

BUS RAPID TRANSIT NEW BERN AVENUE CORRIDOR

> BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE



Business Resource Collaborative

LETTER FROM MAYOR MARY-ANN BALDWIN AND COUNCIL MEMBER COREY BRANCH

To the Businesses on the New Bern Avenue Corridor:

New Bern Avenue, from downtown Raleigh to New Hope Road, is a critical transportation connection providing access to hundreds of businesses including the WakeMed Raleigh Medical Campus. It has a rich cultural history, now diverse in race, age, and income levels. As our city rapidly grows, the addition of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is an exciting improvement that will better meet transit demands and get riders where they need to go faster. When the new BRT route is complete, the New Bern Avenue corridor will become a more walkable and accessible district for our citizens who live and work here, and for our businesses located here. Our citizens will experience easier connectivity to businesses, schools, faith communities, and to I-440 and 540. Employees of area businesses will have another way to get to and from work. Frequent and reliable transit on this corridor will positively impact residents and businesses along this line and ensure the future success of the New Bern Avenue corridor.

Before the completion of this BRT line becomes a reality in the summer of 2025, there may be challenges for our businesses along this planned route. Utility setbacks and construction begin in the fall of 2023 and will continue over the next two years. To support businesses during this period and ensure equitable economic growth, the Bus Rapid Transit Business Resource Collaborative and this Business Resource Guide will provide informative updates on the project. The BRT Business Resource Collaborative will provide project update meetings, business workshops, a monthly e-newsletter, and more. Our goals are to help offset impacts to businesses during construction and to offer tools to prepare businesses for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

As your elected leaders we are committed to the success of the New Bern Avenue corridor. We are excited about the opportunities that the new BRT route presents for our citizens and businesses. And we are here to help businesses thrive in the months ahead.



Mary-Ann Baldwin Mayor City of Raleigh



Corey Branch District C Council Member; Mayor Pro Tem City of Raleigh

Table of Contents

- **3** Introduction to Raleigh BRT
- 4 How BRT Will Affect New Bern Avenue Businesses
- **5** Construction Schedule: What to Expect?
- **6** Zoning
- 8 Property Taxes
- **9** Readying Your Business for the BRT Opportunity
 - Grants for Small Businesses
 - Up-fit Grants
 - Lending Resources
- **12** Crafting a Professional Business Plan for the Loan Process
- **14** Directory of Small Business Resources

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

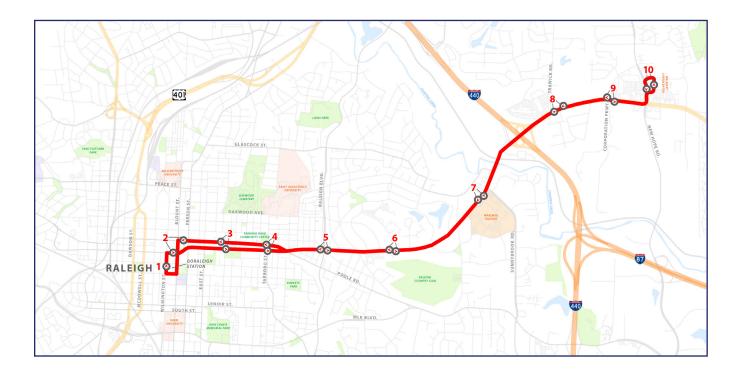
The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Business Resource Collaborative, which includes this guide, is made possible by a grant to the Raleigh Chamber Foundation from the City of Raleigh Public Project Community Support Fund. The City established this grant as part of Raleigh's FY23 budget to help offset the disruption of large-scale public investments, to help preserve a sense of place, and to provide stability for businesses and residents during the BRT corridor construction.

Learn more about the Raleigh Chamber Foundation.

Or you can contact us at:

Raleigh Chamber Foundation 800 S Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7000 **Email:** foundation@raleighchamber.org





BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) IS COMING TO NEW BERN AVENUE

WHAT IS BUS RAPID TRANSIT, OR BRT?

The Federal Transit Administration defines BRT as a high-capacity, bus-based transit system that delivers fast and efficient service.

