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

Manager's Monthly Report
March 17, 2026

Timber Ridge Road: Tri-County Paving has completed all of the repairs caused by Hurricane Helene to Timber Ridge Road except for the paving. They are expected to pave the end of next week and at that time will re-open the road. This section of Timber Ridge Road has been closed since the storm in September 2024. The total project cost is estimated at \$350,000, with all costs being reimbursed by FEMA.



FEMA Update:

Projects (Expenditures) Submitted for reimbursement:

• Village Hall HVAC unit replacement	\$ 12,240.
• Golf Course Pond Debris Cleanout	\$ 105,739.
• Village Staff labor/Equipment – Debris Removal	\$ 253,135.
• Tennis Courts	\$ 166,387.
• Pedestrian Bridge/Walking Path	\$ 106,698.
• Road Repairs Group 1	\$ 100,874.
• Road Repairs Group 2	\$ 444,169.
• Road Repairs Group 3	\$ 421,142.
• Emergency Protective Measures – Labor/Equipment	\$ 46,897.
• Golf Course (expenditures to date \$ 1,252,376.)	\$ 1,111,366.
• Temporary/Emergency Road Repairs Group 1	\$ 85,477.
• Temporary/Emergency Road Repairs Group 2	<u>\$ 109,818.</u>
Total submissions to date:	\$ 2,963,942.

Reimbursements received to date:

• Village Hall HVAC unit replacement	\$ 12,240.
• Golf Course Pond Debris Cleanout	\$ 105,739.
• Village Staff labor/Equipment – Debris Removal	\$ 253,135.
• Tennis Courts	\$ 166,387.
• Pedestrian Bridge/Walking Path	\$ 106,698.
• Road Repairs Group 1	\$ 100,874.
• Road Repairs Group 2	\$ 444,169.
• Emergency Protective Measures – Labor/Equipment	\$ 46,897.
• Golf Course	<u>\$ 40,583.</u>
	\$ 1,276,722.
Balance of reimbursements due to the Village	\$ 1,687,220.

We currently have \$1,126,906 in reimbursements in the finance processing stage by NC State Emergency Management and anticipate payment in the next 30 days.

The receipt of FEMA reimbursements continues to be a slow process. FEMA is currently operating in a limited capacity due to the partial government shutdown. The only projects that are actively being reviewed are Emergency Protective Measures projects. All permanent work recovery projects are on pause until appropriations are passed by Congress. The Village currently has six permanent work projects still to complete, totaling approximately \$1.7M.

Tourism Development Authority (TDA) Board Meeting: The TDA Board met on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. The Board held a reorganizational meeting with the reappointment and the oath

of office given to James Fitzpatrick, Janet Anderson, and Erin Shu. James Fitzpatrick was reappointed as the Board Chairman. The Board approved funding in the amount of \$5,000 for promotion of Lees-McRae Summer Theatre. The Board had a brief discussion on redistributing \$6,700 of funds that were allocated to Our State magazine advertising and approved \$1,500 of the \$6,700 to increase Facebook and Instagram ads for the Spring and early Summer events in Sugar Mountain.

The January 2026 collections of the occupancy tax showed a decrease of \$10,431.56 or 6% in comparison to January 2025. The occupancy tax collections for the period February 2025 through January 2026 (\$824,342) have shown a \$75,937 or 10.15% increase in comparison to the same period of 2025 (\$748,405).

Blue Ridge Parkway Road Project: The National Park Service officials have announced that work will resume on the multi-year Great American Outdoor Act road project in western North Carolina in mid-March. Intermittent road closures will be from milepost 280 to 285 near Parkway School Road, and also from milepost 291.8, at 321/221, to milepost 305.1, near Beacon Heights and us221. This is the final phase of work on the \$100M+ project, spanning 75 miles of the parkway.

Property Tax Collections: Of the \$1,452,742 total 2025 levy, \$1,415,801 or 97.46% has been collected with a balance of \$36,941 uncollected through March 12, 2026. A balance of \$3,797 remains uncollected for the 2016-2024 tax years. Taxes were due or must be post-marked by Tuesday, January 6, 2026 and have begun to accrue interest and penalties at this time.

Administrative Matters: I would like to welcome Kurt Moore to the Village as our newest police officer. Kurt has several years of experience in law enforcement with NC County agencies and lives in Hudson, NC.

The Village offices will be closed Good Friday, April 3rd for the Easter holiday. The Police Department will be on a regular schedule throughout the holiday weekend. All Avery County Material Recovery sites will be closed on Friday, April 3rd. There will be no changes to the Village's residential trash pick-up schedule. Happy Easter!

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Phillips, Village Manager