

# Board of Commissioners' Agenda

January 7, 2025

## Commissioners' Briefing

Prior to the Regular Meeting, the Commission will hold a Briefing starting at 3:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, located at 200 College Street.

The Commission does not vote at the Briefing and there public comment is not taken.

### January 7, 2025 Briefing Materials:

#### [AGENDA](#)

- [Residential Waste Collection Update](#)
- [Helene Update](#)
- [Homeowner Grant Program Update](#)

## Regular Commission Meeting

The Regular Meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, located at 200 College Street.

Public Comment is taken at the beginning of the meeting.

## Call To Order [▲top](#)

## Discussion / Adjustment / Approval To Follow Agenda [▲top](#)

## Consent Agenda [▲top](#)

- [Adoption of the December 17, 2024, meeting minutes](#)
- [Approval of the November 2024 tax collection report](#)
- [Support for the Blue Ridge Rising Strategic Plan and appropriations](#)
  - [Resolution](#)

## Public Comment [▲top](#)

## Good News [▲top](#)

## Presentations [▲top](#)

## Public Hearings [▲top](#)

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## County Manager's Report

[▲top](#)

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## Old Business

[▲top](#)

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## New Business [▲top](#)

1. [Appointment of Drew Ball to fill vacant District 3 seat on Board of Commissioners](#)
  - [Democratic Party Recommendation Letter](#)
  - Administration of the Oath of Office
2. [Appointment of Curt Euler to fulfill the duties as interim County Attorney](#)
  - [Resolution](#)

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## Board Appointments [▲top](#)

1. [Board of Commissioner Appointments to Boards](#)
  - [Appointments](#)
2. [Board and Commission Appointments](#)
  - Mountain Area Workforce Development - 1 appointment
  - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council - 8 appointments
  - Metropolitan Sewerage District Board - 1 appointment

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## Announcements [▲top](#)

- The Board will hold a Joint meeting with the School Boards and hold a Budget Retreat on January 16, 2025
- The next Briefing and Regular meeting will be held on January 21, 2025.

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## Closed Session / Open Session

[▲top](#)

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## Adjournment

[▲top](#)



# Buncombe County Government

*Avril M. Pinder, CPA, ICMA-CM*  
*County Manager*

Buncombe County Government  
Commissioner Briefing  
January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 3:00 pm  
Commissioner's Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

- |      |                                                                                  |         |                   |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| I.   | Meeting called to order                                                          |         | Chair Edwards     |
| II.  | Review the Board's January 7 <sup>th</sup> agenda                                |         | Chair Edwards     |
| III. | Staff updates                                                                    |         |                   |
|      |                                                                                  |         |                   |
| A.   | Residential Waste Collection update                                              | 15 mins | Dane Pedersen     |
|      |                                                                                  |         |                   |
| B.   | Helene update                                                                    | 30 mins |                   |
|      | • Housing; Private Roads & Bridges;<br>Private Property Debris Removal<br>(PPDR) |         | Avril Pinder      |
|      | • Individual & Business Assistance                                               |         | EB Odderstol      |
|      | • Emergency Watershed Protection                                                 |         | Jennifer Harrison |
|      | • Floodplain Regulations                                                         |         | Nathan Pennington |
|      | • Hazard Mitigation Grant Program<br>(HMGP)                                      |         | Steve McGugan     |
| C.   | Homeowner Grant Program update                                                   | 10 mins | Phillip Hardin    |





# Buncombe County MAG

1/07/2025



Environmental Services

Partnering for a more  
sustainable future

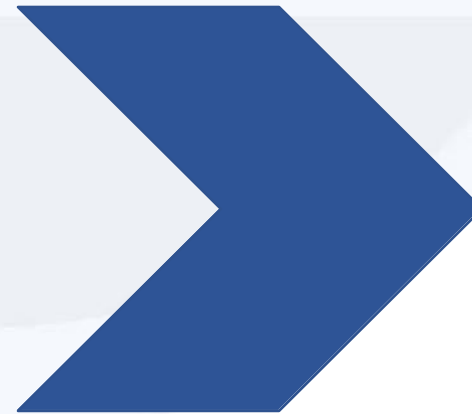
## MAG Updates:1-7-2025

**Cart Deployment**

**Service update**

**Communications/Sign Up process**

**Questions**



# Cart Implementation

*FCC started deployment December 2, 2024, of multiple sized Carts based on the most current subscriber list and to any new customers who wish to sign up for service*

- Current FCC Customer Count: Approximately 38,500 (still need to purge duplicates prior to billing)*
- All carts have been delivered to residents that were on the previous haulers list*
- Currently decaling bear carts, and continue to process new subscriber's daily*
- 1000 96 gal carts on standby located at BCLF*
- 75,889 carts delivered through 1-3-25*
- **Inventory remaining for on-hand carts:***

| 96G<br>MSW | 64G<br>MSW | 96G<br>REC | 64G<br>REC | BEAR<br>96G | 48<br>MSW | 48 REC |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| 306        | 0          | 804        | 84         | 75          | 132       | 48     |



# Service updates

- FCC HR team is processing of 3 new hires (additional)- continuously
- Safety Team Continues Orientation/Training for Drivers
- 7 Regional Drivers for Support remain through (**January 24<sup>th</sup>**), 1 RM, 1 FM, along with Manufacturer Techs (**January 17<sup>th</sup>**)
- In addition, 11 more Regional/Corporate Managers for Support (**rotating through the end of January**)
- All equipment online and additional units arriving (**4 ASL'S AND 3 REL'S**)
- **First three days of service went well, everything completed by mid-day Sunday, except for a number of streets left due to road conditions that will be serviced the following morning**
- **Communication Plan was installed , notifying all County Residents who did not receive service on planned day, that they would be serviced the following morning**



# Equipment

| Type           | Count     |
|----------------|-----------|
| ASL            | 12        |
| REL            | 5         |
| RELPUP         | 8         |
| Stake Body     | 2         |
| Pick Up Trucks | 3         |
| Service Truck  | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>31</b> |





# Questions



# Thank you

[www.fccenvironmental.com](http://www.fccenvironmental.com)



# HELENE UPDATE

Board of Commissioners | January 7, 2025



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



- **Housing** – Avril Pinder
- **Private Roads & Bridges** – Avril Pinder
- **Debris Removal** – Avril Pinder
- **Individual & Small Business Assistance** – EB Odderstol
- **Emergency Watershed Protection** – Ariel Zijp
- **Floodplain Regulations** – Nathan Pennington
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program** – Steve McGugan



# HOUSING

- FEMA Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA)
  - Households checked into TSA: 1,371
  - Households in TSA approved for TSA through January 24: 529
  - Households in TSA identified ineligible & checking out January 11: 842
- Community Navigation, Disaster Case Management, & Outreach
  - County continues providing outreach to TSA Households
  - TetraTech Community Navigators continue to provide support in TSA Hotels
  - State supported Disaster Case Managers are active in the Disaster Recovery Center
- FEMA Direct Housing
  - 21 households currently licensed in on private sites and commercial site pads
  - 5 households currently licensed in direct leasing



# PRIVATE ROADS & BRIDGES

## Overview

- 300+ bridges assessed for emergency access by Fire Marshal, 80%+ were damaged or destroyed
- New self reported locations occurring weekly

## Next steps

- Continue to identify damaged private roads from flooding and landslides
- Developing outreach campaign for impacted households
- Preparing prioritization Rubric for destroyed and damaged bridges and roads

## Community Help

- Gov. Stein Executive Order 2 – Timely Repairing Private Roads and Bridges



# DEBRIS REMOVAL

## Public Right of Way:

- Ashbritt is assessing 1st pass completion in zones A, B, C & F, currently at 99% complete. Swannanoa and Barnardsville at 90% completion of 1st pass.

## Title Property:

- Title property RFP is complete, with several responsive bidders. Currently working through contract negotiations with all responsive bidders.

## Waterway Debris Removal:

- Waterway debris removal has been approved by FEMA and tasked to USACE. USACE has assessment teams out determining eligibility and scope of work for a contractor.



# PRIVATE PROPERTY DEBRIS REMOVAL (PPDR)

- Approximately 2,000 PPDR applications received as of today. (1/7/25)
- Direct contact with property owners and residents are underway for those with destroyed and/or severely damaged property who haven't started clean up.
- In-person, virtual, and call center intake options.



# Questions?



# SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

- On November 19th, 2024, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners awarded \$1.597M to Mountain BizWorks for their "Rebuilding Together" Helene Relief small business grant program
  - Funds were reallocated ARPA dollars and awarded following an RFP
- 276 businesses served by the total \$3.69 million Rebuilding Together grant program
- 137 awards made with Buncombe County funds
  - Average grant size \$11,441
  - 39 Minority-owned businesses (28.5%)
  - 83 Women-owned businesses (60.6%)
  - 8 Veteran-Owned businesses (5.8%)



# INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

- On November 1st, 2024, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners voted to reallocate \$1.597M for household assistance
  - \$300K for Grace Covenant Helene Relief Program
  - \$1.297M for Economic Services' Household Assistance Program
- Grace Covenant
  - First data report due January 15
- Economic Services
  - 5,826 of applications received
  - 51 applications approved, for \$187,193.76 in total grant dollars
  - 101 applications pending



# INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

- Request
  - **City of Asheville has requested that Buncombe County accept & manage \$624K in CDBG-DDRF funds**
  - DDRF = Declared Disaster Recovery Funds, a supplemental resource
  - Rental assistance for City of Asheville Households with AMI at 80% or less
  - CDBG-DDRF would fund eligible applications from the Household Assistance Program
  - Interlocal agreement would include administration fee: 10%
- Next Steps
  - Buncombe County and City of Asheville staff working on an interlocal agreement
  - City Council will consider it at the January 14th, 2025 meeting
  - January 21st, 2025 staff will bring to regular meeting for Board of Commissioner consideration