Many other enhancements put BRT a cut above our existing bus system:

- **Better buses.** Longer buses hold more passengers, and with doors on both sides and lower floors, boarding is easier. They bend to go around corners!
- Longer hours. BRT bus schedules begin earlier and end later each day.
- **Less waiting**. Buses come by approximately every 10 minutes. They are faster and stay on schedule because they control traffic signals in the corridor and drive in dedicated lanes in some places.
- **Smart, weather-protected stations.** Riders can see live, accurate bus arrival times based on GPS tracking on BRT buses. Fares are collected at the station, so no fumbling for your wallet while boarding the bus.
- **Improved accessibility.** At stations inside I-440, walk onto buses from the elevated station platform without taking a step up. Riders can even roll bikes, strollers, or wheelchairs directly onto the bus.

HOW WILL NEW BERN AVENUE CHANGE?

Many things will stay the same.

Changes you can expect to see very soon:

- Utilities are being moved back to make room for the dedicated BRT lanes.
- Ten weather-protected BRT stations will be built along the 5.1-mile New Bern Ave. corridor.
- Dedicated BRT bus lanes will be established in part of the corridor.

Over time, new zoning and development rules will allow more people to live and work near the New Bern Avenue BRT line. The project encourages denser development and taller buildings within walking distance of the BRT. As currently proposed, these properties will fall under the Transit Overlay District zoning along New Bern Avenue, which allows buildings up to five stories inside the Beltline and between five to seven stories outside the Beltline. The Transit Overlay district zoning also offers incentives for developers to build affordable housing, and to create jobs.

The BRT corridor will be rich in high-quality public spaces that make it comfortable — and safe — to walk to and from the bus stations. The transit-oriented development will encourage walking and browsing with safer sidewalks, plazas, places to rest, and <u>art installations</u> highlighting the culture and history of New Bern Avenue.

Construction will begin in the fall of 2023. And GoRaleigh expects between 2,500 and 3,000 riders each day when the New Bern Avenue route opens in the fall of 2025.

BRT PROJECT CONTACTS

Zoning — Ira Mabel, Senior Planner <u>ira.mabel@raleighnc.gov</u> 919.996.2652

Construction — Sam Brewer, PE, Senior Engineer <u>sam.brewer@raleighnc.gov</u>

Transportation — Het Patel, AICP, Project Manager <u>het.patel@raleighnc.gov</u> 919.996.5120

NEXT STEPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT?

In preparation for construction, a dozen private utility companies are relocating services in path of the project. Duke Energy began their work first, clearing trees, branches, and underbrush within Electrical Utility Easements (EUEs), Public Utility Easements (PUEs), along Right of Ways, and other permanent easements. About a dozen different utilities have work to do for this project.

BRT STATIONS

Conceptual designs for Wake BRT stations were created using comments from the Spring 2021 Virtual Open House and feedback from stakeholders and municipal partners. Watch the video below showcasing the new designs, which show proposed amenities, including pedestrian and cyclist access.

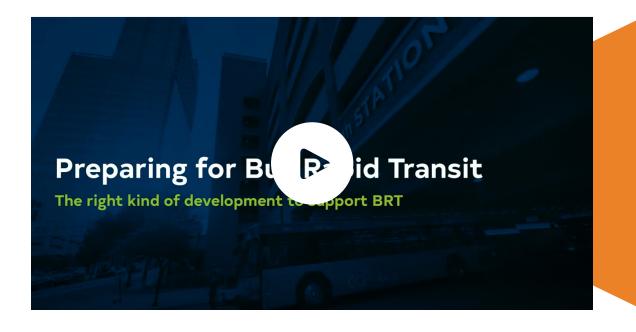


Construction is planned to be completed in the fall of 2025.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BRT ZONING AND REZONING

Transit-oriented development is designed to create active, vibrant areas where pedestrians can safely and easily walk, rest, and shop near the New Bern Avenue BRT stops when they are using the BRT system. A transit overlay district is a zoning regulation that guides developers and businesses in creating transit-oriented development. The zoning controls the size and location of buildings and establishes requirements for trees, streets, and sidewalks.

In October 2021, in anticipation of the BRT service, the Raleigh City Council added a <u>Transit</u> <u>Overlay District (TOD)</u> to its zoning code. Many properties near New Bern Avenue affected by the TOD are already zoned for commercial and multi-family development. City planners are asking to add the Transit Overlay District to the current New Bern Avenue zoning map.

