

Policy on Tap

Infrastructure

Building a Strong & Resilient Community



Tim Anderson

NCDOT



Kevin Madsen

Buncombe County



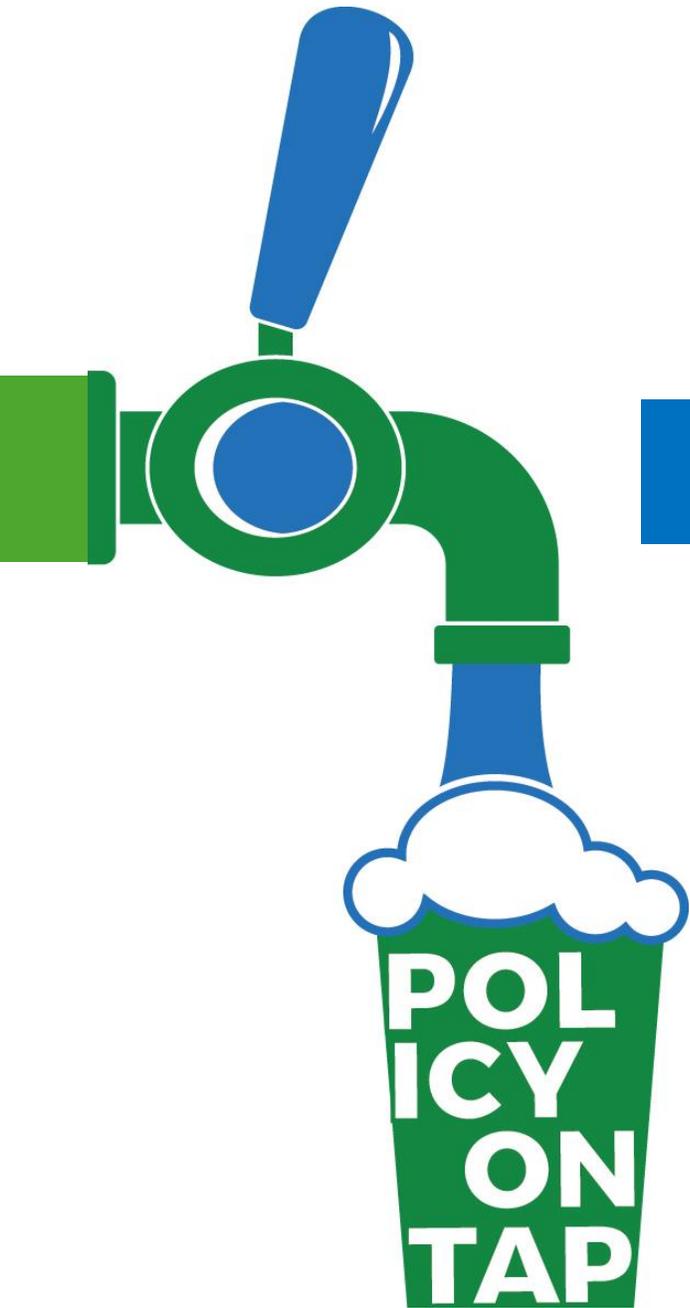
Bill Hart

City of Asheville



Clay Chandler

City of Asheville



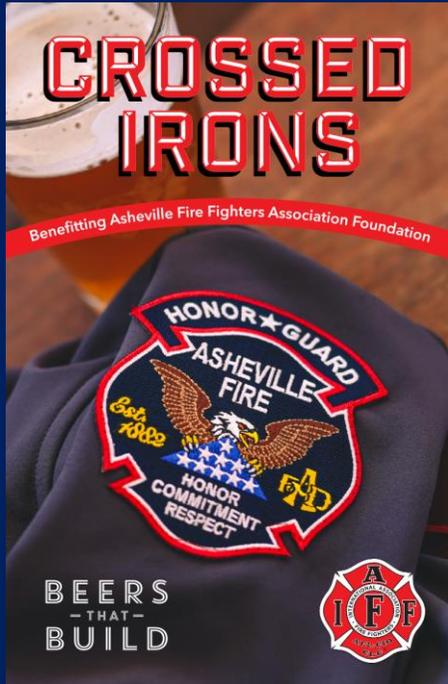
ASHEVILLE
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Policy on Tap

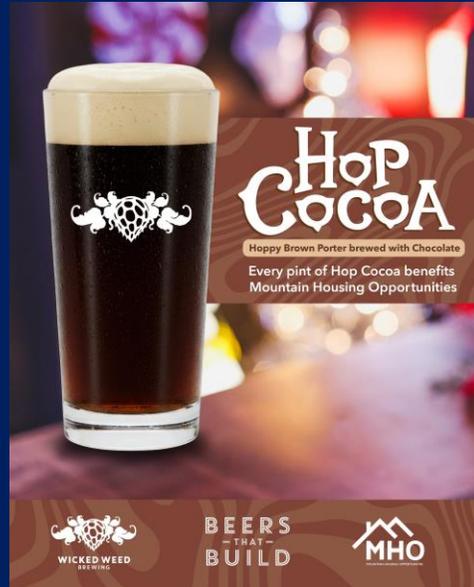
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



FASTSIGNS of Asheville



BEERS
- THAT -
BUILD



Benefitting Feeding America

COMING UP

Dec 13th - Santa Visit at the Brewpub

Dec 28th - Wicked Weed's 13th Anniversary
Oyster Roast. 3-7PM at the Brewpub.
Enjoy fresh oysters, live music and more.



This holiday season, Asheville locals and visitors are invited to sip, stroll, and support a great cause with the launch of the 12 Bars of Christmas, a citywide holiday collaboration benefiting MANNA FoodBank. Running November 28 through December 31. Supported by sponsors Chemist Spirits, Devil's Foot Beverage Company, and Wicked Weed Funkatorium

host your
HOLIDAY PARTY
at the **FUNKATORIUM**

we are offering 1/2 off rental fees
for local businesses this winter!

reach out to
charlotte.zuraw@wickedweedbrewing.com
for more info



Destination for advanced, innovative medicine



A QUALITY PROGRAM
of the AMERICAN COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS



The Society
of Thoracic
Surgeons



The Joint
Commission



American Heart
Association
American Stroke
Association

CERTIFICATION

Meets standards for
Comprehensive Stroke Center



Designated a
Baby-Friendly
Hospital

Serving WNC since 1885, Mission Hospital has 853 beds and is North and South Carolina's busiest minimally invasive robotic surgery program.

Public Policy Department

VP of Public Policy

Advocacy + Policy Committee

Chamber Board

Policy Agenda

Communications

Events

Relationship-Building

Issues Advocacy

Value for Members

2025-2027 Policy Agenda



2025-2027 Policy Agenda

Housing

The Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce supports policies that will increase the housing supply in our region.

Specifically, we support policies that: allow for greater density along transit and mixed-use corridors, reduce/remove parking minimums, encourage infill and density, and reduce uncertainty for developers of housing.

While we advocate for an increase in overall supply, research has shown our region has a need for both missing middle and workforce housing. Housing affordability remains a major issue in the Region and may be exacerbated by Hurricane Helene.

As such, we will support policies that will help our region grow the housing supply, with a focus on addressing urgent needs such as workforce and missing middle housing.



Housing



Infrastructure



Resources &
Business Supports



Workforce
Development

Stay Connected



- May 5, 2025 -

A Note from Casey

While the focus of the Chamber's policy work in recent months has been on **Helene Recovery Advocacy**, we are also tracking important policy topics impacting our members that are not directly related to recovery, rebuilding, and our favorite: **CDBG-DR**. If you aren't yet familiar with CDBG-DR, it is something that we'll be talking about for months and years to come. Federal funding received through the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) is an essential tool in our community's – and region's – recovery. Both the **City of Asheville** and the **State** have Action Plans in place to direct the funding in the areas of housing, economic revitalization and infrastructure.

Today, I want to share a few resources on **tariffs** from our friends at the **US Chamber of Commerce**, who have been doing an excellent job of tracking this issue minute-to-minute. Some of the impacts of the tariffs will be direct – increased costs of goods will be felt by consumers in both the price of goods and lack of availability, as fewer goods are imported into the United States. Though it's still too soon to tell what the long-term implications might be, economists are tracking indicators such as labor market data, GDP, and consumer spending. For now, the US Chamber of Commerce remains a terrific resource for navigating the conversation around tariffs. I hope you'll find the links below helpful. We'll continue to track this (and other) important developments that impact our members.

Thanks for your ongoing support – it means a lot to us to have you as a member.

- Casey



TOMORROW: NC Chamber Member Roundtable

NC Chamber members are invited to attend a complimentary Member Roundtable at the Asheville Chamber tomorrow, **Tuesday, April 22nd, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.** This exclusive event offers timely updates on statewide business issues, legislative developments, and economic trends. It also offers a chance to connect with fellow business leaders and share feedback directly with NC Chamber representatives.

Topics will include a current business landscape overview, a legislative update, and insights from the NC Chamber Foundation.