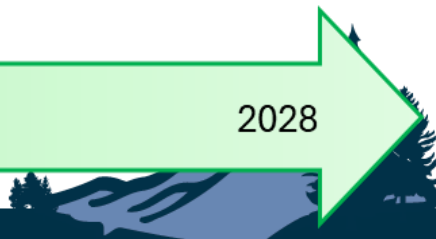
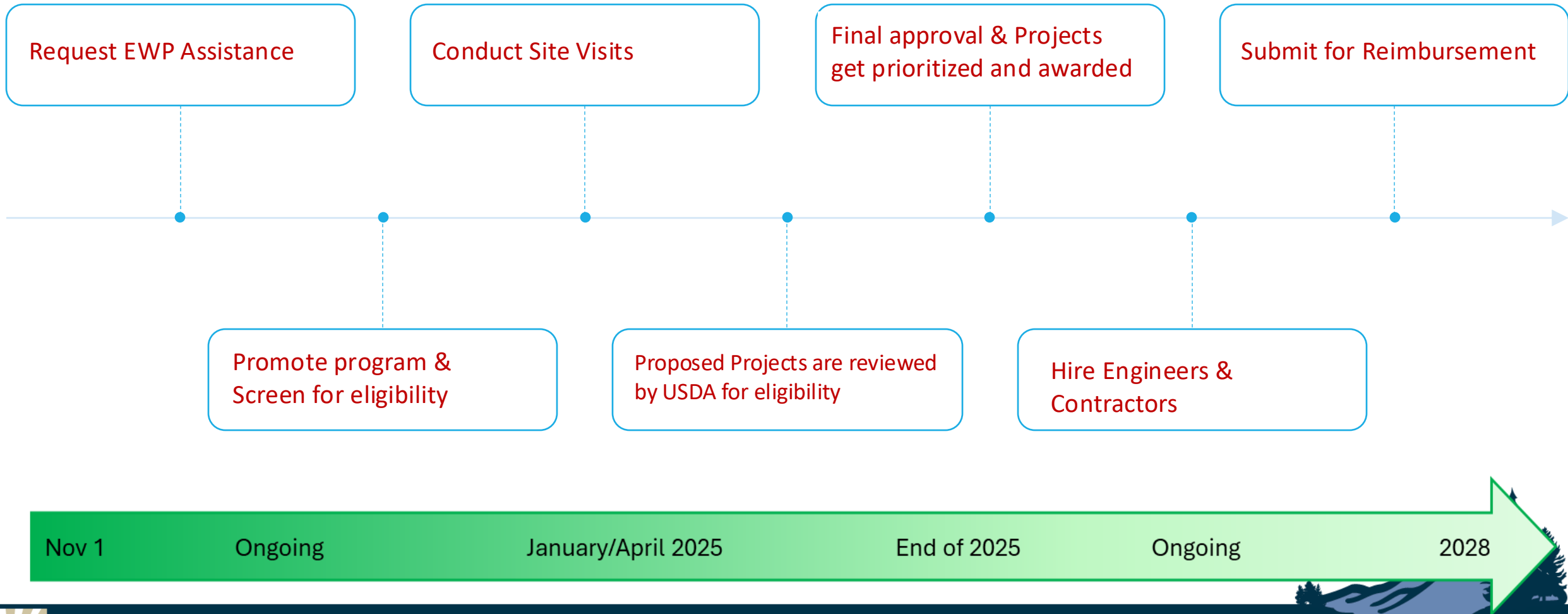
# Questions?



# EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION



# EWP PROCESS & TIMELINE



# EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION



**Tropical  
Storm  
Fred**



**Before**



**After**



**BUNCOMBE COUNTY**



1/7/2025

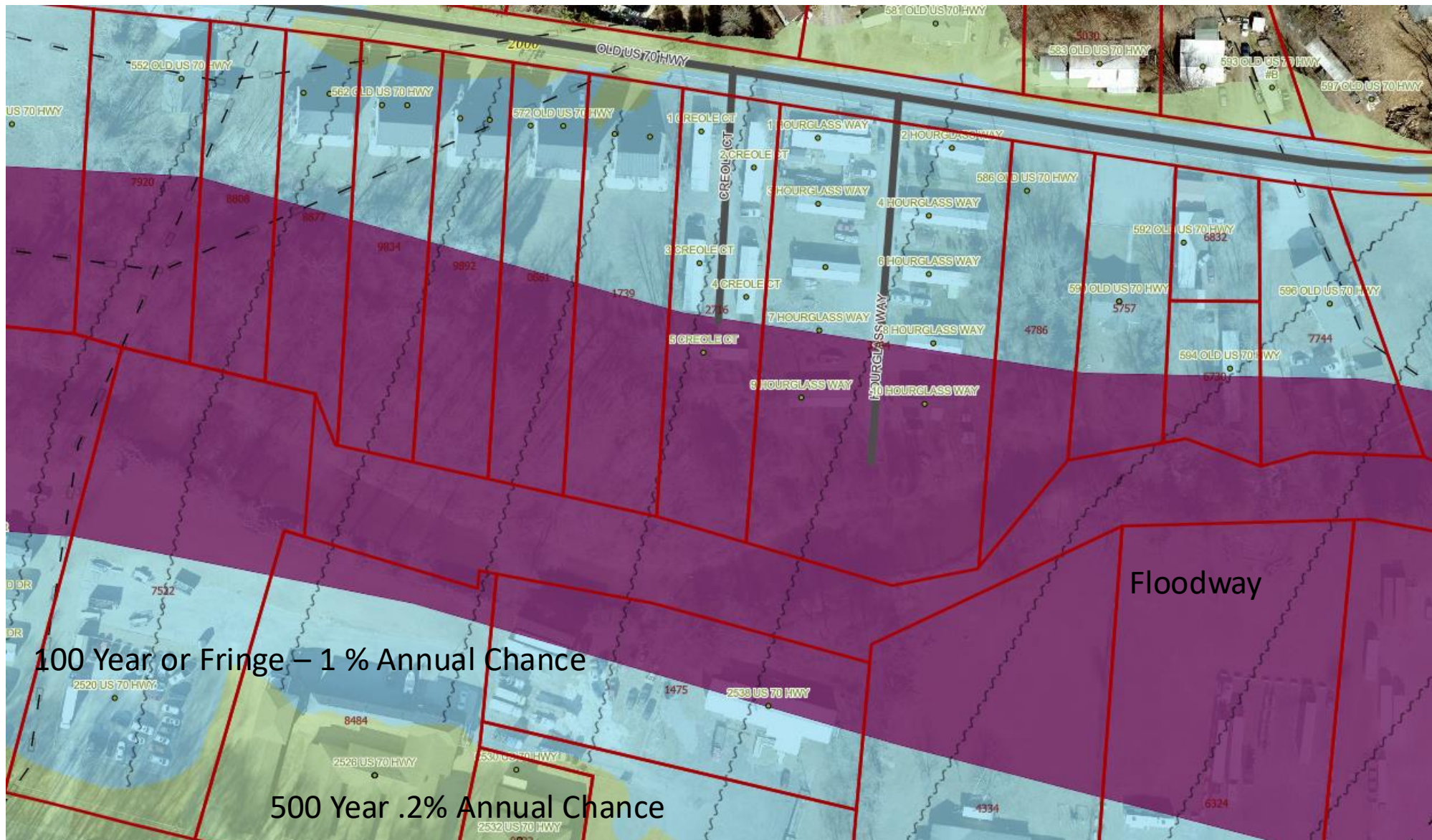
# Questions?



# FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Membership in National Flood Insurance Program since 1980
- ✓ NC – Cooperating Technical Partner (North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program since 2000). As a CTS, NC assumes primary ownership and responsibility of the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.
- ✓ Maps are based on the Flood Insurance Study or FIS. Current maps adopted in 2010. The NC Floodplain Mapping Program is securing funding to collect LIDAR data for Western NC this leaf-off season. New maps are likely 3-4 years away.
- ✓ Detailed and Limited Detail Study Areas
- ✓ No two properties are the same and no two flood zones are the same.

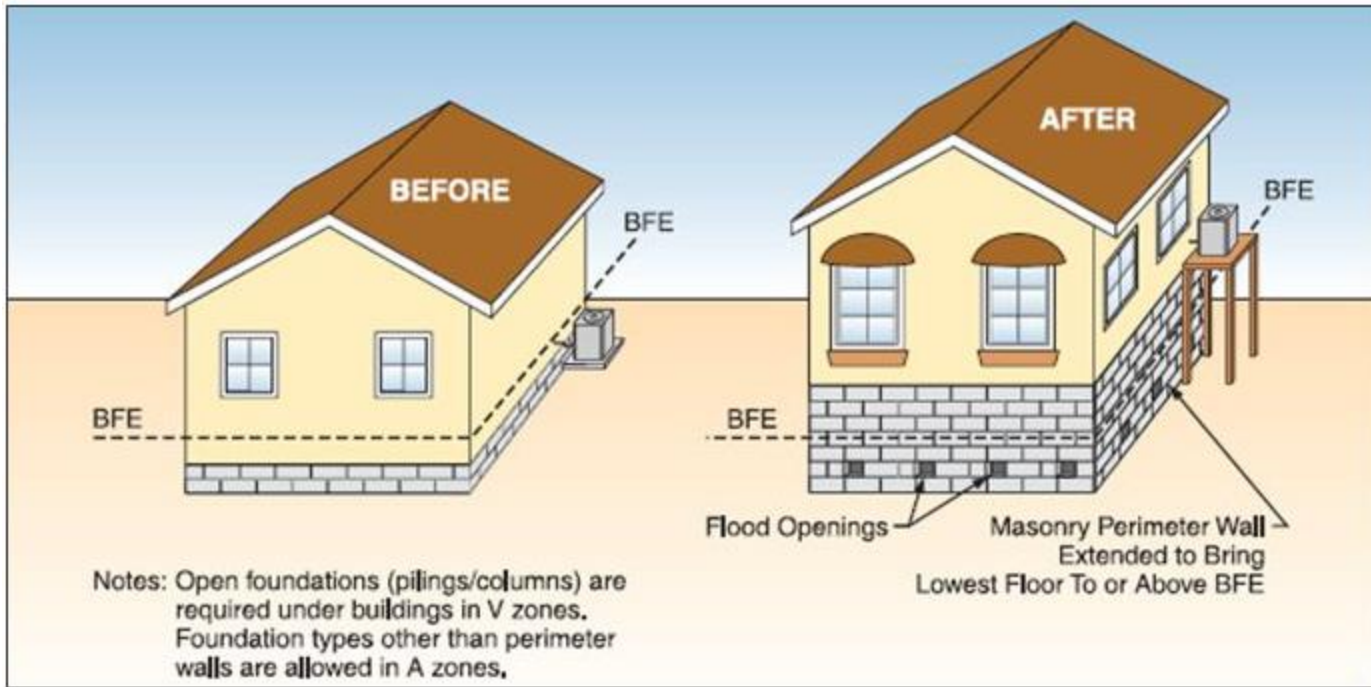




## Flood Basics

- Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
- Floodway
- 100 Year
- 500 Year





