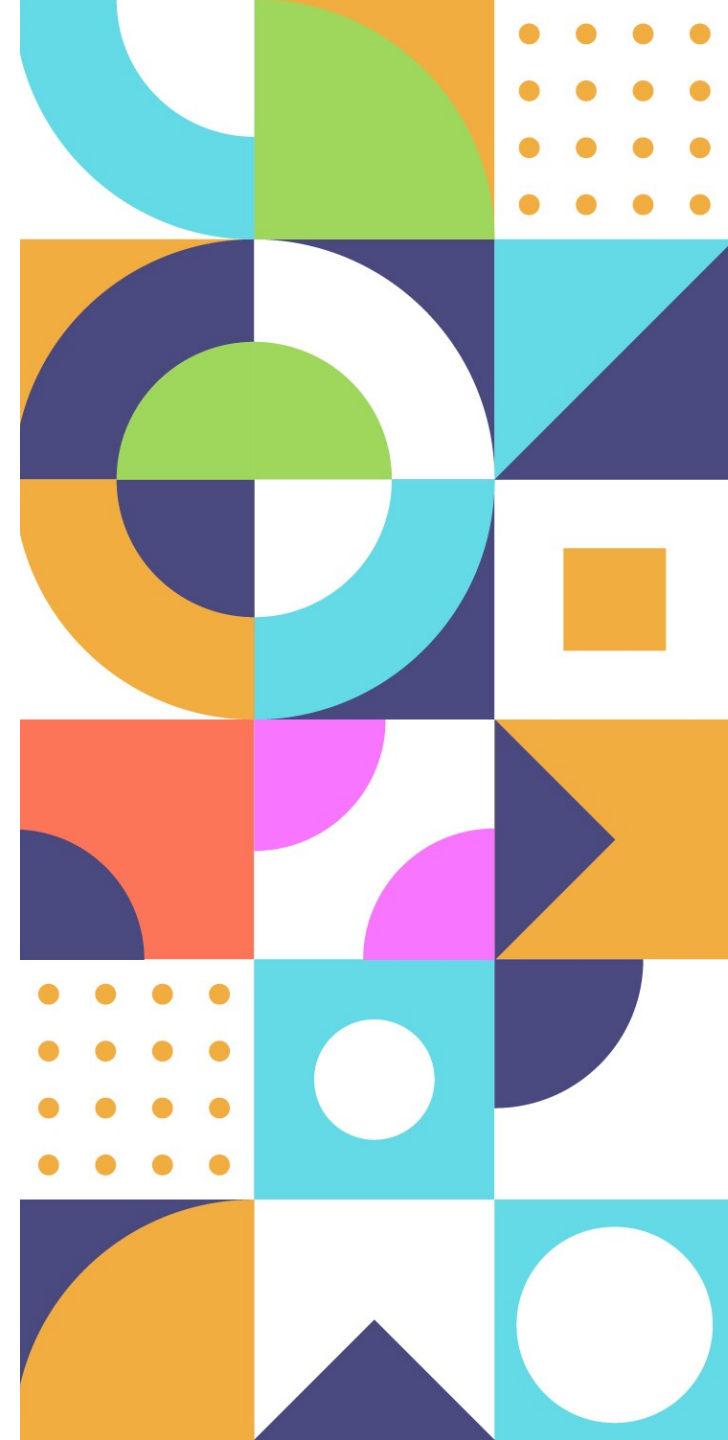




CENTRAL PINES
REGIONAL COUNCIL

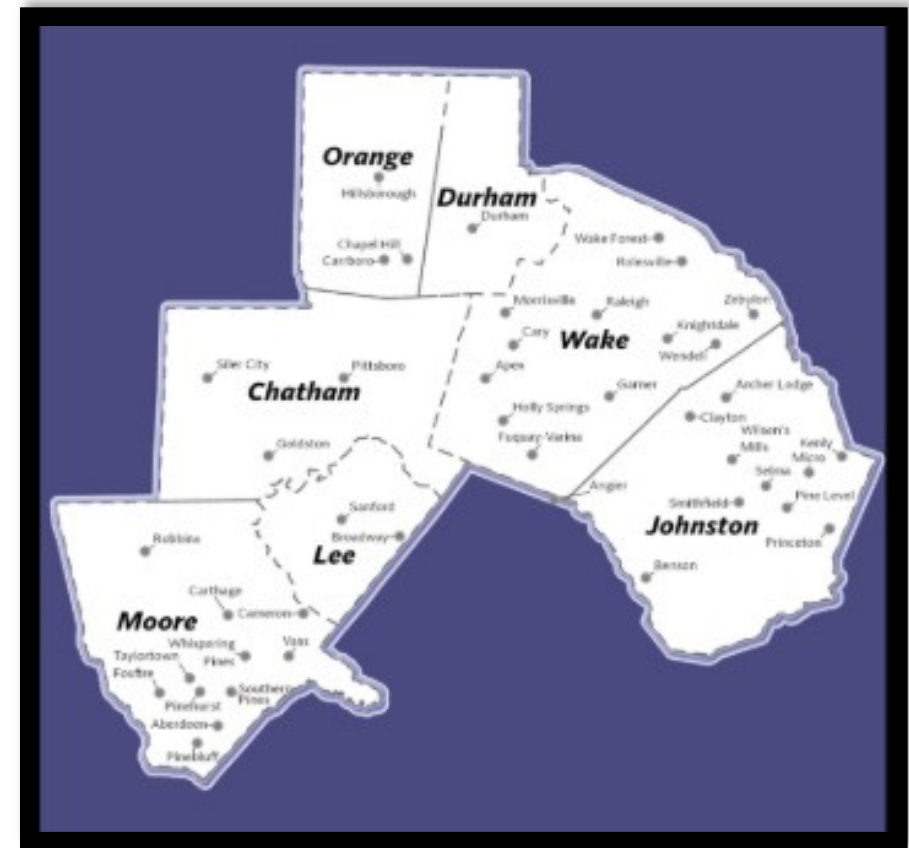
NADO Fall Conference

Diversifying Funding Panel
October 21, 2026



Cost-Sharing Programs

- Grant Assistance Program
- Planning Technical Services
- Solid Waste Consortium
- Regional Water Programs





77 Awarded
Applications



\$51.8M Funded
Projects



58% Success
Rate



184 Applications
Submitted

Program Overview

Since 2022, Central Pines has administered a fee for service-based grant assistance program to provide communities with expertise, capacity, and awareness of federal, state, and private funding opportunities.

18 communities (of Central Pines 50 local government members) have participated in the program at some point.



Alana Keegan
*Local Government
Services Director*



Lindsay Whitson
C&ED Director



Sterling McDonald
Environmental
Planner



Hannah Schuette
Management
Analyst



Grace Berry
Management
Analyst



Colin Fox
Community
Development
Coordinator



Marcy Waters
Resilience
Planner

Historic & Overwhelming Investment in Recovery



American Rescue Plan

\$1.88T in investments for COVID recovery and assistance programs at federal, state, and local levels

Status: *Wrapping Up*

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (IIJA)

\$1.2T over ten years, including \$550B in new spending on surface transportation and core infrastructure (e.g. water, bridges, broadband).

Status: *Billions of dollars still legally*

unobligated

Inflation Reduction Act

\$500B in new spending and tax breaks that aim to boost clean energy (\$400M), reduce healthcare costs, and increase tax revenues.

