Recovery Progress Update

March 10, 2026

Bridget Herring
Recovery Coordinator



Key Takeaways

- Project development work is being completed to ensure that cost recovery is maximized and that infrastructure is rebuilt to be more resilient
- While availability of recovery funds remains slow, the City continues to work in close partnership at the state and federal level to advance the work as quickly as possible
- Based on feedback from City Council and the Infrastructure Recovery Board, the City Manager has revised the CDBG-DR infrastructure allocation to reserve funding for future resilience hub investments

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FEMA Public Assistance (PA)

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FEMA Public Assistance (PA)

- Funding source for base infrastructure repair and replacement
- Focused exclusively on infrastructure damaged by the storm
- Staff is monitoring the impact of the Department of Homeland Security shutdown on recovery projects but is not delaying work at this time
- The NC Congressional Delegation has been advocating for obligation of City projects successfully

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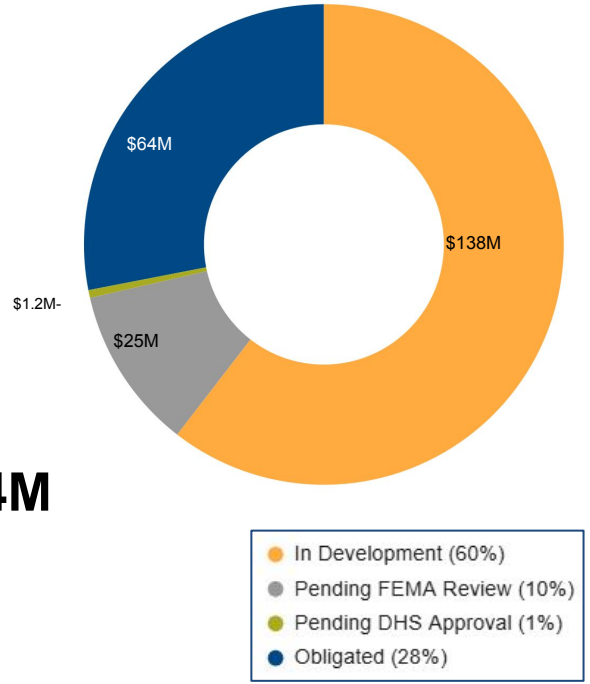
Public Assistance Progress by the Numbers

Total Number of Damage Inventory Items: **135**

Grouped into **51** total FEMA projects

Reimbursements Received by PA Category:

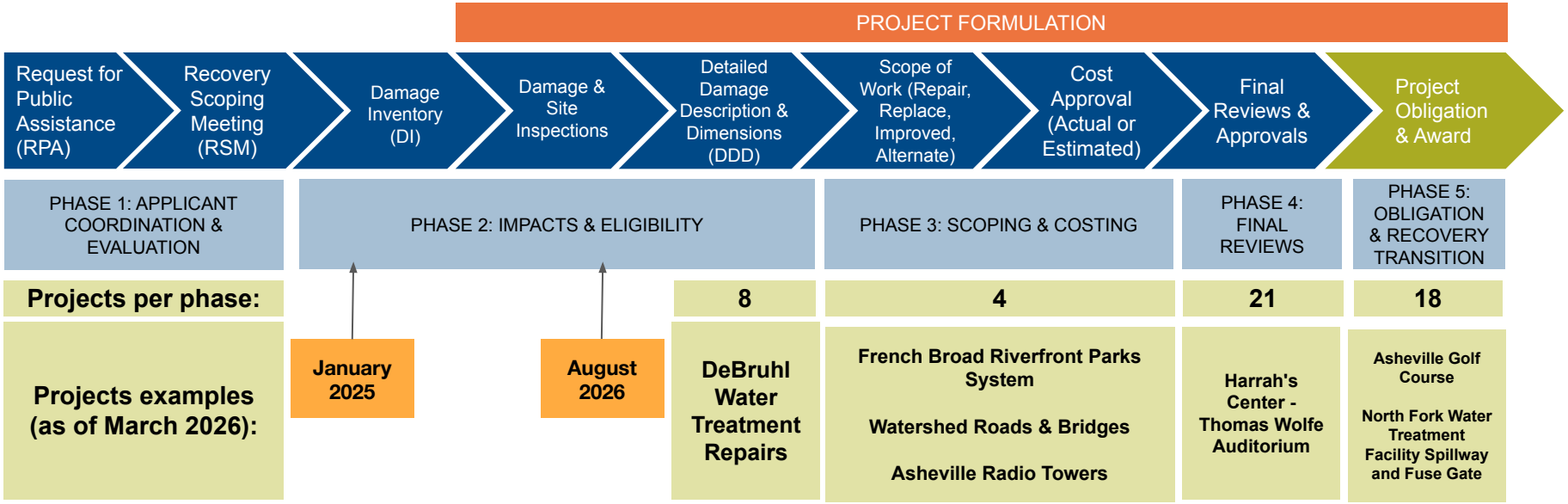
- Cat A Debris Removal: **$1.4M***
- Cat B Emergency Protective Measures: **$23.4M**
- Cat E Buildings and Equipment: **$100K**
- Cat G Parks: **$78K**
- Cat Z Management Costs (5%): **$300K**



