian Alligood, Commissioner Rebholz: Still waiting to see the state budget to see how broadband pans out. Belhaven land transferred so they were able to do the new boat ramp. Just closed on the old Bath Community Building. We were approved for and are moving forward on the policies and procedures of the NC Housing and Finance Board for funds that can be used to help residents who need repairs on their homes. Resilient coastal community program has been broken up into 4 entities.

Beaufort County Business Update, Randy Roark: Called away to manage business

NC East Alliance / EDPNC Updates, Trey Goodson, Sarah Bernhart: Working on a webinar series focusing on strategies for hiring for manufacturing operations. Three-part series, first coming out October 7th. First is incarcerated people, second veterans, third disabled. Working with accelerate rural at ECU, have a shop floor day in November and will be highlighting rural business in NC and we will put together a website highlighting the products. Excited for these webinars. Many meetings have shifted to back online due to covid, general issues we are hearing about are supply issues and general frustrations with going back to shutdowns.

Beaufort County Schools CTE, Vicky Hamill: Doing well. Have had a lot of teachers going out for quarantine due to contact. Many students are out due to illness. Central services had to fill in for teachers, 8 were out but we were able to sub because only two available traditional substitutes. Good to be back in the classroom and see what we can do to best help teachers. All CTE positions filled, new stem teacher at PS Johns Middle School and we have an introduction to construction teachers that should help us close the skills gap, like reading a tape measure or other basics. Drawings for boat building should be out by next week, bids by November and a new building by next year. Stem teacher is also teaching a new computer science program at the high school. Further collaboration with the stem center.

Director's Reports & Budget, Martyn Johnson: Hunter Whittington's last week, said thank you for the opportunity and will miss working with the county. Sue Squires will be replacing him as the Economic Development Specialist. Need for workforce at almost every business in Beaufort County. 4.7% unemployment, 930 people available for jobs. Want to grow the size and scope of the workforce. Anyone who needs an available job, please have them contact us or these businesses. Had a meeting with the economic development partnership, a lot going on with marketing. Sara has been promoted and now oversees a larger region. Trade Shows were going to be opening, but due to covid it seems less likely now. Responsible incentives presentation was given. Resilience projects are underway, and this is important because people want to invest in places that are seen as secure. NCEDA has a conference coming up on transportation. Boat ramp opening will lead to other potential development opportunities. We have been working a lot with small businesses and Pamlico Yachtworks to try and increase efficiency in partnership with NC State. Carolina Chicken and Waffles was our summer Rise 29 Project and in total we have had 16 teams come work in the county. We are still working with the City of Washington Airport to get ARP funds which will hopefully be coming through the end of September when the state finishes the budget. We are on track with our department's budget. Covid cases are rising rapidly, and we need to begin paying attention to this data and encourage people to get vaccinated.

Motion to Adjourn: Ricky Craven
Second: Dr. Loope

BEAUFORT COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



BEAUFORT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD Monthly Board Meeting Minutes October 20, 2021

Present: Chairman Ed Booth, Bubs Carson, Chad Keech, Dr. David Loope, Al Powell, Randy Roark, Commissioner Rebholtz

Absent: Ricky Credle, Joy McRoy, Archie Griffin, Don Sadler, Dylan Bowen, Clif Williams, Brian Alligood, Frank Etheridge, Andy Fisher, Rich Morin

Other Attendees: Martyn Johnson, Al Powell, Trey Goodson, Sarah Bernart, Vicky Hamill, Wes Watson, Sara Watson, Susan Squires, Jennie Bowen

Welcome: Chairman Ed Booth

Introduction: Martyn Johnson

Speaker: Brandi Bragg, Facilitator NENC Career Pathways

Provide overview of role as Career Pathways Facilitator

Introduce the Made in Beaufort County campaign.

NENC Career Pathways Facilitator works in 20 County area of Northeastern North Carolina for 3 workforce boards including Rivers East, Turning Point and Northeastern. This group has been working together for almost a decade. The focus is on career pathways in the area, that are projected to remain in the area with sustainable wages in high demand and require some type of post-secondary skill. We have been able to certify 4 career pathways and the implementation of those pathways.

The Made in Beaufort County campaign was made possible by a grant through NC Commerce, then 5 local employers input funds and Beaufort County Schools also provided funds for an extra video. The project, 2 years in the making, is a result of the efforts of several partners including Martyn Johnson and Beaufort County Economic Development. The Made in Beaufort County campaign offers several types of media including brochures that provide visual career paths for different jobs in Beaufort County. Brochures, flyers and large displays are available to schools and other organizations. Retractable Banners with stands are available to the partners for use at events and trade shows. The web site www.madeinbeaufortcounty.com provides information and videos which feature local businesses. Made in Beaufort County is also on various social media

platforms. Career Pathways is creating an initiative, modelled after Made in Beaufort County, to extend into 5 neighboring counties (Bertie, Hertford, Hyde, Martin and Pitt). Part of that initiative is the Rivers East Academy which will train teachers in advanced manufacturing and for them to create awareness of these career pathways in their classrooms. Plans are to conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony with the partners in combination with the opening of the Rivers East Academy.

Questions

Dr Loope: Brandi are you doing this in each of the 20 counties you're working with?
Brandi: We hope to but initially it will be Bertie, Hertford, Hyde, Martin and Pitt Counties. Beaufort County with the previous 5 counties, make up the 6 covered by funding from Golden Leaf for the Rivers East Academy.

Dr Loope: Just wanted to mention Beaufort Community College has their own Advanced Manufacturing Institute as well.

Martyn: The program was coordinated with the Work Force Development Team Sara Watson, Vicky Hamill and Wes Watson and it is gratifying the Advance Manufacturing Institute is the root of all of this and now being used as the model for other counties.

Jennie: Dr Loope this is kind of a spinoff of that original grant, we need to influence the influencers.

Martyn: This is going to drive students to the Advanced Manufacturing Institute.

Sarah: How often will you update those promotional materials?

Brandi: It depends on funding but hopefully every 2 years.

Chairman Booth welcomed new member, Commissioner John Rebholtz, he will be reading the County Report. Chairman Booth advised that we don't have a quorum to approve the minutes so we will table that until next month.

Community Reports:

Aurora, Clif Williams: Absent Martyn Johnson advised Clif Williams was out preparing for the Aurora Leadership Council. The Aurora Industrial Park is moving ahead and hopefully we can bring something to the Commissioners in December.

Bath, Bubs Carson: Bath High School celebrated its 100th Anniversary with several dignitaries in attendance. US Congressman Murphy, NC Secretary of Commerce Sanders and local dignitary Beaufort County Commissioner Waters helped commemorate the occasion. It was an event that recognized the importance and history of our community schools.

The Historic Bath Visitor Center hosted Bath Town After Dark. The 2-night event, a candlelight historical reenactment at Bonners Point, was well received by both residents and visitors. Annual Trick or Treat will be held on Saturday Oct 30, 2021 from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The Bath Fire Department and Sheriff's Office block off Main Street to allow a safe trick or treat environment. The Bath Christmas Parade is scheduled for

December 5, 2021 at 2:00 PM. The parade is one of the larger events in the area and we are already taking entries for participation. Finally, one of the residents raised the issue of poor cell phone service in the area and wanted to relay that information to our county leaders.

Belhaven, Ricky Craven: Absent Martyn Johnson offered to fill in. He advised ECU Professor Emily Yeager was doing a tourism study in Belhaven and that he had met with her and Lynn Davis.

Chocowinity, Joy McRoy: Absent Martyn Johnson offered to fill in again, there is a new sign for the Chocowinity Industrial Park, it is orange so it should attract attention. We also placed some flyers at the rest stop for local restaurants and economic development. Martyn mentioned there is no advertising on US 17. Dr Loope stated he tried to get a sign on US 17 for the Community College but the cost to DOT started at \$10,000.

Washington, Don Sadler: Absent Martyn advised Washington had Smoke on the Water and was successful. The Washington-Warren Airport is waiting on the state budget to move forward on airport expansion. Potential improvements include runway extension, landing lights, water, sewer, electricity extension, instrument landing system, and hanger projects.

Washington Park Dylan Bowen: Absent

Community College Update, Dr. Loope: Dr Gerard, Continuing Education VP and I will be attending the Aurora Leadership Council Meeting to discuss BCCC's role in the Aurora Workforce Development Center. Upcoming training: Air BnB Entrepreneurship Academy in May, Specialized equipment training for AAF Flanders and Sesame Technologies, Overhead Crane protection training for Pamlico Yacht works, seafood sanitation training for County Road Seafood and CPR/First aid for Hackney. BCCC had a 100% pass rate with Nurse Aid 1 completers. We have started a second Registered Medical Assistant course with the addition of a full-time faculty member. Dr Loope, in response to Trey's question, said the Air BnB course is open to anyone, but they are not actively recruiting from outside the 4 counties we serve.

County Update, Commissioner John Rebholtz: Quick Covid update, down to 4 cases yesterday and a little over 30 days ago we had 700 new cases. There are 9 people in the hospital and 3 patients on ventilators. County Finances are in excellent shape, right on budget almost across the board. They did agree to spend 1.3 million of the relief funds on improving the county water system. Beaufort County's average income is \$41,700 which places the county 26th out of 100 counties. Beaufort County is also 26th in North Carolina for expenses per student. The unemployment rate is 4.3% which ranks Beaufort County 60th lowest in the state. Students enrolled in post-secondary training/education equals 54% which ranks the county 77th out of 100 counties. 30% of Beaufort County children live in poverty. Update regarding Broadband, there is proposed legislation that includes a clause that states areas that have been awarded to private

providers who intend to deploy service, those areas will be designated as served. Charter Communications and SpaceX were awarded coverage for several areas on the south side last year. If enacted, Beaufort County will be unable to implement the proposed broadband plans. We are in communication with our representatives regarding this legislation.

Beaufort County Business Update, Randy Roark: Unable to complete call from his phone.

NC East Alliance/EDPNC Updates, Trey Goodson, Sarah Bernhart: Several Webinars including one on Monday geared towards Rural Business and how you can be successful anywhere with today's technology. We will be attending the Offshore Wind Conference in Wilmington. As a result, we will be partnering with Hampton Roads to create a Webinar series in the spring. Workforce is the subject of 3 Webinars created and produced by EDPNC and Northeast Alliance. The first one focused on employing the Justice Involved, we had about 60 people to attend live and the recording went out to an additional 30 people. The next Webinar takes place the day before Veterans Day and pertains to transitioning Military and Veterans. The final is scheduled for December 2nd and covers Hiring People with Disabilities.

Beaufort County Schools CTE, Vicky Hammill: The Business Advisory Council is scheduled to meet on Thursday October 21, 2021 at the Skills Center. The meeting is part of a Comprehensive Needs Assessment that all school districts are required to do every 2 years. Coursework is created based on the stated needs of local business and industry. We work with Dr Loope and his staff to confirm accreditation and course alignment with the community college requirements. Thursday's meeting will include several local industries and we will be listening to them as they discuss their needs. The boatbuilding boat house is moving along with a pre-bid Friday and submittal of sealed bids November 15, 2021. We are hopeful the project will be completed next year. The Vet Assist program at Washington HS is starting in the spring and in preparation the Ag Teacher is completing some renovations. We plan to implement some marketing to promote our 3 Academies, Automotive Academy Northside HS, Police/Fire Academy Southside HS and the Boat Building Academy at Washington HS. The academies are open to students throughout the county and there will be transportation for the students. Steve Menninger is the new STEM teacher for PS Jones Middle School, he is very innovative and has a great rapport with the students. Social Media for Beaufort County Schools, [BCS CTE Facebook](#), [BCS_CTE Instagram](#) and [BCS_CTE on Twitter](#).

Director's Reports & Budget, Martyn Johnson: Introduction of Susan Squires, new Economic Development Specialist. Unemployment 4.5 % in August, doing very well, we are hopeful the free tuition at Beaufort County Community College will help to add much needed people into the workforce. Since the summer of 2019 we have had 12 Rise29 teams and have 3 currently working in the county. The registration is open now for the Spring Semester, any business interested in the program may contact me for an application. Beaufort County is improving due to the efforts of many people as we come out of Covid 19. Downtown businesses seem to be doing very well. As Commissioner Rebholtz stated we do have a population of low-income people who for whatever reason are not involved in the economy. We have about 17 projects now, ranging from using the Chocowinity Industrial Park as a container yard to metal working, yacht building, interest in affordable housing, air filtration, drones, maintenance facilities and

food processing. The Economic Development Budget is right on track, the beginning of the year is the time we pay for databases and memberships for various organizations. Overall, the end of the year appears it will be very busy.

Dr Loope discussed an article from the Washington Post regarding a great exodus from the workforce and how people are rethinking their relationship with work.

Chairman Booth asked Dr. Loope about the current supply chain issues specific to trucking. Dr Loope replied he cannot get enough people into their truck driving classes and according to business owners, those who are hired quit after 3 weeks. It is a difficult job. There is a lot of demand for truckers and there are not enough trucks on the road.

Motion to Adjourn: Dr Loope
Second: Chad Keech



C100 Luncheon Meeting BCED Director's



Economic Development Update 12/02/21



Unadjusted Labor Force Statistics 2020 vs 2021

Unadjusted Labor Force Statistics			
USA '000	09/20	09/21	Δ
Labor Force	160,073	161,392	0.82%
Employed	147,796	154,026	4.22%
Unemployed	12,277	7,366	-40.00%
Unemp. Rate	7.67%	4.56%	-40.49%
NC '000	09/20	09/21	Δ
Labor Force	5,016	5,046	0.60%
Employed	4,659	4,856	4.23%
Unemployed	357	190	-46.78%
Unemp. Rate	7.12%	3.77%	-47.10%
GWCSA	09/20	09/21	Δ
Labor Force	109,080	112,527	3.16%
Employed	101,552	108,178	6.52%
Unemployed	7,528	4,349	-42.23%
Unemp. Rate	6.90%	3.86%	-44.00%
Beaufort County	09/20	09/21	Δ
Labor Force	19,837	20,060	1.12%
Employed	18,584	19,293	3.82%
Unemployed	1,253	767	-38.79%
Unemp. Rate	6.32%	3.82%	-39.47%