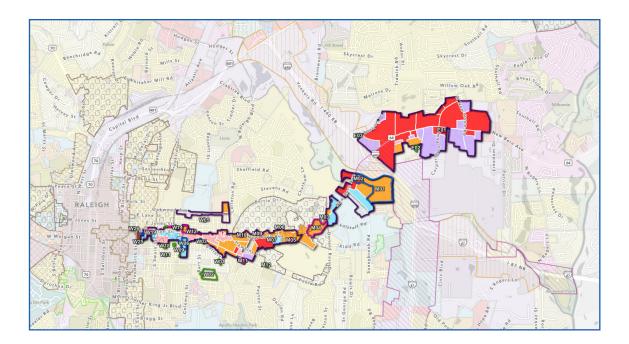


Some of the changes outlined in the Transit Overlay District:

- Increases the number of people who live and work near New Bern Ave., which will increase business along the BRT routes.
- Moves buildings closer to the street.
- Ensures public spaces near the BRT stations are comfortable for walking, and includes plazas, more attractive street design, and safe pedestrian crossings.
- Allows developers to build taller buildings if they include affordable housing or are entirely for job creation.
- Does not require driveways or parking spaces.
- Restricts car-oriented businesses (existing businesses can continue current operations).

IS MY BUSINESS OR HOME GOING TO BE REZONED?

To determine if your address is proposed for a zoning change, click on the <u>interactive map</u> <u>found here</u>.



Other zoning resources:

- Request a zoning change in the Transit Overlay District
- <u>Transit Overlay District zoning details</u>
- Prohibited commercial uses in the Transit Overlay District
- Permitted changes to existing structures in the Transit Overlay District

To learn more about the rezoning process, engage in neighborhood meetings, or ask to have your property added or removed from the rezoning process, **visit the** <u>City's Rezoning</u> <u>Engagement Portal</u>.

PROPERTY TAX CHANGES

A logical question with talk of new zoning and rezoning is, "Will my property taxes change?" Here is a quick refresher on how and when Wake County assesses tax rates.

The next property tax reappraisal for Wake County is January 1, 2024. Reappraisals affect all residential property, commercial land, and structures. Under NC law, real estate is appraised at its fair market value, which is the most probable price a property would bring in a competitive open market.

Wake County will determine the selling price of similar properties and consider other factors to set its value, such as how old a building is, what condition it is in, what it would cost to replace it, and how much longer the building is likely to last.

Under <u>NC General Statute 105-317.1(c)</u>, you may appeal Wake County's assessment within 30 days of the first notice you receive. Appraised values are in effect until the next countywide reappraisal, which happens every four years.

For more information, **visit** <u>Wake County Tax Administration</u>. You can also <u>find information</u> <u>here</u> on the type of property that is taxed.



GRANTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Get your business ready with grant funding from the City of Raleigh and the Downtown Raleigh Alliance.

Building Up-fit Grant

Raleigh will reimburse 50% of qualified construction costs for property improvements to small business owners who convert vacant or underutilized commercial space into jobs or new business use.

City of Raleigh — Small Business Development One City Plaza, 12th Floor Ste. 1200 421 Fayetteville St. Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 919-996-6959 Email: earl.brooksii@raleighnc.gov

Facade Grant Program

This grant provides funds to upgrade and enhance the exterior of older commercial buildings. The program has helped make more than 100 buildings more appealing to potential customers.

City of Raleigh — Small Business Development

One City Plaza, 12th Floor Suite 1200 421 Fayetteville St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-996-3137 **Email:** hannah.hemphill@raleighnc.gov

Impact Partner Grant

The Impact Partner Grant program offers funding to innovation ecosystem partners for bold new initiatives that enhance the lives of others.

City of Raleigh — Office of Strategy and Innovation One Exchange Plaza, 7th Floor Ste. 727 Raleigh, NC 27601 Email: <u>Cristina.Leos@raleighnc.gov</u>

Downtown Raleigh Alliance Storefront Upfit Grants

This program encourages new businesses, aids in the expansion of existing businesses, supports pop-up uses that may convert to long-term tenants, and promotes a thriving Raleigh storefront economy.

