#### NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY AND COURTS COMMITTEE MINUTES October 13, 2025

The Newberry County Council Public Safety and Courts Committee met on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a special called meeting.

Notice of the meeting was duly advertised, as required by law.

PRESENT: Stuart Smith, Committee Chair

Leon Fulmer, Committee Member Karl Sease, Committee Member Jeff Shacker, County Administrator

Coroner Laura Kneece Eric Nieto, I.T. Director

Brandon Wicker, Emergency Services Coordinator

Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Mr. Smith led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of the Agenda.
  - Mr. Fulmer made a motion to accept the agenda as presented; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.
- 2. Proposal for First Responder Insurance Coverage Marcia Greer, SC Firefighters Insurance Services.
  - Representatives from Firefighters Insurance Services presented policy options to the committee, as attached, and explained each policy and how they would cover first responders in Newberry County.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY AND COURTS COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 13, 2025
MINUTES
PAGE 1

- Mr. Smith said he knows they had one question that presented itself about juniors; to which they said they are covered.
- Mr. Sease said on the first sheet they received; they have plan one, two and three; A, B or A and B and it is broken down. He asked if the price broken down comes out to roughly \$15.69 per firefighter; they answered in the affirmative and said that is for double coverage.
- Mr. Fulmer asked for clarification that these were two different plans; they said that is correct, they are two different policies, and they did not have to purchase both of them, they could purchase one or none.
   One policy only covers what they are doing for the fire department, and the other is 24 hours.
- Mr. Smith said there is a chief who has to run errands, get supplies, would he be covered if he's coming into town to pick up supplies and return back home. They responded by saying if the fire department has said something as easy as lunch, they are having a meeting please go buy a pizza, and you get into an accident, you are covered, anything on behalf of the fire department.
- Mr. Fulmer asked if this coverage also covered volunteer EMS as well, to which they answered in the affirmative.
- Mr. Fulmer asked if you have an older member that isn't active within
  the firefighting, but still provides services to the department, would
  they be covered; they said they probably wouldn't get up to the 300
  or 600, but there is a benefit to cover them because it is based on
  loss of wages, if they don't have loss to show them they cannot get
  up to the full benefit amount.
- Mr. Fulmer said looking at both policies, you are looking at about \$27,000 per year for both policies for about 400 people. He said for that amount of coverage in an emergency accident situation, in his opinion, is cheap coverage. Mr. Smith and Mr. Sease both said they agree.
- Mr. Sease said he is in favor of doing both policies.
- Mr. Smith asked if they have this in the current budget; Mr. Shacker said it is not budgeted, but he thinks they can find the money as they had additional money in recruitment and retention programs, and he thinks they can look at other line items within rescue and fire.

- Mr. Shacker said he'd get with Mr. Long when he is back in the office and come up with a plan. He said he came up with \$26,110 which is roughly \$65 a member.
- Mr. Sease made a motion to authorize the county administrator to find the funding within the budget and proceed with both insurance policies; Mr. Fulmer provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.
- Mr. Fulmer requested that they highlight that at a Newberry County Council meeting that this is being provided.
- 3. Grant Opportunities to Establish a Freestanding Coroner's Office and Morgue Facility Coroner Laura Kneece.
  - Coroner Laura Kneece said she is looking for approval to submit for three different grants. These grants would be utilized to establish a standalone coroner's office and morque facility.
  - Newberry County currently relies on an outside agency for autopsies and body storage. Coroner Kneece said the arrangement increases delays in their investigation and places a burden on the grieving families. She said this facility would centralize their services, strengthen interagency support and ensure dignity, efficiency and accountability for the death investigations in Newberry County.
  - At present, the morgue facility is housed in Newberry Health, and the
    morgue freezer can only hold four bodies and in times of overflow,
    the Coroner's Office uses the mobile morgue unit. She said there are
    issues with descendants that are not found immediately and the
    smells that are permeating through the hospital due to the hospital
    air duct system not being separate from the current morgue.
  - Newberry Pathology Group is a private entity in Newberry County that has established forensic science, forensic pathology and is well known. They service 13 different counties as well as SCDC.
  - Coroner Kneece said she knows a standalone coroner's office and morgue facility would mean extra costs that would come from the taxpayers. One of her proposed funding streams would be to charge a \$100 morgue fee for each autopsy that is done that is not Newberry County related. She said Newberry Pathology does about 1,000