2022 Beaufort County Remains Tier 2 County

Tier 2

\$49,410

Median Household

Income

#48/100

Tier Factors

#25/100 Pop. Growth

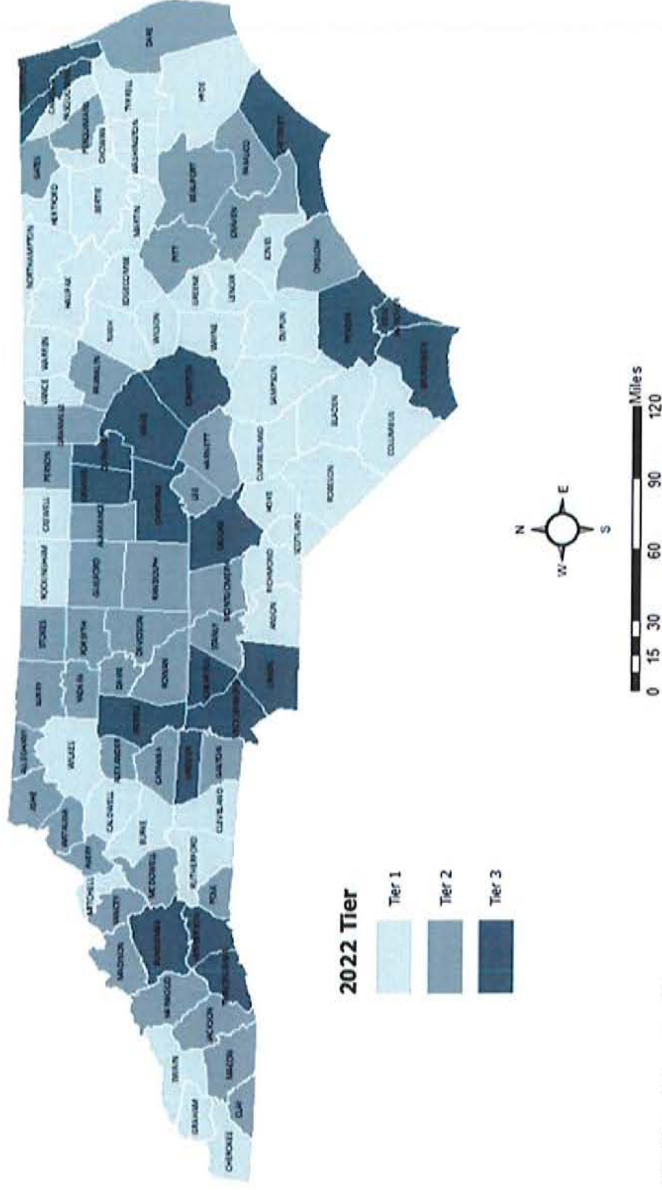
#67/100 Tax Base/Capita

#48/100 Median H. Income

#53/100 Unemployment

#1 lowest ranking

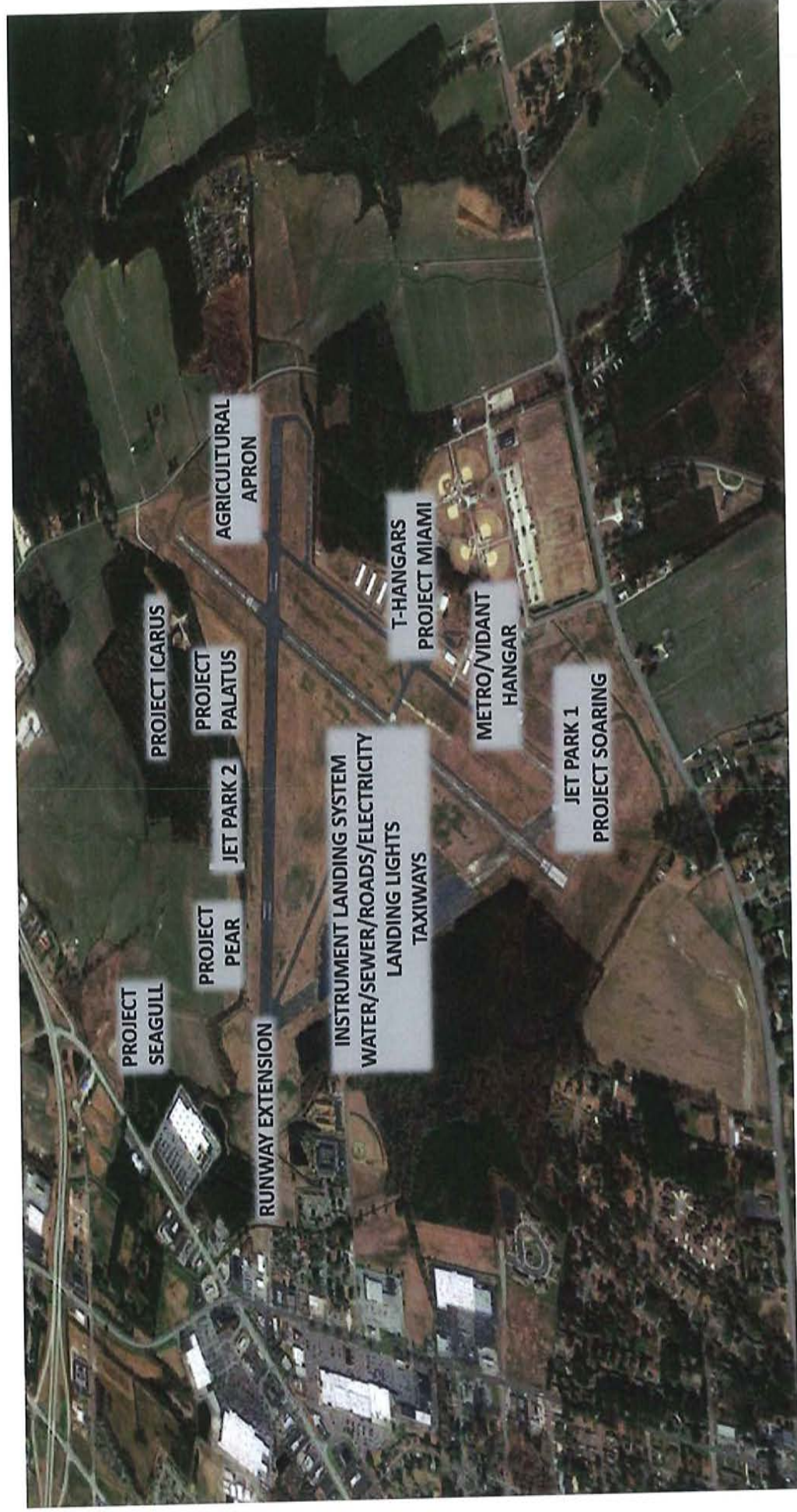
2022 County Tier Designations



2022 Beaufort County Remains Tier 2 County

Beaufort, Craven, Martin & Pitt County NCDOT Tier Rankings 2019 to 2022									
County	Year	Average Unemployment Rate Ranking - Previous Year 12 Month Average	Median Household Income Ranking - 2 Years Previous	% Population Growth Ranking - Previous Year 3 Year Average	Adjusted Property Tax Base Per Capita - Previous Fiscal Year	County Rank Sum	Ranking #1 Most Distressed	Change in Ranking	Tier
Beaufort	2019	31	41	29	72	173	40	↓	1
Beaufort	2020	30	40	20	69	159	36	↓	1
Beaufort	2021	74	48	24	67	213	56	↑	2
Beaufort	2022	53	48	25	67	193	47	↓	2
Craven	2019	44	77	21	50	192	44	↓	2
Craven	2020	44	75	30	51	200	51	↑	2
Craven	2021	71	69	23	50	213	56	↑	2
Craven	2022	52	65	29	47	193	47	↓	2
Martin	2019	22	13	16	37	88	12	↓	1
Martin	2020	15	10	14	41	80	10	↓	1
Martin	2021	53	35	7	32	127	22	↑	1
Martin	2022	28	7	18	28	81	11	↓	1
Pitt	2019	42	57	63	14	176	42	↑	2
Pitt	2020	40	52	51	13	156	33	↓	1
Pitt	2021	62	33	68	19	182	44	↑	2
Pitt	2022	45	62	53	24	184	43	↓	2

Washington Airport Receives \$20,000,000 Grant



BCCC Aurora Satellite Campus \$2,500,000 Grant



Other State Budget Grants

Bath - \$5,000,000 Sewer System Improvements

Chocowinity - \$235,000 Emergency Vehicle

Washington - \$121,000 HS Soccer Field

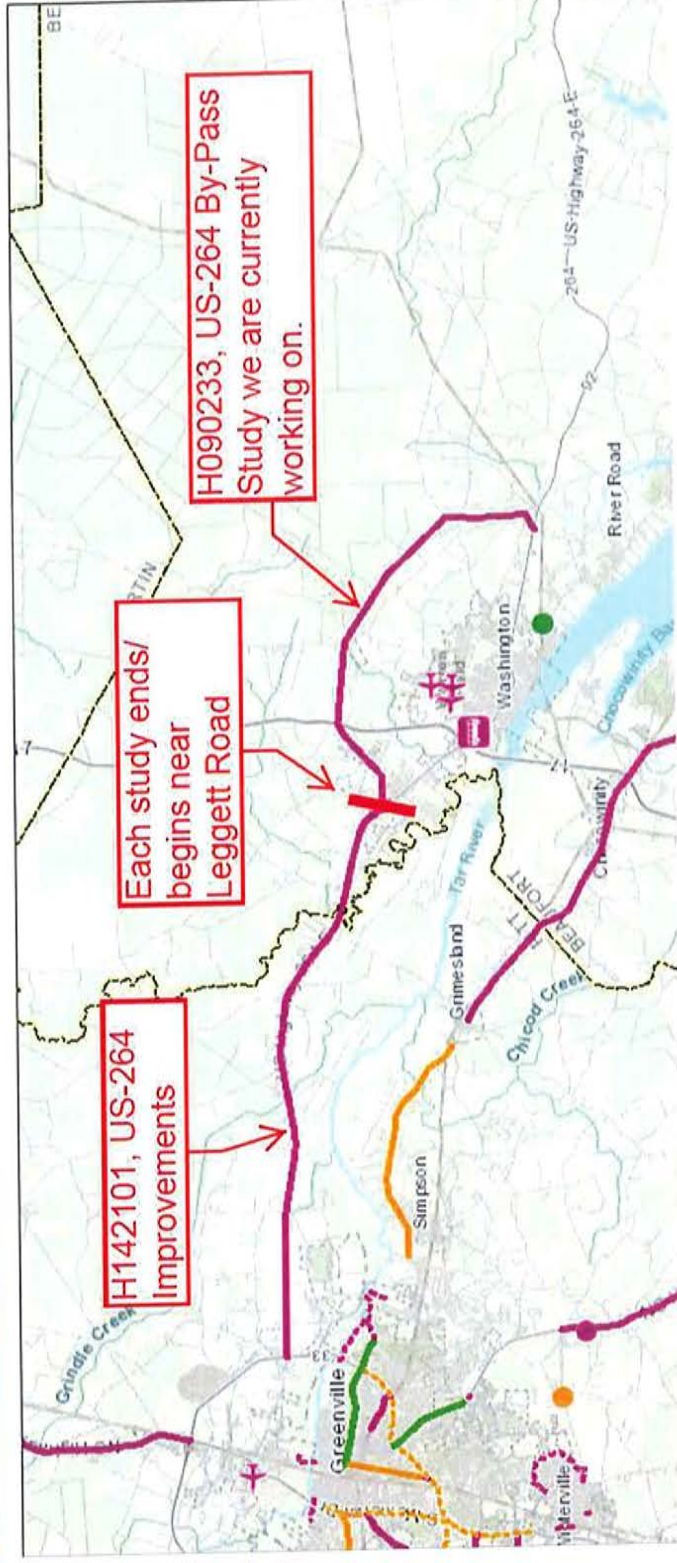
GRAND TOTAL \$27,856,000

Representative Keith Kidwell worked the funding through the State budget process

19 Active Projects

Received	Status	Project Name	Type of Business	Industry	Building/Site	Jobs	Investment	Source	Sq. Ft.	Acres
03/17/20	A	Cannery	Processing	Food	Site	5	\$1,300,000	BCED	5,000	
08/16/20	A	Majestic	Manufacturing	Marine	Building	30	\$1,000,000	BCED	170,000	
01/27/21	A	P12	Airport	Maintenance	Building	6	\$2,000,000	BCED	5,000	
04/08/21	A	Icarus	Aerospace	Drones	Site	100	\$20,000,000	EDPNC	140,000	20
04/08/21	A	Palatus	Aerospace	Freight	Site	20	\$5,000,000	Airport	20,000	5
04/14/21	A	Soaring	Manufacturing	Air Filtration	Site	2	\$5,000,000	Airport	5,000	
04/29/21	A	Seagull	Manufacturing	Boats	Site	100	\$7,500,000	BCED	100,000	30
05/14/21	A	Pear	Manufacturing	Boats	Site	10	\$2,500,000	BCED	50,000	10
07/23/21	A	WAH	Construction	Affordable Housing	Site	10	\$2,500,000	BCED	N/A	2
07/23/21	A	AAH	Construction	Affordable Housing	Building	20	\$1,000,000	BCED	N/A	5
07/26/21	A	Yellow Pine	Processing	Wood	Site	200	\$250,000,000	EDPNC	TBD	200
07/28/21	A	DWP	Construction	Affordable Housing	Site	30	\$3,750,000	BCED	N/A	15
08/02/21	A	NCCW	Food	Production	Building	5	\$100,000	BCED	500	-
08/10/21	A	Wind	Manufacturing	Yacht Building	Site	50	\$5,000,000	EDPNC	TBD	30
09/16/21	A	Arc	Manufacturing	Metal Working	Site	20	\$4,000,000	BCED	30,000	5
09/16/21	A	Swan	Service	Construction	Site	5	\$2,000,000	BCED	10,000	10
09/24/21	A	Amphorae	Transportation	Container Yard	Site	50	\$5,000,000	BCED	10,000	120
10/22/21	A	Lift	Manufacturing/Wholesale	Forklift Turck Import & Upfit	Building	10	\$2,000,000	BCED	25,000	10
11/17/21	A	Teak	Manufacturing	Marine Wood	Building	5	\$1,000,000	BCED	10,000	2

US 264 Long Term Planning Process



Preliminary Purpose:

- Improve safety, improve mobility, freight movement, connection to Greenville.
- Congestion Hot Spots?
- Multimodal Connections?
- Economic Development?

Washington By-Pass Purpose:

- Improve mobility and safety, reduce travel times, and provide a more efficient connection to/from Greenville and coastal destinations.

Made in Beaufort County, NC



BCCC Boat Building Classes – Spring Registration Open

The Boat Manufacture and Service Technology program prepares students for employment in the manufacture and service of boats. Students learn the basics of boat design and the implementation of those designs in various components and/or complete boats or yachts.

Course work includes reading and interpreting marine blueprints, manuals, and other documents common to the industry; lofting; constructing forms and mold-making; application of concepts and techniques in composite, and fiberglass; marine woodworking; interior finishing; and marine mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems.

Graduates may find employment with boat/yacht manufacturers, service yards, dealerships doing commissioning work, and companies doing custom boat building.

Number of credit hours required for this program: 42

General Education Requirements

English

Take 3 credits from [ENG-111](#)

Mathematics

Take 3 credits from [MAT-110](#)

Major Requirements

Required Courses

Take 15 credits from [BMS-110](#) [BMS-111](#) [BMS-112](#)
[BMS-113](#)

Subject Area Specialty

Take 13 credits from [BMS-114](#) [BMS-115](#) [BMS-116](#)

Other Major Requirements

Required Courses

Take 5 credits from [BTB-115](#) [BMS-117](#)

Computers

Take 3 credits from [CIS-110](#)



Lead Instructor, Boat Building

Connor Jones

Connor.Jones@beaufortccc.edu

Phone: 252-940-6380

Jobs Jobs Jobs



Sorry to keep repeating this plea call but Beaufort County businesses are still struggling to find employees ready to work. With unemployment rates decreased, there is not enough supply to meet the demand for workers now that businesses are open. Many businesses are hiring and looking for immediate employees of all different skill sets but are struggling to fill these positions. Companies such as idX, Pamlico Yachtworks, Iconic, Captain Cooks, Hampton Arts, Spinrite, CMD, IMT, China Bay Buffet, DPS, MEGA Force, Executive Personnel, Oak Ridge, P&G and Camfil are examples of companies hiring with a great variety of jobs to fill, careers to start.

Free, subsidized, and low-cost training is available through NC Works (252-940-0900) and BC Community College (BCCC 252-940-6311) for individuals to acquire needed skills.

Jobs Jobs Jobs

Total Population by Age	Census 2010		2021		2026	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	47,759	100.0%	48,210	100.0%	48,207	100.0%
0 - 4	2,781	5.8%	2,483	5.2%	2,398	5.0%
5 - 9	2,995	6.3%	2,642	5.5%	2,588	5.4%
10 - 14	2,946	6.2%	2,696	5.6%	2,746	5.7%
15 - 19	2,910	6.1%	2,519	5.2%	2,550	5.3%
20 - 24	2,288	4.8%	2,196	4.6%	2,081	4.3%
25 - 29	2,423	5.1%	2,685	5.6%	2,165	4.5%
30 - 34	2,627	5.5%	2,642	5.5%	2,589	5.4%
35 - 39	2,804	5.9%	2,679	5.6%	2,725	5.7%
40 - 44	2,796	5.9%	2,726	5.7%	2,715	5.6%
45 - 49	3,274	6.9%	2,828	5.9%	2,884	6.0%
50 - 54	3,659	7.7%	2,923	6.1%	2,933	6.1%
55 - 59	3,727	7.8%	3,364	7.0%	3,072	6.4%
60 - 64	3,747	7.8%	3,871	8.0%	3,562	7.4%
65 - 69	2,993	6.3%	4,036	8.4%	4,023	8.3%
70 - 74	2,180	4.6%	3,450	7.2%	3,565	7.4%
75 - 79	1,619	3.4%	2,099	4.4%	2,798	5.8%
80 - 84	1,072	2.2%	1,224	2.5%	1,542	3.2%
85+	918	1.9%	1,147	2.4%	1,271	2.6%

7,235 or 15.0% of Beaufort County's Population 55 to 64
 5,215 or 10.8% of Beaufort County's Population 10 to 19
 2,020 Gap!