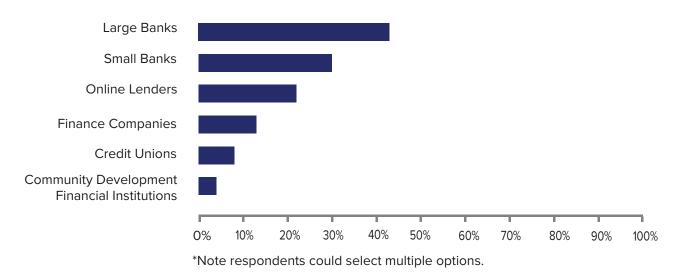
Downtown Raleigh Alliance

333 Fayetteville St., Ste. 1150 Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 919-821-6988 Email: willgaskins@downtownraleigh.org

LENDING RESOURCES

If you're borrowing to expand your business in anticipation of serving more customers when the BRT route opens on New Bern Ave., you have a lot of choices.

The Federal Reserve Bank conducts an annual survey of more than 8,000 businesses about their experiences with borrowing. In the 2022 Small Business Credit Survey, credit sources applied to were:



LARGE AND SMALL BANKS

You can find a list of large and small banks and other lending institutions here.

ONLINE LENDERS

NerdWallet offers this list of online banks that offer free checking and other services.

North Carolina is home to several Community Development Financial Institutions, also known as CDFIs. CDFIs help people who traditionally do not have access to financing. Some CDFIs in our area include:

- <u>Carolina Small Business Development Fund</u>
- Institute Capital
- Mechanics & Farmers Bank
- Self-Help Credit Union
- Local Government Federal Credit Union

US SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA) LENDING

The <u>US Small Business Administration</u> offers affordable loans and other types of financing through a network of lenders that includes:

- Bank of America
- <u>Carolina Community Impact</u>
- <u>Carolina Small Business Development Fund</u>
- <u>Coastal FCU</u>
- Fidelity Bank
- Fifth Third Bank
- First Citizens Bank
- JP Morgan Chase Bank
- Mechanics & Farmers Bank
- North State Bank
- Pinnacle Bank
- PNC Bank
- Self-Help Credit Union
- <u>TowneBank</u>
- <u>Truist Bank</u>
- Wells Fargo Bank

A complete list of North Carolina SBA lenders can be found here.

INVESTMENT CAPITAL

<u>Thread Capital</u> offers small business loans from \$500 to \$100,000, a range where small business owners may have difficulty finding affordable lending options.

VENTURE CAPITAL/ANGEL INVESTORS

Finally, you can seek venture capital, angel investors, and other equity financing options. For more details, visit raleighnc.gov/strategy-and-innovation.

> Raleigh welcomes you, no matter who you are. Learn more at comeoutandshowthem.com.

CRAFTING A PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS PLAN

When you began your business, you probably had a business plan. It might have been something informal that simply described the type of product or service you planned to sell, how much you were planning to invest, what the potential profits would be, and so on. Those details might even have been stored in your head. But if you are now ready to attract partners, funders, or investors, it's probably time to put together a more polished version of that plan. Here are some quick tips and a template that can guide you.

A professional business plan has three basic uses — communication, management, and planning.

As a **communication tool**, a business plan attracts investment capital, secures loans, appeals to top talent, and assists in attracting strategic business partners.

A comprehensive business plan shows whether your business has profit potential. It helps you take a realistic look at the entire business and then lets you show potential problems and solutions you've identified before launching your business.

As a **management tool**, the business plan helps you track, monitor, and evaluate your progress. It is a living document, which you will modify as you gain knowledge and experience. By using your business plan to set timelines and milestones, you can track your progress toward actual accomplishments.

As a **planning tool**, a business plan guides you through your business phases and can help identify roadblocks to avoid. Many business owners share their business plans with their employees to foster a broader understanding of where the business is going.



