



## Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

November 2, 2023

4:00 p.m.

- |       |   |                               |
|-------|---|-------------------------------|
| I.    | Call to Order/Invocation  | Mr. Branham                   |
| II.   | Approval of Minutes from the 8/17/23 Quarterly Board Meeting<br><i>(Minutes attached)</i>   | Mr. Branham                   |
| III.  | Review of 9/30/23 Internal Financial Statements<br><i>(9/30/23 Operating Statements attached)</i>   | Ms. Chitwood/<br>Mr. Imler    |
| IV.   | Transportation Items:   | Mr. Allen                     |
|       | A. Consideration of amendments to the FY2024-2033 Catawba COG<br>Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)   |                               |
|       | B. Consideration of proposed safety targets for FY2023-2024 for the<br>Catawba COG Region as required by the FAST Act/BIL and SC DOT                        |                               |
|       | C. Overview of amendments to the FY2015-2040 Long Range<br>Transportation Plan (LRTP)   |                               |
| V.    | Climate Pollution Reduction Grants – Overview   | Mr. Allen                     |
| VI.   | Consideration of updates to the Catawba Region’s Distress Criteria<br>Maps (SC Textile Communities Revitalization Act), based<br>upon 2020 U.S. Census data | Mr. Little                    |
| VII.  | York County 2023 Wage and Benefit Survey  | Mr. Swenson<br>Ms. Reddecliff |
| VIII. | 2024 Elected Officials Forum – January 4, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.   | Mr. Imler                     |
| IX.   | Other Business  | Mr. Branham                   |
| X.    | Regional Roundup  | Mr. Branham                   |
| XI.   | Adjourn   |                               |

## **CRCOG Quarterly Meeting - Agenda Detail**

- **Call to Order/Invocation/Consideration of Minutes**

After the Call to Order and Invocation, the minutes from the August 17, 2023 Council of Governments quarterly meeting (attached) will be considered for adoption.

- **Presentation of 9/30/23 Internal Financial Statements (3 months)**

Amy Chitwood, Finance Director, will present the 9/30/23 internally generated financial internal operating statements. Total year-to-date operating revenue was \$664,241 at 9/30/23, and total operating expenses were \$660,360, providing an operating surplus of \$3,881. Passthrough revenues and expenses (Workforce, Brownfields) were \$513,478, and RLF COVID-19 Grant draws equaled \$496,420. Total net revenues, less expenditures were \$500,301 at 9/30/23.

- **Transportation Items**

Stephen Allen, Planning Director, will present the following transportation planning items for the Board's consideration and information:

- A) The FY 2024-2033 update of the region's Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). SC Department of Transportation (SC DOT) requires that all COG regions and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) update their respective TIPs for inclusion into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
- B) The Board will receive an overview regarding the FAST Act/BIL requirements for Safety Targets which must be established by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and rural planning areas (COG regions). The Board will be asked to endorse FY2023-2024 proposed targets for the region as required by the FAST Act/BIL and SC DOT.
- C) Amendments to the FY 2015-2040 Long Range Transportation Plan will be discussed, including the addition of three (3) projects that are currently under consideration for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grants.

- **Climate Pollution Reduction Grants – Overview**

CRCOG has the opportunity to participate in two Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) programs funded by the Inflation Reduction Act and administered through the EPA. The programs allow CRCOG to partner with Centralina Regional Council (Charlotte Area) for a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Grant program for communities within York, Chester and Lancaster Counties, and a Statewide Grant program led by the SC Office of Resilience and the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control for all communities within the four CRCOG Counties. CRPG Phase I Planning Grants provide states with \$3 million and metro areas with \$1 million to develop climate action plans and identify greenhouse gas reduction measures. CPRG Phase II provides competitive Implementation Grants up to \$500 million. South Carolina is one of 46 states that accept CPRG funds.