Status: *Not all funds have been obligated, some uncertainties*



Program Communities

**Communities
range in
population
from**

**300 to
350,000**

Apex (Urban)

Morrisville (Urban)

Durham County (Urban)

City of Durham (Urban)

Fuquay-Varina (Urban)

Rolesville (Urban)

Chapel Hill (Urban)

Chatham County (Suburban)

Pittsboro (Suburban)

Sanford (Rural)

Broadway (Rural)

Princeton (Rural)

Cameron (Rural)



Program Benefits

CPRC provides capacity and guidance to assist participating communities with:

Grant research and identification of relevant programs

Eligibility and readiness assessments

Application development support

Project scoping and alignment with funder priorities

Technical assistance and coordination with partners

Evaluations for future submittals

Agency advocacy and engagement



Tips for Our Members

- **The more time the better** - federal grants are often the most robust, but any strong application takes preparation and coordination *at least* weeks in advance.
- **Communication is key** - it is not always easy to coordinate between departments and project partners, so focus on getting materials from others first to ensure applications are moving forward (i.e. resolutions, budgets, letters of support).
- **Members are the experts!** - Each jurisdiction knows their projects and communities the best; providing us as much context as possible helps us write an application that stands out.



Regional Examples

\$800,000 Digital Opportunity Grant (NCDIT)

award to fund digital opportunity-related efforts in Chatham and Durham Counties; resulted in over 100 digital literacy classes being held and close to 1,400 individuals reached.

\$355,325 Economic Development Administration (EDA) for tourism and COVID recovery efforts in

\$1.6M Youth Homelessness System Improvement (US HUD) funds to improve

infrastructure and support services for unsheltered youth in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties.

\$1.5M Energy and Conservation Block Program (US DOE) funds to conduct residential energy upgrades in underinvested neighborhoods in Durham, Granville, and Orange counties.





Local Applications

\$3.3M in Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (US DOE) grant funds for Durham County to renovate and redesign the Redwood Convenience Site in east Durham County.

\$900,000 in Rural Transformation Grant Funds (NC Commerce) to support the building of the Sanford Agricultural Marketplace, to house the community's growing farmer's market, shared kitchen space, community gardens, etc.

\$245,000 in Safe Streets for All (US DOT) funding to develop vision zero plans and data analysis for Morrisville, Sanford, Lee County, and Broadway.

\$250,000 in Golden Leaf Flood Mitigation (Golden Leaf Foundation) funding for Pittsboro to address a flooding culvert downtown.

\$84,000 in Johnston County (county-related program) funding to revitalize a two-acre plot for the Town's new community center that includes an ADA-compliant paved walking trail, educational signage related to the site's natural history, among other components.

Relevancy in Current Landscape?



Central Pines Grant Assistance Dashboard

This dashboard contains:

1. Priority Areas: Your community's priority funding areas
2. Grant Overview: An overview of funding opportunities in AirTable, including those that are tagged to your community, and of those, the opportunities that are currently active for which you may consider applying. There is also the full table of funding opportunities, which you can filter to find those applicable to your community.
3. Application Overview: An overview of any upcoming, in progress, and complete applications. For any active grants to which your community is applying, there is also a calendar/timeline of start dates, end dates, and other task deadlines.
4. Project Overview: An overview of projects that are underway or upcoming in your community.

-- Choose Your Organization Below - Priority Areas

Chapel Hill

Sustainability Public Safety and Justice Arts, Humanities, Culture
Affordable Housing Cybersecurity Mental Health Transportation
Environmental Justice Economic Development

Grant Overview

Note that "Active" grants are either active or accepted on a rolling basis.

Active Grants: 99
Active Grants Tagged to Your Community: 52
Upcoming Grants Tagged to Your Community: 2

List of All Funding Opportunities

Use the filter below to filter by funding category, priority level, community name, program status, or deadline.

Priority is Select an option Applicable C... has any of Program Status is any of Deadline is exact date Enter

Program Status	Funding Category	Grant Summary	Eligibility Require...	Deadline	URL
Active	Environmental Justice	Local governments are on ...	Solvers must be individu...	1/31/2024	https://www.eqa.gov/ingov...
Active	Historic Preservation	Arts, Hi... The Africa American Cultu...	Public agencies, State	7/1/2024	https://xlv.inopolis.com/hi...

