Recovery & Resiliency

Prepared for Black Mountain Town Council

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Mission & Purpose

Guide long-term recovery from Tropical Storm Helene

Building capacity to prevent and recover from future disasters and emergencies of all types

Align infrastructure, policy, and community readiness with resilience goals

Strategic Priorities

- Reduce risk to existing public infrastructure
- Improve internal system and emergency policies
- Enhance hazard mapping and data use
- Strength community preparedness
- Leverage state and federal funding for long-term resiliency efforts

Project Applications in Process

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (NCEM/FEMA)

- Multiple projects developed post-Helene
- Focused on reducing risk and protecting infrastructure
- State to provide 25% local match
- Projects
  - Waterline relocations
  - Waterline stream crossing relocation and hardenings
  - Disel pump for pump station
  - Generators for water system
  - Generators for town buildings

SmBiz Infrastructure (NC Dept. of Commerce)



Improve downtown stormwater efficiency and performance.



Correcting inlet location, size and maintenance issues



$1,000,000 application, no match required

Disaster Mitigation Fund (NCEM)



Request to be made to the 20 million in HB 1020 for infrastructure improvements



Specifically, not for FEMA PA eligible repairs



Submitting an estimated 20-30 culvert locations and engineering requirements to upsize culverts to at least a 25-year storm under the Atlas 15.

State Revolving Loan Fund

- Originally not eligible. Worked with state for revisions of eligibility criteria.
- $5,000,000 principal forgiveness.
  - Drill and connect wells $2,500,000
  - Waterline relocation $2,500,000
- 70/30 cost share for anything additional, no application in development at this time.

Policy, Processes and Programs

WCU Flood Mapping



Mapping Helene inundation using hydrologic data inputs, damage inventory, field assessment.



No cost to the town, but service value is $200,000



Will support:

- Improve emergency planning and hazard models
- Public education and awareness tools
- Inform project design and grant applications

Water Administration Improvements (NC DEQ Viable Utilities)

- Post-Helene improvements and solutions for:
  - Policy updates
  - Communication protocols
  - Key Performance Indicators

Water System AIA



Utilizing technical assistance funding from DEQ to increases data available of the water system.



This will allow better assessment of damages from Helene, mitigation and resilience opportunities in the water infrastructure.



Project is currently in procurement process and will begin this fall.

Policy Updates



Food and Loding additions to Personnel Policy



Will make FEMA PA process easier in the future

CodeRED and Risk Communication

CodeRED changing to an opt-out model

Utilizing a multi-hazard, multi-benefit approach to communications:

- Environmental review/permitting process
- Water bills
- Workshops and community meetings
- Social media
- Website
- Direct mailings

CERT Established



Community Emergency Response Team



Led by volunteer, David Billstorm



Strong interest in the program



First group has first session

What's Next?

- Develop/Submit grant and loan applications
- Award the AIA contract
- Create and deploy visitor-specific communication
- Begin data collection for mapping project with WCU
- Continue to work with NC DEQ Viable Utilities program

Questions?