#### Scenario #1 (Pre-FIRM)

- 1940 construction
- Slab on grade

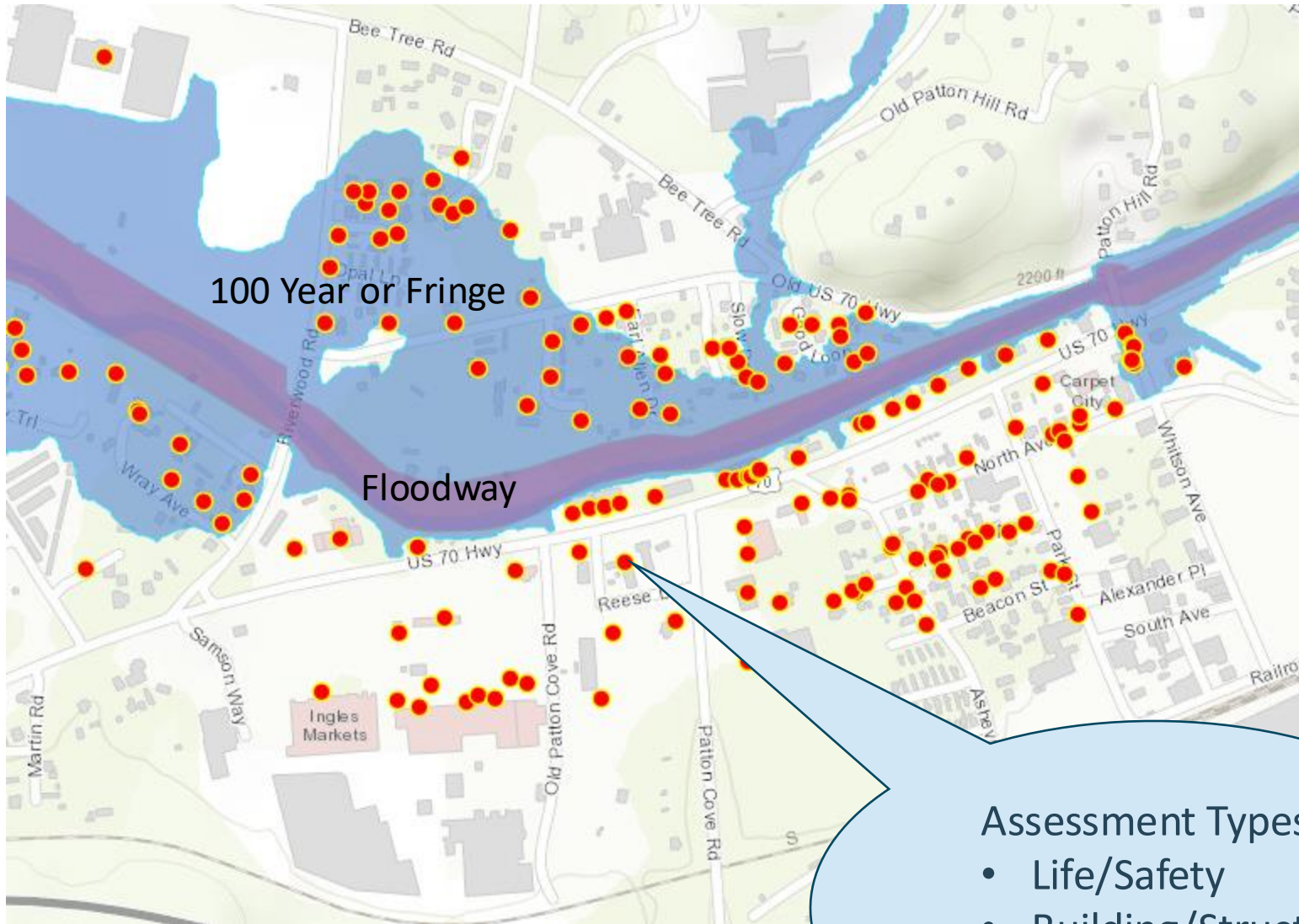
#### Scenario #2 (Post-FIRM)

- 2020 construction
- Engineered foundation with crawl space and flood vents

## Flood Basics Continued

- Are permits required?
- Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
- Freeboard
- Pre-FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) Structure
- Substantial Damage
- Substantial Improvement
- Post-FIRM Structure
- Commercial (wet/dry floodproofing)





## After Flood Actions

- Damage Assessments – ULTRA IMPORTANT
- Colored Placards
- County Contractor – Tetra Tech
- Substantial Damage/Improvement
- Inherent Risk in SFHA
- Reconstruction/New Construction Options in the SFHA

### Assessment Types

- Life/Safety
- Building/Structural
- SFHA – Substantial Damage



# HIGHER STANDARDS

- ✓ New Mapping Cycle – New Model Ordinance (there will be changes including a recommendation to raise freeboard standard)
- ✓ Community Rating System (CRS)
- ✓ Flood Insurance Discount
- ✓ Consistent with Hazard Mitigation Plan and Comprehensive Plan



# SHOULD I GET FLOOD INSURANCE?

- ✓ In a mapped Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
- ✓ Adjacent to a water course (i.e. stream, tributary, river)
- ✓ Outside of mapped SFHA's but near significant impervious area, roads, bridges, developed areas.
- ✓ High water table, hydrostatic pressure
- ✓ When in doubt – YES!
- ✓ ICC Coverage



# FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- ✓ Alteration of Water Courses (Main, Stems, Tributaries)
- ✓ Scouring and Loss of Property
- ✓ Streambank Restoration
- ✓ Army Corp of Engineers, NCDEQ



# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

## 46 Valley Street

- ✓ Verify what you hear with subject matter experts, floodplain managers are available.
- ✓ [helenefloodpermits@buncombecounty.org](mailto:helenefloodpermits@buncombecounty.org) (flood specific) or [planninginfo@buncombecounty.org](mailto:planninginfo@buncombecounty.org) (all other inquiries)



# Questions?





Emergency Management  
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

# Hazard Mitigation

Steve McGugan  
Assistant Director – HM  
State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO)





# What is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?

- HMGP is 1 of 4 Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants provided by FEMA, focused at providing **post-disaster assistance** while simultaneously reducing risks to individuals and property from future disasters.
  - HMGP is only available after a Presidential Declaration
  - HMGP focus is ensuring effective Governmental actions incorporate critical mitigation measures to reduce risk during post-disaster reconstruction
  - Focused at breaking the cycle of damage, reconstruction and repeated damages
  - Specific Focus Areas:
    - Community-wide risk reduction projects
    - Improving resilience of key infrastructure and resource life-lines
    - Encouraging conservation of the floodplain
    - Increasing future mitigation planning



## Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, and Flood Mitigation Assistance

March 23, 2023

Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA) Number: FP-206-21-0001



FEMA

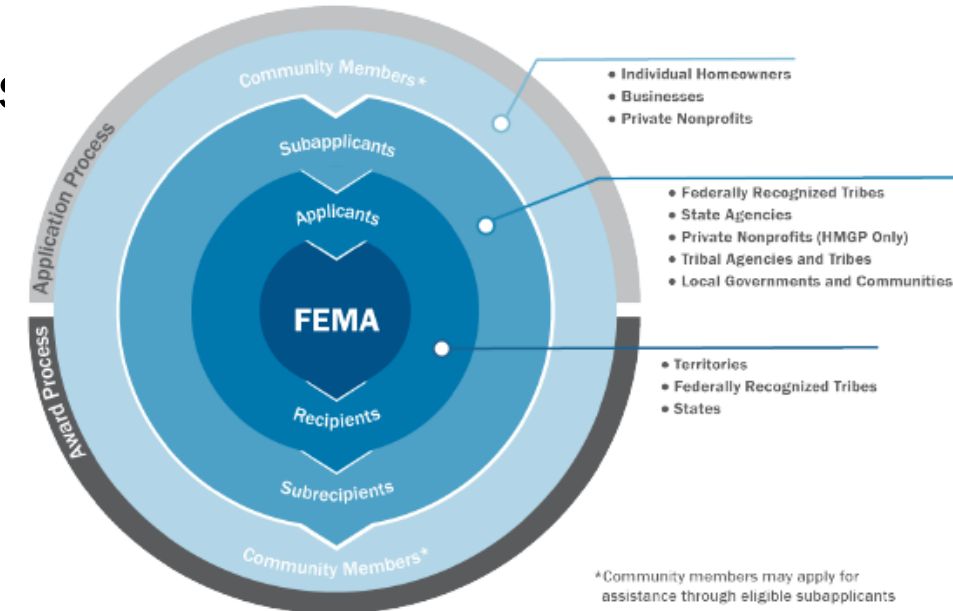


# Eligibility for HMGP

- Key to Note: It is the role of states to apply for HMGP funding and local governments (acting as sub-applicants) to apply to their state for inclusion in FEMA HMA funding.

- Eligible Sub-Applicants:

- State agencies.
- Local governments.
- Federally recognized tribal governments.
- Private nonprofit organizations
  - the private nonprofit must own and operate a private nonprofit facility
  - A ruling letter from the IRS, in effect as of the date of the declaration for HMGP, being tax exempt under Sections 501(c), (d) and (e) OR documentation from the state substantiating it is a nonrevenue producing nonprofit, organized or doing business under state law
  - Must provide one of the services below:
    - A facility that provides a critical service, defined as education, utility, irrigation, emergency, medical, or custodial care
    - A facility that provides a noncritical but essential government service and provides those services to the general public
    - Certain types of facilities, such as senior centers, that restrict access in a manner clearly related to the nature of the facility and are still considered to provide essential government services to the general public.