[Register here](#)

Business Voices for Recovery: Tours, Talks and Taps - May 7th

Join us **Wednesday, May 7th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** for **Business Voices for Recovery: Tours, Talks and Taps** - a full-day, mobile summit exploring recovery and resilience across the River Arts District, Biltmore Village and Swannanoa.



This immersive event replaces our annual Intercity Visit, offering firsthand insight into the stories, strategies and data driving our region's recovery. Travel by charter bus to hear directly from business and civic leaders about what's reopening, what's still needed, and how infrastructure improvements

TOP STORY

City Council enters uncertain budget season; sets recovery priorities

Last week's Asheville City Council annual retreat began an uncertain FY26 budgeting process with the city forecasting \$17.6 million revenue loss for the current fiscal year. Further impacts on sales tax (down 6.5% to-date) and property taxes are unknown complicating the process. While \$225 million in federal disaster recovery funds are expected, meeting operational budgets remains a challenge as property tax increases may need to be considered to balance the general fund budget.

Council members also identified [guiding principles and four priority areas](#) focused on Helene Recovery, people, housing, infrastructure/environment and economy. Retreat facilitators and City staff will identify draft priority actions to be shared with Council at a future work session.

Members of the public can offer input on budget priorities at the [next City Council meeting](#) on Feb. 2 at 5 p.m.

[Read more about the budget process](#)

SHARE YOUR BUSINESS'S IMPACT & NEEDS...
WNC HELENE BUSINESS RESPONSE SURVEY

LOCAL POLICY UPDATES

Weigh in on disaster recovery funding; Virtual meeting Feb. 18

We encourage businesses to attend a **virtual information and input session on Tues. Feb. 18 at 8 p.m. to weigh in on the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds.** This is a good opportunity to voice recovery needs for businesses, including continued need for small business grants that are essential for business retention.



Policy on Tap

Infrastructure



Building a Strong & Resilient Community



Tim Anderson

Division 13 Engineer

North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

NCDOT Policy on Tap Update

Tim Anderson, PE Division Engineer, Division 13

December 2025

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

OUR MISSION

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina



DIVISION 13 AT A GLANCE



PAVEMENT CONDITION RATINGS*



*Percent of pavement miles ranked good as of recent time frame

BRIDGES



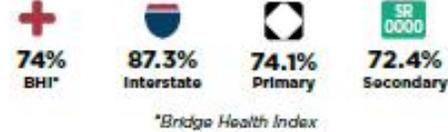
RESURFACING PROJECTS



SECONDARY ROUTES



INFRASTRUCTURE HEALTH & SAFETY



EMPLOYEES



AIRPORTS

- Marchman Field Airport (FGD) Rutherford County
- Shifit Field (9A9) McDowell County
- Foothills Regional Airport (MRN) Burke County
- Asheville Regional Airport (AVL) Buncombe County

LITTER CLEANUP

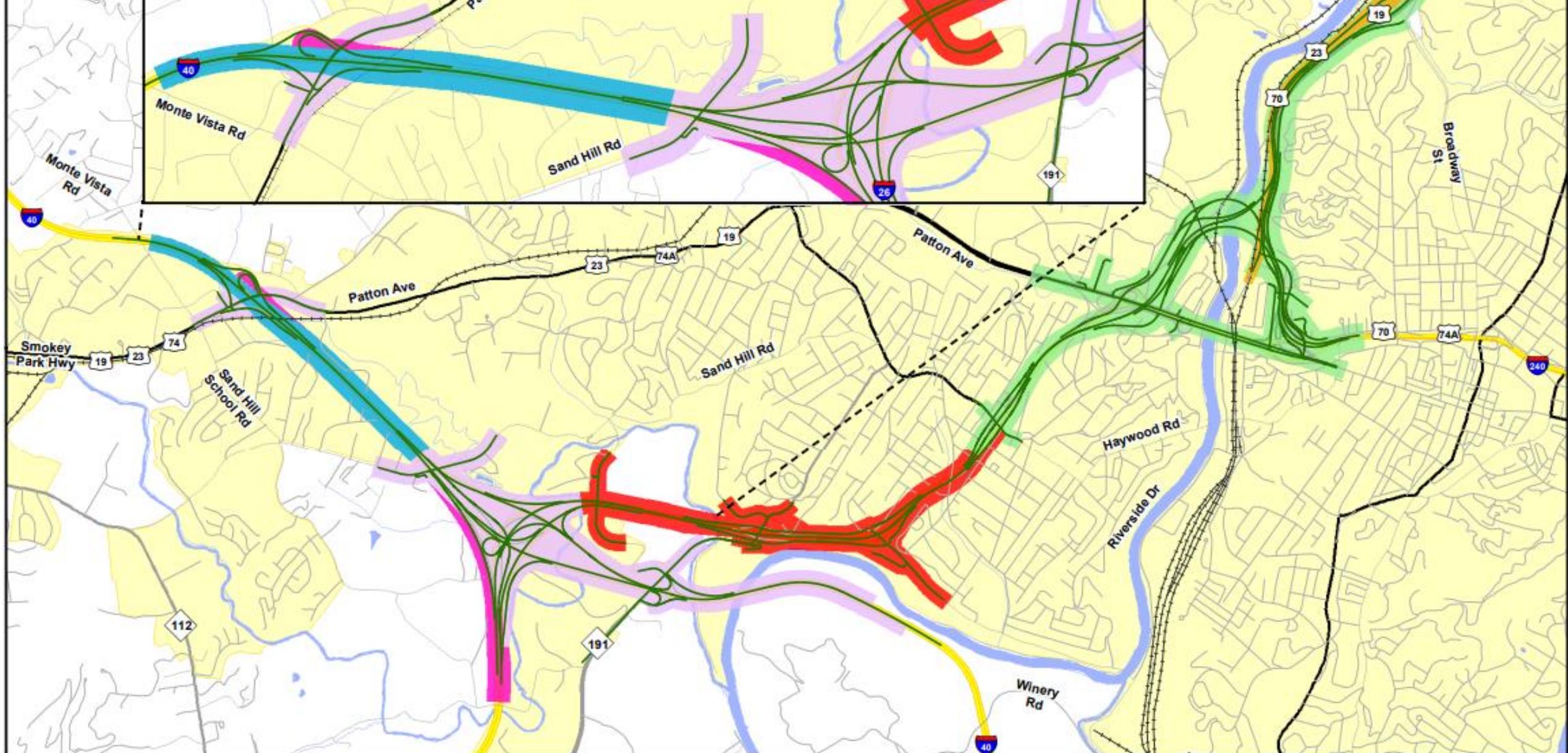


5,115 ROAD MILES IN DIV. 13

DIV. 13 STIP PROJECTS*



Projects of Interest



North Carolina
Department of Transportation



Legend

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Section AA | Horizontal Alignment | Interstate |
| Section AB | Streams (non-delineated) | US Highway |
| Section AC | Water | State Highway |
| Section B | Municipal Boundary | State Route |
| Section C | | Local Road |



**I-2513 New Section
Boundaries**

**I-26 Asheville Connector
Buncombe County**



I-2513 AA/AB (South Section)

Schedule:

- Awarded July 2024
- Anticipated Completion in May 2029

Scope:

- Replacement of existing concrete pavement on I-40 from Monte Vista Rd to Sand Hill Rd
- New I-40 WB off Ramp over RR
- Widening of existing I-40 EB to I-26 EB Ramp

Current Funding

- \$ 2.3 Million ROW
- \$105 Million Construction

I-2513 AC (West Section)

Schedule:

- Let November 2026
- Anticipated Completion in August 2031

Scope:

- Widening of I-26/I-240 from I-26/I-40/I-240 Interchange to Haywood Rd from 4 to 6 Lanes
- Split interchange for Brevard Rd and Amboy Rd

