


# S.C. REGIONAL COUNCILS



*Local governments in all 46 counties of South Carolina are working together through regional councils. The State is divided into 10 regions, sometimes called planning districts, with local governments in each region served by a regional council.*

## **WHAT SERVICES DO THESE REGIONAL COUNCILS PROVIDE?**

The regional councils provide a variety of services requested by their local governments, including planning, grants administration, economic development assistance and management assistance. The services vary from region to region, depending on local needs and priorities. Regional councils are not another layer of government; they do not pass legislation, enforce laws or levy taxes. Their goal is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of existing government.

## **WHAT TYPES OF STRUCTURE DO THESE REGIONAL COUNCILS HAVE?**

Each regional council has a policy board that sets the council's work program and budget. The enabling legislation creating the councils requires that all the governing boards be comprised of more than 50 percent local elected officials. To further ensure public accountability, all board members are also appointed by and responsible to their respective local elected officials.

## **HOW ARE THESE COUNCILS FUNDED?**

Financial support of the regional councils is provided by local, state and federal governments. Although the amount varies in each region, county councils and, in some cases, municipalities make an annual appropriation to their regional council.

The General Assembly divides its allocation among 10 councils. Even though a substantial portion of the operating funds come from state and federal governments, the regional councils are not under state or federal control. They were created by and work at the direction of local governments in South Carolina.

## **WHAT IS SCARC?**

Policy board members and executive directors from each regional council work together through the **South Carolina Association of Regional Councils** (SCARC). The Association represents the interests of local governments to state and federal agencies and officials, and works to promote regional cooperation across the state.

# S.C. REGIONAL COUNCILS

## **BERKELEY-CHARLESTON-DORCHESTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Ronald E. Mitchum**

1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 100  
North Charleston, SC 29405-2049  
Tel. (843) 529-0400  
Fax (843)529-0305  
[www.bcdcog.com](http://www.bcdcog.com)

## **CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Randy Imler**

PO Box 450  
Rock Hill, SC 29731  
Tel. (803) 327-9041  
Fax (803)327-1912  
[www.catawbacog.org](http://www.catawbacog.org)

## **CENTRAL MIDLANDS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Ben Mauldin**

236 Stoneridge Drive  
Columbia, SC 29210  
Tel. (803) 376-5390  
Fax (803)376-5394  
[www.centralmidlands.org](http://www.centralmidlands.org)

## **LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Sabrina Graham**

PO Box 98  
Yemassee, SC 29945  
Tel. (843) 473-3990  
Fax (843)726-5165  
[www.lowcountrycog.sc.gov](http://www.lowcountrycog.sc.gov)

## **LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**William Molnar**

PO Box 850  
Aiken, SC 29802  
Tel. (803) 649-7981  
Fax (803)649-2248  
[www.lscog.org](http://www.lscog.org)

## **PEE DEE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Johnny B. Brown**

PO Box 5719  
Florence, SC 29502  
Tel. (843) 669-3138  
Fax (843)669-4392  
[www.peedeecog.org](http://www.peedeecog.org)

## **SANTEE-LYNCHES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Dr. Chris McKinney**

2525 Corporate Way - Suite 200  
Sumter, SC 29154  
Tel. (803) 774-1985  
Fax (803)773-9903  
[www.santeelynchescog.org](http://www.santeelynchescog.org)

## **SOUTH CAROLINA APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Steve Pelissier**

30 Century Circle  
Greenville, SC 29607  
Tel. (864) 242-9733  
Fax (864) 242-6957  
[www.scacog.org](http://www.scacog.org)

## **UPPER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Patricia Hartung**

430 Helix Road  
Greenwood, SC 29646  
Tel. (864) 941-8050  
Fax (864) 941-8090  
[www.uppersavannah.com](http://www.uppersavannah.com)

## **WACCAMAW REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Executive Director*

**Sarah Penick Smith**

1230 Highmarket Street  
Georgetown, SC 29440  
Tel. (843) 546-8502  
Fax (843)527-2302  
[www.wrcog.org](http://www.wrcog.org)