Grant Administration trainings

Education on Administration's priorities (state and federal)

How to utilize AI as a tool for grant writing, not a replacement – ***AI can make it much easier to produce a lot of polished writing quickly, but that does not necessarily make the application stronger.***

Program software for grant tracking (management and oversight)

Currently we use AirTable for grant program searching and analysis, tagging communities and their priorities, CPRC oversight and support on analysis of grants, and award agreement and reporting reminder automation



Cost



Population	Cost
1500 and under	\$3,000
1501 to 5000	\$6,000
5001 to 15000	\$12,000
15001 to 30000	\$17,000
30000 to 50000	\$22,000
50000 to 100,000	\$27,000
100,000 and above	\$33,000

Planning Technical Assistance

As a local government, under state law, Central Pines can quickly provide direct technical assistance and staff capacity when communities need it. ***Central Pines charges a fee for service based on hourly rates for planning technical assistance.***

- Long-range planning
- Current planning and zoning
- Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) support
- Annexation agreements
- Staff reports



Town of Clayton Planning Support

Town of Vass Planning Support

Town of Goldston Planning Support

Town of Carthage Planning Support

Solid Waste Consortium

Facilitation of city and county solid waste departments aimed at developing strategies and regional approaches in the areas of solid waste collection and disposal, recycling, biosolids, composting, yard waste, and household hazardous materials.

Goal 1

Regional Infrastructure and Planning

Goal 2

Data and Benchmarking

Goal 3

Grant and Funding Opportunities

10

Participating communities

Fee for Service

Base Annual Rate + .0089 per capita (ACS data)

Regional Water Projects

Triangle Area Water Supply Partnership - Brings together Triangle-area water utilities and local governments to address shared water-supply challenges.

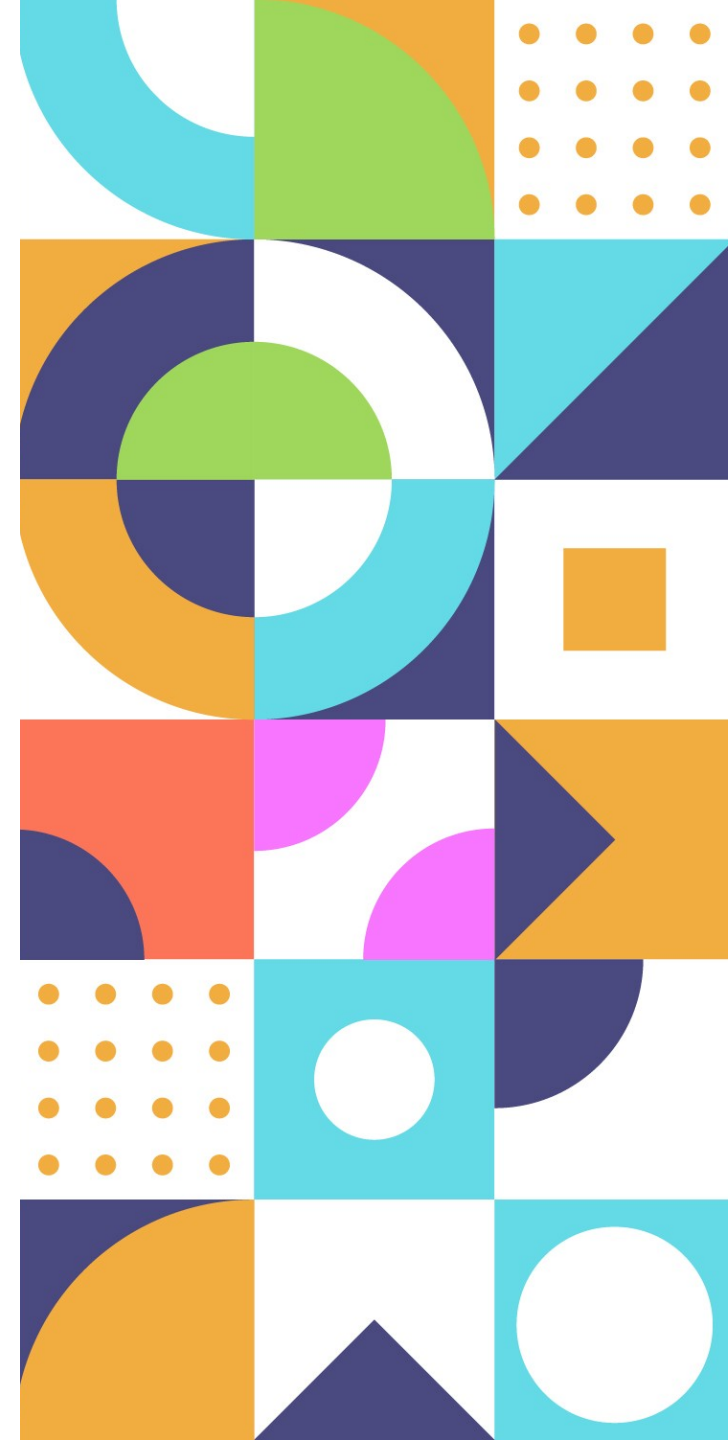
Promotes coordination on water supply planning, drought preparedness, conservation, and regional communication.