## HMGP Project Types and Templated Time

- The HMGP program possess the capability to carry out a multitude of projects, as listed
- The HMGP program timeline is NOT fast, due to approvals and size/scope/number of the projects
- General HMGP Timeline is:
  - Application period (for State's applications) – 15 months
    - Hurricane Helene application period closes 29 Dec 25
  - Period of Performance (POP)– 48 months from close of application period
    - Hurricane Helene POP is 28 Dec 29, extendable up to 36 months
- Keep in mind, the bigger the project(s) (i.e. the more homes to be completed, the longer residents may wait to see actual work performed on their home)

|                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Property Acquisition                                       |
| Structure Elevation                                        |
| Mitigation Reconstruction                                  |
| Localized Flood Risk Reduction                             |
| Non-Localized Flood Risk Reduction                         |
| Stabilization                                              |
| Dry Floodproofing Non-Residential Building                 |
| Tsunami Vertical Evacuation                                |
| Safe Room                                                  |
| Wildfire Mitigation                                        |
| Retrofit                                                   |
| Secondary Power Source                                     |
| Warning System (excluding earthquake early warning system) |
| Earthquake Early Warning System                            |
| Aquifer Recharge, Storage and Recovery                     |
| Innovative Mitigation Project**                            |



# NCEM State Centric Program

- Intended as full-service support to all State sub-applicants; Sub-Applicants choice to Opt-In or self-perform the awarded application.
- NCEM HM assists in preparing sub-applicant applications to FEMA – requires Chairman of Board of Commissioners or City Council or their designated agent (DA) to sign the final application
- NCEM HM contracts and oversees approved applications, expending State funds and pulling down Federal reimbursement (no local funds committed)
- NCEM HM closes out approved awards with FEMA and provides notification back to jurisdiction project closed
- NCEM HM acts on behalf of the county to process/get approved any Land Leases of acquired properties



## STATE CENTRIC PLAN

As of 21 May 2021

### PURPOSE

To Provide the State's Framework and Guidance in managing all Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency





Emergency Management  
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

# Questions



# End of Presentation

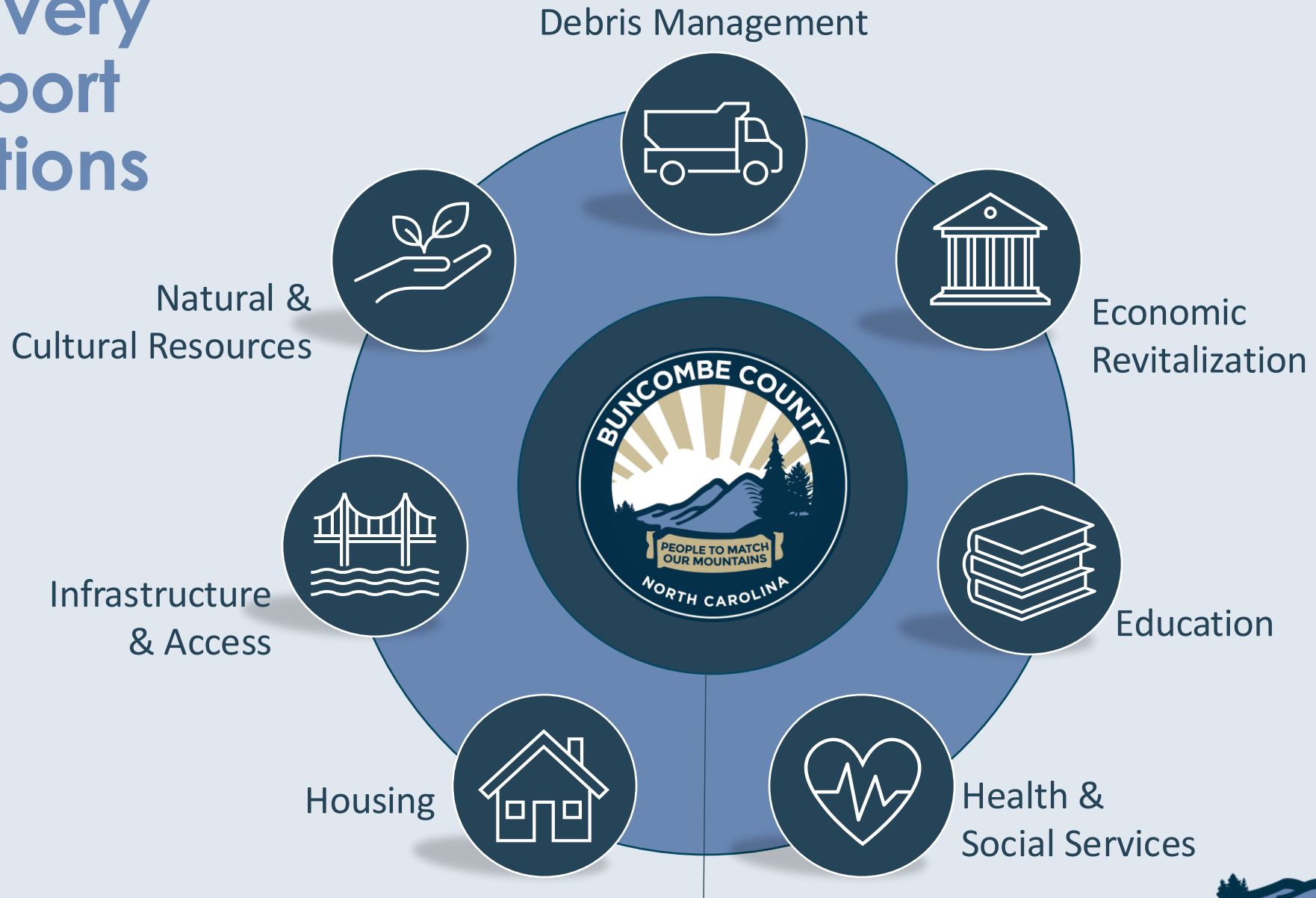


# APPENDIX – DATA UPDATES

Reference Data by Recovery Support Function



# Recovery Support Functions



Foundational



**BUNCOMBE COUNTY**



1/7/2025

# DEBRIS MANAGEMENT



Focused on storm debris, including solutions for debris removal on public and private property and waterways, managing specialized debris types, evaluating hazardous materials considerations, coordinating disposal, and exploring sustainable re-use of debris.



# DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

- Cubic yards of debris collected: 664,106 (20%+ increase over last update)
- Tons of mud, silt and soil collected: 44,824 (300%+ increase over last update)
- PPDR applications received: 1,938 (40%+ increase over last update)
- PPDR applications ready for site inspection: 267 (100%+ increase over last update)
- PPDR applications delivered to FEMA: 238 (40%+ increase over last update)
- PPDR inspections complete: 561 (400%+ increase over last update)
- % of applications received on-line: 60%
- % of applications received in-person: 40%
- % of applications requesting debris removal only: 91%
- % of applications requesting debris and demolition: 8%
- % of applications requesting demolition only: 1%



# ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION



Focused on stimulating economic recovery, supporting local businesses, responding to workforce needs, and ensuring the long-term economic stability and prosperity of the area with a focus on revitalization of critical economic sectors



# ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

- Asheville-Buncombe "Rebuilding Together" Business Grant [www.mountainbizworks.org/helene/fund/](http://www.mountainbizworks.org/helene/fund/)
  - 843 applications received totaling more than \$18M
  - Total Awards (Buncombe County, City of Asheville, and Chamber)
    - 276 small businesses awarded grants
    - \$3.69 million in grant funding
    - 2,935 FTEs (Full-Time Equivalent jobs) retained
  - Buncombe County Only
    - 137 small businesses awarded grants, totaling \$1,567,480



# ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

## Unemployment Estimates: Revised October 2024 and November 2024

|                   | Reported Oct 2024 | Revised Oct 2024 | Reported Nov 2024* |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Buncombe County   | 8.8%              | 10.4%            | 7.2%               |
| Asheville Metro** | 7.4%              | 8.5%             | 6.1%               |

\*Next Unemployment Update will be available Tuesday January 28th, 2025 and will include November 2024 Revised and December 2024

\*\* Asheville Metro includes Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, and Madison counties

## Helene Impact on County Unemployment Rankings November 2024

| County   | Labor Force* | Unemployment ** | Rate | Rank |
|----------|--------------|-----------------|------|------|
| Yancey   | 8,480        | 522             | 6.2  | 96   |
| Avery    | 7,897        | 504             | 6.4  | 97   |
| Madison  | 10,328       | 677             | 6.6  | 98   |
| Buncombe | 147,359      | 10,621          | 7.2  | 99   |
| Mitchell | 6,643        | 591             | 8.9  | 100  |

\*Number of people working in Buncombe County

\*\* Number of people unemployed



# EDUCATION



Focused on successful recovery and increased resiliency for students and educational institutions, including childcare/early childhood education as well as elementary and secondary education in varied educational settings



# EDUCATION

- The number of homeless (unhoused) students identified under the McKinney-Vento Act in **Asheville City Schools** is currently at 218
  - At this time last year, the number was 211
- All but 4 of **Buncombe County Schools** sites have resumed normal water usage after receiving lead test results
  - 4 sites still awaiting test results



# HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES



Focused on ensuring the health and well-being of residents with attention to the social determinants of health, including consideration of medical, behavioral, and environmental health concerns and social service recovery needs



# HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

- Applications for individual assistance thru Buncombe Co.: 5,100 (no change compared to last update)
- Total number of showers at Community Care Sites: 41,251 (10%+ increase over prior update)
- Total loads of laundry at Community Care Sites: 40,634 (17%+ increase over prior update)
- Number of vaccines provided at Community Care Sites: 1,022 (vaccine administration ended 12/16)
- Mass care meals provided (avg. / day): 2,000 (60% increase over prior update)
- Current individuals in emergency shelters: Shelter closed as of 13/31
- Low-income energy assistance program (LIEAP) approved households: 1,251 (no change compared to last update)
- LIEAP approved funds: \$440,700 (no change compared to last update)



# HOUSING



Focused on supporting people in moving toward housing permanence through home repair, removing barriers to temporary housing units, connecting survivors to short- and long-term rental, and coordinating rental and mortgage assistance for survivor households with economic impacts



# HOUSING

- Residential units destroyed: 339 (2%+ increase over prior update)
- Residential units with major damage: 633 (3%+ increase over prior update)
- Residential units with habitability repairs: 8,767 (5%+ increase over prior update)
- Total residential units damaged: 9,737 (5%+ increase over prior update)
- Households currently in TSA: 1,371 (2%+ decrease over prior update)
- Households approved for FEMA direct housing: 128 (10%- decrease from prior update)
- FEMA temporary housing units complete: 26 (60%+ increase over prior update)
- FEMA temporary housing units in-progress: 45 (20%+ increase over prior update)
- Households approved for rental assistance: 261 (50%+ increase over prior update)



# INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESS



Focused on restoring and enhancing essential public infrastructure and accessibility to private property, including comprehensive damage assessments, coordination of repairs/restoration, and mitigation of future hazards such as floods and landslides



# INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESS

- 300+ private addresses assessed for bridge damage by Fire Marshall
- 1,000+ landslides occurred in the County with 400+ damaging roads and structures
- Helene related building permit apps filed across 1,100+ unique locations (16% increase over last update)
- Helene related building inspections conducted at 700+ unique locations (32% increase over last update)
- 1,400 assessments conducted of properties in flood plain with letters of significant damage being sent
  - County standing up free surveyor program for household appealing significant damage determination



# NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES



Focused on the restoration and sustainable management of natural and cultural resources, including capabilities to maintain, conserve, renew, and rehabilitate resources such as parks, farmland, watersheds and streambanks in alignment with environmental and historical preservation laws



# NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Emergency watershed protection potential applicants identified: 360 (20% increase over last update)
- 7 County parks open to the public (no change compared to prior update)
- 11 County libraries open to the public (no change compared to prior update)





# Homeowner Grant Program

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*Presented by*

Phillip Hardin

HHS – Economic Services



# Buncombe County

## Homeowner Grant Program

- Purpose: Designed to assist in preserving homeownership for low-income households in areas where increasing property value outpaces income.

