



Planning For Our Future

The Carolina Core is a vital economic development corridor, offering the citizens in the region a desirable place to live, work, and play. The area has garnered more than \$20 billion in capital investments over the past six years in the aerospace, biomedical, automotive, technology and logistic sectors. Companies like HondaJet, Pfizer, FedEx, Toyota, Wolfspeed, and Boom Supersonic have made significant manufacturing investments here already, and many more are anticipated over the next 20 years. This growth is good news for the businesses of the area who will support these economic development investments, and even better news for the residents of the area who will benefit from a competitive job market and improved infrastructure to serve these sites.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

But we have to be prepared. Significant investment in the water and wastewater infrastructure in Guilford and Randolph Counties is needed to sustain and support this economic growth. Rough estimates to be confirmed through further study have put the (total or additional) needed water capacity at 135 million gallons per day and 105 million gallons per day for wastewater by 2050. This kind of increase is more than even the largest utilities in the area can accommodate on their own. If nothing is done, some areas in Guilford and Randolph Counties may risk considerable wastewater system failure by not meeting water service demands or water quality regulations. This may result in significant inequities in the level of water and wastewater service in the entire region.

STUDY UNDERWAY

Endorsed by Guilford and Randolph County and its member utilities, the PTRWA, the area's existing regional authority for water, has commissioned a Master Planning study to determine how to best meet this need. The Study will consider all the technical, regulatory, operational, organizational and administratively feasible ways of providing this infrastructure in the most environmentally, operationally, and financially advantageous way.

The PTRWA intends to engage all stakeholders throughout the study to ensure all ideas, concerns, and issues are heard and integrated. Once the study is completed in the third quarter of 2025, all our Region's utilities will review its findings and collaborate to determine the best course of action to provide water and wastewater security to the citizens of Guilford and Randolph Counties and the Upper Cape Fear River Basin.

You can learn more and stay connected to progress being made at the PTRWA website at www.triadncwater.gov.

BENEFITS OF A REGIONAL SOLUTION

Though the outcome of the study is unknown at this time, there are several potential benefits to a regional solution.



Cost Savings – A regionalized approach would spread the significant investment costs over more customers, making water and wastewater service much more affordable for all, while increasing opportunities for grant subsidized improvements.



Less Risk – The costs associated with the anticipated regulations will increase over time, potentially very significantly. A regional approach would enable utilities to share and reduce their risks.



Increased Resiliency – A multi-jurisdictional model will enhance the Region's resiliency in addressing long-term water supply and water quality needs for all communities, including traditionally underserved communities, while seeking to maintain affordability to the greatest extent possible.



Enhanced Planning – Regional planning creates a stronger platform for meeting longer-range needs than local, individualized community planning does. Future capacity forecasting for both water and wastewater management is enhanced when done on a regional scale.