Why it matters: Helps the Triangle plan for reliable, sustainable water supplies as the region grows.

Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project - Regional water-quality monitoring partnership established in 1988 and implemented with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), which provides a 40% match to local funding.

Collects consistent, long-term data from important water-supply reservoirs, streams, and watersheds.

Why it matters: Gives regional decision-makers reliable long-term data to understand changes and protect drinking-water sources.



Regional Water Projects

Role that Central Pines serves

Holds the Interlocal Agreement among all partners

Procures and executes contracts with any contractors

Serves as fiscal agent and hosts meetings including creation of agenda and follow-up materials

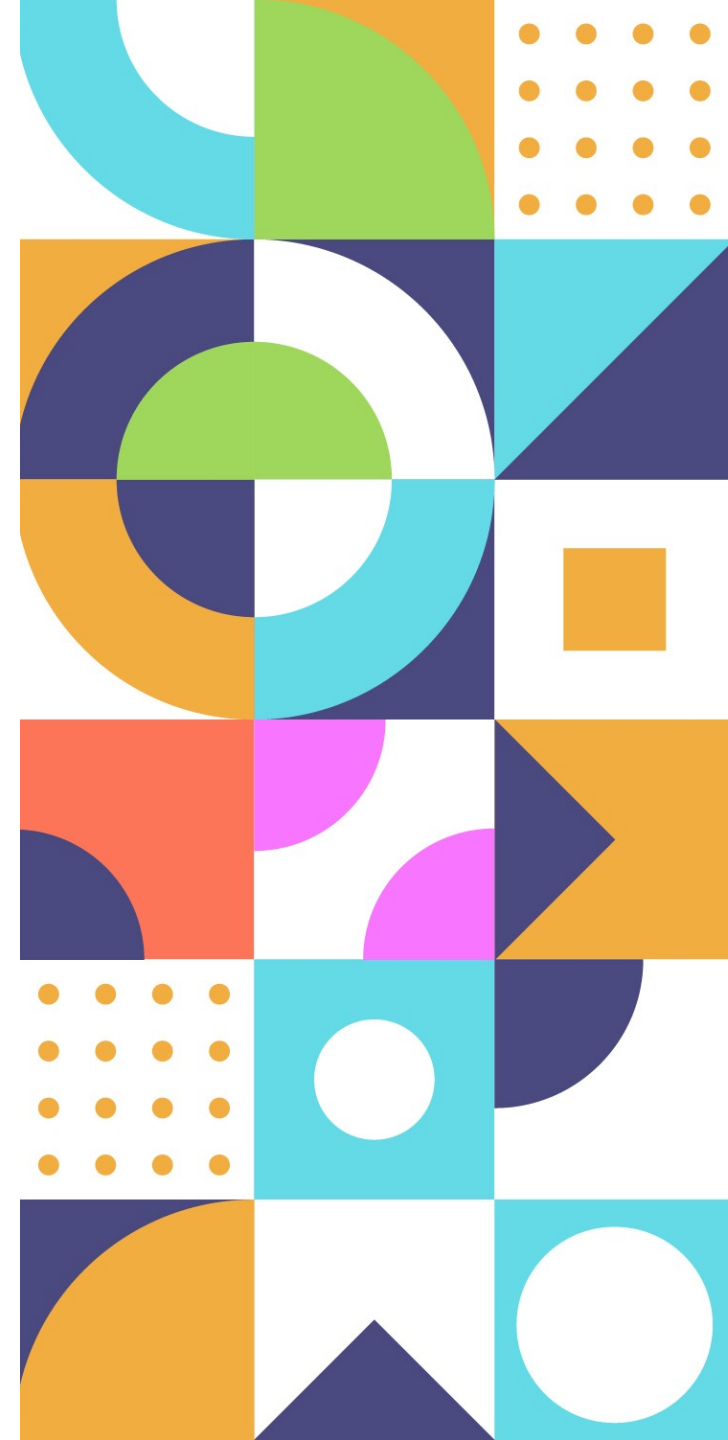
Serves as a thought partner

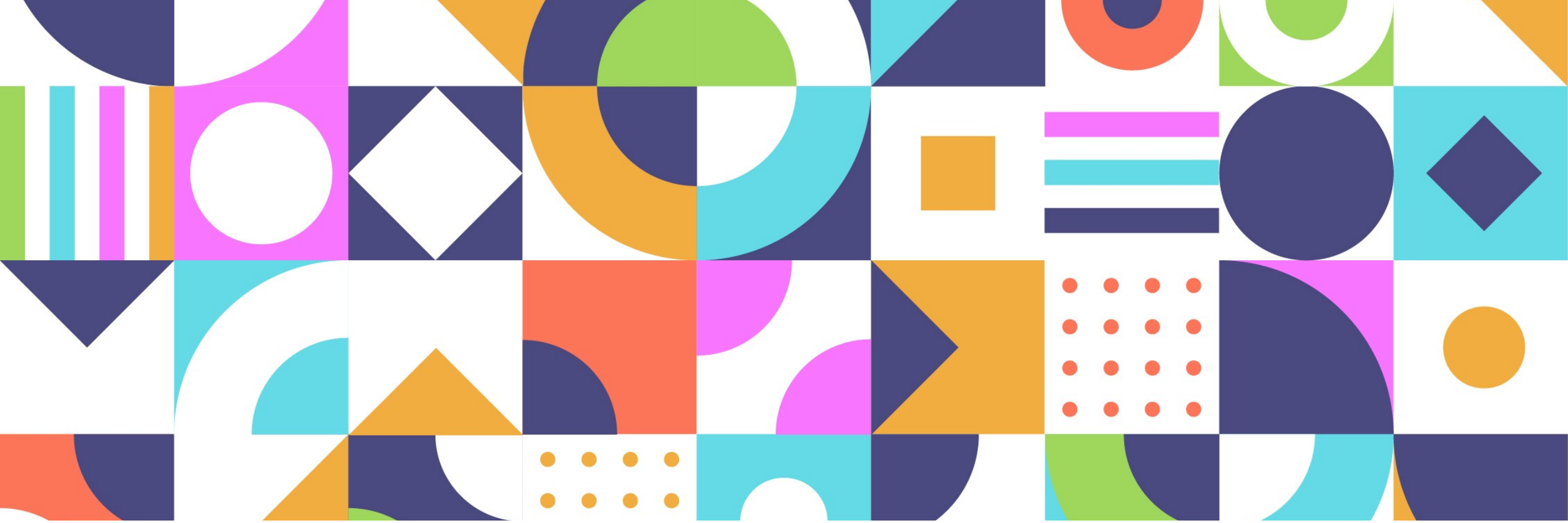
Consolidates ideas, needs, and gaps into universal responses for local and state agencies

Cost Model

Base annual rate + extra fees calculated based on the size of their water system for ***Triangle Area Water Supply***

Base Annual rate + share of total water usage for ***Triangle Area Water Supply Monitoring Project***





Questions?

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