Here's a standard template you can adapt to your business:

- 1. Statement of purpose
 - I. The business
 - A. Description of business
 - B. Marketing plans
 - C. Competition
 - D. Operating procedures
 - E. Personnel
 - F. Business insurance documents
 - II. Financial data
 - A. Loan applications
 - B. Capital equipment and supply list
 - C. Balance sheet
 - D. Break-even analysis
 - E. Profit and loss statements
 - F. Three-year summary
 - G. Detail by month, first year
 - H. Detail by quarter, second and third years
 - I. Assumptions upon which projections were based
 - J. Pro forma cash flow
 - III. Supporting documents
 - A. Last three years of tax returns of principles
 - B. Personal financial statement
 - C. Copy of the franchise contract and all supporting documents

DEERE

- D. Copy of proposed lease or purchase agreement for building space
- E. Copies of licenses and other legal documents
- F. Copies of resumes of all principles
- G. Copies of letters of intent from suppliers, etc.

DIRECTORY OF SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

The Amalgamation

The Amalgamation elevates underutilized solopreneurs, micros, and small businesses, decreases reliance on large primes, and removes barriers to government contracts.

Email: kristin@the-amalgamation.com

The Black Dollar Corp.

A Black-owned business directory, retail shop, co-manufacturing facility, and venue providing support and funding outreach for Black entrepreneurs. **Tel:** 919-283-9630 **Email:** us@blackdollar.ninja

Bunker Labs

Bunker Labs provides community, programs, and courses to help military veterans and military spouses start and grow successful businesses and startups. **Email:** <u>raleigh.durham@bunkerlabs.org</u>

Campbell University

A unique community of individuals gathered to practice law to create a more just and merciful society. 225 Hillsborough St. Raleigh, NC 27603 Tel: 919-865-5988 Email: lawadmissions@campbell.edu

Capital Area Workforce Development Board

A public-private partnership promoting economic development by providing workers with the skills, training, and education employers in Wake, Johnston, Chatham, and Lee counties need. 5942 Six Forks Rd Raleigh, NC 27609 **Tel:** 919-856-6040

Carolina Community Impact

CCI promotes economic and community development by providing loans and financial services for low- and moderate-income NC individuals and small businesses. 3724 National Dr., Ste. 220 Raleigh, NC 27612 Tel: 919-785-0718 Email: services@ccifund.org

Carolina Small Business Development Fund

The fund fosters economic development in underserved communities by providing capital, technical assistance, and policy research. 3128 Highwoods Blvd., Ste. 170 Raleigh, NC 27604 **Tel:** 919-803-1437

Carolinas-Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council

The council assists with networking, programming, and business development opportunities. 229 S Brevard St., Ste. 300C Charlotte, NC 28202 **Tel:** 704-549-1000 **Email:** info@cvmsdc.org

CornerSquare Community Capital

Partners with CDFIs and MDIs to ensure access to capital for small businesses and entrepreneurs that have seen decades of underinvestment. 4021 Carya Dr. Raleigh, NC 27610 Tel: 919-250-4314 Email: info@cornersquare.org

District C

Teamship is a reimagined internship experience where teams of students solve real problems for real businesses.

Downtown Raleigh Alliance (DRA)

The DRA manages the <u>Municipal Services District</u> funds, which maintain public areas. The DRA also invests in storefront recruitment, business retention, and community engagement. 333 Fayetteville St., Ste. 1150 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-832-1231 **Email:** info@downtownraleigh.org

Economic Development Partners of NC

EDPNC provides free one-on-one phone consultations and support to small business owners and entrepreneurs on topics such as regulatory and licensing requirements and small-business training. 150 Fayetteville St., Ste. 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-447-7777

El Centro Hispano (ECH)

ECH works to strengthen the community, build bridges, and advocate for equity and inclusion. 421 Chapanoke Rd., Ste. 156 Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 984-208-2158

Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau (Visit Raleigh)

421 Fayetteville St., Ste. 1505 Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 800-849-8499 Email: visit@visitRaleigh.com

Green Restaurant Association (GRA)

The GRA works with restaurants, manufacturers, and distributors to fulfill its mission of greening the restaurant industry. 6 Liberty Square, Ste. 6077 Boston, MA 02109 **Tel:** 617-737-4422

Harmony (NC LGBTQ+ Allied Chamber of Commerce)

Our mission is to foster opportunities for LGBTQ businesses, professionals, and allies. 8480 Honeycutt Rd., Ste. 200 Raleigh NC 27615 **Email:** info@harmonync.org

National Institute Economic Development

The Institute works with small businesses, multinational corporations, local governments, and state leaders to provide opportunities and foster an environment where businesses thrive. 114 W Parrish St. Durham, NC 27701 Tel: 919-956-8889 Email: info@TheInstituteNC.org

Launch RALEIGH

Supports and develop entrepreneurs and small businesses in under-resourced communities in Southeast Raleigh with access to business loans, business development services, and networking.

