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**THE VILLAGE OF SUGAR MOUNTAIN**  
**251 Dick Trundy Lane**  
**Sugar Mountain, NC 28604**

## **Manager's Monthly Report**

### **March 11, 2025**

**Hurricane Helene:** Work continues throughout the Village on assessing damage from Hurricane Helene. The deadline for submitting our inventory of damages to FEMA is March 18<sup>th</sup>. The FEMA Inspectors have been here again this week and will continue into next week. The inspections of our roads and culverts are about 80% complete. They have completed inspections on the golf course and will be inspecting the damage to the walking path and the park next week. The process of the debris removal and repairs to our infrastructure has begun as previously reported. A contractor has completed the repair on Rough Ridge Road this week. They will begin to remove the dirt and debris from the slide outside the Reserve II gate, on Little Sugar Lane next week. The contractors working on our hazardous tree removal and mitigation services have been working in the areas of Mossy Creek in the past two weeks.

The weekly FEMA Assistance data points for Avery County reported that more than \$13,000,000 has been awarded in Individual Assistance (IA) to residents of Avery County as of March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Of the 4,235 valid registrations, 3,763 were referred to IA where 2,758 were found eligible for Housing Assistance and/or Other Needs Assistance. Currently, twenty-six (26) households from Avery County are checked into hotels through the Transitional Sheltering Assistance program.

The Village has submitted for reimbursement on the Golf Course pond debris cleanout project to FEMA in the amount of \$107,494. Once it goes through several stages of review and approval, the Village will receive 100% reimbursement: with FEMA reimbursing 90% and the State 10% of the request.

Through legislative action and as determined by NC Emergency Management, the Department of the State Treasurer has been appropriated funding to be allocated for a Cashflow Loan Program to assist those municipalities and counties affected by Hurricane Helene. The Village has been allocated an amount of \$428,865. In anticipation of our major repairs forthcoming and many commencing at the same time, this is to the Village's advantage to secure this funding from the State. There is no interest or fees on this money, and it is paid back on a percentage basis through June 30, 2030.

**Village Decorative Street Lights:** In two separate incidents in February, two of the Village's decorative streetlights were damaged, as well as a guardrail, from vehicles in both incidents leaving the roadway and hitting the lamp posts. The first incident occurred at the entrance of Grouse Moor Drive, with the streetlight and the guardrail needing to be replaced. A claim has been filed with the driver's insurance company and the Village received notification this week,

the claim has been settled in the amount of \$6,754.05. The second incident occurred along Sugar Mountain Drive in which a vehicle left the roadway and hit the lamp post at the entrance to the Linksider Condominiums. This claim is pending settlement in the amount of \$6,165.

**Property Tax Collections:** Of the \$1,435,955 total 2024 levy, \$1,396,540 or 97.26% has been collected with a balance of \$39,415 uncollected through March 7, 2025. A balance of \$2,437 is still uncollected for the 2015-2023 tax years. Taxes were due by Monday, January 6, 2025 and now any unpaid taxes have begun to accrue interest and penalties.

**North Carolina Department Of Transportation (NCDOT):** The NCDOT is seeking Public Input on the Draft 10-Year Transportation Plan. You have the opportunity to express your thoughts to the North Carolina Department of Transportation by filling out their survey. Here is a link to NCDOT site that explains the process:

<https://www.ncdot.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/2025/2025-01-31-ncdot-seeks-public-input-stip.aspx>

For you to understand and review the actual draft you will need to go to this document:

<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/stip/development/Pages/resources.aspx>

**NC Department of Transportation Biannual Cleanup Drive:**



**SPRING LITTER SWEEP**

**N.C. Department of Transportation Biannual Cleanup Drive**

**April 12-26, 2025**

[ncdot.gov/littersweep](https://www.ncdot.gov/littersweep)

Share your clean-up photos at #LitterSweepNC

**→ Volunteer Locally!**

Forms, posters, and telephone listings are available on our website.

  

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan Phillips  
Village Manager