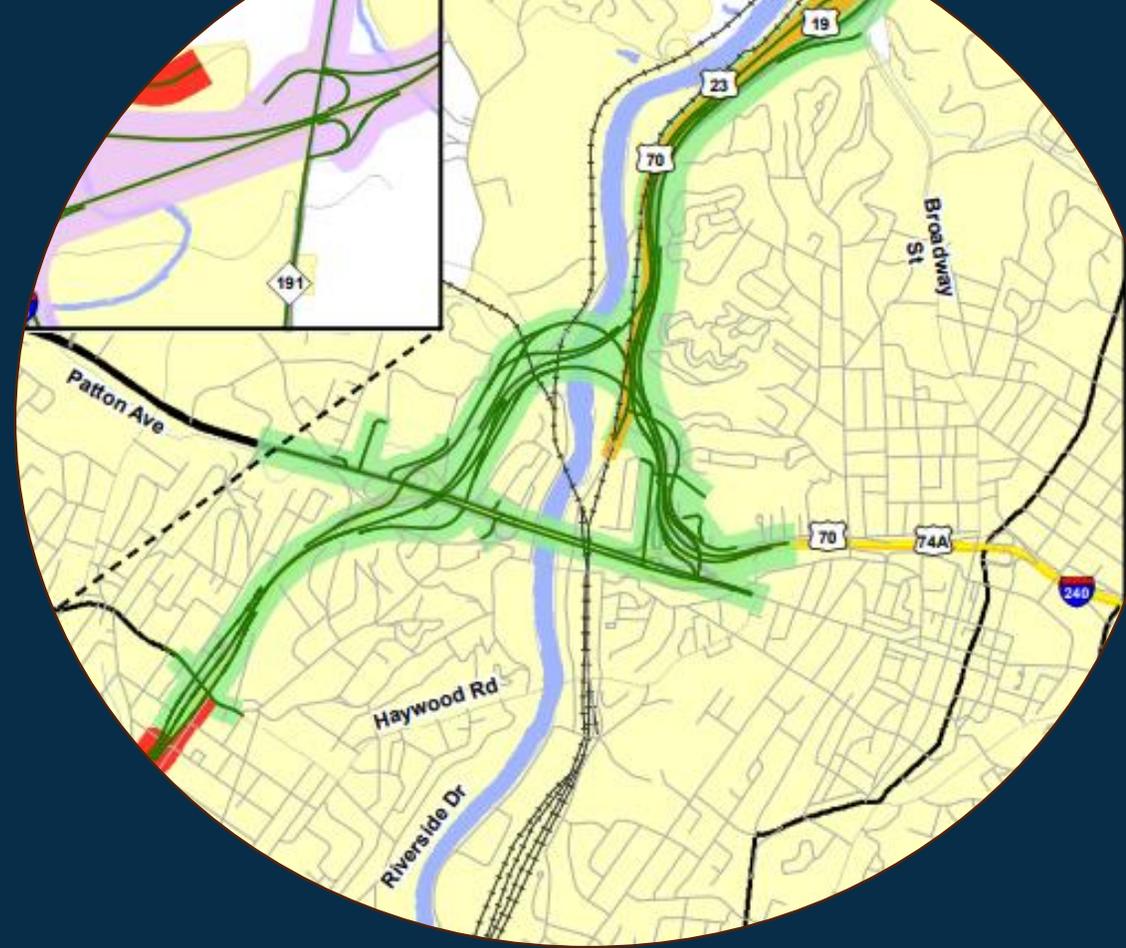
Current Funding

- \$43.4 Million ROW
- \$284.2 Million Construction



I-2513 B/D (North Section)

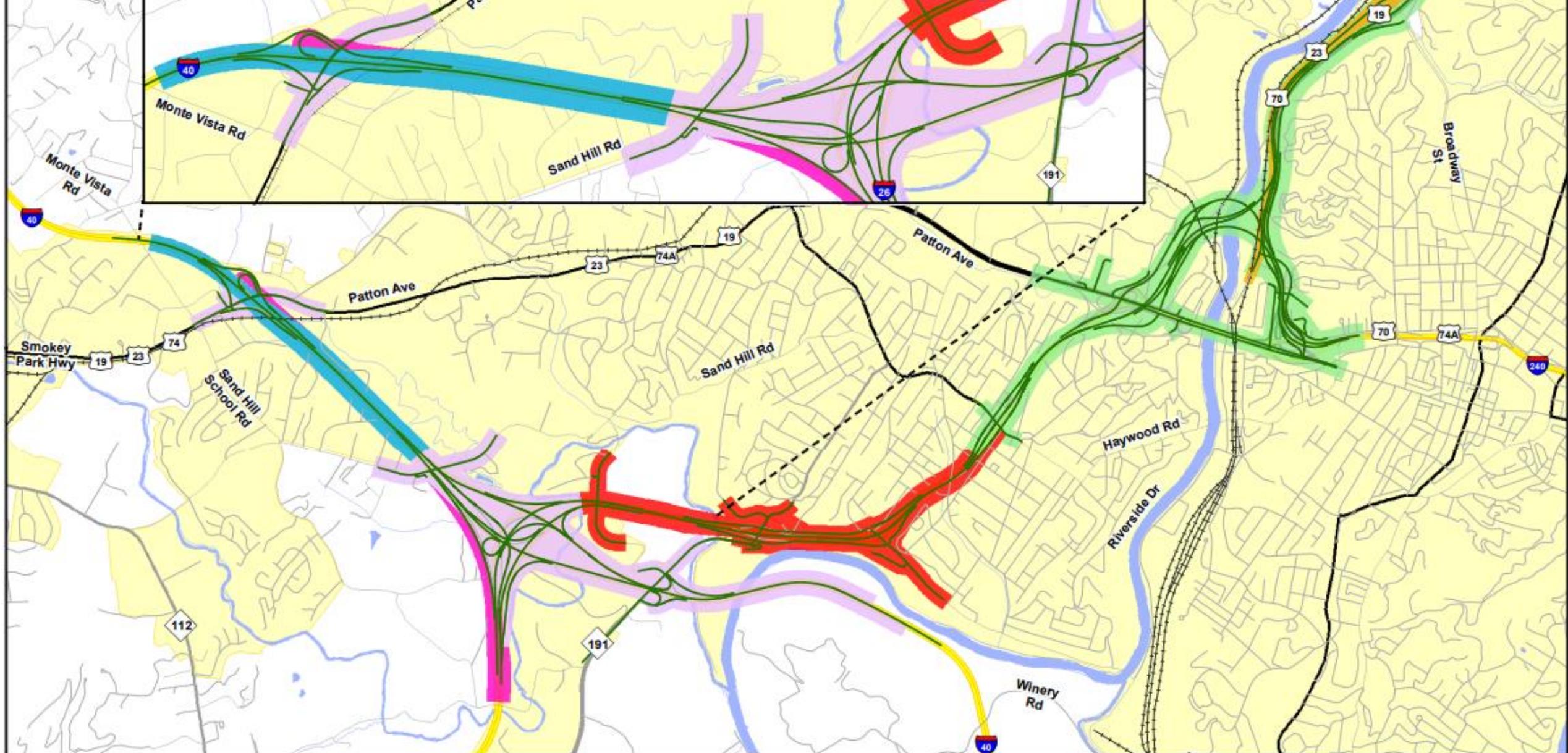
- Schedule:
 - Awarded May 2024
 - Anticipated Completion in October 2031
- Scope:
 - Widening of I-26/I-240 from 4 to 6 lanes from Haywood Rd to Patton Ave
 - Haywood and Broadway Rd Interchange Improvements
 - Improvements to Riverside Drive
 - New Location interstate for I-26 and I-26/I-240 interchange
- Current Funding
 - \$175.6 Million ROW
 - \$27.4 Million Utility Relocation
 - \$825.8 Million Construction
- Optimization and Refinement





I-2513 C (I-40/I-26 Interchange)

- The remaining section of the I-2513 project will address the final improvements to the I-40/I-26 Interchange.
- Currently Not Funded
- To be reprioritized in P8.0
- Estimated Cost : \$270.6 Million for ROW and CON



North Carolina
Department of Transportation



Legend

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Section AA | Horizontal Alignment | Interstate |
| Section AB | Streams (non-delineated) | US Highway |
| Section AC | Water | State Highway |
| Section B | Municipal Boundary | State Route |
| Section C | | Local Road |