First 6 Apprentices Graduate PAS/BCCC Program

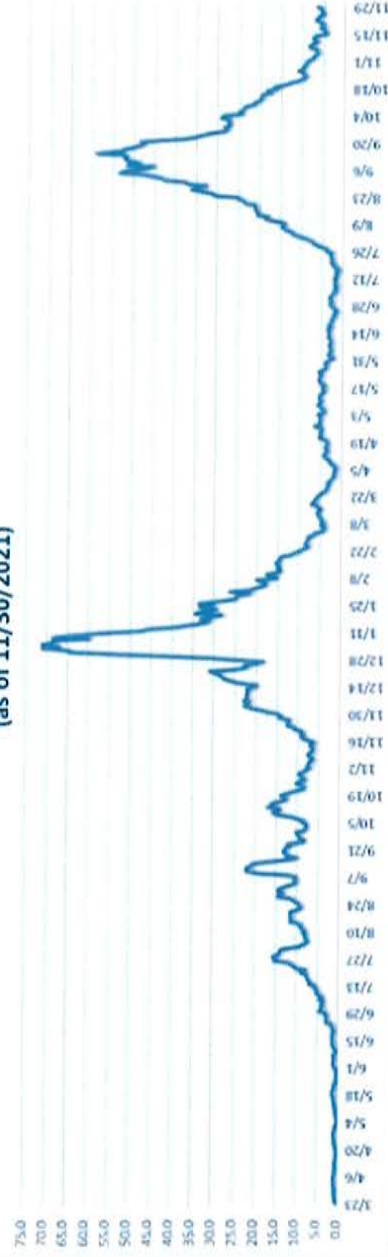


COVID-19



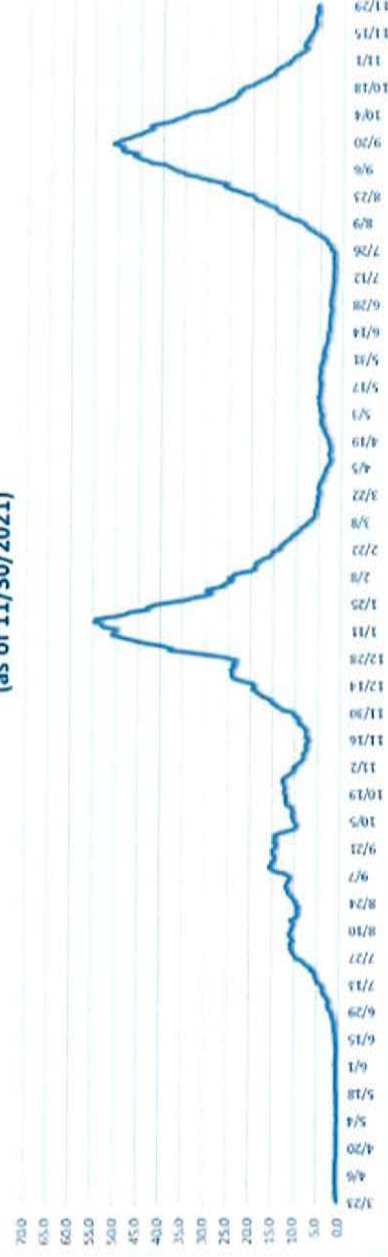
7 Day
Average

Beaufort County 7 day average case count
(as of 11/30/2021)

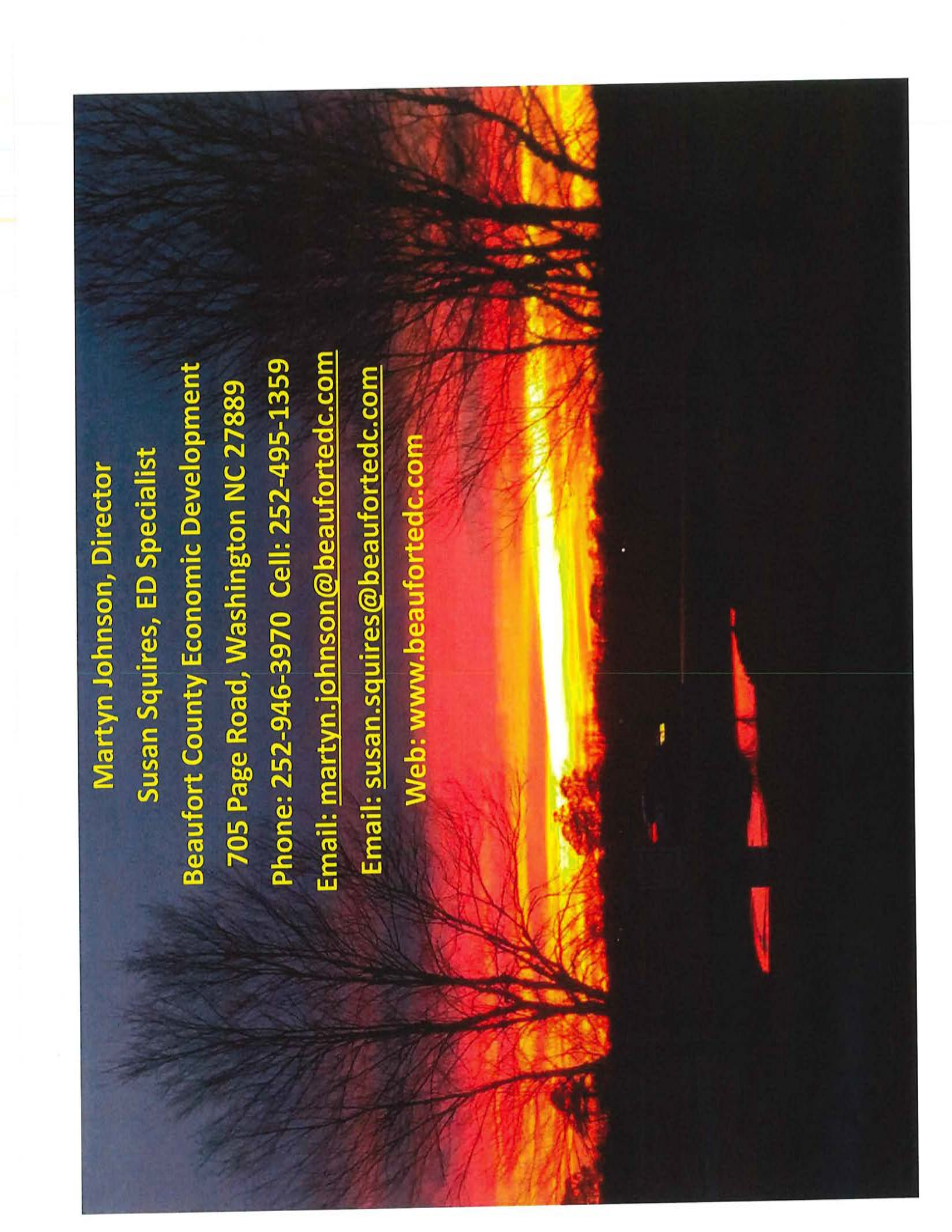


21 Day
Average

Beaufort County 21 day average case count
(as of 11/30/2021)



A 21 day average count reduces the weekly variability which may make it more difficult to follow the overall trend.



Martyn Johnson, Director

Susan Squires, ED Specialist

Beaufort County Economic Development

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Email: martyn.johnson@beaufortdc.com

Email: susan.squires@beaufortdc.com

Web: www.beaufortdc.com



Fall 2021 RISE29 Presentations December 7, 2021 1:00-4:00 PM

AGENDA

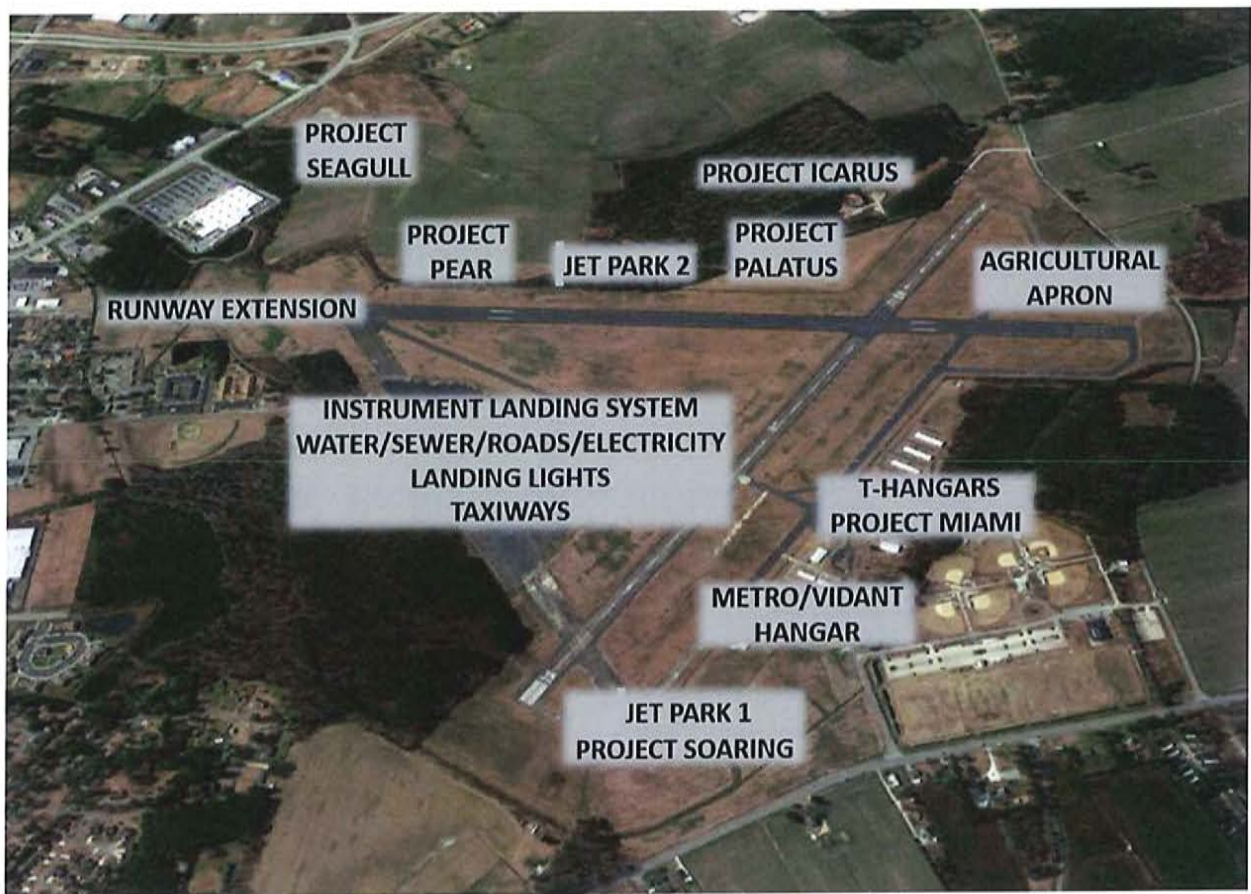
	Subject Matter	Presenter
1:00-1:05	Welcome and Introductions	Mike Harris Sharon Paynter
1:05-1:25	Presentation: Transworld Business Advisors	Ritik Patel Kelly Rawls Jr.
1:25-1:45	Presentation: Intermarket Technology	Zachary Allen Christopher Normile
1:45-2:05	Presentation: The Breakfast Bar	Kaitlyn Johnson Ashley Safranek
2:05-2:25	Presentation: West Greenville Microenterprise Development Project	Emma Kemp Dacia Ormond
2:25-2:30	Break	
2:30-2:50	Presentation: P&G Manufacturing	Celeste O'Brien Titus Williams
2:50-3:10	Presentation: The Painted Peacock	Javier Limon Wrenn Whitfield
3:10-3:30	Presentation: Carver Machine Works	Tyler Bartone Emily Saffo
3:30-3:50	Presentation: Katura Dance Academy	Jayda Pressley Terry Worley
	Closing Remarks	Tristyn Daughtry

Budget includes millions for local projects

Published Washington Daily News 7:14 pm Tuesday, November 23, 2021

By Brandon Tester

The state budget Gov. Roy Cooper signed last week includes millions of dollars for various projects throughout Beaufort County.



The budget allocates \$20 million — an amount Airport Manager Earl Malpass said could change in the weeks to come — that will be used for “modernizing the Washington-Warren Airport, including landing areas and air navigation facilities and acquiring real property for these purposes, to attract new jobs and economic growth, including existing sectors in manufacturing, boat building, and agriculture,” the signed budget document reads. The money will be appropriated to and dispersed by the Washington-Warren Airport Advisory Board.

In October, before the budget was finalized and passed, Beaufort County Economic Director Martyn Johnson said the airport would see “significant improvement” once those projects were funded. He said they projects could increase property tax and jet fuel revenues, thus helping the airport break even.

Malpass said the funding is “Obviously a pretty big deal” for the facility’s development.

In other areas of the state budget:

- Bath was allocated \$5 million for sewer system improvements.
- The state allocated \$2.5 million for the Beaufort Community College annex in Aurora. The annex will be located within a new industrial park set to be built within the town limits.



- Chocowinity was allocated \$235,000 for a new emergency vehicle.
- The budget also allocates \$121,000 for repairs and renovations at Washington High School’s soccer field.

“This is a strong budget for North Carolina and will have a great impact on eastern North Carolina,” Rep. Keith Kidwell, who represents Beaufort County in the N.C. House, said in a statement. “I am happy to have secured \$28 million for District 79 to support our local communities, towns and infrastructure.”

Sen. Ernestine Bazemore, who also represents Beaufort County said that while a few items in the budget were necessary, it is “woefully inadequate” for Tier One counties. The N.C. Department of Commerce annually assigns each county a tier designation based on their economic well-being, with Tier One being the most distressed and Tier Three being the least distressed. Beaufort County is in Tier Two. Several nearby counties are in Tier One.

“As we look at the total package (a very lucrative budget) eastern rural counties did not receive their fair share, as in comparison to other counties,” Bazemore said in a Facebook post last Wednesday.

“... I firmly believe with all the funding that was dispersed to North Carolina from the federal level that more funds could have been given to counties across the state, not just the majority going to more urban, metropolitan and Republican-led districts,” Bazemore added. “Rural areas in North Carolina should have received more and I worked to secure more for my constituents to no avail. Therefore, I voted against the state budget as presented today.”

Kidwell announces agreement between Aurora, Nutrien
Published Washington Daily News 6:32 pm Tuesday, December 7, 2021
By ktcaffeine



AURORA — Rep. Keith Kidwell announced Monday Nutrien has agreed to donate 26 acres of corporate-owned land and \$100,000 in funding to the town of Aurora.

The land being donated is near the town's new industrial park, located at the southern end of Aurora. A portion of that property will be earmarked for the development of buildings and related facilities to be used by businesses and contractors that already have offices on other Nutrien sites in Beaufort County and more widely across North Carolina.

"We will speak with our contractor businesses... and inform them that moving to the Aurora Industrial Park will not harm their business relationship with Nutrien... we are excited about future growth opportunities," said Mike Dirham, Vice President of Operations, who confirmed the agreement with Kidwell in late November and was a member of the group that worked on the plan.

Also part of the goal for that property is the building of affordable housing for Nutrien employees and others who want to move to Aurora but have limited funding options. Company policy includes the

statement that Nutrien is “proud of our neighbors and invest in communities,” which Dirham expanded on in the letter that confirmed this plan, noting that the firm’s “core values focus on safety, environmental stewardship, diversity, inclusion and community investment... we are excited about getting things moving in Aurora.”

The financial part of this agreement will be targeted toward training, specifically by funding for Aurora’s branch of Beaufort County Community College. The allocation and spending of that money will be targeted toward the part of the college branch’s curriculum that includes training for positions that relate to jobs available at Nutrien and other industrial businesses, as well as related course work. Kidwell specified that decisions about purchases made with that money will be supervised, and made by members of the BCC Aurora staff without input from Nutrien leadership.

“There has been a mass exodus over the years, with fewer and fewer services and housing opportunities in Aurora, especially for people of modest means,” Kidwell said during Monday evening’s town hall meeting. “Rebirth there means rebirth in North Carolina.”

Ray McKeithan, Nutrien’s public relations officer, said several details still need to be ironed out regarding the recent agreement, but the company is “confident that all the questions involved will be answered in a manner that moves this project forward.”

BCED Directors Report November 1 to 30, 2021

November 1, 2021

Monday

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	The Week Too Be -- Skills Center Conference Room
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Prepare for RISE29 Dinner -- Skills Center Conference Room
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	USDA Grant & Other Business -- Skills Center
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	County Commissioners Meeting -- Board Room

November 2, 2021

Tuesday

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Manager's Department Head Meeting
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	RISE29 Presentation

November 3, 2021

Wednesday

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Meeting with Wes Watson, NCWorks
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Prepare for C100 Luncheon
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Prepare for RISE29 Dinner
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Prepare for C100 Luncheon -- Skills Center Conference Room
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Airport Client Meeting -- Airport
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	RISE29 Student – Dinner Ribeyes

November 4, 2021

Thursday

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Oakridge Metals Workforce Development Team Visit -- Oakridge Metals
11:30 AM - 2:30 PM	Committee One Hundred Luncheon Meeting & Board Meeting
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Fiber Broadband Association Public Officials Committee Monthly Meeting

November 5, 2021

Friday

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	County Managers ED Meeting -- Brian's Office
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	P-Card Receipts -- Skills Center Conference Room
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	The Week That Was -- Skills Center Conference Room
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Meeting with RISE29 Student Zachary Allen -- Skills Center 705 Page Road Washington NC

November 8, 2021

Monday

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	The Week Too Be -- Skills Center Conference Room
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Projects & CIRs Review
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Project Star – Phone Call
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Airports #s and City/County Performance Grant Review & Write Up -- Airport Conference Room

November 9, 2021

Tuesday

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Airport Team Meeting with Jonathan -- Washington NC City
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Made in BC NC Ribbon Cutting -- WBC Chamber of Commerce

November 10, 2021

Wednesday

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Safety Committee Meeting (Last one for 2021) -- Zoom
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	The Untapped Talent Pool Part II: Military Retirees
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Meeting with Alfredo Aguirret - Container Yard BCIP@C
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Rivers East Workforce Development Board Meeting -- Zoom

November 11, 2021

Thursday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Veterans Day - Office Closed
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Office
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Meeting with Developer for Washington Airport, NC Projects -- Airport Conference Room & Zoom
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Time Off

November 12, 2021

Friday

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	The Week That Was -- Skills Center Conference Room
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Project Wash Meeting -- Skills Center 705 Page Road Washington, NC
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	2021 Community Health Assessment Stakeholders Meeting -- Beaufort County Community College
2:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Timesheets Due
2:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Zachary Allen, Intern -- Web Site Update

November 15, 2021

Monday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Project Swan Visits
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November 16, 2021

Tuesday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	Leadership Beaufort -- Chamber of Commerce 102 Stewart Parkway Washington NC 27889
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	NCWorks Beaufort County Partner Meeting Guest Speaker - Sally Love, Executive Director, Beaufort County UnitedWay
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Aurora Industrial Park Team Zoom Meeting 10 AM Tuesday 11/16/21 at
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Leadership Beaufort County Presentations -- Skills Center

November 16, 2021
Tuesday Continued

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Leadership Beaufort Facility Tour -- IMT
2:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Stan Armstrong - MJM NCDEQ NCDOC Project -- Telephone
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Compute North - Andrew Tate - Mobile (828) 808-2817 Andrew.Tate@duke-energy.com
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Triangle BABCNC Executive Committee Meeting -- Dial-in Number: (515) 606-5109; Participant Access Code: 298509#

November 17, 2021
Wednesday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ECU ED Class
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Hangar Scenarios & City/County Agreement -- Airport Conference Room
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Work from Airport -- Airport Team
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	2 PM Wine and Words
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Beaufort County Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting -- Skills Center Conference Room

November 18, 2021
Thursday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ECU ED Class
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	City/County Property Tax Policy Meeting
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	MJM Yachts/IES Meeting -- MJM Yachts
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Good Jobs Challenge Zoom Meeting

November 19, 2021
Friday

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	City/County Property Tax Cap Presentation + Prep for Jody's 4 PM call -- Airport Conference Room
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch with Ex-Intern Hunter Whittington -- Mulberry House
2:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Zachary Allen, Intern -- Skills Center, 705 Page Rd
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Jody's Call -- Zoom Airport Team Meeting
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	The Week That Was -- Skills Center Conference Room

November 22, 2021

Monday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MBJ Vacation -- Portland OR

November 23, 2021

Tuesday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MBJ Vacation -- Portland OR

November 24, 2021

Wednesday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MBJ Vacation -- Portland OR

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Commissioners Meeting Agenda Items Due – Hunting at BCIP@C

November 25, 2021

Thursday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Thanksgiving

November 26, 2021

Friday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Thanksgiving

Monday

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Vacation

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Board Agenda Meeting -- County Admin. Building

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Airport OZ meeting discussion

November 30, 2021

Tuesday

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Project Teek Itinerary

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Scott Hamilton Itinerary

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Aurora Industrial Park Team Zoom Meeting 10:30 AM Tuesday 11/30/21 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

C100 and Agenda review

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

ALC Business Development Committee Meeting -- 474 Main St, Aurora, NC 27806, USA

BEAUFORT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 104920 YTD NOVEMBER 2021 FY 20/21 BUDGET AS OF 12/11/21										
ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL APPROP.	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	NOV. '21	BUDGETED OR ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	% USED	% LEFT	COMMENTS
512100	SALARIES	\$154,922.00	\$137,127.00	\$45,501.73	\$11,235.10	\$0.00	\$91,625.27	33.2%	66.8%	
539300	TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE	\$0.00	\$10,682.00	\$10,465.65	\$0.00	\$496.75	(\$280.40)	102.6%	-2.6%	Temp. Emp. Ended 9/17/21
514000	TRAVEL ALLOWANCE	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,291.74	\$416.68	\$0.00	\$2,708.26	45.8%	54.2%	
518100	FICA 6.2%	\$9,916.00	\$9,916.00	\$2,878.73	\$706.14	\$0.00	\$7,037.27	29.0%	71.0%	
518200	LOC. GOV. EMP. RETIREMENT	\$17,661.00	\$17,661.00	\$5,187.19	\$1,280.80	\$0.00	\$12,473.81	29.4%	70.6%	
518300	HOSPITALIZATION-EMPLOYEE	\$13,154.00	\$13,154.00	\$4,175.68	\$1,043.92	\$0.00	\$8,978.32	31.7%	68.3%	
518400	MEDICARE 1.45%	\$2,319.00	\$2,319.00	\$673.25	\$165.14	\$0.00	\$1,645.75	29.0%	71.0%	
518600	LIFE INSURANCE-EMPLOYEE	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$14.49	\$4.57	\$0.00	\$45.51	24.2%	75.9%	
518700	WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE	\$377.00	\$377.00	\$277.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$99.20	73.7%	26.3%	
518900	401(K) EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION	\$3,092.00	\$3,092.00	\$910.02	\$224.70	\$0.00	\$2,181.98	29.4%	70.6%	
519512	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RECRUITMENT	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$3,381.71	\$115.64	\$70.81	\$3,547.48	49.3%	50.7%	
526000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$493.04	\$172.60	\$0.00	\$706.96	41.1%	58.9%	
531110	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$1,085.00	\$165.00	\$767.99	\$2,647.01	41.2%	58.8%	
532100	TELEPHONE	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$1,767.89	\$50.00	\$406.43	\$4,325.68	33.5%	66.5%	
532500	POSTAGE	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.0%	100.0%	
535210	INDUSTRIAL PARK-MAINTENANCE	\$0.00	\$970.00	\$908.67	\$908.67	\$0.00	\$61.33	93.7%	6.3%	
534100	PRINTING	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	100.0%	0.0%	
537011	ADVERTISING/PROMOTIONS *	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$548.98	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$6,701.02	16.2%	83.8%	
538000	COMPUTER SOFTWARE/SUPPORT	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$204.95	\$204.95	\$0.00	\$795.05	20.5%	79.5%	
544000	CONTRACT SERVICES	\$15,750.00	\$24,750.00	\$12,967.98	\$2,338.56	\$0.00	\$11,782.02	52.4%	47.6%	
549100	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$2,550.00	\$2,550.00	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,960.00	23.1%	76.9%	
566101	SKILLS CENTER - RENT	\$21,708.00	\$21,708.00	\$9,045.00	\$1,809.00	\$0.00	\$12,663.00	41.7%	58.3%	
566102	SKILLS CENTER - MAINTENANCE	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$4,503.06	\$1,288.18	\$0.00	\$10,496.94	30.0%	70.0%	
566106	SKILLS CENTER - UTILITIES	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$6,584.55	\$1,361.95	\$0.00	\$13,415.45	32.9%	67.1%	BCCC \$864.37
104920	TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$309,909.00	\$312,766.00	\$114,557.11	\$23,491.60	\$2,491.98	\$195,716.91	37.4%	62.6%	58.3%



KURT J. RYAN

Aurora, North Carolina

Born, raised and educated in Pennsylvania, Kurt joined the U.S. Army as a commissioned officer following graduation from college in 1987. He recently completed 34 years of service in the United States Army, retiring in 2021 at the rank of Major General.

During his service in uniform, he mastered the complexities of logistics operations with assignments across the globe, and diverse cultural experiences in nearly 50 countries, in support of national defense.

Inspired by a love of Country, service to family, faith and community; he strives to give back, to make a difference helping others who aspire to make a difference in life. Kurt's passion is to teach, coach and mentor others, helping develop skills in young people that will allow them to be successful in life.

Kurt is an experienced senior logistics, distribution and education professional. He is skilled in values-based leadership, operational and strategic planning, quality management, team building, talent management, recruiting, organizational leadership, leader development, training management and supply chains. Kurt is an action-oriented leader who takes prudent risk to achieve disciplined, results-oriented outcomes.

He believes in empowering others to excel. He prides continued education, personal and professional development and helping to develop and find opportunity for America's youth. He is committed to participating in and strengthening communities, philanthropic work through faith-based and higher education institutions as well as veterans programs.

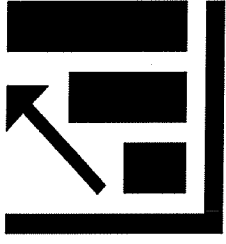
Kurt has a lifelong passion to continue to learn and grow. He is a graduate of numerous schools and is awarded a Bachelor's of Science degree from York College of Pennsylvania (Criminal Justice) and two Masters of Science degrees; from the Florida Institute of Technology (Logistics Management) and the U.S. Army's War College (Strategic Studies). He aspires to one day serve as academic faculty at a major college or university in North Carolina, the place he calls home.

His awards include those commensurate with over three decades of military service. He is most proud of the accomplishments in his youth, including the coveted award of Eagle Scout, and numerous championship wrestling titles. He still enjoys many outdoor activities, including sailing the eastern coastal waters of North Carolina, bicycling long distances, and he maintains a deep passion in the study of American and military history.

He is happily married for nearly three decades. He and his wife Jennifer have one daughter, Madison, who is a recent graduate of High Point University in NC.

Business Development

Committee Meeting



November 30, 2021
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Chamber of Commerce “Venue”

Agenda

- Kurt Ryan - ALC Chairman – Welcome
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Review highlights of ALC presentation – “*A Call to Action*”
- Committee Member Introductions
- Update on Aurora Industrial Park
- Highlights of NC State Budget
- Update on Re-establishment of Chamber of Commerce (Joy Dunn)
- SWOT Exercise
- Explore LOE 1 – Business Development Key Tasks
- ID Leadership (Chairperson, Co-chairperson, Recorder)
- Homework Assignment
 - ID “Key Tasks”
 - Bring one Resource Opportunity to next Meeting (Private/Public Grant)
 - Thoughts on establishing a “Food Desert” Task Force



ALC Mission Statement

Unify and mobilize the government, business, faith, civic and education leaders from Aurora and the greater Richland Township with the purpose; via a **volunteer committee process**; to explore opportunities, propose solutions, and act on viable plans to grow, enrich and develop the community, supporting long term prosperity and a brighter future for our citizens.

Publish a strategic plan



Four Strategic Lines of Effort



LOE 1: DEVELOP OUR ECONOMY – The town will strengthen and diversify its economy, and build employment opportunities, through partnerships. We will support existing businesses and recruit new businesses as we promote balanced land use, grow tourism and support mining operations while remaining an authentic hometown.

Champion
Commissioner



LOE 2: IMPROVE OUR EDUCATION – In partnership with the Beaufort County Schools and Community College, Aurora is committed to improving the learning experiences that will assist our students and our resident work force to achieve their greatest potential.

Champion
Commissioner



LOE 3: PROVIDE GOOD GOVERNANCE – Aurora's limited government delivers quality municipal services to its citizens with an emphasis on public safety, neighborhood livability, job creation, planning for economic growth, infrastructure improvements and protection of our environment.

Champion
Commissioner



LOE 4: COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND INVESTMENT – Continue to build on our authentic, safe and equitable town, pursuing affordable housing opportunities for all segments of our current and future residents. Synchronize civic, faith and public activities that help attract both visitors and future residents. Provide responsive public services and improve both publicly- and privately-owned places and spaces.

Champion
Commissioner

ALC Strategy Construct

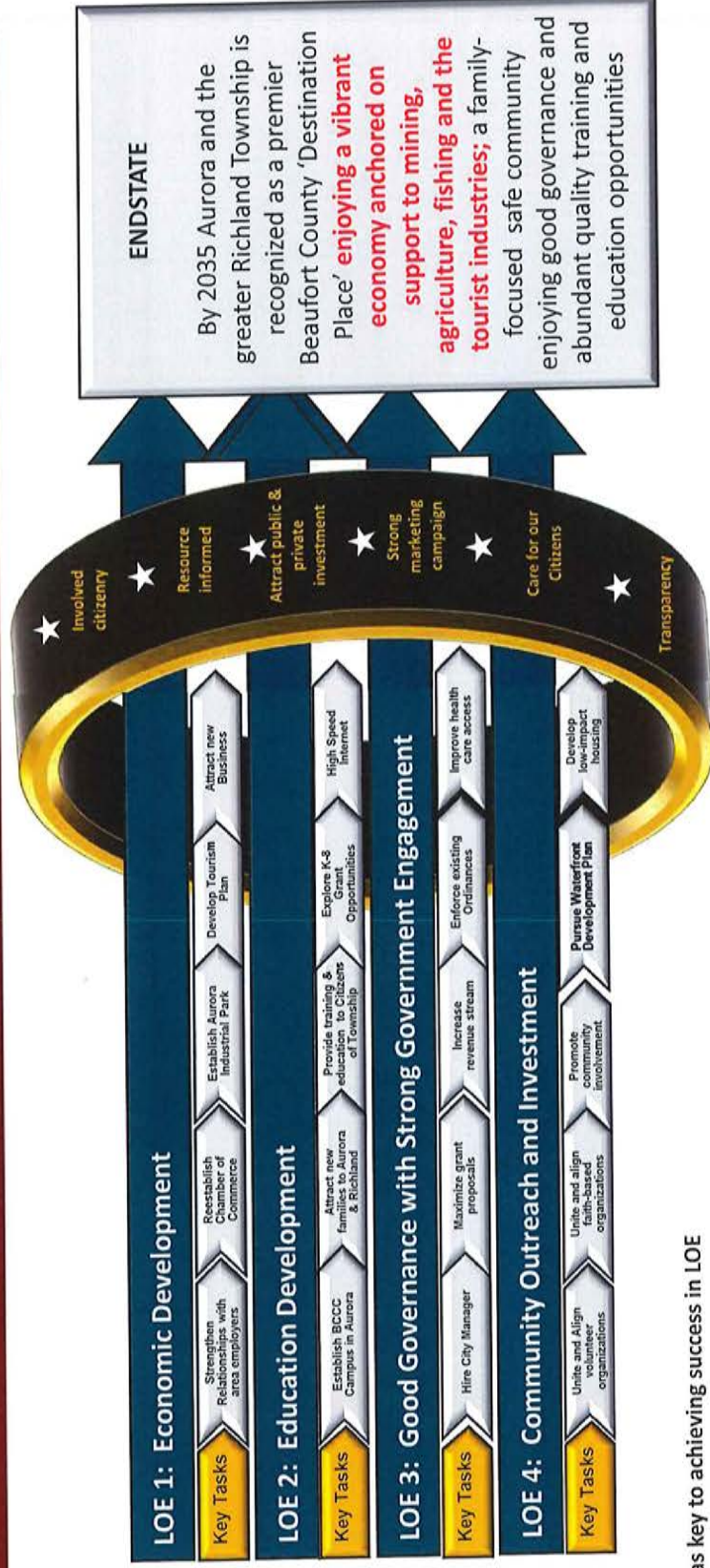
ALC Mission. Unify and mobilize the citizens from Aurora and the greater Richland Township, with the purpose to explore opportunities, propose solutions and act on viable plans to grow, enrich and develop the community, supporting long term prosperity and a brighter future for our citizens.