### Criteria:

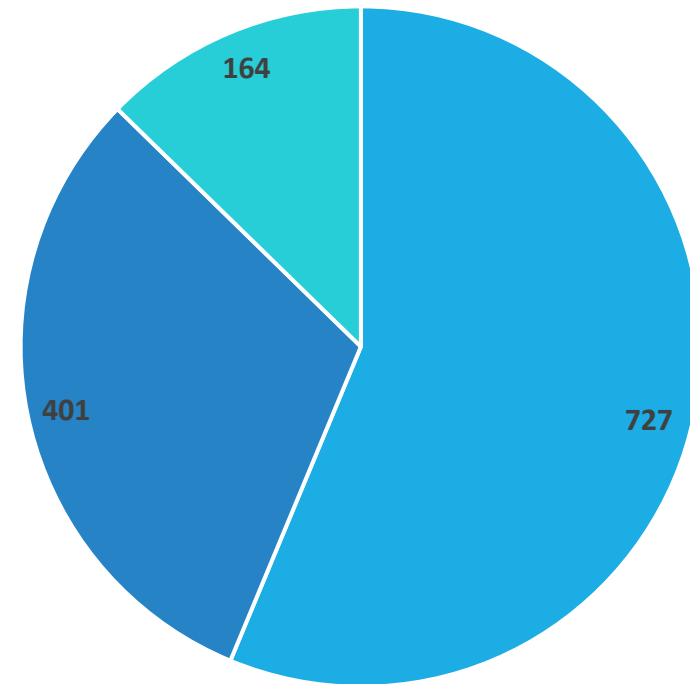
- Max grant up to \$300
- May be eligible for additional \$200 from the City of Asheville
- Must be the owner's legal primary residence for at least 5 years
- 80% AMI, \$60,000 liquid resource limit
- Cannot participate in existing exemption program
- Can be used for property tax, mortgage or homeowners insurance
- Budgeted amount for Buncombe County is \$265,000



# Disposition Status

- ✓ We have processed 90% of the total applications.
- ✓ Of the 1,158 applications that have been disposed so far,
  - ✓ 64% have been approved
  - ✓ 36% have been denied

Count of Applications



■ Approved ■ Denied ■ Pending



# Detailed View

## Apps Received by Month

| Month                     | # Apps |
|---------------------------|--------|
| July                      | 205    |
| Aug                       | 309    |
| Sept                      | 162    |
| 1 Week Reopened<br>in Nov | 575    |

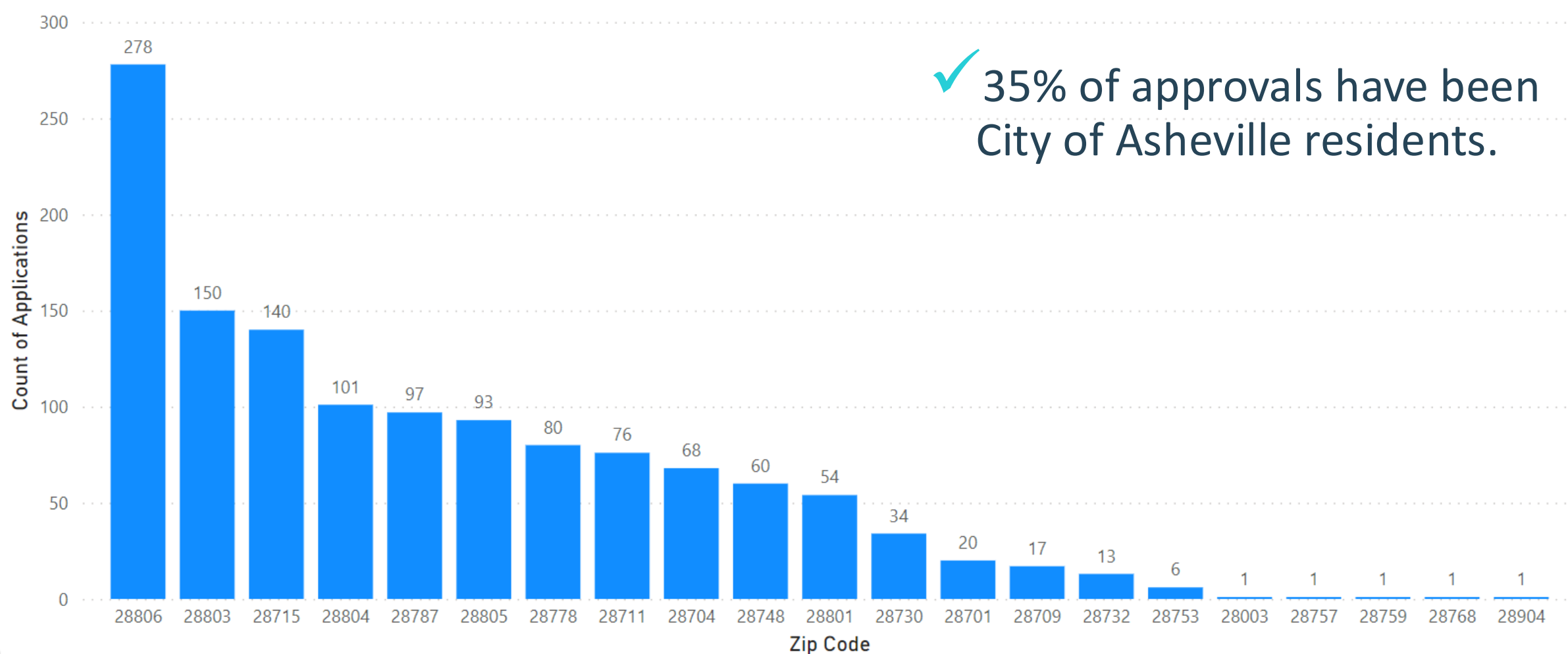
## Amount Approved by Jurisdiction

| Jurisdiction      | Amount Approved* |
|-------------------|------------------|
| City of Asheville | \$129,869        |
| Bunc Co           | \$145,500        |

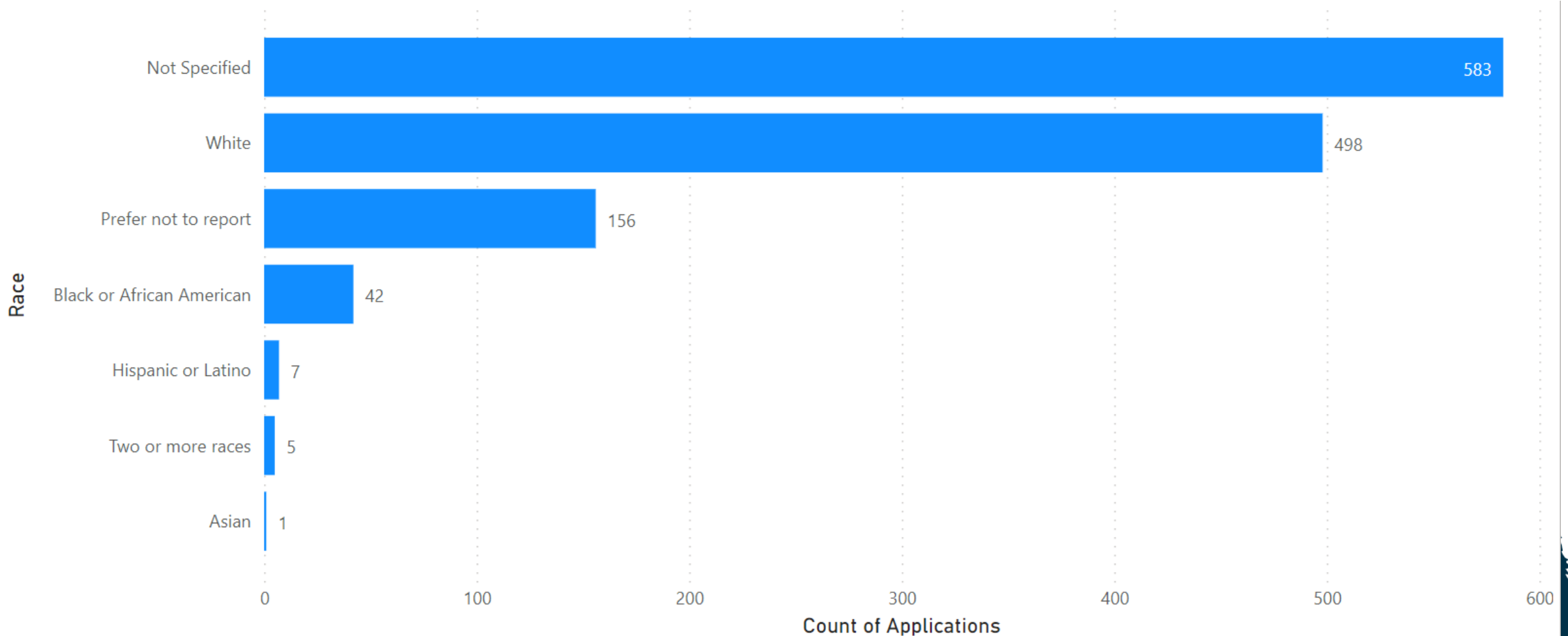
\*amount approved to date



# All Applications by Zip Code



# All Applications by Race



**MINUTES OF THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2024, AT 5:00 p.m.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met to hold a Regular Meeting on December 17, 2024, in the Commission Chamber at 200 College Street in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Chair Amanda Edwards; Vice-Chair Martin Moore; Commissioner Terri Wells; Commissioner Al Whitesides; and Commissioner Jennifer Horton.