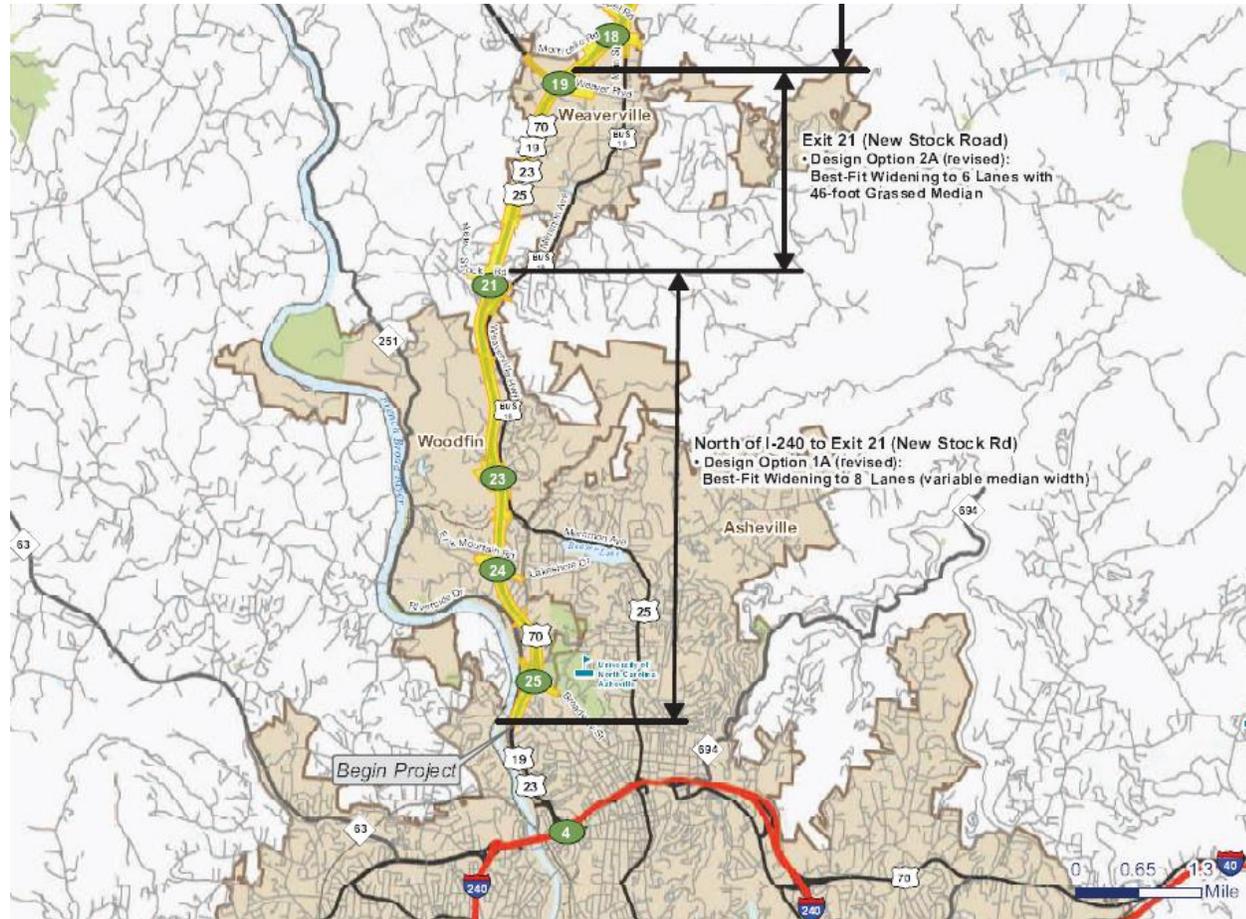
**I-2513 New Section
Boundaries**

**I-26 Asheville Connector
Buncombe County**

A-0010AA - Future I-26 (US 19/23) Widening

I-26 (US 19/23) from Broadway St (Exit 25) to US 25/70 (Exit 19)

- The project includes adding lanes, reconfiguring interchanges, rehabilitating or replacing several bridges, and other roadway improvements needed to comply with interstate standards.
- Previously programmed as ROW in 2027 and CON in 2031.
- ~\$300 million cost increase in April 2024.



A-0010AA - Future I-26 (US 19/23) Widening

NCDOT segmented project for programming in 2026-2035 STIP as follows:

PROJECT ID	DESCRIPTION	SCHEDULE
A-0010AB	NC 251/SR 1728 (Broadway Street) Interchange. Improve Interchange.	PE ONLY
A-0010AC	SR 1684 (Elk Mountain Road) Interchange. Improve Interchange.	PE ONLY
A-0010AD	US 25 (Merrimon Avenue) Interchange. Improve Interchange.	PE ONLY
A-0010AE	SR 1882 (New Stock Road) Interchange. Improve Interchange Area Including Widening I-26 to North of SR 1720 (Aiken Road).	ROW 2028 ; CON 2031
A-0010AF	US 25/US 70 Interchange. Improve Interchange.	PE ONLY
A-0010AG	NC 251/SR 1728 (Broadway Street) to US 25/US 70. Widen Roadway To Eight And Six Lanes.	PE ONLY

PE Only Segments will recompile for funding in Prioritization 8.0 (underway)

U-2801A – US 25A (Sweeten Creek Rd) from Hendersonville Rd to Rock Hill Rd

Project segmented into U-2801 AA/AB when programming the 2024-2033 STIP (July 2023):

- U-2801 AA – Hendersonville Rd to Mills Gap Rd
- U-2801 AB – Mills Gap Rd to Rock Hill Rd

Project further delayed in development of 2026-2035 STIP:

- U-2801 AA – NOT FUNDED
- U-2801 AB - Funded for PE Only
- **Both Segments will recompile for funding in Prioritization 8.0 (underway)**

Significant project cost increases occurring since 2020.

- Improved Cost Estimation Practices
- Inflation

June 2020	December 2022	January 2024	July 2025
\$195M	\$285M	\$359M	\$392M

Segment	July 2025
Hendersonville Rd to Mills Gap Rd	\$210M
Mills Gap Rd to Rock Hill Rd	\$182M



Highway Projects Decommited or Defunded in 2026-2035 STIP

Was Scheduled for Delivery (Years 1-5), Now Funded for PE ONLY (Years 6-10 – to recompute in P8):

- U-2801AB (Sweeten Creek Rd from Mills Gap Rd to Rock Hill Rd)
- U-5832 (Swannanoa River Rd from Biltmore Ave to South Tunnel Rd)
- U-6047 (Sardis / Sandhill Rd from Brevard Rd to Smokey Park Hwy)

Was Funded for PE ONLY (Years 6-10), Now Not Funded:

- I-2513C (I-26/I-40/I-240 Final Interchange Improvements)
- U-2801AA (Sweeten Creek Rd from Hendersonville Rd to Mills Gap Rd)
- U-6046 (Swannanoa River Rd from South Tunnel Rd to US 70)
- U-6162 (N Louisiana Ave from Patton Ave to Emma Rd)
- I-40 Exit 103 Interchange (Morganton)
- I-40 Exit 107 Interchange (Drexel)

23 Highway Projects previously delayed / defunded (in 2024-2033 STIP) were removed from the 2026-2035 STIP:

- Projects across entire Division
- Totaling \$1.3 billion dollars
- The needs continue to significantly outweigh the available funding across the state

Hurricane Helene

US 70 at Swannanoa River



Damage in Buncombe County



SR 2427 Summer Haven Road

Swannanoa



US 74
Fairview



SR 2776 Old Fort Road
Fairview

Biltmore Avenue



Initial Response Contracts

Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Contracts

- Provided rapid response for early roadway and bridge repairs to provide access.
- Multi-awards were utilized to reduce number of contracts let.
 - Allows maximum number of available contractors.
- Utilized for providing crews, operated equipment, paving, guardrail, pipe installation, traffic control and other needed assistance.

Emergency Sole Source Contracts (69)

- Used to provide emergency installation or repairs to bridges to provide the quickest emergency access for citizens.
- Most were used early after the storm to provide access to:
 - Dead end roads that were completely cut off
 - Roads that were cut off on both ends





NC 9 Slide Repairs, Black Mountain

Whitson Branch Rd - Post Storm



Rail Car Bridge – Whitson Branch Rd



All Storms still open with FHWA and FEMA

ncdot.gov

Status

Event	FHWA and FEMA (Event Reimbursement Totals)				
	Total Expenditures to Date* ⁽¹⁾	Eligible Expenditures to Date ⁽²⁾	Eligible Expenditures Submitted for Reimbursement ⁽³⁾	Anticipated Reimbursement ⁽⁴⁾	Reimbursement Received to Date*
2024 TS Helene	\$ 909,218,605	\$ 527,480,398	\$ 315,524,409	\$ 380,914,574	\$ (182,295,025)
2024 PTC Eight (Sept 16 SW)	\$ 11,519,566	\$ 9,896,561	\$ 6,396,561	\$ 7,597,421	\$ -
2022 TS Ian	\$ 10,176	\$ 9,893	\$ 9,893	\$ 7,538	\$ (7,538)
2021 Fred Severe Weather	\$ 29,876,247	\$ 25,859,962	\$ 25,327,810	\$ 22,701,914	\$ (20,938,685)
2020 TS Eta (Nov 11 Rains)	\$ 42,240,754	\$ 32,201,016	\$ 30,588,185	\$ 29,212,592	\$ (25,280,814)
2020 TS Isaias	\$ 4,915,888	\$ 3,096,979	\$ 3,071,009	\$ 2,791,878	\$ (2,762,803)
2020 COVID-19	\$ 1,300,532	\$ 129,864	\$ 129,864	\$ 129,864	\$ (129,864)
2020 February 6 Rains	\$ 22,891,020	\$ 16,884,082	\$ 16,884,082	\$ 14,784,674	\$ (14,784,674)
2019 Hurricane Dorian	\$ 32,843,687	\$ 13,537,328	\$ 13,355,353	\$ 10,642,614	\$ (10,404,077)
2018 Hurricane Michael	\$ 17,475,733	\$ 10,914,387	\$ 10,914,387	\$ 8,334,299	\$ (8,334,299)
2018 Hurricane Florence	\$ 248,872,924	\$ 221,325,953	\$ 219,966,908	\$ 170,158,025	\$ (168,515,109)
2016 Hurricane Matthew	\$ 203,220,665	\$ 198,438,662	\$ 197,028,777	\$ 151,550,390	\$ (146,286,815)
Total	\$ 1,524,385,798	\$ 1,059,775,087	\$ 839,197,238	\$ 798,825,783	\$ (579,739,703)