- autopsies a year, that could roughly be \$100,000 of revenue to come into Newberry County.
- She said she would like permission to apply for three grants, all through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The first grant could be up to \$24 million, a 24 month grant, which would allow them to do a building, along with some equipment for the facility. They would also like to pursue the Strengthening Medical Examiners and Coroners Grant for equipment they would need for the morgue and a Paul Coverdell Science Competitive Grant. She said they can apply for all three grants. Two of the grants would help with construction of the building and the third would help outfitting the facility.
- Another issue Coroner Kneece said they run into is the fact they don't
  have a designated spot for family meetings, they are graciously at the
  Newberry County Sheriff's Office, and they do have one spot, but
  they'd like to have more of a private area. This would also allow for
  the families to have time with the descendants.
- Key advantages would be faster responses for autopsies and case resolutions for law enforcement.
- Coroner Kneece said she is requesting the committee allow them to move forward with the grants for an investment for Newberry County.
- Mr. Fulmer asked if the grants are 100% coverage; Coroner Kneece said all three of the grants are 100%, no match.
- Mr. Smith asked who would be doing the grant writing; Coroner Kneece said Deputy Coroner Desiree Monts will, but all three of them will be working on it together. Coroner Kneece said Ms. Monts has done an excellent job with grant writing and getting them funding in the past.
- Mr. Sease asked about the fees Newberry Pathology would be charged and if they'd be asked to sign a contract and if so, what would the length of the contract be and what would happen if they pulled out; Corner Kneece said they can do that and that Greenville Pathology currently comes down to the Newberry area and is doing autopsies with Newberry Pathology Group due to their case load. She said they can discuss if they think a five-year contract would be more

- beneficial, she said she knows Dr. Rose is open to whatever contracts need to be signed.
- Mr. Smith said if they go ahead with the grant, it would need full council approval to get the ball rolling, he asked Coroner Kneece when would they know if they got the grant. She said the due date is October 27. Mr. Shacker said that is something they can add to the agenda, but the committee could authorize the submission of the grant and that there were some things that still needed to be pulled together.
- Mr. Sease said it could cause the county to spend some money, he
  thinks the whole council should hear it. Mr. Shacker said they can do
  it that way, or they can authorize it now with the understanding that
  new report on the project would come back to council, if they get the
  grants.
- Mr. Sease makes a motion to allow Coroner Kneece to apply for the grants, with the knowledge it will need to come before full council at a future date; Mr. Fulmer provided the second.
- Coroner Kneece said December 15 would be when they learn if they have been awarded the grants.
- Mr. Smith asked if they have a location; Coroner Kneece said she sat down with Mr. Shacker, and a location was found.
- Mr. Sease asked what would they do if they did not get all three grants; Coroner Kneece said depending on what grant it was, they could assist the morgue with equipment.
- The motion carried 3-0.
- 4. Discussion of Hurst Tools and 800 Radios Chris Johnson, Board of Rescue Squads Chairman.
  - Mr. Johnson said he was speaking as the chief of the Rescue Squad.
     He did say, on behalf of the board, thank you for the insurance coverage decision.
  - Mr. Johnson said the 800 MHz were a great investment, but they failed to plan for the future. He said they have reoccurring cost in the

- budget for airtime fees, but we don't have anything in the budget to buy new radios.
- In the last several months, he has had seven new volunteers that do not have radios. He said Mr. Tommy Long has indicated that there are no radios to be given. He said this is a risk to their safety, and that radio could be their only lifeline.
- Mr. Johnson said they are not cheap, Motorola has a great system, but with the 800 system you can only buy certain radios that are going to cost about \$7,000 apiece.
- He said under current administration they have been extremely lucky to have our capital outlay budget restored to about \$13,000 per rescue squad. That will allow for the purchase of one radio, but that will still not cover the full need.
- Regarding Hurst tools, Mr. Johnson said unfortunately they are running on the Hurst 5000 PSI system on the rescue truck, a low pressure system, they had a wreck with entrapment just a week ago, and the tools were not operating like they should. They had a tech come out and saw general wear and tear on the tool, only way to fix it, is to rebuild it. However, that tool is now obsolete and they cannot get it rebuilt.
- He said they have gotten some hydraulics tools, but he doesn't believe those should be their frontline tool for what they do.
- Mr. Johnson said if he were to replace all the tools with hydraulics, \$76,000, but Hurst makes a high-pressure system, and to replace would be \$67,500.
- Mr. Johnson said he wanted this on their radar, and he will be back when the budget time comes.
- Mr. Smith asked about the rescue squads and their radios; Mr.
   Johnson said there are some that don't have radios and he wasn't sure about the fire departments.
- Mr. Fulmer the Hurst tool replacement, what about other departments; Mr. Johnson said they will be in the same boat, and he will check. He said they have been working on getting an inventory of what they have.