- **Consideration of updates to the Catawba Region’s Distress Criteria Maps (SC Textile Communities Revitalization Act), based upon 2020 Census data**

The Catawba Regional COG Board, in accordance with the SC Textiles Communities Revitalization Act, previously adopted criteria to designate census tracts as ‘distressed’ for purposes of potential eligibility determinations for state textile redevelopment tax credits. Marty Little, Senior Planner, will present the updated Distress Criteria maps based upon 2020 U.S. Census data. The four criteria in the Catawba Region are: 1) Census tracts designated as Opportunity Zones by the Governor, 2) Census tracts eligible for New Markets Tax Credits, 3) Census tracts designated by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) as distressed by income, and 4) Census tracts designated by the EDA as distressed by unemployment. *Note: Only one criterion must be met for a tract to be considered distressed.*

The Board will be asked to adopt the proposed maps which reflect the 2020 Census results for the aforementioned Distressed Criteria. These maps will then stand until data from the 2030 Census are available and new maps are brought before the COG Board. Staff receives several requests per year from prospective developers for letters of designation for former textile sites. Attached are maps identifying: A) Distressed tracts based upon the four criteria and 2010 Census data, B) Distressed tracts based upon the four criteria and 2020 Census data, and C) Changes in Distressed tracts between 2010 and 2020.

- **York County 2023 Wage and Benefit Survey**

David Swenson, York County Economic Development Director, and Kelly Reddecliff, York County Economic Development Research Manager, will review results from the 2023 Wage and Benefit Survey. The survey includes results from 70+ employers representing more than 13,000 workers in the region.

- **2024 Elected Officials Forum – Thursday, January 4, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Randy Imler will discuss the forthcoming Elected Officials Forum. The Forum, presented by the Catawba Regional Council of Governments and the York County Regional Chamber is a collaborative meeting held in partnership with all of the region’s Chambers of Commerce. For 2024, the primary topic is the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) and environmental issues and topics which are of interest to this region and the state. Myra Reece, SC DHEC Director of Environmental Affairs, will be the keynote speaker. The format of the event will be slightly different, with a social/networking time from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner (Outback Steakhouse) and the SC DHEC presentation.

- **Other Business**

- **Regional Roundup**

A representative from each county will be asked to identify a key initiative or activity underway in his or her respective county.

- **Adjourn**

CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGULAR MEETING

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Catawba Regional Center  
Rock Hill, South Carolina  
August 17, 2023

A regular meeting of the Catawba Regional Council of Governments was called to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2023. Notice of the meeting was sent to the local newspaper and posted on the Council's website.

The following members were present:

Chester

Nettie Archie  
Joe Branham  
Bill Bundy  
Carlos Williams

York

Mike Fuesser  
Tom Hyslip  
Derrick Lindsay  
Todd Lumpkin  
Wes Spurrier  
Laura Ulrich  
Chad Williams  
Robert Winkler

Lancaster

Sean Corcoran  
Alston DeVenny  
Charlene McGriff

Union

Rep. Doug Gilliam  
Philip Russell II  
Mayor Harold E. Thompson  
Leroy Worthy

The following members were absent:

Chester

Randy Ligon

Lancaster

Steve Harper  
Eddie Moore  
Brandon Newton  
Russel Patrick

York

Debi Cloninger  
Dean Faile  
Stacey Moore  
David O'Neal  
William Roddey  
P.N. Saksena  
Guynn Savage  
Watts Huckabee

Union

Margaret Holloway

Others present were:

Guests

Sharon White, Equus Workforce Services  
Wanda Kilpatrick, Town of Heath Springs

Jim Walden, SC DOT  
Kathy Jo Lancaster, Union County

Staff

Steve Allen  
Amy Chitwood  
Marty Little  
Jessica Sawyers

Amanda Baker  
Randy Imler  
Grazier Rhea

Following the Call to Order and Invocation, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2023, COG Board Meeting. The motion was duly seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Review of 6/30/23 Financial Statements

Ms. Chitwood presented the June 30, 2023, internally prepared financial statements. The Council of Governments has four funds: the COG Operating Fund, the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), the SC Agribusiness Loan Fund (SCALF), and the new COVID-19 Revolving Loan Fund. Operating revenues were \$2,953,697, and operating expenditures totaled \$2,790,532, bringing net operating residual to \$163,165. Passthrough revenues and expenses were \$2,385,130, and RLF (SCALF & C-19) grant draws were \$945,888. The Council had a large recoup of a written-off loan of \$314,236, a \$40,000 transfer to the Development Corporation. Additionally, a \$190,577 loan loss reserve has been established for the de-federalized RLF. Total COG net income was \$1,192,712 due primarily to grant proceeds in the COVID-19 Revolving Loan Fund and operating residual identified above. Total fund balances increased from \$18,023,447 at FYE22 to \$20,681,652 at FYE23.