Committee Alignment

- **Business**
- Real Estate
- Tourism
- Grants
- **Education**
- Grants
- Civic
- Government Relations
- Resources
- Grants
- Civic
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Faith-based
- Real Estate

LOE - Line of Effort

Key Task - defined as key to achieving success in LOE



Aurora – 'Beaufort County's Great Destination Place'



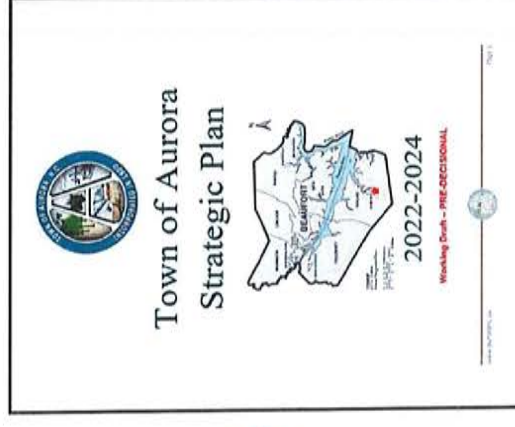
Proposed ALC Committees

Committee

Chairperson

- Government Relations Committee
- Business Development Committee**
- Real Estate Development and Permitting Committee
- Resources / Grants Committee
- Education Committee
- Tourism Development Committee
- Faith-based Committee
- Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Civic Organization Committee

TBD
TBD
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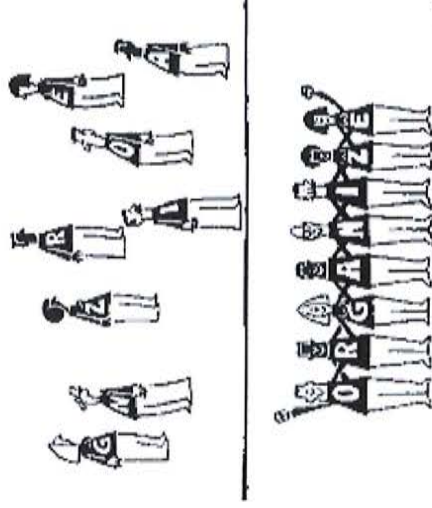


Committee Sign-up at <https://www.auroralife.us/alc>

Committee Tasks

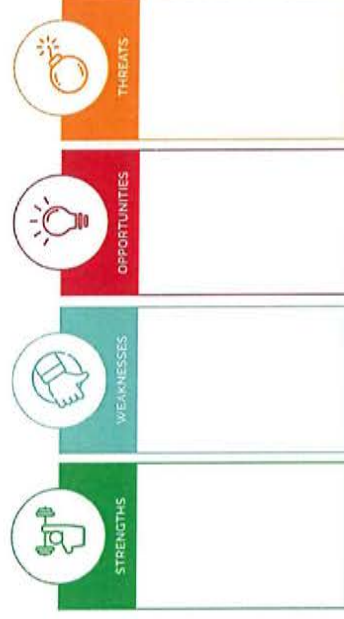
ENDS – WAYS - MEANS

ORGANIZE FOR ACTION



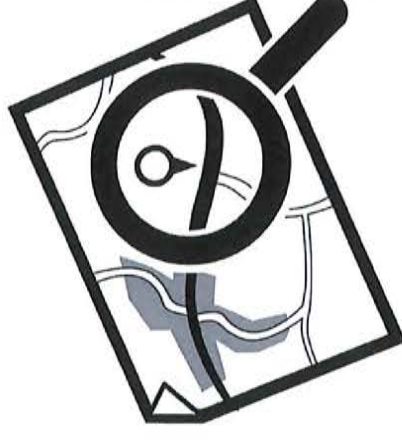
1

SWOT ANALYSIS



2

REFINE THE PLAN



3

Introductions

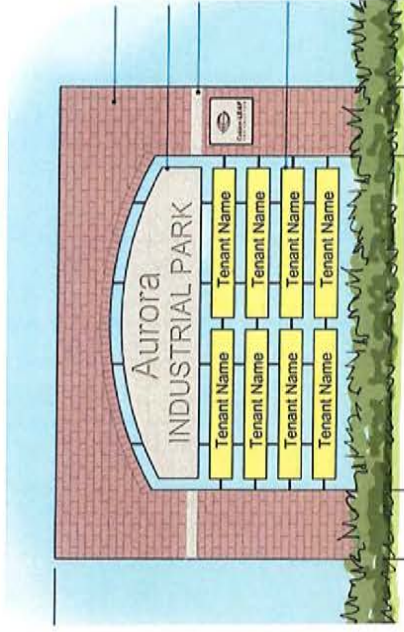
- **Name**
- **How long you've lived in the township**
- **Your special skills / talents**
- **One thing you wish for Aurora and Richland Township**



Aurora Industrial Park

Mission

Develop Industrial Park vicinity Aurora, NC.



Concept

- 51 acres rezoned for commercial use
- Town sewer and water capacity adequate to support development
- Area possible for future growth
- Concepts for subdivision include two access points.

Purpose

- Boost economic development
- Increase new and existing job growth to Aurora and Richland Township
- Provide safe, attractive work environment for businesses
- Host offices, educational facilities, laydown yards, fabricating and repair facilities in support of Regional business activity.





NC State Budget (Infrastructure/Business)

- Budget total **\$25.9 billion for 2021-22** and **\$27 billion for 2022-23**.
- Cuts the personal income tax rate from 5.25% to 3.99% by 2027, starting with 4.99% in 2022.
- Rainy day fund increased to \$4.25 billion.
- Phases out the corporate income tax beginning in 2025, reaching zero by the end of the decade
- **\$6 billion in cash** to the State Capital and Infrastructure Fund over the biennium to fund infrastructure projects and pay down debt.
- Annual cash contributions to capital and infrastructure projects and debt service totaling **\$16.1 billion over 10 years**.
- Creates a **\$500 million fund to disperse one-time grants to businesses** impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in the hospitality and entertainment sectors with priority to businesses who have not previously received an award.



BCCC Update

(Compliments of Dr. Stacey Gerard)

Beaufort County Community College released the Spring 2022 Course Schedule last week. Printed copies will be arriving in mailboxes within the next two weeks. BCCC mails the course schedules every door direct mail to Blounts Creek, Edward, and Aurora. We anticipate these arriving in mailboxes within the next two weeks. It can be accessed digitally at <https://www.beaufortccc.edu/current-con-ed> BCCC is now offering 2-wheel and 3-wheel Motorcycle Safety classes on our driving pad located on the main campus in Washington, NC.

The Small Business Center is launching a new Airbnb Entrepreneurship Academy this spring. The 8-hour course is being held May 2nd and May 9th from 5-9 pm at the Vernon James Center in Plymouth, NC. We plan to hold the course on our main campus during the summer 2022 term. The course will introduce students to the Airbnb app and discuss how it has revolutionized travel. will discuss travel trends and will then be introduced to the fundamentals of business entrepreneurship—and the value of their personal story. Lastly, students will have the opportunity to practice the creative skills associated with setting up an Experience or Home on the Airbnb platform. (Course Flyer attached)

Other new courses launching this spring in continuing education:

Digital Literacy
Diesel Mechanic Technician (includes work-based learning component with local employer)
GED Fast Track Online
Insurance Pre-Licensing courses/asynchronous online (Property Agent, Casualty Agent, NC Life, NC Health, Personal Lines)
Mental Health First Aid
BCCC Employment Learning Lab (B.E.L.L.)

Beaufort Promise Scholarship: covers tuition and fees for college credit courses and 50+ hour continuing education initial certification courses until May 2023! **Summer 2022 is not covered, and textbooks and uniforms are not included.

SWOT ANALYSIS

 STRENGTHS	 WEAKNESSES	 OPPORTUNITIES	 THREATS

ID Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats



LOE 1 – Business Development Key Tasks (Draft)

Promote business prosperity and sustainable development

Re-establish Aurora and Richland Township Chamber of Commerce

-

Establish Aurora Industrial Park (AIP)

Attract new tourism and develop diversified tourism plan

-

Attract new business

-

Other?



Leadership Opportunities

Committee Chairperson

- Represents the Committee for Semi-Annual ALC
- Facilitates meetings

Committee Co-Chair

- Represents Chairperson in their absence

Committee Recorder

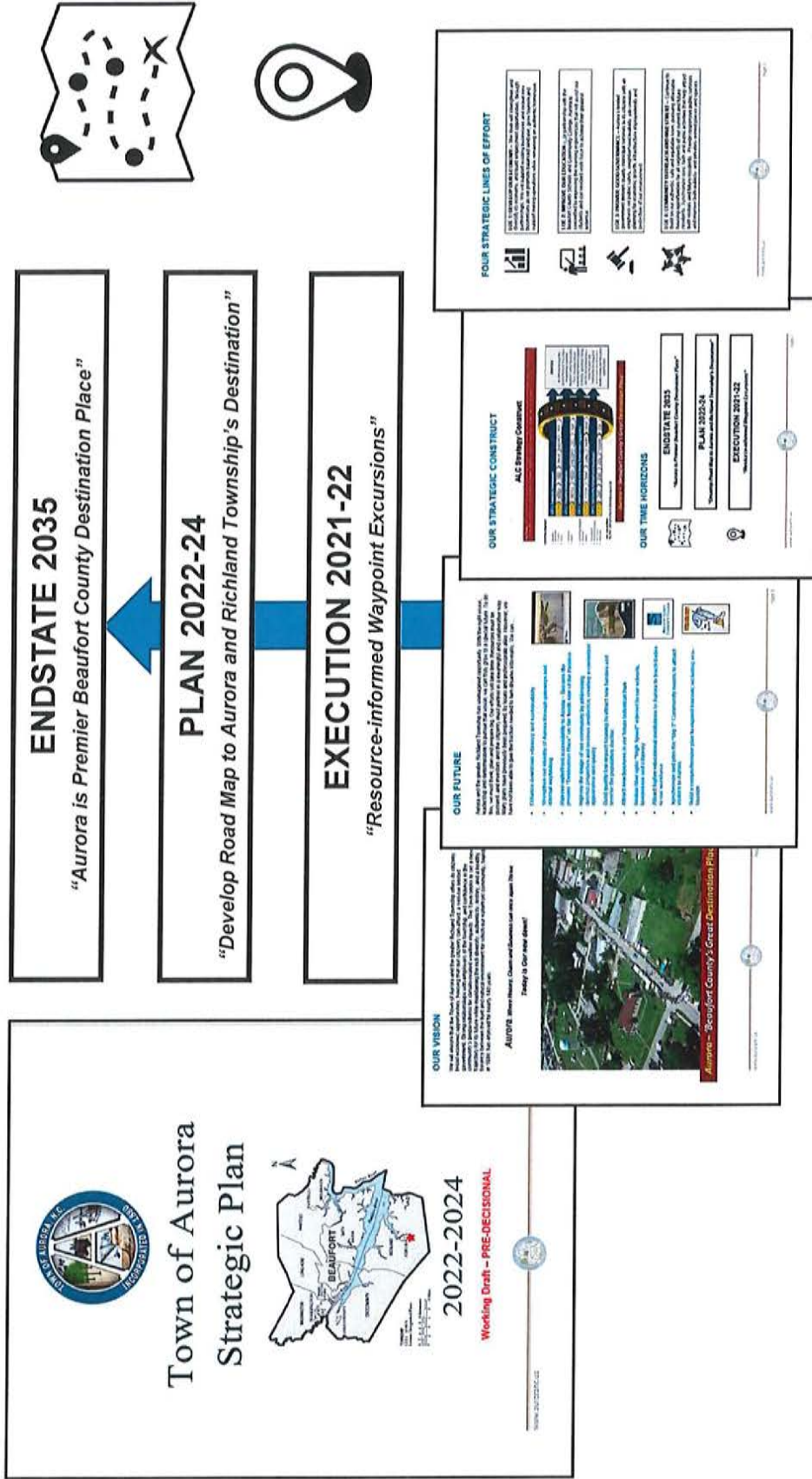
- Compiles minutes
- Distributes minutes to committee members

Homework

For next committee meeting, please come prepared to discuss:

1. From a Business perspective, what actions do you think qualify as “Key Tasks” for inclusion in the Strategic Plan?
2. Research resource opportunities in support business development in Aurora and the township
 - Grants, Donations, Public Funding, etc
 - Bring research data (Point of Contact, web links, details) and be prepared to give a short synopsis of your discovery at next committee meeting
3. ID Capital Improvement Requirements

Time Horizons





ALC Organizing Approach

- Membership is open to any person living in/or working in Richland Township – inclusive representation of the greater community
- Chairperson is empowered to appoint / disband standing committees with specific focused developmental areas for exploration
- Town Commissioners, and other key county and state officials may serve as ex officio members of ALC – Commissioners designated as LOE Champions
- Decisions associated with all town ordinances and development plans will be presented to, and approved by the governance body of the town of Aurora
- All ALC council, committee and public meetings will be scheduled and published to afford maximum participation and full transparency
- Council will structure to encourage community initiative with minimal bureaucracy

Aurora Workforce Development Center (BCCC)

- 4,000 sq. ft. building adjacent to Contractor Village
- Approx. \$2.5 million from the State
- Will include two classrooms, one large lab space, two offices, two bathrooms, one storage room
- Stick built or metal structure?
- Training courses for Nutrien and other contractors: hydraulic/pneumatic training, John Deere diesel engine training, forklift training, leadership training, OSHA training
- Courses for general public: Adult Basic Education, GED, English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Will enable employees to avoid one-hour drive to Washington campus

[illegible]

Lively and mobilize the citizens from Aurora and the greater Richland Township, with the purpose to explore opportunities, propose solutions and act on viable plans to grow, enrich and develop the community. *Supporting long term prosperity and a brighter future for our citizens.*

The town of Aurora and the Leadership Council utilizes the services of local volunteers to fill various committees. If you are interested in joining any of the newly formed committees; an extension of the ALC Initiative; please contact the Town Clerk at 252-322-4611 or email this volunteer sign-up sheet to townofaurora@auroracnc.org

Date of finalization: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address (if different)

Phone #: _____

Government Relations	☐	Resources / Grants	☐
Business Development	☐	Education Development	☐
Tourism Development	☐	Fair-based Initiative	☐
Real Estate Development	☐	Civic Organization Initiative	☐
Diversity and Inclusion	☐		

Answer: *Yes, because you'll find it in the answers to Richard Thompson's*

10. How do you think that you will help in a particular committee or committees?

Do you have any potential conflicts of interest that could interfere with your active participation on a

Signature: _____

Thank you for your interest in serving as a volunteer for the Town of Aurora, in support of the growth and development of our community.

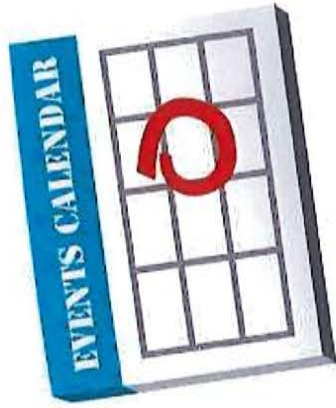
Richard Township

<http://www.auroralife.us/alca>



What do Tourism organizations do in support of our citizenry?

[illegible]



Big “3” Or “4”

What large community gatherings can the town of Aurora support in a given year? These will be explored in three committees: Faith, Business, and Tourism.