Manufactured in North Carolina

MNC is a free directory for NC manufacturers to showcase their location, product type, certifications, and contact information.

Minority And Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE)

The MWBE increases opportunities and promotes diversity and inclusion in Raleigh contracting for historically underutilized businesses. **Tel:** 919-996-4330

National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP)

The NAAAP cultivates and empowers Asian and Pacific Islander leaders through professional development, community service, and networking. **Email:** <u>hellonc@naaap.org</u>

NC Community Colleges Customized Training

The program provides education, training, and support for NC businesses through our network of 58 community colleges, serving all 100 NC counties. 200 W Jones St. Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 919-807-7100 **Email:** webmaster@nccommunitycolleges.edu

NC Green Travel

Apply to a recognized as a NC GreenTravel destination, event, or travel-related business. 217 W Jones St. Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 877-623-6748 **Email:** ncgreentravel@ncdenr.gov

NC IDEA

This foundation helps North Carolinians start and grow high-potential companies with grant funding and support on diversity, equity, and inclusion issues. 411 W Chapel Hill St., Ste. C2 Durham, NC 27701 **Tel:** 919-941-5600

NC Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB)

HUB promotes economic opportunities for historically underutilized businesses in state government contracting and procurement to foster their growth and profitability.

NC Restaurant and Lodging Association (NCRLA)

NCRLA's goal is to positively influence hospitality-related legislation and policies, cultivate relationships, and provide valuable resources to help members run their businesses. 222 N Person St., Ste. 210 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-844-0098

Email: info@ncrla.org

NC Rural Center

4021 Carya Drive Raleigh, NC 27610 **Tel:** 919.250.4314

Operation Hope

Our mission: To expand economic opportunity, making free enterprise work for everyone.

Raleigh locations: Inside First Horizon Bank

6511 Falls of Neuse Road

Inside Truist 6659 Falls of Neuse Road **Tel:** 1-888-388-4673

Prospera

Prospera is an economic development, nonprofit organization providing bilingual assistance to Hispanic entrepreneurs who're establishing or expanding their business.

4021 Carya Dr., No. 160 Raleigh, NC 27610 **Tel:** 980-729-8273 **Email:** contactNC@prosperausa.org

Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber's mission is to sustain and further develop the thriving economy and community's quality of life. 800 S Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7000 **Email:** mail@raleighchamber.org

Raleigh Economic Development (RED)

RED raises awareness of Raleigh as the premier locale for jobs, business, talent, and innovation. 800 S. Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7038 **Email:** <u>ktouchstone@raleighchamber.org</u>

Raleigh Office of Strategy and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza, 7th Floor Ste. 727 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-996-3070

Raleigh Pathways Center

The Center offers workforce development and programs that help young adults find a career and a clear pathway to success. 900 S Wilmington St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-996-5730 **Email:** cathey.ector@raleighnc.gov

Saint Augustine's University

1315 Oakwood Ave. Raleigh, NC 27610 **Tel:** 919-516-4000

SCORE

Free business mentoring and educational opportunities in the Raleigh and Rocky Mount areas. P.O. Box 97413 Raleigh, NC 27624 Tel: 919-869-4151 Email: contactus@score.org

Self-Help Credit Union

Creates and protect ownership and economic opportunity for all, especially the under-represented. 7029 Harps Mill Rd. Raleigh, NC 27615 **Tel:** 984-233-7838

Shaw University

Our goal is to ensure you have the necessary tools to aid in your professional development and growth. Yancey Building Ste. 222 118 E South St. Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 919-546-8200 Email: careerdevelopment@shawu.edu

US Small Business Administration (SBA)

The SBA delivers loans, loan guarantees, contracts, counseling, and other assistance to small businesses. **Tel:** 800-827-5722

Small Business Development and Entrepreneurship

Provides services to promote businesses and enhance the quality of life in Raleigh. 421 Fayetteville St., Ste. 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-996-4330

Small Business & Technology Development Center

The center's advisory team provides business owners and management staff with comprehensive, confidential business counseling. 5 West Hargett St., Ste. 600 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-513-1500 (Wake County)

Startup At Wake Tech

The center provides small business owners with free, confidential, one-on-one counseling, access to a resource library, and various seminars, workshops, and classes.