Finance *Includes all disaster related WBS projects*

\$4.9bn

Forecast Model - Projected Helene Estimate

28.8%

% Project Expenditures Reimbursed

\$423.1M

FHWA Expenditures

\$800.4M

FEMA Expenditures

\$200.4M

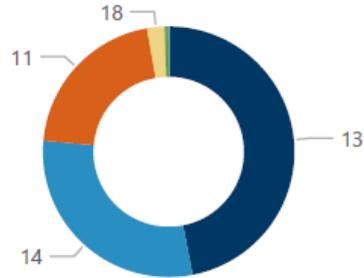
FHWA Reimbursements

\$151.8M

FEMA Reimbursements

\$1.2bn

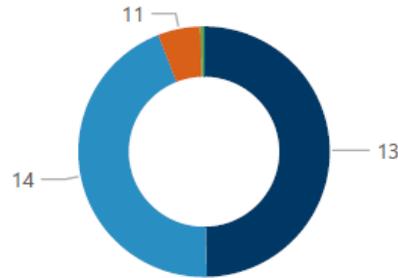
Expenditures



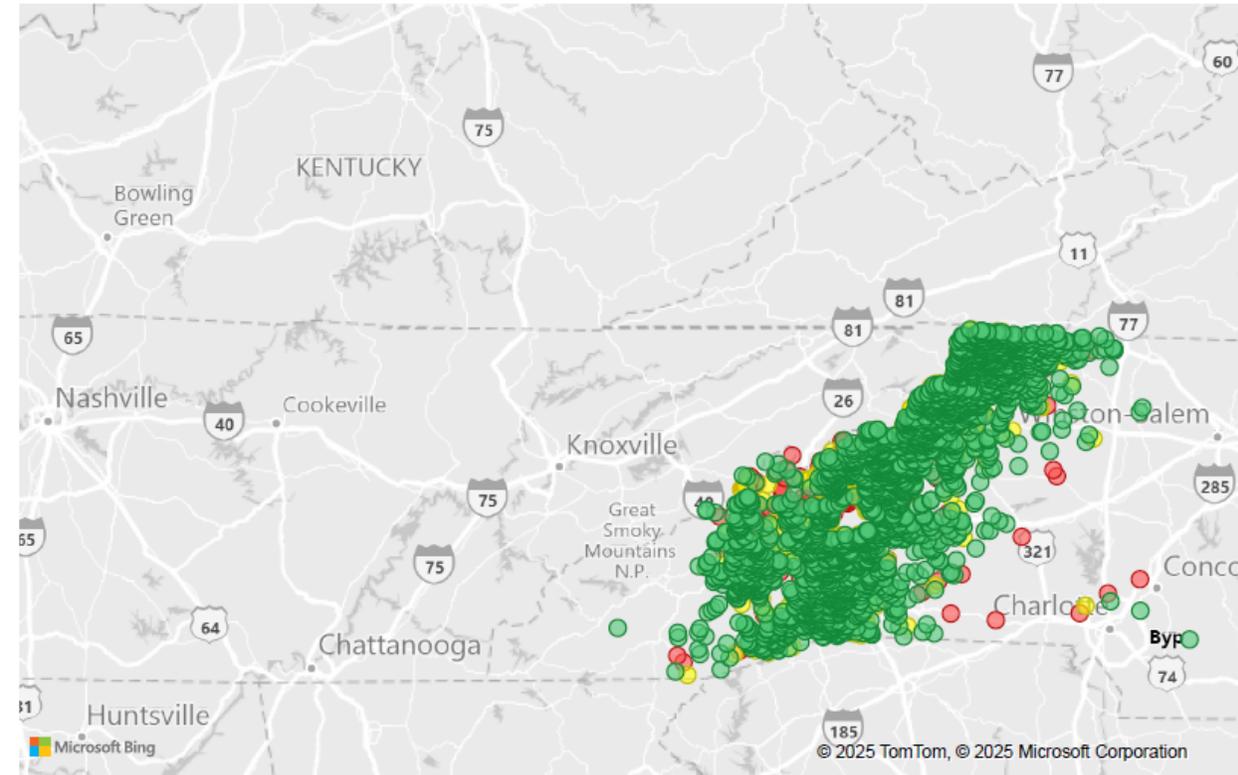
Project Expenditures by Division

\$352.3M

Reimbursements



Reimbursements by Division



Rebuild Projects *Includes only site specific WBS projects*

Percent of Damage Sites 90%+ Complete by Estimated Cost Range

6721

Total Projects

3965

90%+ Complete

45.93%

% Contracted Out

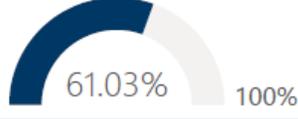
41.69%

% Force Account

<\$100K

4,887

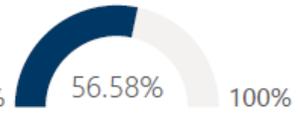
0%



\$100K < x

1,627

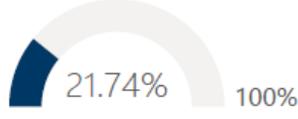
0%



≥\$1M

207

0%



Total Sites *Includes all disaster related WBS projects*

Total Damage Sites: 9445

Total Sites 90%+ Complete: 8040

Percent Expended of Expected Costs

24.53%

0%

Average Percent Complete

59.44%

0%

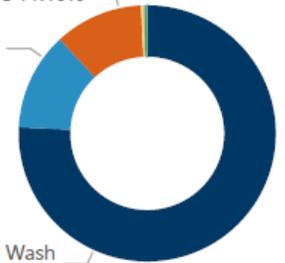
100%

Work Type

Bridge 11.10%

Maint... 12.3...

Road Wash 75.77%



Contact Us

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Kevin Madsen

Helene Recovery Officer

Buncombe County Government

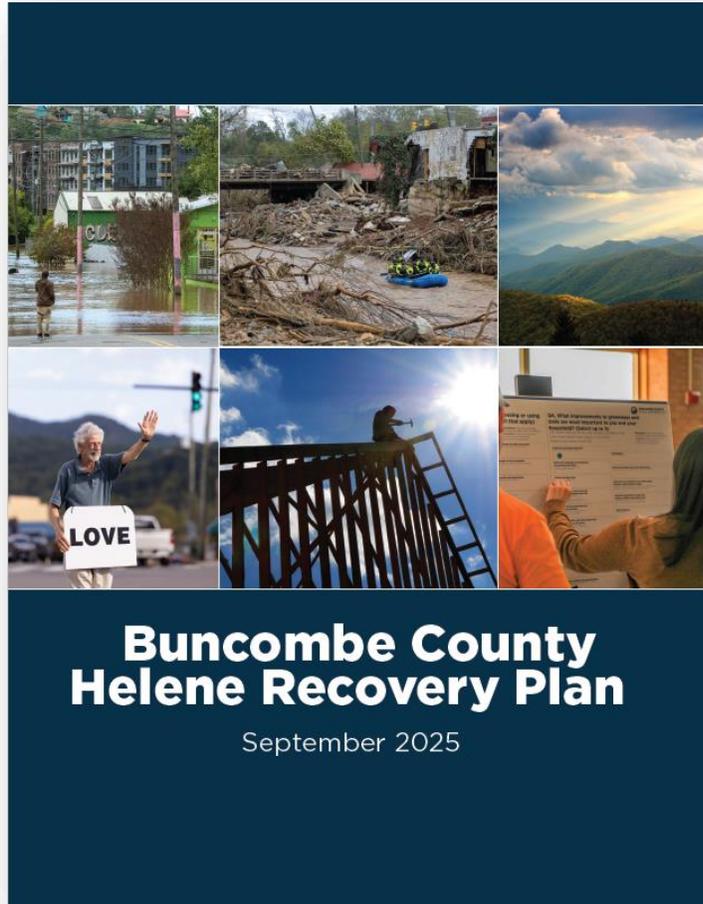


Buncombe County Helene Recovery Plan

Presented by

Kevin Madsen, Helene Recovery Officer

Helene Recovery Plan



114 projects across 7 local governments:

Buncombe County
31 projects

Town of Woodfin
17 projects

**Town of Biltmore
Forest**
5 projects

Town of Montreat
4 projects

City of Asheville
31 projects

Weaverville
14 projects

**Town of Black
Mountain**
12 projects



Projects by 2030 Strategic Plan Focus Area

Strategic Plan Focus Area	# of Projects	Percent
Growth & Development	7	22%
Economic Development	3	9%
Education	0	0%
Community Health	5	16%
Public Safety	13	44%
Energy & Environment	3	9%
Grand Total	31	100%

Projects by Envision Buncombe Priority

	Top 10 Priorities	# of Projects*	Percent
	Infrastructure Investments	4	11%
	Disaster Preparedness & Resiliency	13	42%
	Wildfire Prevention	2	6%
	Floodplain Management	2	6%
	Restoring Streambanks	1	3%
	Rebuilding Parks	1	3%
	Preserving Flood-Prone Property	2	6%
	Landslide Stabilization	2	6%
	Affordable Housing	3	9%
	Food Security	1	3%
	Other	5	14%