Event
Dates
Lead

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**AURORA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 30, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Aurora Leadership Council (ALC) Economic Development Committee was held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at the Chamber of Commerce. Kurt Ryan, ALC Chair, called the meeting to order with the following present:

Committee Chair Present: ☒ TBD – Kurt Ryan served as acting chair

**Committee Members
Present:**

☒ Martyn Johnson
☒ Joy Dunn
☒ Brian Potter
☒ Omar Bahhur
☐ Julie Billups-Rattler
☐ Kathryn Daniels
☒ Webster Walker
☐ Allen Paul
☒ Bill Garrison
☐ Connie Bennett
☒ Mike Bennett
☐ Myra Shields
☐ Rozetta Davis
☐ Brenda Paul
☒ Vernice Whitaker
☐ Mary Burr
☐ Denise Frazier
☒ Joy McCracken
☐ Christina Howerin
☐ Lori Albrandt
☒ Nancy Cameron-Hubbard
☒ Cherie Hogue

Guest Attendance: ☒ Clif Williams
 ☒ Jeff Peed
 ☐

Agenda:

- Kurt Ryan - ALC Chairman – Welcome
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Review highlights of ALC presentation – “*A Call to Action*”
- Committee Member Introductions
- Update on Aurora Industrial Park
- Highlights of NC State Budget
- Update on Re-establishment of Chamber of Commerce (Joy Dunn)
- SWOT Exercise

- Explore LOE 1 – Business Development Key Tasks
- ID Leadership (Chairperson, Co-chairperson, Recorder)
- Homework Assignment
 - ID “Key Tasks”
 - Bring one Resource Opportunity to next Meeting (Private/Public Grant)
 - Thoughts on establishing a “Food Desert” Task Force

New Business / Discussion:

Kurt Ryan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and an overview of the ALC initiative (Slides Available).

The committee made formal introductions, highlighting their backgrounds and interest to serve on the Economic Development Committee. Each new member also shared their special skills and talents, what organizations they currently support, and described what they wished as an outcome for the community.

The committee worked through one group exercise:

1. ID “Key Tasks” associated with LOE #1 – Economic Development. Five current tasks were discussed and approved, as well as a 6th key task added; Re-establish full-service grocery store. Each of these key tasks will be individually explored and documented in the strategic plan.
 - Promote business prosperity and sustainable development
 - Re-establish Aurora and Richland Township Chamber of Commerce
 - Establish Aurora Industrial Park (AIP)
 - Attract new tourism and develop diversified tourism plan
 - Attract new business
 - (NEW) Re-establish full-service grocery store
2. Dr. Gerard provided in advance some information about Beaufort County Community College activities and opportunities focused on economic development. They are captured below.
 - **The Small Business Center is launching a new Airbnb Entrepreneurship Academy this spring.** The 8-hour course is being held May 2nd and May 9th from 5-9 pm at the Vernon James Center in Plymouth, NC. We plan to hold the course on our main campus during the summer 2022 term. The course will introduce students to the Airbnb app and discuss how it has revolutionized travel. will discuss travel trends and will then be introduced to the fundamentals of business entrepreneurship—and the value of their personal story. Lastly, students will have the opportunity to practice the creative skills associated with setting up an Experience or Home on the Airbnb platform.
3. Mr. Ryan, provided an update on the progress to establish the Aurora Industrial Park. Mayor Williams answered questions of the committee members on the status of the project.
4. Mayor Williams also shared an update on a recent engagement with the NC Fish and Wildlife Commission about improvements and expansion of Aurora’s waterfront.

5. A healthy discussion ensued about High-Speed Internet/Broadband. Although this key task resides in the “Education LOE”, the committee agreed such capability is paramount to economic development. Status of the effort to extend such services to Aurora and the rest of Richland Township will be explored in both the economic and education committees.
6. Due to time, SWOT analysis was deferred to next committee meeting.

The meeting concluded with a request by the ALC chair to designate two committee leadership positions; a committee chairperson and a recorder. Ms. Vernice Whitaker has volunteered to serve as the Economic Development Committee Chair. The ALC Chair approved her to serve as the Economic Development Chair. Please send your congratulations, and ideas about economic development to her as we continue to develop the key tasks associated with growing our economy.

Ms. Nancy Cameron-Hubbard volunteered to serve as the committee’s recorder. We thank her so much and know she will make a lasting positive impact to our effort.

Lastly, we thank Mayor Clif Williams and Commissioner Jeff Peed for joining us for the inaugural Economic Committee meeting. Their presence demonstrates the incredible importance of the ALC committees in planning and preparing for Aurora’s revitalization efforts. We welcome all our government leaders to participate as their calendars permit.

Decisions:

The only decision followed a lively discussion on the difference between ‘business’ and ‘economic’ development. The committee recommended, and I approved, to change to committee name from ‘Business Development’ to ‘Economic Development’ committee, better nesting with LOE #1 – Economic Development.

Preparation for next meeting:

Each committee member was asked to come to the next committee meeting with recommendations on:

1. Research resource opportunities (including Grants) and BPT present findings at next committee meeting.
2. Conduct SWOT Analysis (ID Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Strengths).
3. Form “TF Food Desert” to explore opportunities to reestablish a full-service grocery store in Aurora.

The meeting concluded at 9:05 PM.

A big thanks to the Aurora and Richland Township Chamber of Commerce and the “Venue” for hosting the committee meeting.



It is our mission to protect your health, but we need you to do your part.

COVID-19 Surveillance Data

Beaufort County Health Department

1436 Highland Drive, Washington, North Carolina 27889
252.946.1902

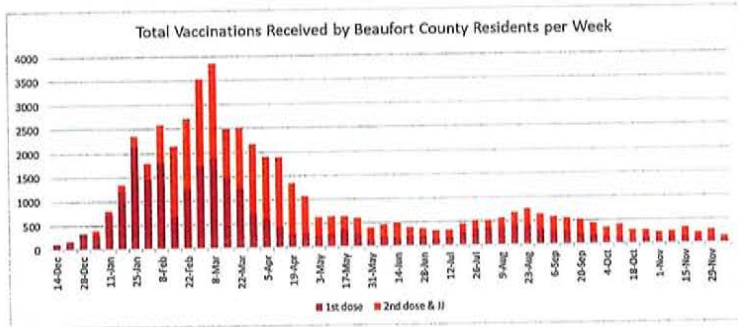
Updates are generally completed daily during the work week though some data is compiled weekly or monthly.



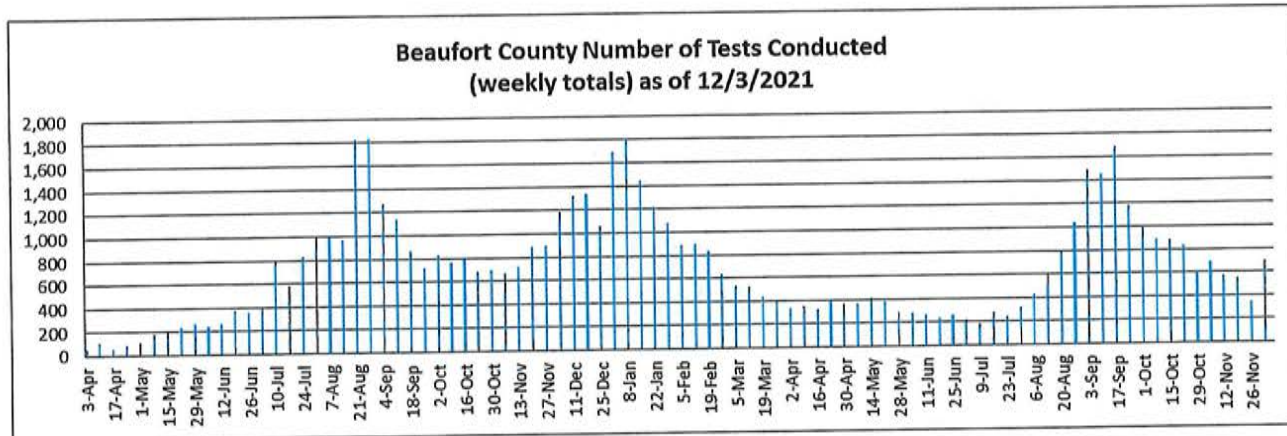
Friday, December 10, 2021			
Tests conducted on Beaufort county residents (to date)	61,404		
Total cases (tested positive)	7,716		
Total hospitalizations that have occurred	332	4.3%	
Total Deaths*	134	1.7%	
Average age of deaths (years)	75.0		
Known active cases currently in the county	176		
Currently hospitalized	8	4.5%	
Currently on a ventilator	-		
Total cases recovered	7,406	96.0%	
Seven (7) day average case rate	13.9		
Positive cases since June 1, 2021**	3,052		
Breakthrough (positive after completing vaccination)**	459	15%	
Deaths* from long term care facilities	53	40%	
*Deaths reported through this website have been confirmed through a review of the death certificates. This validation process can sometimes take a long time when a resident passes in another County or State. Other sources may report presumptive totals and therefore will vary with those reported here.			
**June 1, 2021 is used as a starting point due to first breakthrough case and start of Delta Variant detected in area.			

COVID-19 Vaccination Information:

[Click Here for more Information on the COVID Vaccination](#)



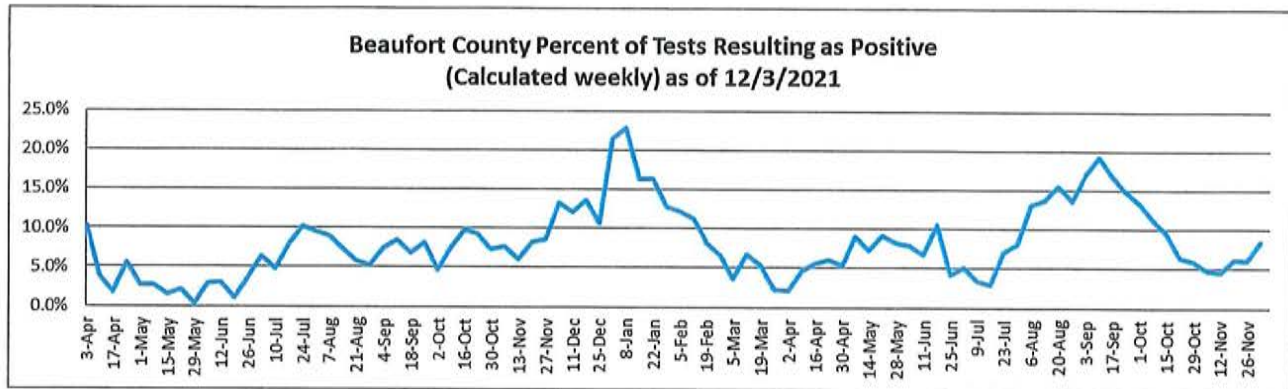
Friday, December 10, 2021		Total
Beaufort County Population (NCSCHS)		47,079
Residents that are partially vaccinated against COVID-19		26,074 55.4%
Completed COVID-19 vaccine series (all vaccines)		24,565 52.2%
Total Doses administered		50,639
Population over 65 years of age (NCSCHS)		11,281
Over 65 that have received first dose of COVID-19 vaccine		10,513 93.2%
Over 65 that have completed series		10,176 90.2%
Adult Population (18 and older)		37,758
Partially vaccinated		24,881 65.9%
Fully vaccinated		23,631 62.6%
12-17 year olds vaccinated		3,295
Partially vaccinated		978 29.7%
Fully vaccinated		838 25.4%
5-11 year olds vaccinated		3,604
Partially vaccinated		188 5.2%
Fully vaccinated		64 1.8%



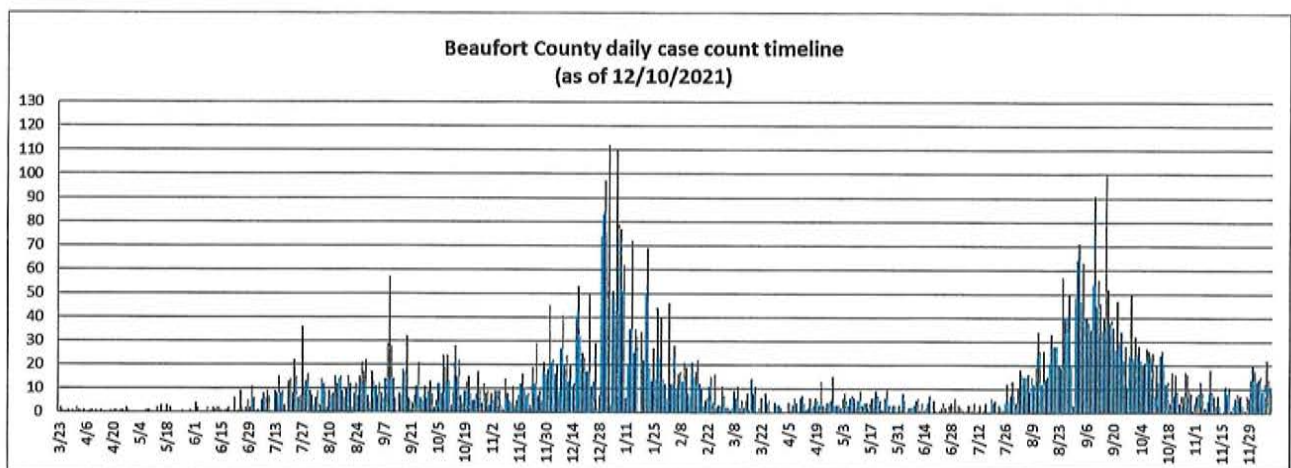
This data is usually compiled on Monday for the previous week's count.



For the week ending December 3rd:
8.5% of the 695 residents, tested in Beaufort County,
tested positive.

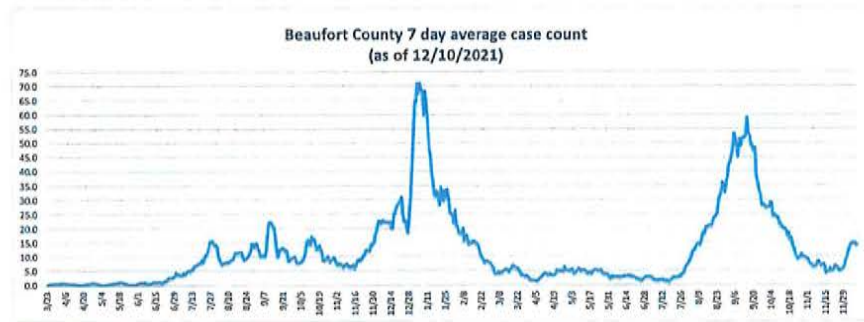


This data is usually compiled on Monday for the previous week's count.
Only tests conducted in the county and results known.