Western Wake Campus 3434 Kildaire Farm Rd. #207 Cary, NC 27616 **Tel:** 919-335-1019

Thread Capital

Believes everyone in NC who has a viable business idea they want to start or grow should have the resources they need to thrive. 4021 Carya Dr. Raleigh, NC 27610 Tel: 919-212-4950 Email: connect@threadcap.org

Triangle Artworks

From professional development courses to resource directories, you'll find something to help you navigate the business of art. 800 Park Offices Dr. Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 **Email:** hello@triangleartworks.org

Wake County Economic Development

WCED creates an environment that results in new jobs and capital investment for Wake County. 800 S Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7000 **Email:** <u>hello@raleigh-wake.org</u>

Wake County Social and Economic Vitality

SEV provides support to Wake County communities with high poverty, high unemployment, low education attainment, and "economic health factors" such as housing cost burden and SNAP enrollment. **Tel:** 919-857-9243

Wake Technical Community College

Wake Tech's Small Business Center, apprenticeship programs, and custom workforce training has the resources, training, and counseling to help your business thrive. 9101 Fayetteville Rd.

Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 919-866-5000

WakeTech Small Business Resource Center

9101 Fayetteville Rd. Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 919-866-5000

Women's Business Center North Carolina

Offers women tools and support to start and grow businesses, generate sustainable profits, plan for future growth, and contribute to the community's economic growth. 114 W Parrish St. Durham, NC 27701 **Tel:** 919-956-8889 **Email:** wbcadmin@theinstitutenc.org

Wright Village

Offers TWV was established to unify and foster a community of ambitious entrepreneurs from underserved communities across America looking to hone their skills to pursue growth. 420 Hubert St., Ste. 2 Raleigh, NC 27603 Tel: 919-822-1937 Email: Info@thewrightvillage.com

Zoning and Rezoning

Information to help you understand what zoning is and how Raleigh applies it. The page includes a link to <u>Find My Zoning</u> and links to apply for various permits. **Tel:** 919-996-2682

IMPORTANT CONTACTS AT THE CITY OF RALEIGH

Information about Zoning and Rezoning

There are several business zoning districts including Legacy Zoning Districts, Overlay Districts and Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Zoning Districts. **Tel:** 919-996-2682 **Email:** ira.mabel@raleighnc.gov

Raleigh Economic Development

800 S. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7038 **Email:** <u>ktouchstone@raleighchamber.org</u>

Minority And Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE)

The MWBE promotes actions that increase opportunities and promote diversity and inclusion in Raleigh contracting for historically underutilized businesses. Tel: 919-996-4330 Email: <u>maria.a.torres@raleighnc.gov</u> Email: <u>lekesha.shaw@raleighnc.gov</u>

Raleigh Office of Strategy and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza, 7th Floor Ste 727 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-996-3070 **Email:** <u>heather.mcdougall@raleighnc.gov</u>

Small Business Development and Entrepreneurship

Provides professional and timely services to promote businesses and enhance quality of life in Raleigh. 421 Fayetteville Street, Ste 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-996-4330 **Email:** mark.wheldon@raleighnc.gov





ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Bus Rapid Transit Resource Collaborative is made possible by a grant to the Raleigh Chamber Foundation from the City of Raleigh's Public Project Community Support Fund and Capitol Broadcasting Co., Inc. The fund's purpose is to preserve a sense of place and to provide stability during BRT corridor construction.

RALEIGH CHAMBER FOUNDATION

The Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Community Development Foundation (Raleigh Chamber Foundation) is affiliated with the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. The mission of the Raleigh Chamber Foundation is to be a catalyst for positive impact on talent, quality of life and economic well-being for all, by enabling the Raleigh Chamber to expand its resources and reach. The Foundation supports its mission by attracting new resources and convening community partners.

Learn more about the Raleigh Chamber Foundation:

www.raleighchamber.org/foundation



CONTACT

Raleigh Chamber Foundation 800 S. Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7000 **Email:** foundation@raleighchamber.org

RALEIGH CHAMBER FOUNDATION