Building Community Resiliency



Community Risk Reduction Campaign

Implement a countywide risk reduction campaign to promote emergency preparedness to increase community readiness and mitigate risks from future disasters



Natural Hazards Monitoring

Implement environmental data tracking technology such as weather & air quality monitors, river gauges, and landslide monitors where applicable and effective to improve emergency notification, prevent loss of life, and support public health

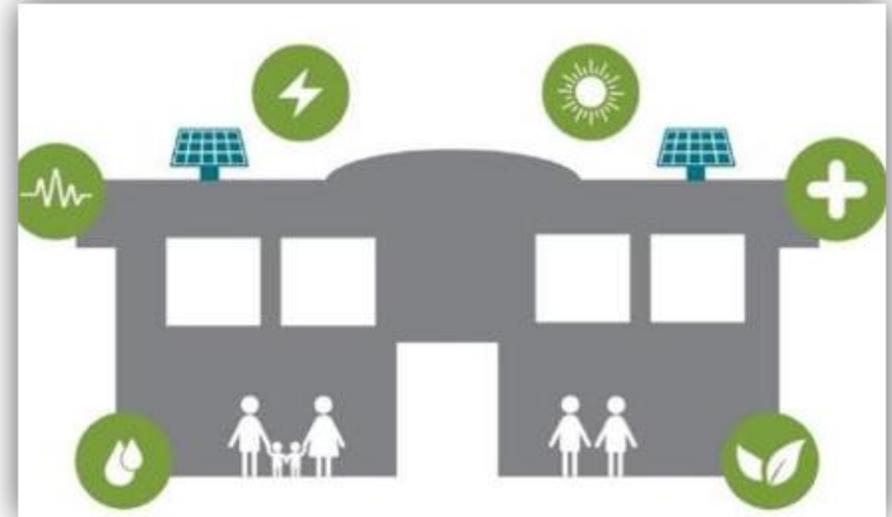
Public Safety Communications Resilience

- Assess capabilities and perform resilience upgrades to critical public safety communications infrastructure, including:
 - Solar for radio towers
 - Community notification technology
 - Backup systems
 - Satellite communication devices



Resilience Hubs

- Add features to public facilities (e.g., libraries, community centers, schools) for resilience before, during, and after emergencies
- Features may include:
 - Alternative energy sources
 - Telecommunications
 - Wind hardening
 - Floodproofing
 - Water hookups and storage
 - Enhanced air filtration systems
 - Accessibility
 - Adaptable multi-use spaces



Facilities Projects



Critical Facilities Upgrades

Upfit critical public facilities for county operations with installation of floodproofing, wind hardening, and secondary power sources to ensure continuous operation before, during, and after future disasters



Fleet & Facilities Restoration

Conduct repairs and replacements to address damages from Tropical Storm Helene to county-owned fleet and facilities while incorporating mitigation measures to prevent damage from future disasters

Next Steps

Helene Recovery Office

- Hiring staff for project management
- Developing an implementation strategy for the Helene Recovery Plan
- Projects are scoped based on activities, timelines, costs, etc.
- Internal and external partner collaboration

Examples of Current Efforts

- Commercial District Revitalization: Sidewalks in Swannanoa
- Cultural Asset Restoration: Restore & rebuild Owen Park
- Landslide Mitigation: Grovemont landslide A&E contract

Thank you

It's important to note, Buncombe County is statutorily the emergency lead and we are focused on building systems and partnerships to strengthen the community



Policy on Tap

Infrastructure



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Bill Hart

Interim Water
Resources Director

City of Asheville



Clay Chandler

Public Information
Officer – Water
Resources Dept

City of Asheville



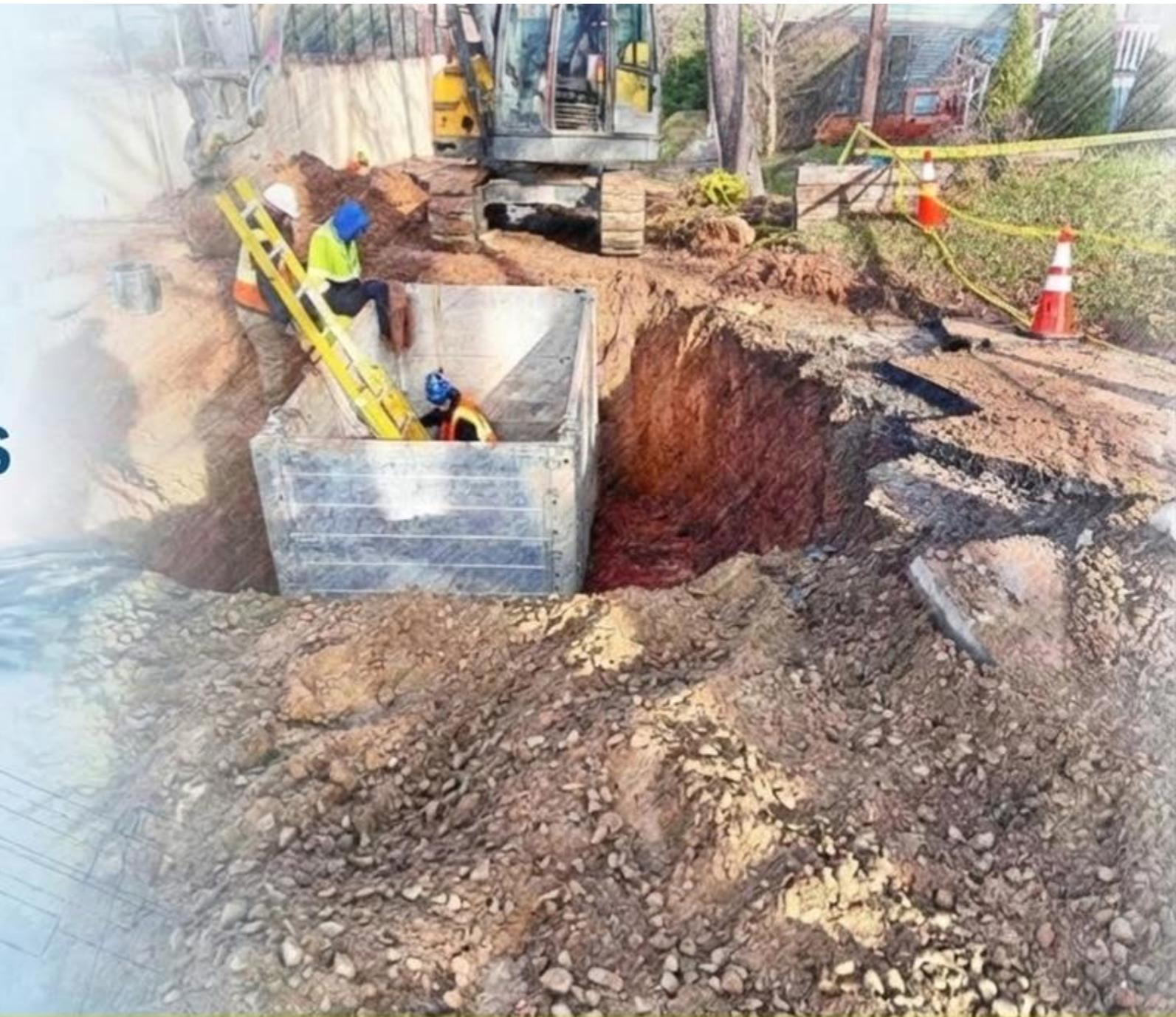
THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE
WATER RESOURCES

BUILDING RESILIENCE AMID INCREASING COSTS

12/8/2025

Bill Hart, Interim Director

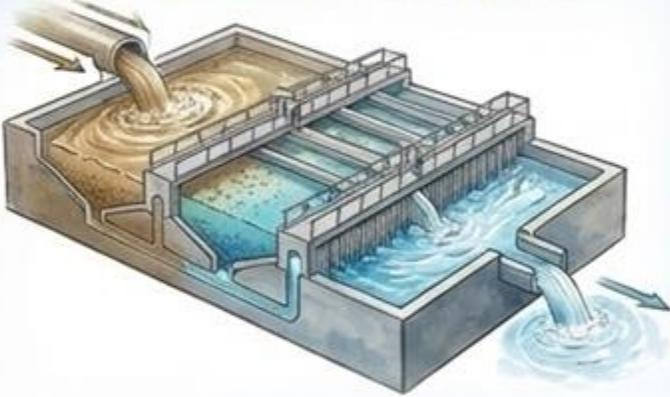
Clay Chandler, PIO



**THE CITY OF
ASHEVILLE**

Water System - Resilience Measures

Conventional sedimentation basins with plate settlers for filters at North Fork and DeBruhl WTPs



Benefit: Would allow us to treat especially turbid water.

