

HURRICANE HELENE DISASTER RECOVERY

PROJECT ORDINANCE

ASHE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Ashe County, North Carolina that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The Purpose of this Ordinance is to establish a budget for projects related to the Hurricane Helene Disaster Response (FEMA Disaster 4827) that will be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) Public Assistance Program. Through its Public Assistance Program (PA), FEMA provides Federal grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly-owned facilities. Although FEMA typically covers 75% of the eligible costs, the federal government has increased the cost share in North Carolina for the Helene disaster to 100% for the first 180 days of the incident period (3/24/2025). Cost share in North Carolina for DR-4827 eligible counties from March 25, 2025 until September 24, 2026 will be covered 90% with the remaining 10% to be paid by the State of North Carolina. Expenses may be eligible for FEMA reimbursement in the following categories:

Emergency Work

Category A: Debris Removal -- Expenses related to clearing debris from public property, including roads, parks, and other infrastructure.

Category B: Emergency Protective Measures -- Costs for actions taken to protect public health and safety, such as: search and rescue operations; sheltering and evacuation; and medical care and emergency response.

Permanent Work

Category C: Roads and Bridges -- Repairs and restoration of transportation infrastructure, including highways, streets, and bridges.

Category D: Water Control Facilities -- Restoration and repair of drainage systems, levees, and other flood control measures.

Category E: Public Utilities -- Restoration of water, wastewater, electrical systems, and other essential public utilities.

Category F: Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Other -- Repair or replacement of parks,

recreational areas, and public spaces.

Category G: Buildings and Equipment -- Repairs or replacements of public buildings, such as schools, community centers, and related equipment.

Administrative Work

Category Z: Management Costs -- Administrative costs related to the overall management of disaster response and recovery efforts, which are capped at a certain percentage of eligible project costs.

Section 2. Estimated Revenues.

The following revenues are anticipated to be available fund Helene disaster recovery costs:

GENERAL FUND

FEMA PA Reimbursements	\$ 8,000,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	<u>\$ 8,000,000</u>

ENTERPRISE FUND

FEMA PA Reimbursements	\$ 130,088
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND REVENUES	<u>\$ 130,088</u>

NC HELENE DISASTER RECOVERY FUND

NC DST Disaster Cashflow Loan	\$ 468,678
TOTAL NC HELENE DISASTER RECOVERY FUND REVENUES	<u>\$ 468,678</u>

Section 3. Appropriations.

The following amounts are hereby appropriated for NC Helene Disaster Recovery projects and are authorized for expenditure and shall be accounted for as required for grant project ordinances under G.S. 159-13.2.

GENERAL FUND

Professional Services	\$ 59,999
Disaster Supplies & Materials	\$ 50,000
Contractual Services Related to Debris Removal	\$ 7,890,000
Cash Flow Loan Repayment	\$ <u>1</u>
TOTAL GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS	\$ <u>8,000,000</u>

ENTERPRISE FUND

Environmental Services (Collections)	\$ 55,888
Environmental Services (Disposal)	\$ <u>75,000</u>
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND APPROPRIATIONS	\$ <u>130,088</u>

NC HELENE DISASTER RECOVERY FUND

Repairs & Contractual Services	\$ <u>468,768</u>
TOTAL NC HELENE DISASTER FUND APPROPRIATIONS	\$ <u>468,768</u>

Section 4. Finance Officer Duties.

The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agencies, any grant agreements, and federal regulations.

Section 5. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments that shall be reimbursed from the NC Helene Disaster Recovery Special Revenue Fund. Any unexpended advance funds appropriated or use of funds for ineligible expenditures shall be reimbursed to the granting agencies as provided by applicable law or regulation.

Section 6. Within five days after adoption, copies of this Project Ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project. A copy of this ordinance shall be filed in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

DULY ADOPTED by the Ashe County Board of Commissioners this 2nd day of June 2025.

Todd McNeill, Chairman
Ashe County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Missy Seivers, Clerk to the Board

(SEAL)