Absent: Commissioner Parker Sloan

Chair Edwards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and provided opening statements.

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Moore made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Whitesides and carried unanimously.

1. [Approval of the combined December 2, 2024, Special, Briefing and Regular meeting minutes](#)
2. [Budget amendment to accept foster care donations from Helping at Risk Kids, Inc.](#)

**Public Comment**

Marty Benson, an attorney and activist with Strong Towns and Asheville for All, spoke in favor of reforming or abolishing mandatory parking minimums in Buncombe County. He highlighted recent decisions by the Board of Adjustment that tied housing development to excessive parking requirements, which he argued hinder housing construction. Benson urged the board to consider agendizing the issue of parking reform to address the region's housing crisis.

Micky Dean (unsure if name was captured correctly), also representing Strong Towns and Asheville for All, echoed Marty Benson's support for eliminating parking minimums. He encouraged reconsidering these rules to allow for more housing development and to improve Asheville's growth.

**Presentations & Updates**

1. [First Quarter Financial Update – FY2025](#)

Melissa Moore, the Finance Director, presented the first-quarter financial update for FY 2025, covering the period from July 1 to September 30, 2024. She explained that the report includes general fund revenues and expenditures, Solid Waste revenues and expenditures, and capital projects. General fund totals are \$440.4 million, solid waste totals are \$16.5 million, and capital project totals are \$154.6 million. She further explained that year-to-date actuals are \$52.1 million, which is higher than last year's due to growth in property taxes. General Fund Expenditures: Year-to-date actuals are \$95.3 million, 2.2% higher than the same time last year. Solid Waste Revenues: Year-to-date actuals are \$3.3 million, 8.7% higher than the same time last year. Solid Waste Expenditures: Year-to-date actuals are \$2.1 million, 11.5% higher than the same time last year; and lastly, that County Capital Projects: Year-to-date expenditure is \$52.7 million.

## 2. Continuum of Care Quarterly Update

Lacy Hoyle, the Homeless Program Manager, provided an update on the Continuum of Care (COC) activities, including recent board actions and the response to the hurricane. The COC board recommended modifications to the deed restriction on the former Ramada site to include 50 units of veteran permanent supportive housing and 50 units of affordable housing, which was approved by the City Council. The board also allocated \$278,000 of city ARPA funding for the Code Purple response and \$222,000 for emergency shelter and supportive services after the storm. Additionally, the COC approved amendments to its coordinated entry policy to prioritize disaster rehousing for storm survivors. New work groups were established for coordinated entry, point-in-time counts, and compensation for individuals with lived homelessness experience. The board also submitted the consolidated application for HUD funding, supporting programs like rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing. Regarding the hurricane response, the COC coordinated outreach and shelter support, with ongoing efforts to assist those displaced, including the operation of temporary shelters by ABCCM and the Rescue Ministries. Plans are being developed for long-term support, particularly for those still impacted by the disaster.

## 3. School Consolidation Study Update

Rachel Sawyer, the Strategic Partnerships Director, provided an update on the school consolidation feasibility study, which was mandated by the state of North Carolina. She explained that the study is being conducted to explore the possibility of merging the Asheville City and Buncombe County Public School Systems. Buncombe County government is leading the study, which is set to be submitted to the state by February 2025. The local project team, consisting of representatives from both school districts and the county, was formed to oversee the process.

She explained that the study focuses on evaluating the economic and educational impacts of a potential merger, with an emphasis on equity, community engagement, and comprehensive data analysis. The consulting firm hired for the study, Prismatic Services, Inc. has conducted extensive fieldwork, including data collection, focus groups, interviews, public forums, and school observations. They gathered over 7,200 survey responses and conducted 35 school visits.

The final report with findings will be delivered to the Board no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> for initial review. It will be in draft form initially, allowing for review by the local project team and school boards before the joint meeting on January 16th. The final report must be submitted to the state by February 15th, and there is an opportunity for the Board of Commissioners and the school boards to endorse or comment on the report before the submission, noting that this is not required.

Commissioner Whiteside raised concern about the \$300,000 cost of the study, which was funded by the County even though the study was mandated by the State. Manager Pinder explained that efforts are ongoing to secure reimbursement from the state, but as of now, no reimbursement has been received. The Commissioners discussed the possibility of sending a letter to the state with the final report that is due to the State in February.

## County Manager's Report

### 1. [Hurricane Helene Update](#)

Avril Pinder, County Manager provided the update on each of the recovery support functions: debris management; economic revitalization; education; health and social services; housing; infrastructure and access; and natural and cultural resources. She explained that as of December, 521,113 cubic yards of debris and 9,740 tons of mud, silt and soil collected from public right of way and that 1,352 private property debris removal applications have been received. Of those, 165 inspections are scheduled and 99 are complete. In regard to business assistance, Pinder noted that the County is partnering with 25 organizations participating in business response planning. For housing, she noted that the Helene Recovery Housing Assistance Grant application is open, which can provide up to three months' support for rent, mortgage, or utility bills. For health and social services, Pinder explained that 16,950 applications have been received for the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) with a total amount of \$10,125,551 in awarded funds. Currently, 5,100 applications for individual household assistance through Buncombe County received as of 12/13/24; and that \$440,700 in Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) funds have been approved to date, supporting over 1,251 individual households; lastly, that the Crisis Intervention Program has approved 1,372 applications for a total of \$559,378. She then covered FEMA Housing Assistance to date; noting that 1,403 Buncombe County households are currently in 37 FEMA Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) Hotels; that a blanket extension of TSA eligibility through January 11, 2025, and that eligibility does not guarantee hotel room availability. The County is providing outreach to assist residents in TSA to remain sheltered through new year and strategizing more permanent housing solutions in the long-term FEMA Direct Housing. She explained that 147 households have been approved for Direct Housing and that for temporary Housing Units (private sites, commercial site pads, group sites) that 16 installed and 37 are in progress. 171 Households approved for Rental Assistance and that direct leasing as been expedited contracting approved and executed to include WNC properties and where units are being inspected now and matched to household needs. In regard to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, that State handles application intake, eligibility review, buyout management, construction management and all associated costs and that applications will be open for a year; Next onsite applications will be week of January 6 & week of January 13 at the Asheville Mall Disaster Resource Center. To date, there are over 200 applications for HMGP in Buncombe County, including 150+ buy-out requests. Buncombe County has right of refusal on all properties and that the first set of applications will be ready for consideration in the new year. She explained that Staff are developing process in alignment with our Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Commissioner vision, and the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. In regard to the Emergency Watershed Protection Plan (EWP) she explained that Buncombe County residents with damage or severe erosion from Helene causing a threat to infrastructure could be eligible for the USDA EWP Program. EWP Assists with: Debris-clogged waterways; unstable streambanks; severe erosion jeopardizing public infrastructure; wind-borne debris removal; steep slopes that have lost ground cover and are endangered of sliding.

The Commissioners thanked Manager Pinder and staff for their ongoing recovery efforts.

## New Business

### 1. [Approval of COVID Recovery Fund Reallocations](#)

Tyler Henry, Grants Manager and Jaime Brown provided the background information. They explained that in 2021, Buncombe County was awarded a total of \$50,733,290 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“COVID Recovery Funding”) via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to invest toward recovery from COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts. These funds were awarded on a rolling basis to projects by Commissioners as selected via multiple Request for Proposals (RFP) processes. Hurricane Helene had a profound impact on Buncombe County, straining resources and requiring significant budgetary adjustments. Emergency response, housing recovery, and infrastructure repair became immediate priorities, redirecting staff time and administrative costs from planned areas of focus. These demands placed pressure on the FY2025 budget, emphasizing disaster recovery and long-term resilience being a continued focus, staff is recommending the following reallocation of funds based on current needs and U.S. Department of Treasury requirements.

Commissioner Wells made the motion to approve the reallocations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Whitesides and carried unanimously.

## 2. Approval of the Disaster Leave Policy

Karen Marshall, Interim HR Director provided the background information. She explained that per the Board’s request, staff is introducing a new policy to provide additional paid leave to support employees who were adversely affected by Hurricane Helene and have depleted their accrued leave balances. Eligible employees may be granted up to forty hours of paid Helene Disaster Leave, which must be used specifically for Hurricane Helene recovery related needs. Additionally, after exhausting Helene Disaster Leave, employees may use their accrued sick leave for absences for Helene recovery-related needs.

Commissioner Wells made the motion to approve the Disaster Leave Policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Horton and carried unanimously.

## 3. Budget amendment for Disaster Rental Assistance funding from the State

John Hudson, Budget Director provided background information. He explained that as a result of the NC Disaster Recovery Act, NCDHHS has distributed state funding to provide Rental Assistance to residents of counties qualifying for FEMA Individual and Public Assistance who have suffered hardship due to Hurricane Helene and meet the income eligibility criteria outlined in the emergency rental assistance program. Assistance will be provided in a one-time payment up to the local area Fair Market Rents (FMR) for the state of NC. This is a separate program from the county ARPA-funded program recently established with different rules and policies and the income limit is 200% of federal poverty level. The county program and this state program will be run concurrently with the same staff. Of the 25 counties identified in the federal disaster on September 28, 2024, Buncombe County has been allocated \$199,296 for Disaster Rental Assistance of which \$9,965 of this allocation will be used for the administrative costs of the program.

Commissioner Moore made the motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Wells seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **Board Appointments**

Chair Edwards noted that Board appointments would resume in January 2025.

## **Closed Session**

Curt Euler, County Attorney read the motion to go into closed session to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged to consider and give instructions concerning the handling of a lawsuit in Buncombe County Superior Court, GE Interim Solutions, et al, v. Buncombe County, et al, 23 CVS 4414 and for personnel. He noted that no formal action taken at this time.

Commissioner Whitesides made the motion to go into closed session; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Moore and carried unanimously.



# Tax Collections

Jennifer Pike  
Tax Collector

Consent Agenda 1/07/2025

Department: Tax Collections

Presenter: Jennifer Pike

Contact: Jennifer Pike

Subject: Approval of November 2024 Tax Collection Report

## Brief Summary:

NCGS 105-350 requires the Tax Collector to submit a report showing the amount of taxes collected.

In the month of November, the majority of mortgage servicing payments have been processed. Public Service Utilities have been billed for the current fiscal year. Adjustments to the total levy through the remainder of fiscal year 2025 will be due to registered motor vehicle levy and regular property value discoveries or releases.