Cost: \$150 - 200 million.

Status: In the design process.

Alternate bypass line at North Fork



Benefit: Would avoid, to the degree possible, the floodplain of the Swannanoa River.

Cost: \$100 million +.

Status: In the design process.

Long term, a new treatment facility in Northern Service Area



Benefit: Would increase capacity, helping to meet rising demand.

Cost: \$300 million.

Status: Water Resources is seeking a \$2 million grant from the federal Economic Development Administration to fund exploration for three potential sites that meet location, production and distribution metrics.

Increased Operational Costs



Federal Lead and Copper Rule

Immediate need for \$400,000 for “potholing”.
Next Fiscal Year: \$1.6 million needed for service line inventory unknowns.



Service Line Replacement Plan

Funding for customer-owned replacements.
Funding for total replacement (10% annually for 10 years, starting 1/1/28).
Estimated Cost: up to \$100 million (\$10 million annually).
Brita Pitcher Filters: \$2 million initially, plus annual costs.

Increased Operational Costs

New NCDOT Regulations for Work Zones



The establishment of a work zone on roads owned by the North Carolina Department of Transportation, under new regulations the agency has implemented, will now take significantly longer, require much more equipment and personnel, and cost substantially more.

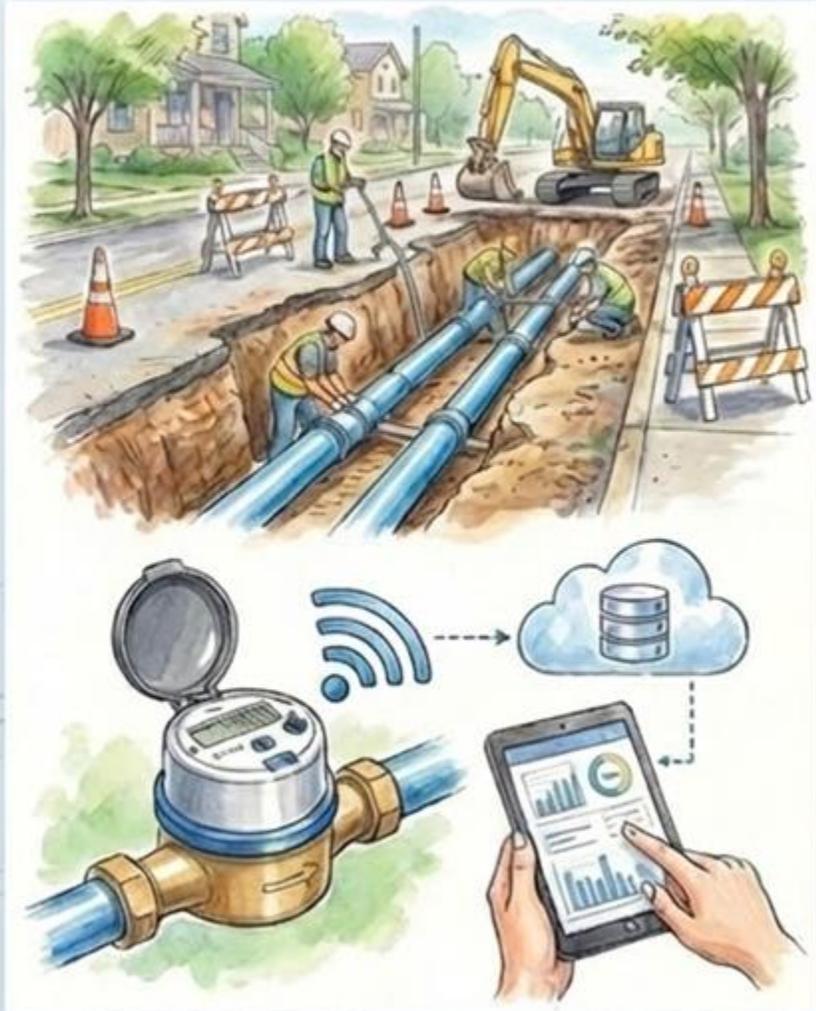


New equipment (trailers, crash-mitigation trucks, barrels, cones, automated traffic control devices) and increased manpower required to set up work zones carry an upfront cost of about \$2 million. These are ongoing costs that we receive no funds to implement.



Failure to follow these guidelines exposes not only Water Resources to civil liability, but our workers, in a personal capacity.

Current Projects



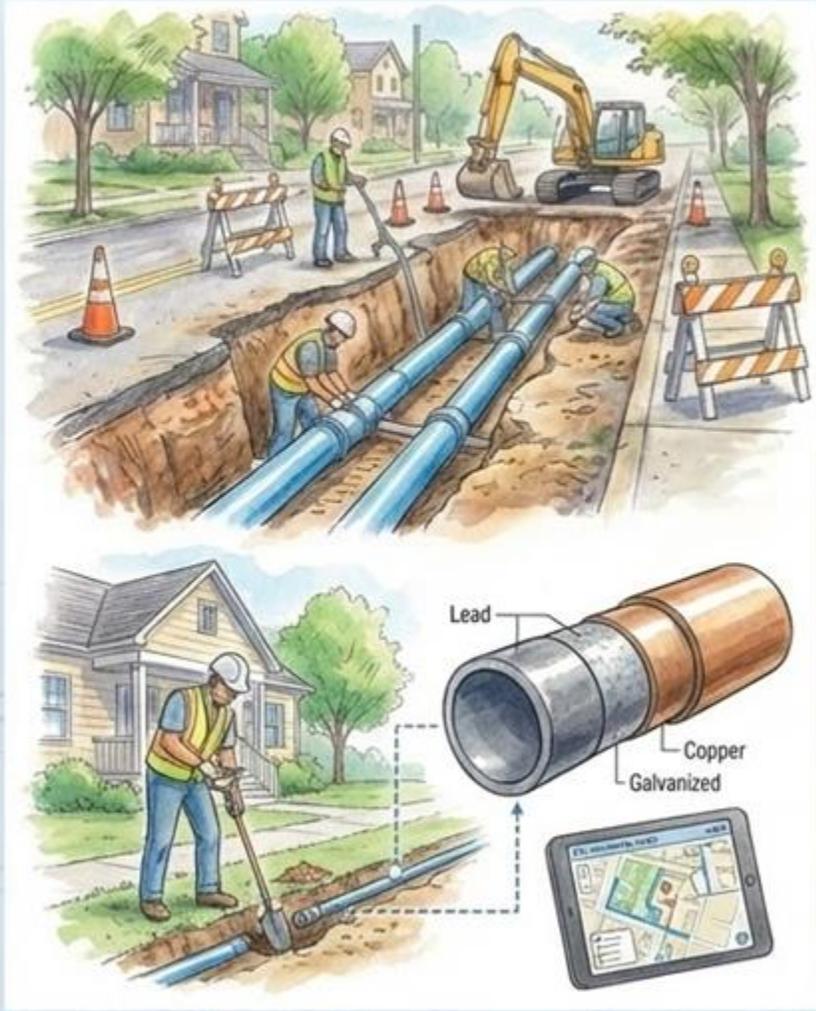
McDowell Street Water Line Replacement

- **Benefit:** Installation of almost 7,000 feet of new water line will improve system reliability and efficiency
- **Cost:** \$4.7 million, funded through Water Resources' Capital Projects Fund
- **Status:** Work began in summer 2024 and is scheduled for completion in early 2027

Advanced Metering Infrastructure Installation

- **Benefit:** New water meters will allow customers to monitor their usage in real-time and provide Water Resources the ability to gather usage data remotely
- **Cost:** \$28 million, funded through Water Resources' Capital Projects Fund
- **Status:** Work began in 2023 and is scheduled for completion in early 2026