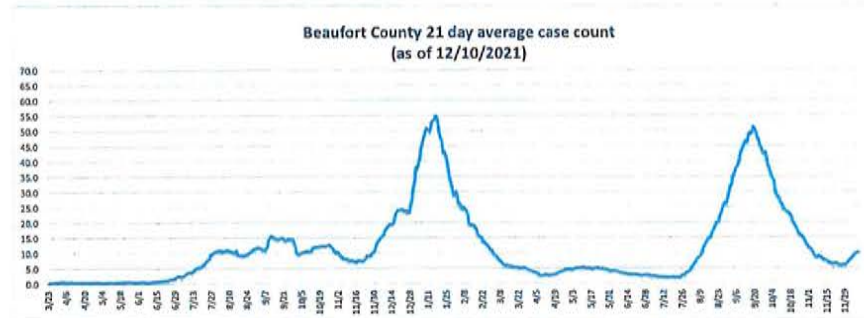




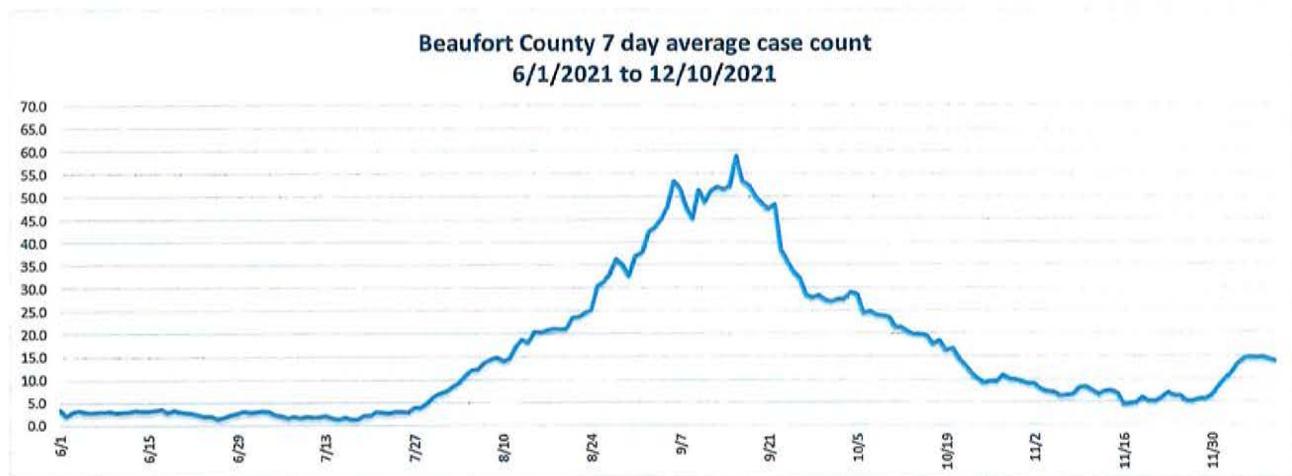
7 Day
Average



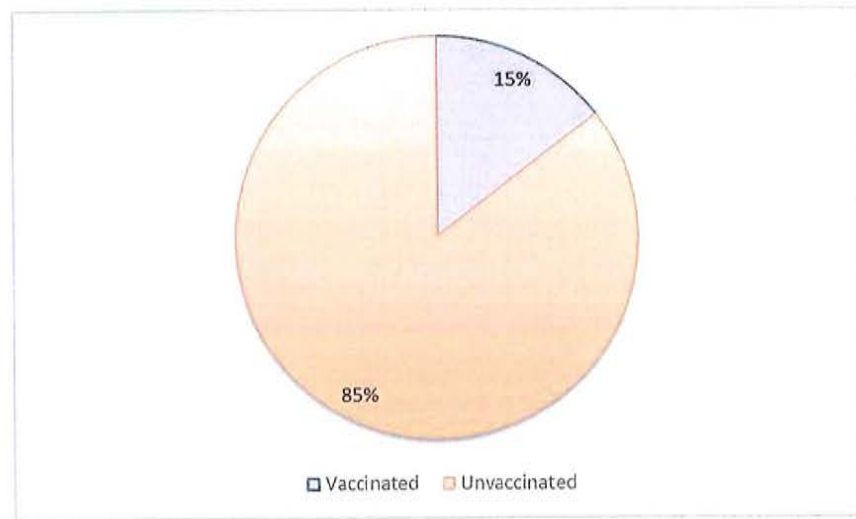
21 Day
Average



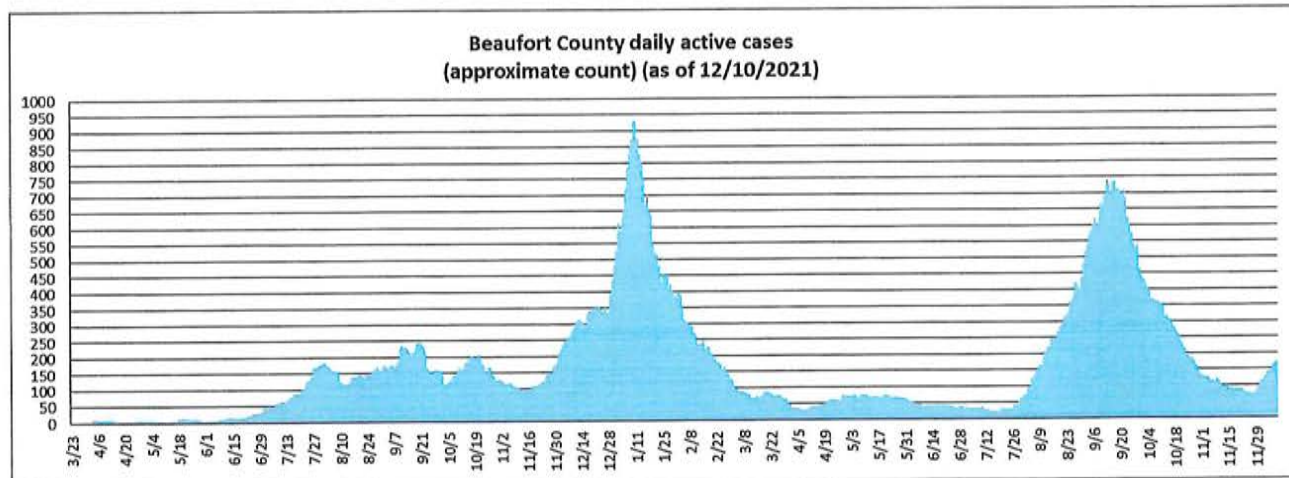
A 21 day average count reduces the weekly variability which may make it more difficult to follow the overall trend.



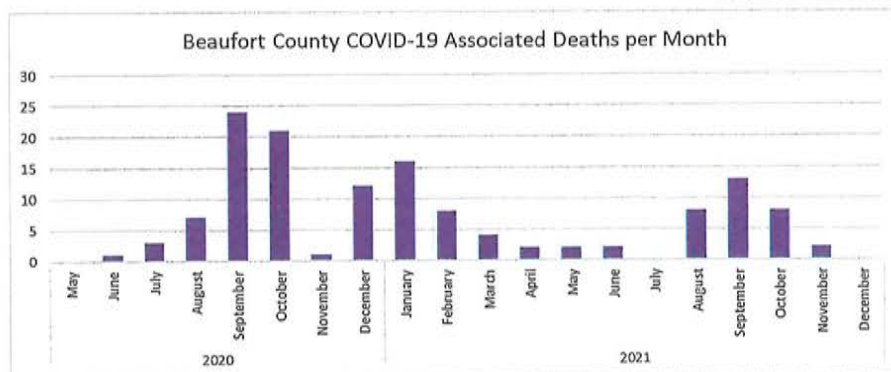
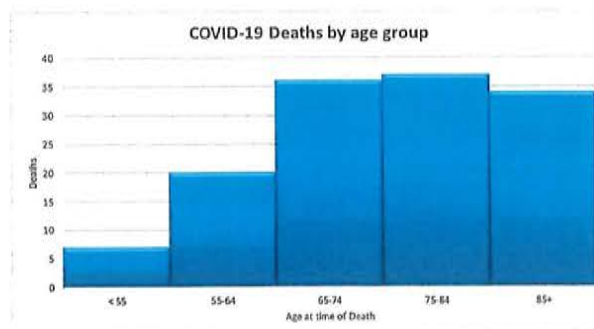
Vaccine Status of positive cases (N=3,005) from June 1, 2021* to December 7, 2021



*June 1, 2021 used as starting point due to emergence of Delta Variant and first breakthrough case recorded

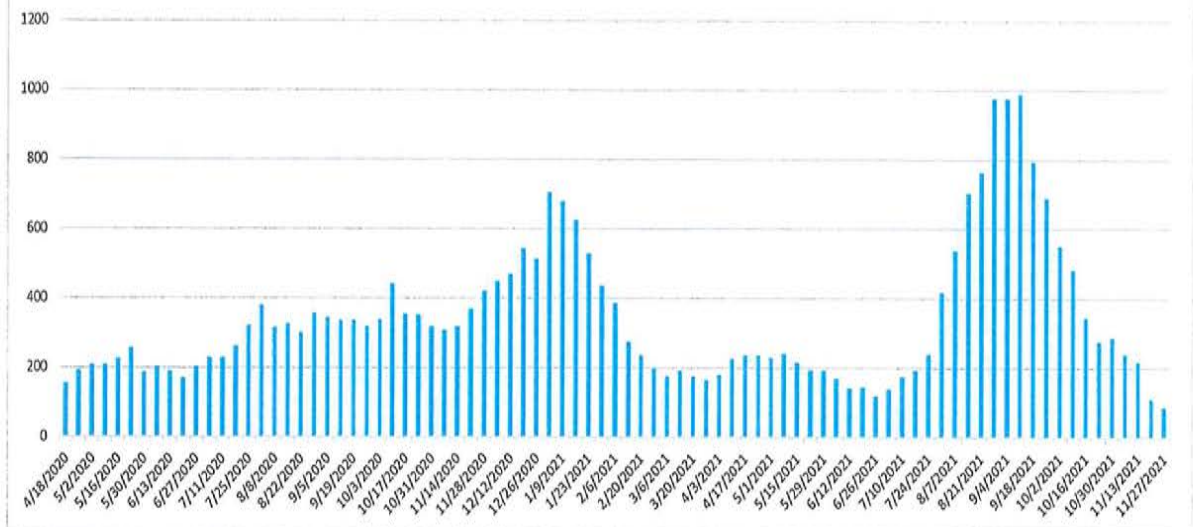


Beaufort County Associated Deaths (134 total)



Selected Demographic Information of positive COVID cases (N=7305)				134	
Expected %*		Number	Percent	Deaths	
Race (ethnicity)					
White (non-Hispanic)	65.9%	4522	61.9%	89	66.4%
Black (non-Hispanic)	24.8%	1165	15.9%	37	27.6%
Hispanic	8.0%	711	9.7%	7	5.2%
Other	1.3%	257	3.5%	1	0.7%
Unk		650	8.9%		
Gender					
F	52.5%	4014	54.9%	69	51.5%
M	47.5%	3278	44.9%	65	48.5%
missing		13	0.2%		
Age Cohort					
0-17	19.6%	1271	17.4%	0	
18-24	7.6%	826	11.3%	0	
25-49	22.0%	2465	33.7%	4	3.0%
50-64	21.8%	1458	20.0%	23	17.2%
65+	24.0%	1283	17.6%	107	79.9%
unk		2	0.0%		
*2019 USCB population estimates					

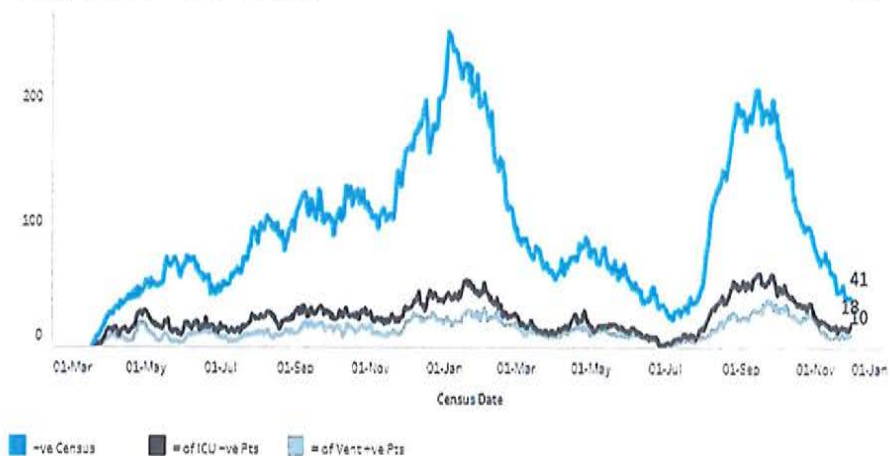
Vidant Health Covid-like Illness Syndromic Surveillance
Weekly Number of ED visits with Signs and Symptoms of Covid-19
Source: NC DETECT

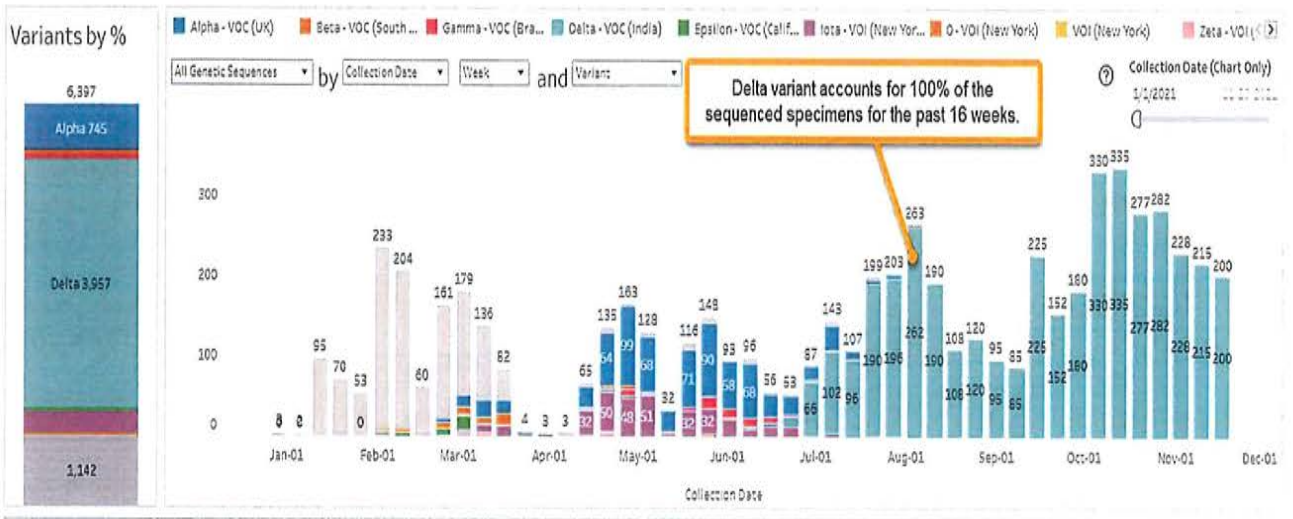


Vidant Regional Information (9 facilities total) - data released 12/1/2021

This chart is daily total number Vidant Health Covid-19 patients hospitalized.
Inpatients
ICU
On ventilator

Daily Census - IP, ICU, Vent





Future of Health Care in the East

Dr. Michael Waldrum
CEO, Vidant Health
Dean, Brody School of Medicine





A Foundation of Visionary Leadership

- More than 40 years ago, we set a forward-looking vision to become a national model for rural health.
 - Since then, we have seen that vision become a reality, as we have grown and evolved into a national leader who cares for more than 1.4 million people across eastern North Carolina.
- 



Our Next Chapter

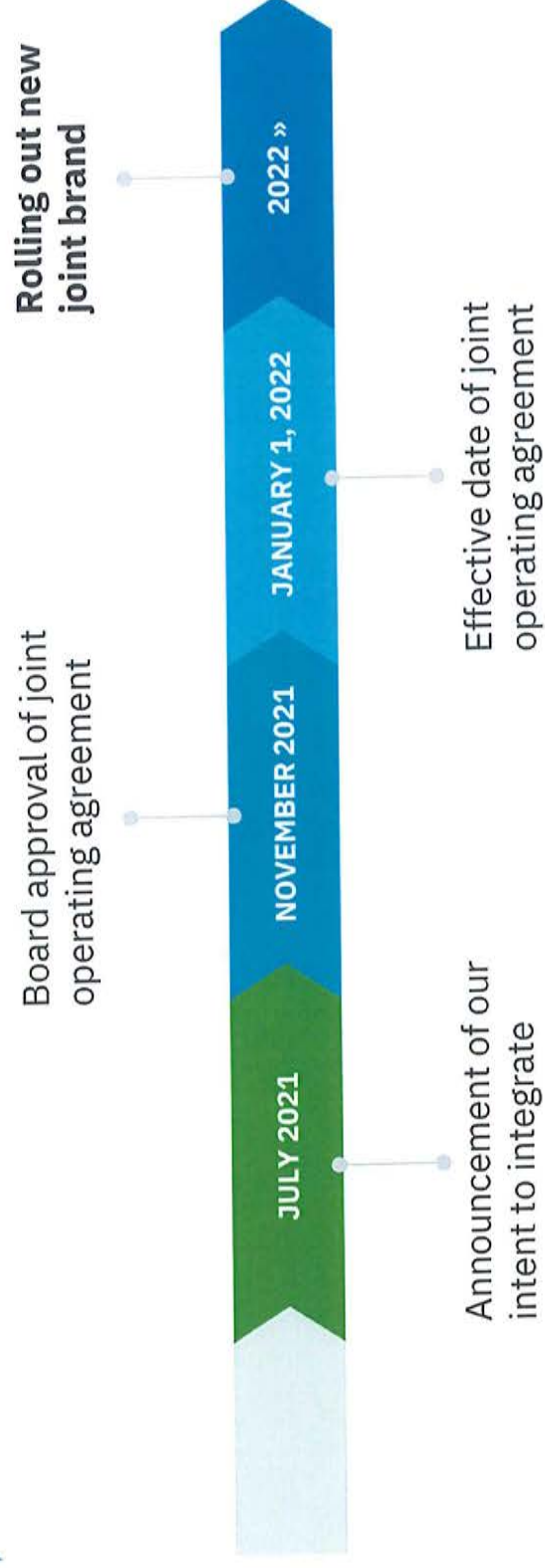


VIDANT HEALTH™

*We are stronger when we combine our collective expertise and energies to
improving the health of eastern North Carolina*



Timeline



Why ENC Needs This

This partnership makes the two leading health care organizations in our community **even stronger**.