As of November 30, 2024, the total levy billed for fiscal year 2025 is 46.93% collected, as compared to 48.87% for fiscal year 2024, as of the end of November.

Below is Buncombe County year to date reporting for fiscal year 2025, as of November 30, 2024.

## Current Year Collections

| Fiscal Year 2025   | Personal Property | Public Service  | Real Estate       | Motor Vehicles  | Total             |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Total Levy         | \$ 16,522,513.32  | \$ 5,308,122.20 | \$ 234,642,923.07 | \$ 7,461,653.99 | \$ 263,935,212.58 |
| Amount Collected   | \$ 4,652,398.50   | \$ -            | \$ 111,793,053.69 | \$ 7,427,935.04 | \$ 123,873,387.23 |
| Unpaid Balance     | \$ 11,870,114.82  | \$ 5,308,122.20 | \$ 122,849,869.38 | \$ 33,718.95    | \$ 140,061,825.35 |
| Interest Collected | \$ -              | \$ -            | \$ 28,708.53      | \$ 57,304.62    | \$ 86,013.15      |
| FY25 Collection %  | 28.16%            | 0.00%           | 47.64%            | 99.55%          | 46.93%            |
| FY24 Collection %  | 24.34%            | 0.00%           | 50.13%            | 99.53%          | 48.87%            |

Total fiscal year 2025 year to date collections, property tax and interest \$ 123,959,400.38

## Prior Year Collections

| Prior Years 2015-2024 | Personal Property | Real Estate   | Total         |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Amount Collected      | \$ 40,057.99      | \$ 114,168.54 | \$ 154,226.53 |
| Interest Collected    | \$ 6,252.58       | \$ 10,174.71  | \$ 16,427.29  |

Total prior year collections, fiscal year to date \$ 170,653.82

\*Total property tax released November 2024 due to taxable value adjustments \$ 31,255.00

\*Total refunds processed November 2024 \$ 57,939.98

\*Detailed information for releases and refunds is available in Tax Collections.

Recommended Action: Approve collection report on consent agenda.

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation: Approve as recommended



**Request:** The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation is requesting a **\$1,500,000** appropriation to implement the strategies identified in the 2024 Blue Ridge Rising Strategic Plan. This plan, developed and prioritized by local community leaders, will restore and expand the economic vitality and quality of life for the 1,030,846 citizens in this region. This funding will help ensure, that as physical recovery from Helene continues, the gateway communities will be prepared to accommodate visitors when they come. These funds will be used to meet the \$4.3 million match required for a \$5.13 million grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission.

**Background:** The Blue Ridge Parkway is the most visited unit of the National Park System with 16.7 million visitors in 2023 - more than Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and Yosemite combined.

The Blue Ridge Parkway travels through Swain, Jackson, Transylvania, Haywood, Henderson, Buncombe, McDowell, Yancey, Mitchell, Burke, Avery, Caldwell, Watauga, Ashe, Wilkes, Alleghany, and Surry counties. Cumulatively along the 469-mile long Parkway, visitors directly spend \$1.4 billion and support more than 19,000 jobs, creating a total economic impact of \$1.8 billion every year.

**Blue Ridge Rising Deliverables:** Blue Ridge Rising supports Governor Cooper's response and recovery goals for western North Carolina for tourism, conservation, and outdoor recreation.

Implementation of the Blue Ridge Rising Action Plan includes strategies to:

- Expand Marketing
- Unify the Region's Voice
- Increase Protection of Views and Wildlife
- Expand Education and Workforce Development
- Build Organizational and Community Capacity
- Enhance the Visitor's Experience, including trails, campgrounds, and picnic areas.

**Local Partnerships:** Blue Ridge Rising partners are working collaboratively to engage partners along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

- Local communities along the Parkway corridor are considering resolutions supporting Blue Ridge Rising and the recovery efforts to restore and reopen the Parkway as soon as it can be done safely.

**Contact:** Carolyn Widner Ward, [cward@brpfoundation.org](mailto:cward@brpfoundation.org), 828-776-4547

## **Blue Ridge Rising: 2025-2027 Budget and Implementation Highlights**

### **Three-Year Budget and Funding Sources**

- **\$12 million total budget for three years to benefit 29 counties in VA and NC**
- **\$7.3 million cash and in-kind already secured/committed**
  - Appalachian Regional Commission ARISE grant, \$5.13 million
  - Dogwood Health Trust, \$750,000
  - Explore Asheville, \$750,000
  - Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation (in-kind project support), \$300,000
  - National Park Foundation, \$170,000
  - Soloviev Foundation, \$150,000
  - Friends of Southwest Virginia (in-kind project support), \$89,550
  - Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, \$50,000
  - Duke Energy Foundation, \$25,000
  - National Park Trust, \$12,500.
- **\$4.7 million still needed for full program implementation, 2025-2027**

### **Substantial Community Engagement and Benefit**

- **Community leader “ambassadors”** from every county will advise and assist the overall Blue Ridge Rising project.
- **Action teams that include local stakeholders and advisors** will finetune each strategy, guide pilot projects, and then scale-up for regional impact.
- **Annual two-state summits** will highlight success stories and lessons learned and strengthen regional networks.
- **\$3.7 million** will directly **advance regional strategies** to boost economic development.
- **\$3.6 million** in sub-grants will support **projects in local communities**.
- Several staff positions will be dedicated to **community outreach and engagement**.
- **Specialized staff will work with specific sectors** (e.g., tourism/marketing, workforce development) to implement coordinated solutions.
- **Innovative strategies** (e.g., Parkway corridor EV charging network, accessibility improvements, dark sky viewsheds) will **diversify and grow regional visitation**.
- **Positive impacts** on dozens of communities, hundreds of businesses, hundreds of students and job seekers, hundreds of thousands of local residents, and millions of annual visitors from throughout North Carolina, the United States, and the world
- A **unified regional network** to tackle new challenges and opportunities for growth in the years to come.

For more information: [brpfoundation.org](http://brpfoundation.org), [blueridgerising.com](http://blueridgerising.com)

## RESOLUTION NO. 25-01-01

### Supporting Funding for Repairs and Strategic Implementation of Blue Ridge Rising along the Blue Ridge Parkway

WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Parkway traverses 469 miles from Afton Mountain in Virginia to the Qualla Boundary in North Carolina and unites these two states' unique mountain cultures and identities with a world-renowned national park that celebrates the places, communities, and people along the Parkway; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Parkway is the most-visited unit of the national park system, attracting nearly seventeen million visitors each year and contributing significantly to the local and regional economies in Virginia and North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Parkway generates approximately \$1.4 billion in visitor spending and \$1.8 billion in total economic output for the 1,799,000 residents of the surrounding corridor of twenty-nine counties, numerous municipalities in North Carolina including the towns in Buncombe County; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation serves as the sole official philanthropic partner to the Blue Ridge Parkway, advocating for necessary funding and resources for the Parkway's maintenance, preservation, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Rising strategic plan provides a roadmap for the sustainable management and enhancement of the Parkway, ensuring that it continues to serve as a vital resource for environmental education, recreation, tourism, and community connection; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Helene has caused catastrophic damage and loss of life for several communities in western North Carolina and southwest Virginia, including those communities adjacent to the Parkway; and

WHEREAS, repairs are critical to preserving the safety and accessibility of the Parkway and its adjacent communities, which is essential for their economic wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, collaboration among local, state, and federal governments is critical in this response and imperative to secure the necessary funding and policies that will sustain and benefit the communities surrounding the Blue Ridge Parkway; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a coalition composed of elected officials and community representatives will enhance advocacy efforts and foster a unified regional voice for the Blue Ridge Parkway corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners endorses and supports the following:

1. Funding for Repairs: Urging state and federal governments to prioritize and allocate funding for repairs along the Blue Ridge Parkway to ensure its continued safety and accessibility;
2. Implementation of the Blue Ridge Rising Strategic Plan: Advocating for the full funding and implementation of the Blue Ridge Rising Strategic Plan to enhance visitor experience, preserve natural resources, and promote sustainable tourism along the Parkway;
3. Collaboration and Support: Calling upon local, state, and federal officials to collaborate with the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation and other stakeholders to secure resources and policies that benefit the Parkway and its surrounding communities; and
4. Coalition Creation: Supporting the formation of a coalition of elected officials and community representatives dedicated to advocating for the Blue Ridge Parkway, ensuring that the needs and voices of the communities along the corridor are effectively represented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to relevant local, state, and federal entities, as well as the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, to demonstrate our unified support for the Parkway and its vital role in our communities.

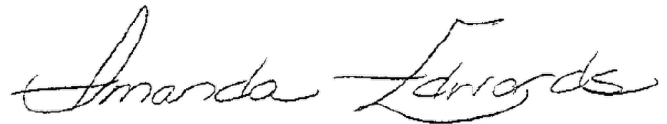
This the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025.

ATTEST

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR THE COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

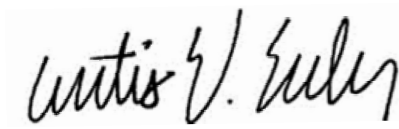


Sarah Gross, Clerk

By: 

Amanda Edwards, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM



County Attorney



# Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

## Request for Board Action

**Meeting Date: January 7, 2025**

### New Business

**Department:** Governing Body **Presenter(s):** Amanda Edwards, Chair

**Contact(s):** Sarah Gross, Clerk to the Board

**Subject:** Appointment of Drew Ball to fill vacant District 3 seat on Board of Commissioners

### Brief Summary:

On November 7, 2024, Amanda Edwards, the District 3 Commissioner, was elected to serve as Chair of the Board. As required by law, the vacant seat must be filled by someone from the same district and political party. On December 18, the Buncombe County Democratic Party held a special election and recommended Daryl Andrew Ball ("Drew Ball") to fill the District 3 Commissioner seat.

According to NCGS 153A-27.1, when a vacancy occurs on the board of commissioners, the remaining members must appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy. This item is for voting on the appointment of Drew Ball, the Democratic Party's recommended candidate, to complete the unexpired term of District 3 Commissioner, which will expire in 2026.

### Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Motion to appoint Drew Ball to fill the unexpired term of District 3 Commissioner.