II. Amendments to the FY2021-2027 Transportation Improvement Program and Update on the Proposed Amendment to the TIP Window for FY24-33

Mr. Allen explained the SCDOT's newly proposed ten-year TIP/STIP window for FY2024-2033. This will require the Board to program projects for the next ten years instead of the current seven-year period. The recommended projects for the TIP will be presented at the next COG Board meeting. SCDOT recently announced that they will be increasing Guideshare funding to COGS and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) across the state, which will increase the Catawba Regional's transportation funding allocation to ~\$7.5 million per year by FY25. SCDOT will take over system improvements (i.e. repaving) going forward, which will allow Guideshare funds to be used for other purposes (i.e. safety, congestion mitigation, etc.). The Board received this report as information.

III. Update on the Union County 5311 Demand Response Transit Service

Ms. Kathy Jo Lancaster, Director of Community Development and Special Projects in Union County, provided an overview of the County’s new transit service. Catawba Regional assisted Union County with a transit planning study several years ago, and Union County has now partnered with the Chester Connector system to provide demand-respond transit services in the county. The new service is providing ~85 trips per week, over 330 miles per month, for 1,400 passengers. Seventy-five percent (75%) of individuals served are traveling to and from work. The community is embracing the transit system, and it has already expanded to include the towns of Lockhart, Carlisle and Jonesville. The SC DOT is providing state mass transit program funding to run a three-year pilot program in Union County.

IV. Update on Workforce Development Programs and Operations

Ms. Amanda Baker, Workforce Development Director, and Sharon White of Equus Workforce Services presented an update regarding workforce development services in Chester, Lancaster, and York Counties through the three SC Works Offices. Ms. Baker thanked our elected officials for recertifying the COG as the administrative entity for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding. The Council is the fiscal agent for WIOA programs. Equus is the contractor operating the three SC Works Centers. WIOA is a federally funded program that strives to improve employment and retention, and increase earnings and occupational skills of the participants. Ms. White shared a few success stories with the Board. The Board received this report as information.

V. Election of CRCOG Officers and Executive Committee Members

Per COG Bylaws, the Officers of the Council are the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer. (The duties of the Secretary/Treasurer are carried out by the Council’s Executive Director.) In addition to the Chair and Vice Chair, there are seven other members of the COG’s Executive Committee. Three Executive Committee members are elected at-large by the full Board. Four Executive Committee members are elected by caucus of COG Board members from each county.

A. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers/At-Large Members

Mr. DeVenny, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, and three at-large Executive Committee members. The nominations for these roles, respectively, were as follows:

Charlene McGriff, Lancaster County, for Chair  
Joe Branham, Chester County, for Vice-Chair

Todd Lumpkin, York County, At-Large Executive Committee Member  
Harold Thompson, City of Union, At-Large Executive Committee Member  
Stacey Moore, York County, At-large Executive Committee Member

Following the Nominating Committee’s report, the floor was opened for additional nominations. No additional nominations were received. A motion was made, and

duly seconded, to close the nominations and approve the slate of officers and at-large Executive Committee members as presented by the Nominating Committee. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

B. County Caucuses for Election of County Representatives to CRCOG Executive Committee (1 per county)

COG Board Members present from each of the four counties briefly caucused. Each county selected a county representative to serve on the Executive Committee. The chosen representatives are as followed:

- Alston DeVenny – Lancaster County
- Nettie Archie – Chester County
- Chad Williams – York County
- Leroy Worthy – Union County

VI. SC COGS Annual Training Conference

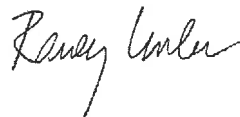
Ms. Chitwood discussed the SC COGS Training Conference, which is planned for November 19-21, 2023, at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach, SC. All Board members are encouraged to attend this event. The Council covers the cost of attendance, mileage, room, and meals for Board members.

