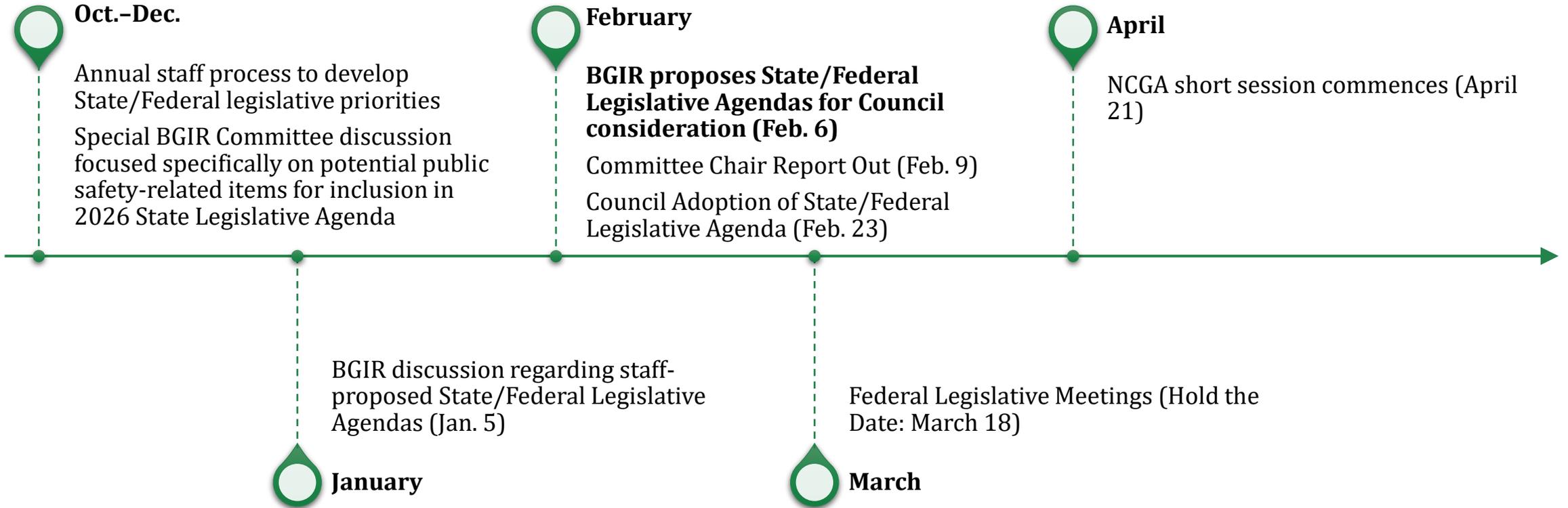


2026 Legislative Agenda Development

BGIR

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

2026 Legislative Agenda Development Timeline



Updates

- ✓ **Legislative scorecard**
- ✓ **Discussions with additional stakeholders**
- ✓ **Adjusted safety agenda**
 - ✓ Narrowed number of items and added emerging issues

Updated Proposed State Agenda: Public Safety

► Build on recent state actions by supporting efforts to:

- *Strengthen North Carolina's sentencing guidelines chronic, repeat offenders*
- **Additional state funding for mental health support**
- **State support for law enforcement recruitment/retention**
- **Additional state funding to increase staffing levels for DA's Office, Public Defender's Office, and Courts**
- ***New***: Support 2025 House Bill 258 (K. Hall) to strengthen the criminal penalty for assaults on public transit operators
- ***New***: Support efforts to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries on roadways including strategic infrastructure improvements and leveraging technology.
- *Strengthen required (statutory) qualifications – and pay – for magistrates*
- *Advocate for certain quality-of-life violations to be prohibited by state statute*
- *State support to reestablish a local Juvenile Detention Center*

Questions and Discussion

Proposed Agenda Items (No changes)

Proposed State Agenda

▶ **Planning and Zoning:**

- Support 2025 Senate Bill 587 (Lazzara) to clarify the restrictions on local government initiated down-zonings

▶ **Environment:**

- Support 2025 House Bill 369 (Loftis) that modifies local government authority to implement additional stormwater control measures for preexisting development and redevelopment

▶ **Housing**

- Support House budget provision appropriating funding for the Workforce Housing Loan Program
- Support 2025 Senate Bill 349 (Overcash) increasing homestead thresholds to support adults aging-in-place

Proposed State Agenda

► **Mobility and Aviation:**

- Support House and Senate budget provisions appropriating full funding of the NC Airport Improvement Program
- Continue working with the General Assembly and Administration to advance improvements to the surface transportation network for all users and boost the region's economic competitiveness, including through data-driven programs that distribute transportation funding for street maintenance and the state's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Proposed Federal Agenda

► **Mobility:**

- Support reauthorization of the surface transportation program

► **Aviation:**

- Support greater levels of resources for airport security, for example, international arrivals, and air traffic control

► **Public Safety:**

- Support greater level of resources for the Federal Emergency Management Program and support reforms to improve disaster preparedness and recovery
- Support increased resources that further initiatives to lower crime, increase public safety, and redeploy resources to areas of highest and best use

Additional Information

Proposed Federal Agenda

► **Business & Workforce Development:**

- **Support initiatives to boost workforce participation and energize economic mobility:**
 - Support reauthorization of the workforce development act
 - Enact federal policies that attract new talent and strengthen immigrant communities
 - Spur economic development and job creation in specific areas, such as Corridors of Opportunity

► **Housing:**

- **Support the production of more low-income and workforce housing:**
 - Reverse recent regulatory changes to the Continuum of Care grants that cap permanent supportive housing at 30%
 - Support reauthorization of HOME Investment Partnership program
 - Support recent efforts to enact comprehensive legislation that expands and preserves housing supply and improves housing affordability

Context

▶ Federal

- Congressional focus will be on the midterm elections
- More in-district and state work periods will be scheduled



▶ State

- Short Session starts April 21
- Designed primarily for budget adjustments and limited policy work—not for rewriting or crafting new legislative proposals
- Budget negotiations continue
- Adjournment by July 1



Development Principles

- Align with core mission, long-term goals, and community benefit.
- Include input from internal and external stakeholders.
- Balance ambition with feasibility and big-picture vision with practical action.
- Use data and evidence to strengthen credibility and demonstrate impact, especially for underserved groups.
- Understand priorities of other jurisdictions, agencies, and state/federal trends. **This year, we are aligned in several areas with partners.**
- Maintain flexibility to adjust to emerging issues, crises, or shifts.