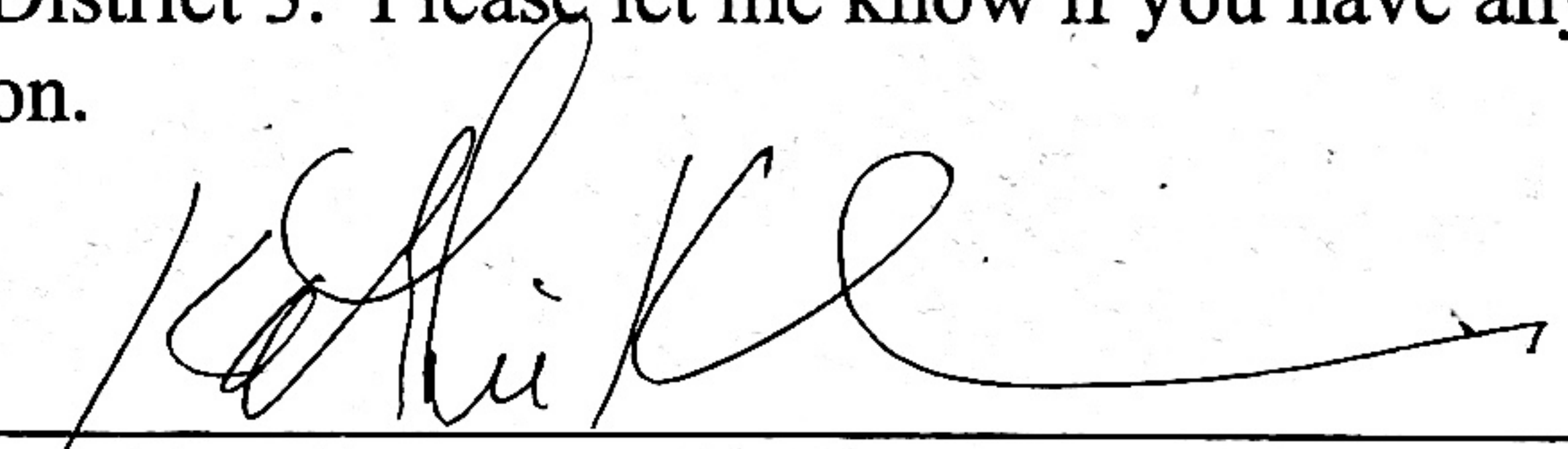
# BUNCOMBEDEMS

12/26/2024

Ms. Sarah Gross  
Clerk to the Buncombe County Commissioners  
200 College Street  
Suite 300  
Asheville, NC 28801  
Sarah.gross@buncombecounty.org

Ms. Gross,

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-27.1, this letter notifies the Buncombe County Board of Commissions that the Buncombe County Democratic Party Executive Committee recommends Daryl Andrew Ball be appointed to fill the currently vacant Buncombe County District 3 Commissioner Seat. The vote to recommend Mr. Ball was conducted on December 18, 2024, and voting was restricted to executive committee members who represent precincts all or a part of which are within the territory area of District 3. Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.



---

Kathie Kline  
Chair, Buncombe County Democratic Party

Cc: Chair Amanda Edwards, Amanda.Edwards@buncombecounty.org  
Corinne Duncan, Corinne.Duncan@buncombecounty.org



# **Buncombe County Board of Commissioners**

## **Request for Board Action**

**Meeting Date: January 7, 2025**

### **New Business**

**Department:**

Governing Body

**Presenter(s):** Amanda Edwards, Chair

**Contact(s):** Curt Euler, Senior Attorney

**Subject:** Appointment of Curt Euler to fulfill the duties as Interim County Attorney

### **Brief Summary:**

North Carolina General Statute § 153A-114 specifies that each board of commissioners shall appoint a County Attorney to be its legal advisor; and Curtis W. Euler, currently a Senior Attorney II with the Legal and Risk Department, is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of North Carolina and has agreed to perform all statutory duties of the County Attorney on an interim basis.

### **Recommended Motion & Requested Action:**

Motion to appoint Curt Euler to fulfill the duties as Interim County Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-01-02

RESOLUTION NAMING CURTIS W. EULER AS INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY

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- WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 153A-114 specifies that each board of commissioners shall appoint a County Attorney to be its legal advisor; and
- WHEREAS, Curtis W. Euler, currently a Senior Attorney II with the Legal and Risk Department, is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of North Carolina and has agreed to perform all statutory duties of the County Attorney on an interim basis.
- WHEREAS, this Board is of the opinion that Curtis W. Euler possesses the requisite knowledge, experience and qualifications to serve as the interim County Attorney until a full time County Attorney is hired or this resolution is rescinded.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That Curtis W. Euler be appointed the duties of the County Attorney on an interim basis until a permanent County Attorney is hired by the Board of Commissioners or this resolution is rescinded.
2. That this resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

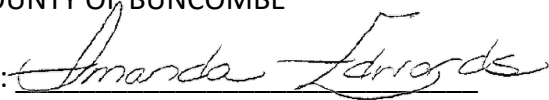
This the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

ATTEST



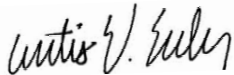
Sarah Gross, Clerk

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

By: 

Amanda Edwards, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Interim County Attorney



# Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

## Request for Board Action

**Meeting Date: January 7, 2025**

### Board Appointments

**Department:** Governing Body **Presenter(s):** Amanda Edwards, Chair

**Contact(s):** Sarah Gross, Clerk to the Board

**Subject:** Appointment of Board of Commission Members to Board and Commissions

### Brief Summary:

Commissioners serve as representatives or liaisons for various Boards and Commissions. After an election, new appointments are made to these roles. This item is for voting on the Commissioner appointments to Boards and Commissions.

### Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Motion to appoint Commissioners' to Boards and Commissions as presented.



## Commissioner Appointments to Boards & Commissions January, 2025

| Board                                                        | Appointed Commission Members                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A-B Tech Joint Advisory Committee</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice Chair Martin Moore</li> <li>• Commissioner Al Whitesides</li> </ul>                                                  |
| <b>Affordable Housing Subcommittee</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Amanda Edwards</li> <li>• Commissioner Parker Sloan</li> <li>• Commissioner Drew Ball</li> </ul>                    |
| <b>Audit Committee</b>                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Amanda Edwards</li> <li>• Commissioner Whitesides</li> </ul>                                                        |
| <b>Early Childhood Education &amp; Development Committee</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Martin Moore, Chair</li> <li>• Commissioner Al Whitesides</li> <li>• Commissioner Jennifer Horton</li> </ul> |
| <b>Economic Development Coalition</b>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Amanda Edwards</li> </ul>                                                                                           |
| <b>Environmental &amp; Energy Stewardship Subcommittee</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Terri Wells</li> <li>• Commissioner Parker Sloan</li> <li>• Commissioner Drew Ball</li> </ul>                |
| <b>Health &amp; Human Services Board</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Jennifer Horton</li> </ul>                                                                                   |
| <b>Land of Sky Regional Council</b>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Terri Wells</li> </ul>                                                                                       |
| <b>Land of Sky (RPO) TAC Board</b>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Drew Ball</li> </ul>                                                                                         |
| <b>Local Emergency Planning Committee</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Drew Ball</li> </ul>                                                                                         |

|                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>French Broad Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) TAC</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Parker Sloan</li> <li>• Commissioner Drew Ball</li> <li>• Chair Amanda Edwards – Alternate seat</li> </ul> |
| <b>MSD Board</b>                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice Chair Martin Moore</li> <li>• Commissioner Al Whitesides</li> </ul>                                                |
| <b>School Capital Fund Commission</b>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Amanda Edwards</li> <li>• Commissioner Terri Wells</li> </ul>                                                     |
| <b>Tourism Development Authority</b>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Terri Wells</li> </ul>                                                                                     |
| <b>Vaya County Commissioner Advisory Board</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Jennifer Horton</li> </ul>                                                                                 |
| <b>Asheville – Buncombe Continuum Care Homelessness Board</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Jennifer Horton</li> <li>• Commissioner Drew Ball - Alternate</li> </ul>                                   |

**January 7, 2025**

**Mountain Area Workforce Development Board (Advisory)**  
**(1 appointment)**  
\*recommendation

| NAME                   | ZIP CODE | REQUIREMENT                         | EMPLOYER                           | RACE                      | GENDER | HISPANIC, LATINO OR SPANISH ORIGIN? | AGE   | YEARS IN COUNTY |
|------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| <b>*Diana Blackett</b> | 28704    | Economic Development Representative | Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce | Black or African American | Female | No                                  | 35-54 | 18              |

**Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (Advisory)**  
**(3 appointments, 5 reappointments)**

| NAME                                               | ZIP CODE | REQUIREMENT                  | EMPLOYER            | RACE                      | GENDER | HISPANIC, LATINO OR SPANISH ORIGIN? | AGE   | YEARS IN COUNTY |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| <b>*Rebecca Smith</b>                              | 28711    | DSS Director or Designee     | BC HHS              | White                     | Female | No                                  | 35-54 | 7               |
| <b>*David Denninger</b>                            | 28803    | DA Representative            | DA's Office         | White                     | Male   | Yes, Cuban                          | 35-54 | 9               |
| <b>*Daysha Chaney</b>                              | 28801    | Community Member/At Large    | Unemployed          | Black or African American | Female | Yes, African American/ Panamanian   | 18-34 | 3               |
| <b>*Banta Whitner</b><br><i>(reappointment)</i>    | 28711    | Community Member/At Large    | Self-employed       | White                     | Female | No                                  | 55+   | 11              |
| <b>*Jorge Redmond</b><br><i>(reappointment)</i>    | 28732    | Local Sheriff or Designee    | BC Sheriff's Office | Black or African American | Male   |                                     | 35-54 | 17              |
| <b>*Elizabeth Kraft</b><br><i>(reappointment)</i>  | 28778    | Member of Business Community | House in Order LLC  | White                     | Female | No                                  | 35-54 | 18              |
| <b>*Jeremy Bricker</b><br><i>(reappointment)</i>   | 28806    | Community Member/At Large    | Clarvida            | White                     | Male   |                                     | 35-54 | 15              |
| <b>*Brandon Priester</b><br><i>(reappointment)</i> | 28805    | Community Member/At Large    | LOSRC               | Black or African American | Male   |                                     | 18-34 | 32              |

**Metropolitan Sewerage District Board (Quasi-Judicial)**  
**(1 reappointment)**

| NAME                   | ZIP CODE | EMPLOYER    | RACE  | GENDER | HISPANIC, LATINO OR SPANISH ORIGIN? | AGE | YEARS IN COUNTY |
|------------------------|----------|-------------|-------|--------|-------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| <b>Nate Pennington</b> | 28711    | BC Planning | White | Male   |                                     |     |                 |