THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

# Staff Report

**Council Meeting Date:** December 9, 2025

**Subject:** Amendment to Public Works' Contract with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC.

**Staff Resource(s):** Amy Deyton, Public Works Director; Tiffany McCormick, Financial Business Manager; Jes Foster, Sanitation Division Manager

**Action Requested:** Adoption of resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend the not-to-exceed contract with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC, for a total amount of $26,000,000, to include all prior spending and future spending under said contract for the purpose of Tropical Storm Helene-related recovery efforts; and the associated budget amendment in the amount of $26,000,000 to be reimbursed with FEMA-PA and State of NC funds.

**Background**:

- Over the course of September 26-29, 2024, the City of Asheville experienced unprecedented rainfall both from Tropical Storm Helene and a predecessor heavy rain event, resulting in catastrophic damage, primarily from the ensuing flooding and landslides.
- A state of emergency went into effect in Asheville on September 25th in relation to these damaging storms.
- The equipment and staffing capacity needed for recovery efforts exceeds that which is available of the City's internal capacity, rendering it necessary to contract for these services.
- General Services Contract 92500520 was executed on June 16, 2025, with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC, with a Not-To-Exceed limit of $6,000,000, for the purposes of Tropical Storm Helene-related recovery efforts.
- This contract was executed under NC State Contract 19-IFB-015120-DAD.
- Hagerty Consulting reviewed the contract during the drafting process.
- Contracted services consist of the hauling and removal of disaster debris.
- The City will be undertaking several additional debris removal projects, including removal of FEMA eligible vegetative debris from the Bee Tree reservoir, necessitating a change in the not-to-exceed amount of the debris removal contract.

**Vendor Outreach Efforts:**

- General Services Contract 92500520 with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC, was completed under NC State Contract 19-IFB-015120-DAD, thus no outreach efforts were conducted by the City.

**Council Goal(s):**

- Clean, Safe, and Healthy Environment

**Committee(s)**:

- None

**Pro(s):**

- Public Works will be able to continue to contract for services needed to complete Tropical Storm Helene-related recovery efforts, which exceeds the department's internal capacity.

**Con(s):**

- None.

**Fiscal Impact**:

- The fiscal impact will depend upon the extent of contract utilization, but an additional $20,000,000 will be added to the contract, bringing it to not-to-exceed $26,000,000.
- Services rendered will be paid from the funds allocated for the purposes of Tropical Storm Helene-related expenses.

- The contracted services are for the purposes of Tropical Storm Helene-related recovery efforts and are expected to be eligible for reimbursement at 90% from FEMA and the remaining 10% from the State.

**Suggested Motion:**

- Motion to adopt the resolution amending the contract with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC, for additional debris removal services and an additional contract amount of $20,000,000, for services rendered for Tropical Storm Helene-related recovery efforts for a total contract amount not to exceed $26,000,000; and the associated budget amendment in the amount of $26,000,000 to be reimbursed with FEMA-PA and State of NC funds.

**Attachment(s)**

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 25-____

RESOLUTION AMENDING A CONTRACT WITH SOUTHERN DISASTER RECOVERY, LLC, FOR THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL DEBRIS HAULING AND REMOVAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to Article 3 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes to enter into contracts for services with other entities; and

WHEREAS, over the course of September 26-29, 2024, the City of Asheville experienced unprecedented rainfall both from Tropical Storm Helene and a predecessor heavy rain event, resulting in catastrophic damage, primarily from the ensuing flooding and landslides; and

WHEREAS, a state of emergency went into effect in Asheville on September 25th, 2024, in relation to these damaging storms; and

WHEREAS, the equipment and staffing capacity needed for recovery efforts exceeded that which is available of the City's internal capacity, rendering it necessary to contract for these services; and

WHEREAS, Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC, was selected through a State of North Carolina contract process and a not-to-exceed contract in the amount of $6,000,000 was executed by the City on June 16, 2025, for the Public Works Department's needs for Tropical Storm Helene-related recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, the contract with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC, was executed under NC State Contract 19-IFB-015120-DAD; and

WHEREAS, the City will be undertaking several additional debris removal projects, including removal of vegetative debris from the Bee Tree reservoir, necessitating a change in the not-to-exceed amount of the debris removal contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Council of the City of Asheville hereby authorizes the City Manager to amend contract 92500520 with Southern Disaster Recovery, LLC to increase the contract amount by $20,000,000, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of $26,000,000.

Read, approved and adopted this the 9th day of December, 2025.

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

That Section 2 of the City of Asheville Annual Operating Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $26,000,000 in the Water Capital Projects Fund for Tropical Storm Helene Debris Removal. Funds are anticipated to be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the State of North Carolina:

**WATER CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

| | |
|---|---|
| Revenues: | |
| Fed Revenue Distribution - FEMA | $23,400,000 |
| State Revenue Distribution - FEMA | $2,600,000 |
| Appropriations: | |
| TS Helene Debris Removal | $26,000,000 |

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this 9th day of December, 2025.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney