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

3/7/2025

We have really seen an uptick in the recovery efforts within the Village over the last few weeks. In between the short bouts of winter weather, the cleanup has begun in earnest. We currently have a crew within the Mossy Creek area with a machine called a Sennebogen. It has a 35 foot arm with a saw and grapple attachment on it that is capable of lifting 14,000 pounds of debris at once. In the last two weeks, this crew has removed over 2100 cubic yards of debris in less than ¾ mile of roadway. They are removing damaged, leaning, and potentially dangerous trees within reach of the machine. This is much needed throughout the Village and the progress they are making is amazing to me. This crew will remain with us until the storm debris within the reach of our roads is removed. This is going to cause traffic delays in certain areas, but our crew will be handling the duties of keeping the traffic moving. We have also been able to get the road shoulder slide on Rough Ridge Road repaired. HPP Construction in Cranberry is the contractor that completed this project and will be moving onto the slide at the entrance to the Reserve II. There will also be a road blockage in this area while the cleanup is being conducted.

FEMA inspections have been ongoing over the last few weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I feel at this point we are beginning to move as quickly as is possible. All culverts have been identified for replacement, slides and washouts along our roadways, and the damage to the golf course, tennis courts, and walking path have also been noted for the process to continue with FEMA. While it may cause brief disruptions in travel throughout the Village I ask that everyone remain patient with the process. I have had people say to me that we are already beyond the recovery phase. Nothing can be further from the truth, this is going to take a significant period of time and it is a challenge that our crew is tackling with pride and determination. The last thing our crew needs is to hear negative thoughts and communication about what we are attempting to achieve.

This also leads me to a very ambitious goal of having at least 9 holes of the golf course open for play by May 1. While there is significant damage to the course, there is a pathway to being able to present a quality product to our customers. I look forward to being able to get a reputable golf course construction company started to assist us with the monumental task of having 18 holes ready for play by mid-summer. No one wants our golf course returned to its pristine condition more than myself, and I can promise you that I will do all that is possible to make this happen. If you have any questions or comments, I will be happy to answer any that you may have.

Bill Daniels

Public Works Director