*Total Retained by the City as of 3/2026

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FEMA Public Assistance Delivery Process



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Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

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Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- $1.4B in FEMA funds administered by the State
- $400M in City Grants submitted to NCEM
- City Applications for Private Property
  - 30 Acquisitions
    - 9 Residential (3 approved)
    - 21 Commercial
  - 15 Elevations:
    - 14 residential
    - 1 commercial

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HMGP Acquisition Next Steps

- Once FEMA approves acquisition the state moves forward with a pre-Helene market rate appraisal
- Appraisal to closing can take up to 90 days
- Property owner still has a chance to opt out
- State contract will demolish and clear site within 90 days of closing
- Property is deed restricted as open space and transferred to the local jurisdiction

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Community Development Block Grant -Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Infrastructure

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Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (DR) Infrastructure

- Program's Goal is to facilitate long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation efforts
- Based on feedback from City Council and the Infrastructure Recovery Board, the City Manager has revised infrastructure allocation to reserve funding for future resilience hub investments

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Recommended CDBG-DR Allocations

Project	Original Allocation Recommendation	Reduction	Revised Recommendation
French Broad Riverfront Parks Recovery Project	$22,500,000	5%	$21,375,000
Azalea Parks & Infrastructure Recovery Project	$10,000,000	10%	$9,000,000
North Fork Pre-Treatment	$89,777,440	0.05%	$89,727,490*
Resilience Hub Investments	$0	-	$2,125,000
Subtotal, Allocation Available			**$122,277,490**
Compliance Costs			$2,772,510
Total Allocation			$125,000,000

*.05% reduction due to mathematical error

Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (DR) Infrastructure

Next Steps:

- Move forward with the three recommended projects at reduced funding levels
- Evaluate the CDBG-DR Action Plan and program manuals to develop a process for allocating reserved funds toward a resilience hub network
- Develop a long-term funding strategy for resilience hubs as additional funding sources become available
- Continue current work on the resilience hub mapping project and align it with evolving funding strategies

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Shape our Recovery!

- Riverfront Parks: Help our community move from “ideas” to “action” through:
  - Online Feedback: now through March 16
  - Attend a pop-up event where project teams are bringing info booths to you:
    - March 11, 1-3pm: Info Booth at Community Engagement Market at Pisgah View Apartments
    - March 12, 5-7pm: Info Booth at Ruff ‘n’ Roll at Riverbend Park
- Resilience Hub Mapping:
  - Online survey for Hub leaders and organizers to share how communities supported our collective response to Tropical Storm Helene
  - April 18 Public Day of Listening: Details TBD

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