VII. Other Business

Representatives from each county provided brief highlights about projects and activities in their respective cities and counties.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Imler  
Executive Director

**CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**FY 2023 OPERATING STATEMENT**  
**COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL AS OF 9/30/2023**

	FY2024		
	Budget	Actual	%
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Membership Support	\$ 223,293	\$ 55,823	25
State Grant	144,344	36,086	25
Misc./Interest Income	15,000	24,768	165
	<u>382,637</u>	<u>116,677</u>	
HUD Comm. Dev. Contracts	390,000	78,541	20
Rural Infrastructure Authority/SCIIP	250,000	33,355	13
ARC Planning Grant and Project Administration	80,000	15,554	19
Union County ARC Planning Grant Match	15,735	3,934	25
Neighborhood Initiative Program	15,000	2,725	18
	<u>750,735</u>	<u>134,109</u>	
Technical Asst. Contracts	330,000	81,101	25
Economic Development Admin	80,000	20,696	26
Transportation Planning	125,000	30,180	24
	<u>535,000</u>	<u>131,977</u>	
Revolving Loan Fund	320,000	64,219	20
Revolving Loan Fund - COVID19	225,000	46,613	21
SC Agribusiness Loan Fund	20,000	1,803	9
Regional Development Corp.	100,000	22,878	23
Intermediary Relending Program	15,000	3,809	25
Other Loan Funds	20,000	2,511	13
Brownfields RLF	115,000	32,205	28
	<u>815,000</u>	<u>174,038</u>	
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Planning	440,000	107,440	24
	<u>440,000</u>	<u>107,440</u>	
Total Operating Revenue:	<u>\$ 2,923,372</u>	<u>\$ 664,241</u>	23
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Personnel	\$ 2,475,000	\$ 568,406	23
Rent	30,000	8,500	28
Building Expenses	20,000	3,437	17
Telephone	25,000	5,642	23
Travel and Meetings	60,000	13,622	23
Office Supplies/Small Equipment	45,000	8,890	20
Postage	3,000	82	3
Memberships, Dues, Publs.	15,000	2,974	20
Equipment Rental/Maintenance	18,250	3,961	22
Employee/Bd. Member Training	18,000	2,176	12
Capital Costs/Grants	15,000	-	0
Professional Services	70,000	8,967	13
Audit	25,000	15,230	61
Information Technology Services	70,000	13,240	19
Insurance and Bonding	25,000	4,924	20
Miscellaneous	9,122	309	3
Total Operating Expenditures:	<u>\$ 2,923,372</u>	<u>\$ 660,360</u>	23
<b>NET REVENUES LESS OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,881</u>	



**CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**FY 2023 OPERATING STATEMENT**  
**COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL AS OF 9/30/2023**

**PASS THROUGH REVENUES**

Workforce Investment Act Pass Through	\$	2,700,000	\$	467,300
SCDHEC Brownfields Assessment Grant		300,000		22,509
EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant		350,000		23,669

**PASS THROUGH EXPENDITURES**

Workforce Investment Act Pass Through	\$	2,700,000	\$	467,300
SCDHEC Brownfields Assessment Grant		300,000		22,509
EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant		350,000		23,669

**OTHER REVENUES/EXPENDITURES**

Transfer to RDC		(100,000)		-
RLF Loan Fund -COVID19 Grant Draws	\$	<u>1,700,335</u>	\$	<u>496,420</u>

**NET REVENUES LESS EXPENDITURES**

\$	<u><u>1,600,335</u></u>	\$	<u><u>500,301</u></u>
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SECTION 3. A. Section 12-65-20(4)(a)(b) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