Current Projects Cont'd



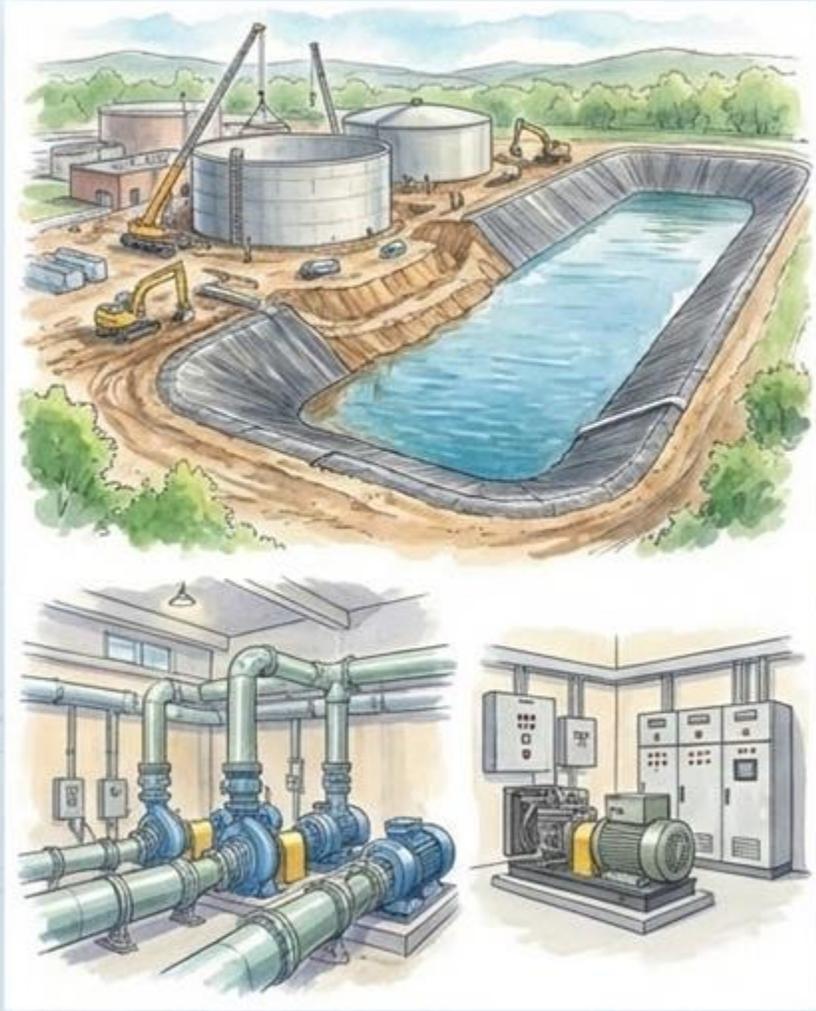
Neighborhood Water Line Enhancement Project Area 7

- **Benefit:** Installation of more than 30,000 feet of new water line throughout the system will improve system reliability and efficiency.
- **Cost:** \$10.2 million, funded through Water Resources' Capital Projects Fund
- **Status:** Work began in April and is scheduled for completion in January 2027

Shiloh Water Service Line Inventory and Replacement

- **Benefit:** The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implemented the new Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) in early 2021, requiring all public water utilities to develop a water service line inventory.
- **Cost:** \$3.9 million, funded through a grant from the NC Department of Water Infrastructure, a subsidiary of the NC Department of Environmental Quality.
- **Status:** Work began in 2024 and is scheduled for completion in December 2026, per deadlines set by EPA.

Current Projects Cont'd



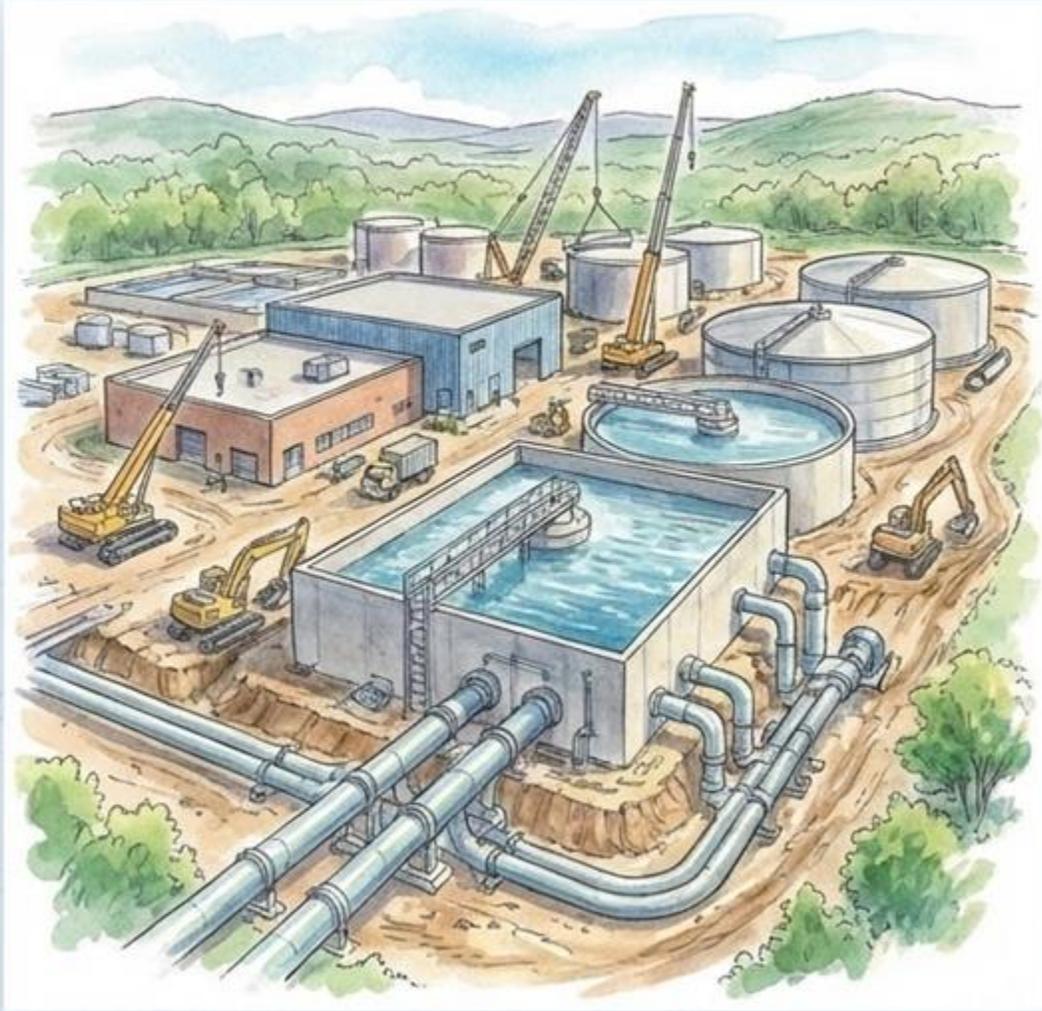
Phase 2 of the Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project at Mills River Water Treatment Plant

- **Cost:** \$23.3 million
- **Benefits:**
 - A new 1 million-gallon clearwell to increase the storage of finished (or treated) water to 1.5 million gallons.
 - A new 8 million-gallon offstream storage reservoir to increase the offstream storage of raw water to a total of 23 million gallons.
 - A new backwash lagoon to prepare for a future increase in treatment capacity.
 - Additional raw water intake pumping systems to increase and provide redundancy for raw water pumping.
 - New switchgear for the Mills River WTP emergency generator to provide more reliable and seamless power transfers during power loss situations.
- **Status:** Work began earlier this year and is scheduled to last approximately three years.

Upcoming Projects

Phase 3 of the Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project at Mills River Water Treatment Plant

- **Cost:** Currently unknown, and will depend on final design and future materials costs.
- **Benefit:** Will double Mills River's production capacity to almost 15 mgd.
- **Status:** Work is scheduled to begin after completion of Phase 2, most likely sometime in 2029.

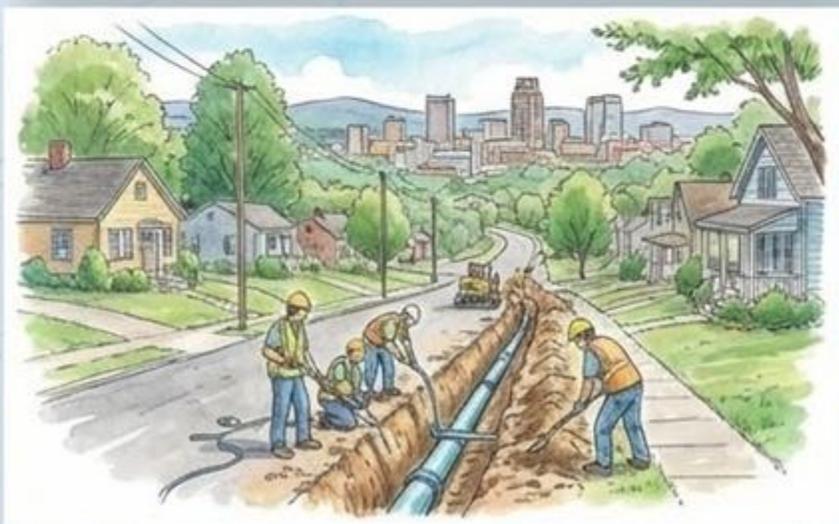


Upcoming Projects Cont'd



I-26 Connector

- **Benefit:** Installation of more than 3,600 feet of new transmission water main along with the installation and replacement of approximately 4,000 feet of additional line throughout the project limits will improve system reliability and efficiency.
- **Cost:** \$10 million, funded through Water Resources' existing funds and funds from DOT.
- **Status:** Construction will begin at some point in 2026 and proceed in phases, with full project completion anticipated within six years.



NEP 8

- **Benefit:** Installation of more than 25,225 feet of new water line in and around Asheville and Buncombe County will improve system reliability and efficiency.
- **Cost:** \$8.1 million, funded through Water Resources' Capital Projects Fund.
- **Status:** Work should began in February of 2026 and is scheduled for completion roughly 20 Months from the start date.

Thank You!