Already, more than **29 counties** depend on our joint organization.



We can **increase access to health care** and **help offset the negative impact** from some of these social determinants of health.



The formation of ECU Health is laying the foundation for even **greater collaboration and coordination** across our region.



Partnership in Action



GammaTile



Neo-Natal



Telehealth



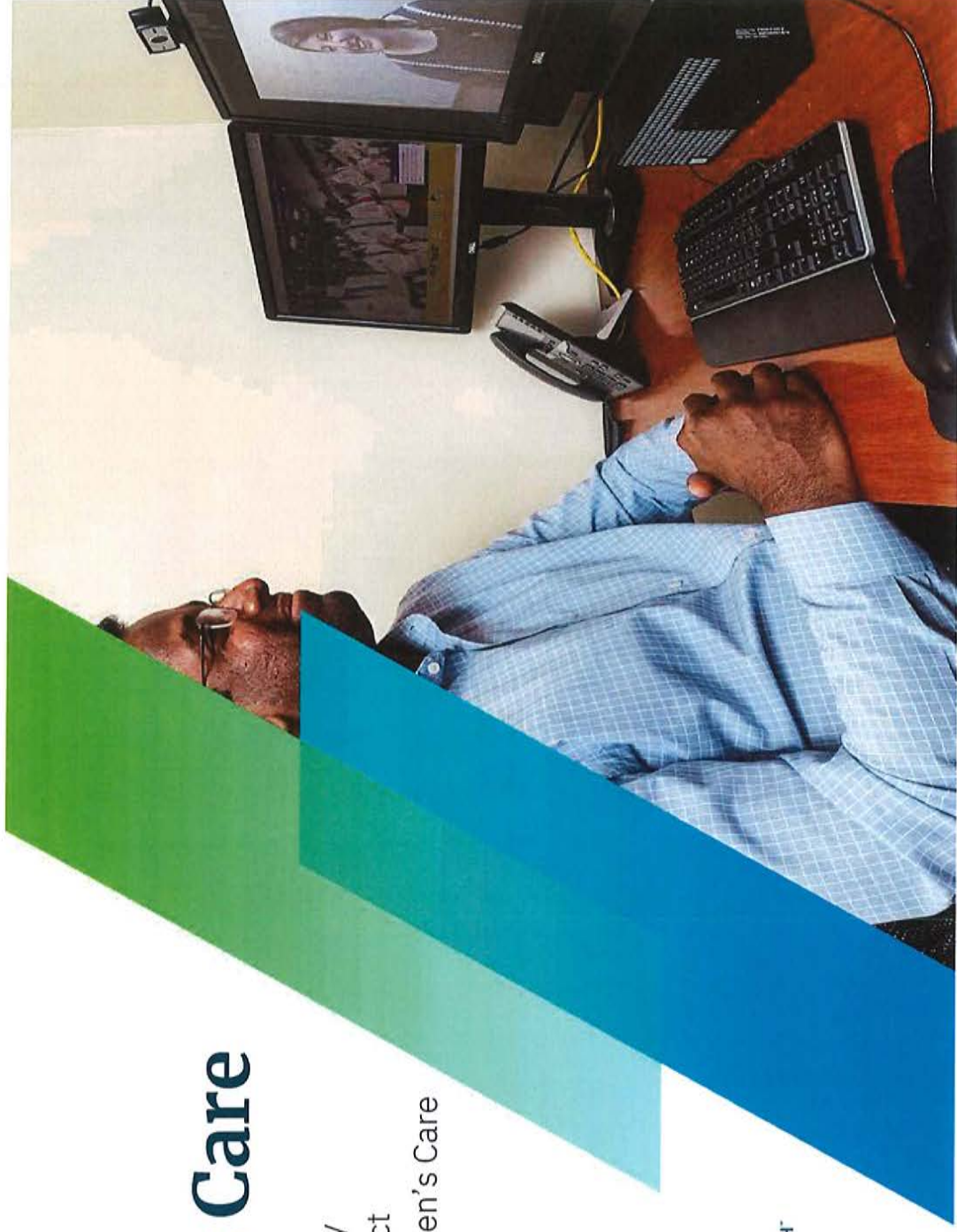
COVID testing

Rural Family Medicine Residency Program



Access to Women's Care

- Reducing infant mortality
- Brody's MOTHeRS Project
- Vidant Williamston Women's Care



Building on what we've already started

- **More than \$50 million invested**
 - *New/Expanded emergency department
 - *Significant infrastructure spend (boilers, electrical, etc.)
 - *Significant investment in Belhaven
 - *Cancer Center expansion
 - *Community Health Improvement / mobile wellness (100% donor funded)
- **Expanded cardiology practice to 7 days a week**
- **Vidant Beaufort: A campus of VMC**
- **Robotic Assisted Knee Surgery**
- **Enhanced provider recruitment**



COVID Testing & Vaccines

Since the beginning of the pandemic:

Total PCR tests resulted:

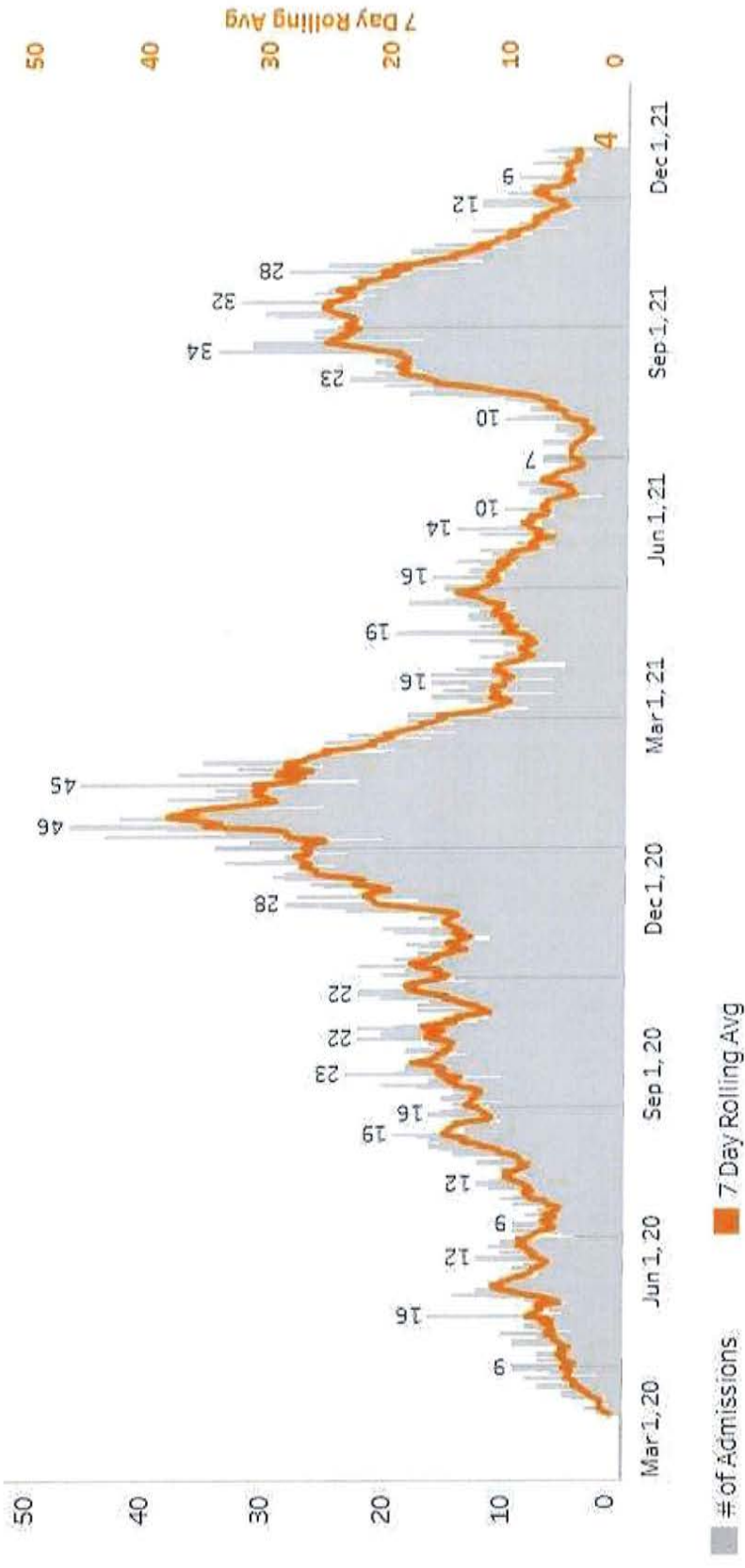
622,045

Total vaccine doses administered:

183,677

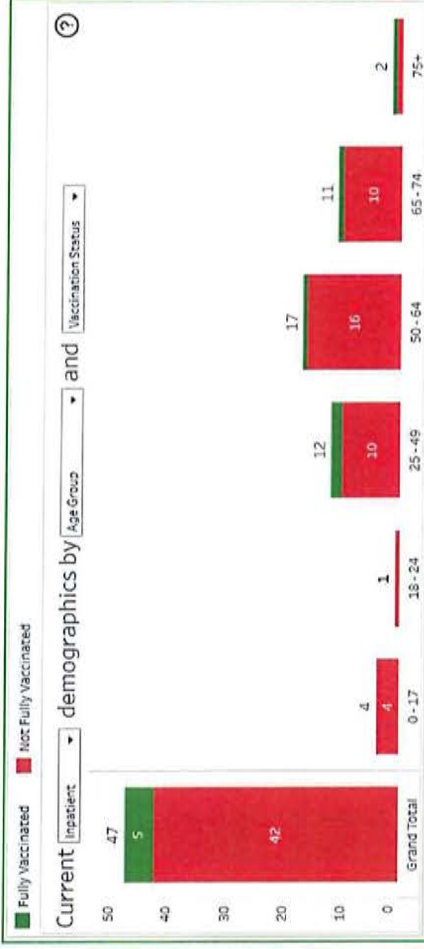


Hospital Admissions: by Day and 7 day Rolling Avg

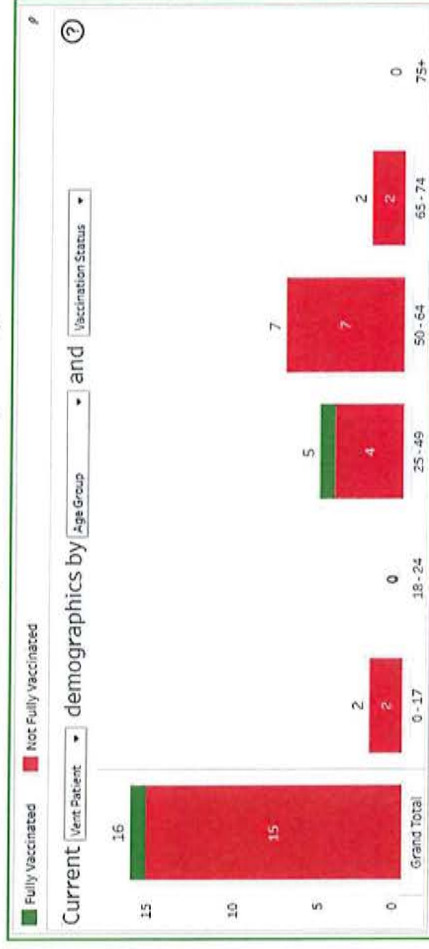




Delta Variant



Above: Of the 47 Covid+ Inpatients, 42 were not fully vaccinated (89.3%), while 5 were fully vaccinated (10.7%).



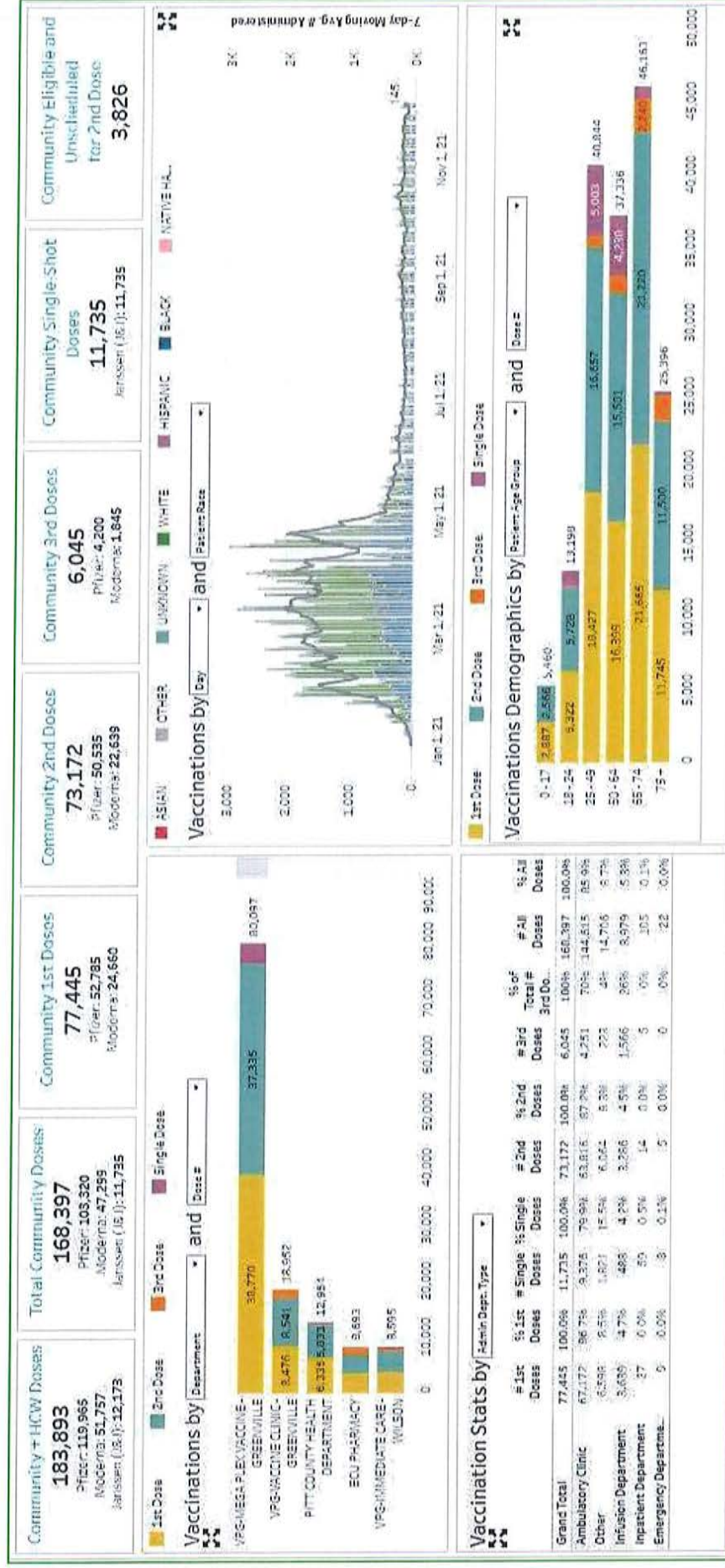
Left: Of 16 Covid+ Vent Patients, 15 were not fully vaccinated (93.8%), while 1 was fully vaccinated (6.2%).



Above: Of 21 Covid+ ICU Patients, 19 were not fully vaccinated (90.5%) while 2 were fully vaccinated (9.5%).

- Greater than 99% of all samples sequenced by ECU's research lab since August have been the Delta Variant.
- Vaccines are safe, effective and proven to help reduce the severity of COVID-19 complications.
- Monitoring Omicron and other Variants

Community Vaccines | all





Local response to COVID

- Vidant Beaufort's peak number of COVID positive inpatients was 31
 - Vidant Beaufort has cared for 623 unique COVID positive inpatients
 - Thank you to the Vidant Beaufort team, the County and all of our community partners
- 

We Need Your Support Questions



VIDANT HEALTH™