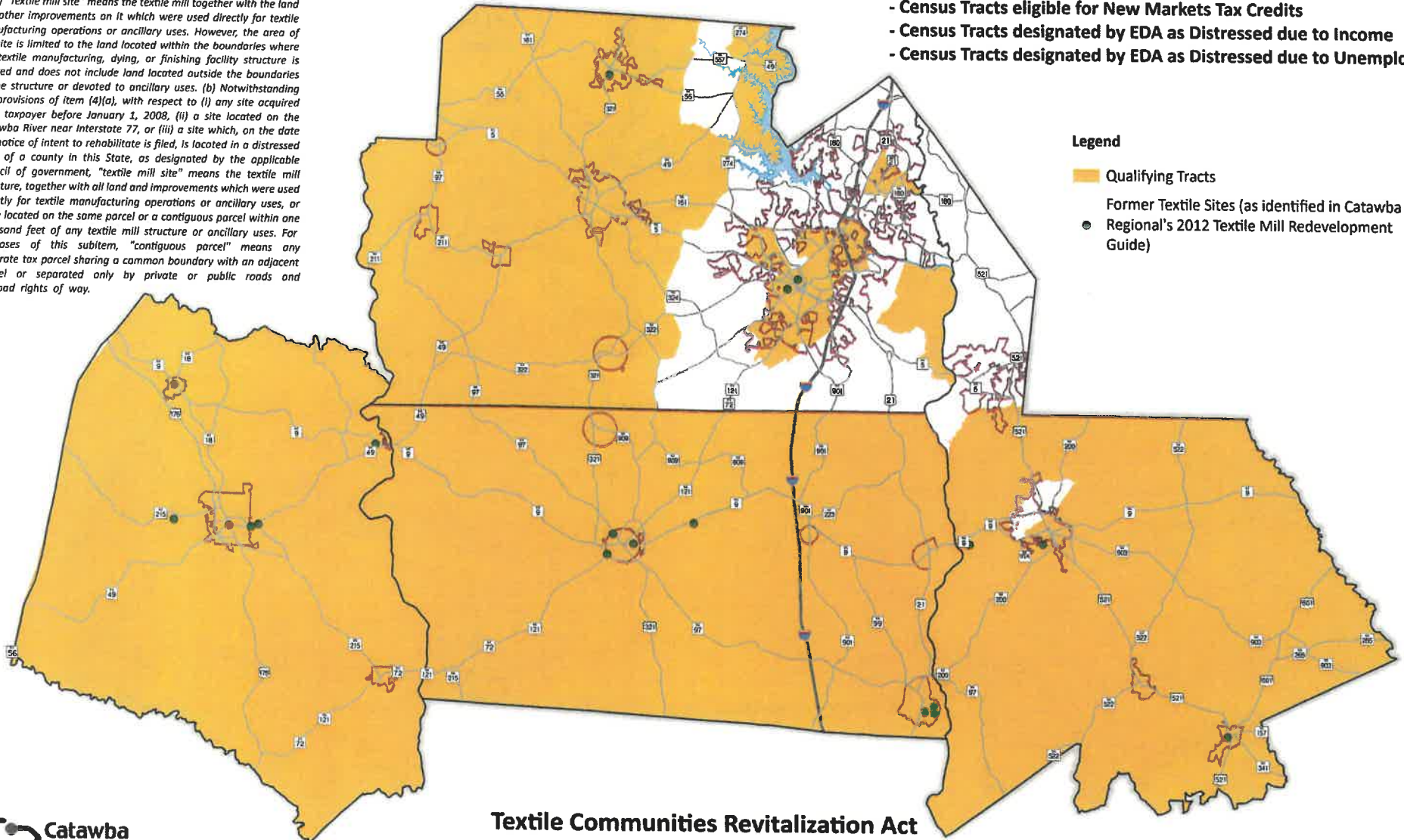
(4)(a) "Textile mill site" means the textile mill together with the land and other improvements on it which were used directly for textile manufacturing operations or ancillary uses. However, the area of the site is limited to the land located within the boundaries where the textile manufacturing, dying, or finishing facility structure is located and does not include land located outside the boundaries of the structure or devoted to ancillary uses. (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of item (4)(a), with respect to (i) any site acquired by a taxpayer before January 1, 2008, (ii) a site located on the Catawba River near Interstate 77, or (iii) a site which, on the date the notice of intent to rehabilitate is filed, is located in a distressed area of a county in this State, as designated by the applicable council of government, "textile mill site" means the textile mill structure, together with all land and improvements which were used directly for textile manufacturing operations or ancillary uses, or were located on the same parcel or a contiguous parcel within one thousand feet of any textile mill structure or ancillary uses. For purposes of this subitem, "contiguous parcel" means any separate tax parcel sharing a common boundary with an adjacent parcel or separated only by private or public roads and railroad rights of way.

**Criteria:**

- Census Tracts designated Opportunity Zones by the Governor
- Census Tracts eligible for New Markets Tax Credits
- Census Tracts designated by EDA as Distressed due to Income
- Census Tracts designated by EDA as Distressed due to Unemployment

**Legend**

- Qualifying Tracts
- Former Textile Sites (as identified in Catawba Regional's 2012 Textile Mill Redevelopment Guide)



**Textile Communities Revitalization Act  
Catawba Region**

*Current Distress Criteria Map (2010)*



SECTION 3. A. Section 12-65-20(4)(a)(b) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

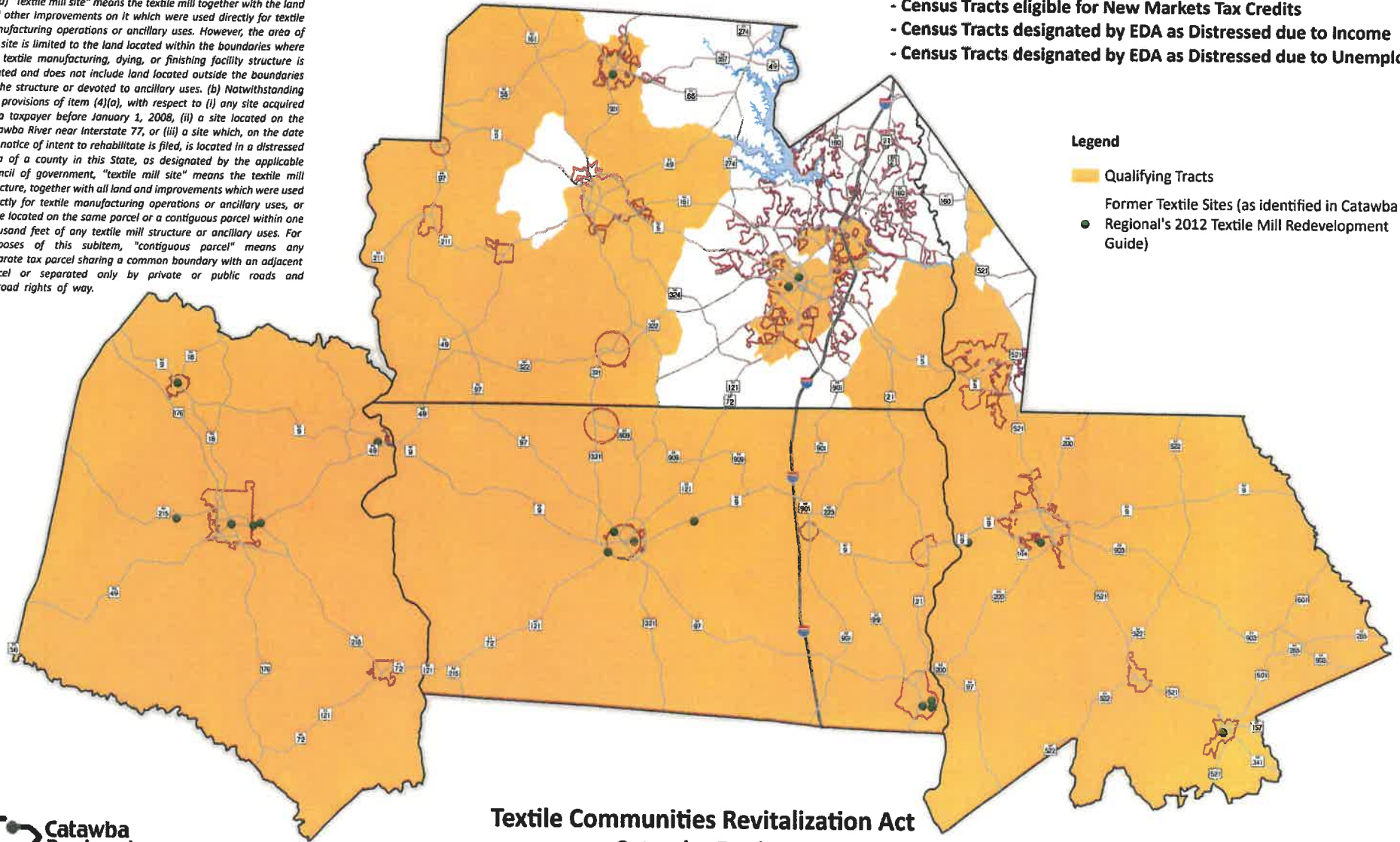
(4)(a) "Textile mill site" means the textile mill together with the land and other improvements on it which were used directly for textile manufacturing operations or ancillary uses. However, the area of the site is limited to the land located within the boundaries where the textile manufacturing, dying, or finishing facility structure is located and does not include land located outside the boundaries of the structure or devoted to ancillary uses. (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of item (4)(a), with respect to (i) any site acquired by a taxpayer before January 1, 2008, (ii) a site located on the Catawba River near Interstate 77, or (iii) a site which, on the date the notice of intent to rehabilitate is filed, is located in a distressed area of a county in this State, as designated by the applicable council of government, "textile mill site" means the textile mill structure, together with all land and improvements which were used directly for textile manufacturing operations or ancillary uses, or were located on the same parcel or a contiguous parcel within one thousand feet of any textile mill structure or ancillary uses. For purposes of this subitem, "contiguous parcel" means any separate tax parcel sharing a common boundary with an adjacent parcel or separated only by private or public roads and railroad rights of way.

**Criteria:**

- Census Tracts designated Opportunity Zones by the Governor
- Census Tracts eligible for New Markets Tax Credits
- Census Tracts designated by EDA as Distressed due to Income
- Census Tracts designated by EDA as Distressed due to Unemployment

**Legend**

- Qualifying Tracts
- Former Textile Sites (as identified in Catawba
- Regional's 2012 Textile Mill Redevelopment Guide)



**Textile Communities Revitalization Act  
Catawba Region**  
*Proposed Distress Criteria Map (2020)*



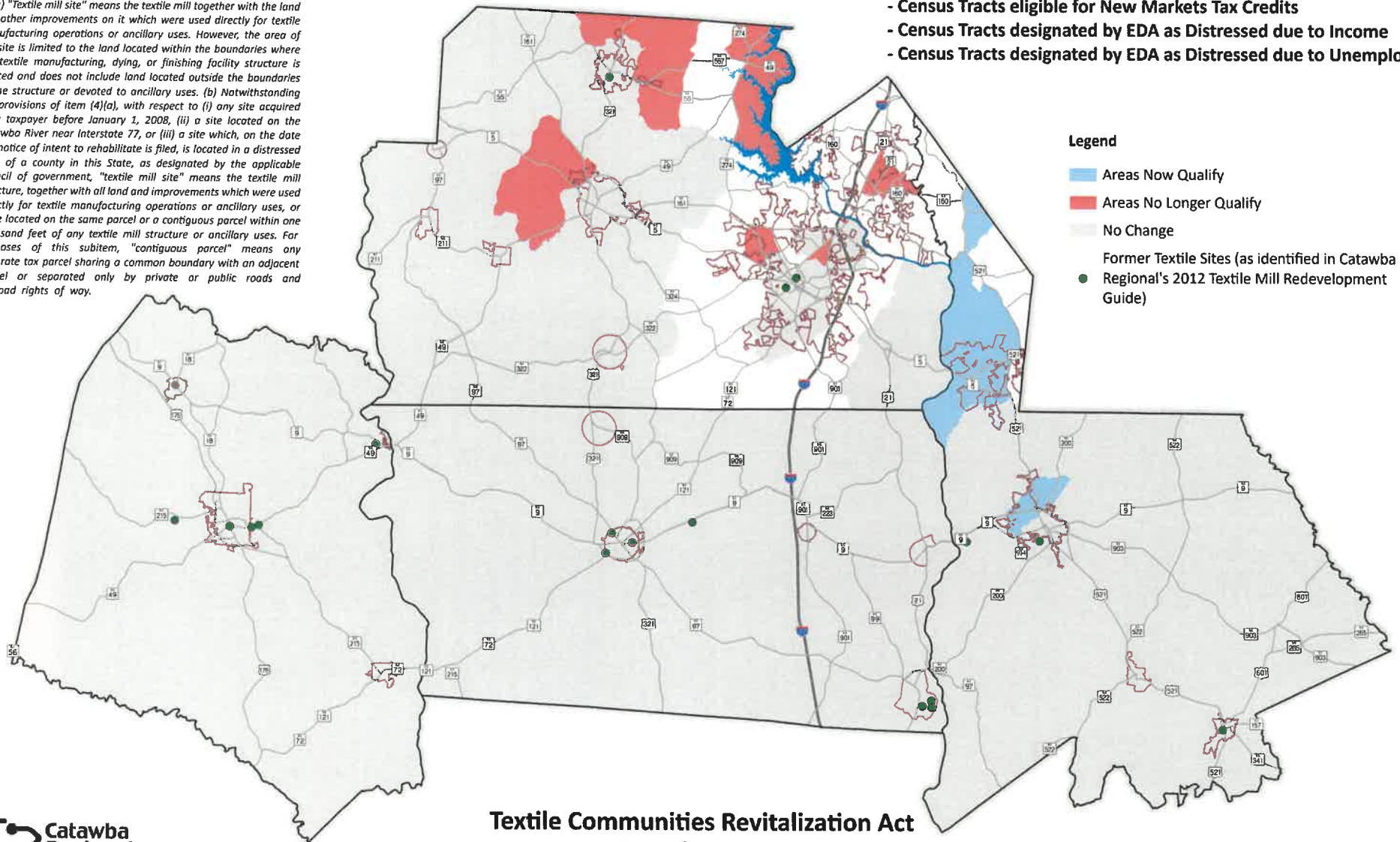


SECTION 3. A. Section 12-65-20(4)(a)(b) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

(4)(a) "Textile mill site" means the textile mill together with the land and other improvements on it which were used directly for textile manufacturing operations or ancillary uses. However, the area of the site is limited to the land located within the boundaries where the textile manufacturing, dying, or finishing facility structure is located and does not include land located outside the boundaries of the structure or devoted to ancillary uses. (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of item (4)(a), with respect to (i) any site acquired by a taxpayer before January 1, 2008, (ii) a site located on the Catawba River near Interstate 77, or (iii) a site which, on the date the notice of intent to rehabilitate is filed, is located in a distressed area of a county in this State, as designated by the applicable council of government, "textile mill site" means the textile mill structure, together with all land and improvements which were used directly for textile manufacturing operations or ancillary uses, or were located on the same parcel or a contiguous parcel within one thousand feet of any textile mill structure or ancillary uses. For purposes of this subitem, "contiguous parcel" means any separate tax parcel sharing a common boundary with an adjacent parcel or separated only by private or public roads and railroad rights of way.

**Criteria:**

- Census Tracts designated Opportunity Zones by the Governor
- Census Tracts eligible for New Markets Tax Credits
- Census Tracts designated by EDA as Distressed due to Income
- Census Tracts designated by EDA as Distressed due to Unemployment



**Legend**

- Areas Now Qualify
- Areas No Longer Qualify
- No Change
- Former Textile Sites (as identified in Catawba Regional's 2012 Textile Mill Redevelopment Guide)

**Textile Communities Revitalization Act  
Catawba Region**

*Change Between Current and Proposed Distress Criteria Maps*