- 5. FEMA Reimbursement from Hurricane Helene Update from Chris Wood of Berquist Consulting.
  - Mr. Wood provided updates with the FEMA recovery progress, his report is attached with these minutes.
  - Mr. Sease thanked Mr. Wood for all the work he did helping them through the process and getting those funds.
- 6. Public Comments.
  - None.
- 7. Comments from Committee Members.
  - Mr. Sease thanked everyone for their presentations and questions.
- 8. Adjournment.
  - Mr. Fulmer made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 3-0.
  - The Newberry County Council Public Safety and Courts Committee adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY AND COURTS COMMITTEE

Stuart Smith, Committee Chairman

Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: 11-05 -2025



Class 1

### **Newberry County Departments** Plans of Insurance for the

Benefits apply while performing a Covered Activity.

All volunteer classes of membership including but not limited to a Volunteer Member, Emergency Volunteer, Auxiliary Member, Fire Corps, Community Volunteer, Board Member, Trustee, Administrative Personnel, Junior Member, Member in Training, Probationary Member, and Part-Time Employees of the Policyholder.

Plan 3	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$3,500	\$10,000	\$8 750	1 - 1	48,750	\$3,500	97000	000,614	\$10,000	0000	000,014
Plan 2	\$30,000	\$30,000	930,000	\$3,000	\$10,000	\$7.500	\$7 EOO	000,74	\$3.000	\$15,000	000,0	\$10.000	640,000	0,000
Plan 1	\$25,000 \$26,000	\$25,000 \$35,000	\$23,000	\$4,000	\$10,000	\$6,250	\$6.250	0,7,00	\$2,500	\$15,000	000,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	er locations, cremation, burial services, grave marker/headstone.
			4 4	2					Up to			Up to	Up to	is, cremation, burial service
Section I: Death Benefits A. Covered Injury Death Benefit	Covered Illness Death Benefit	HIV Positive Diagnosis Lump Sum Benefit	Bereavement Benefit	Dependent Child Benefit (Per Child)	Costbolt Donofit	Seatural Definition	Airbag Benefit	Final Expenses Bonofit*		Spousal Benefit	Supriving Spouse Education Boardit	dai viving opouse Laucation Denemi	Dependent Child Education Benefit	* Includes repatriation to the funeral home as well as other locatior
Section A.	œ.	ပ	Ö.	ш	ш	•		ď	j :	Ė	_	: -	٦.	* Include

\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$30,000
\$25,000	\$25,000 \$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$25,000
Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to as defined in the Policy.
Section II: Impairment Benefits A. Dismemberment, Loss of Speech or Hearing Benefit**	<ul> <li>Cosmetic Disfigurement from Burns Benefit**</li> </ul>	<ul><li>D. Permanent Physical Impairment Benefit**</li><li>E. Felonious Assault Benefit</li></ul>	F. Impairment Modification Benefit**	Up to ** Benefits payable are based on the percentage of impairment or loss as defined in the Policy.

\$35,000 \$35,000 \$35,000 \$35,000 \$17,500 \$50,000

Plans of Insurance for the Newberry County Departments Benefits apply while performing a Covered Activity.

Section IV: Medical Expenses		Plan 1	Dian 2	0 0 0
A. Medical Expense Benefit****	Up to	\$10,000	&10 000	11 S
B. Plastic Surgery Expense Benefit****		000,404	÷ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	000'014
7	: 2 .	000,024	000,624	000,62*
we will not pay covered medical expenses incurred by an insured P.	d Person that are paid or payable under Work	yable under Workers' Co	ompensation, no fault au	to or similar

\$20 \$40 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$12,000 Plan 3 \$19,843 Plan 2 \$15,006 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$12,000 \$15 \$30 Plan 1 \$12,259 \$10 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$5,000 \$12,000 មួយមួយ ជូប ជូប ជូប ជូប ជូប ជូប Daily Hospital Confinement and Outpatient Treatment Benefit Occupational Rehabilitation Benefit Mental Stress Management Benefit Health Insurance Premium Benefit Traumatic Incident Benefit Daily Critical Care Benefit Family Expense Benefit Section V: Additional Benefits Annual Premium insurance. **水 Bi Ci Di lili lili G**i

The annual payment option offers a one-year rate guarantee.

Proposed Effective Date: October 1, 2025 Preparation Date: August 26, 2025

Proposal ID: 74850 This proposal is valid for 90 days from the Preparation Date or until 1 day prior to the Renewal Date, whichever is later. Underwritten by: AXIS Insurance Company



#### 24-HOUR ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE PROPOSAL

Date Prepared: August 21, 2025

Policyholder Name: Newberry County Departments

Policy Number: To be Assigned

Proposed Effective Date: October 1, 2025

Policyholder State: South Carolina

Proposal ID: 74851

This proposal summary is valid for 90 days from the Date Prepared or 1 day prior to the Proposed Effective Date, whichever date is later.

#### **Covered Class:**

Type of Coverage:

Class A: All Active Members of the Policyholder Class B: All Active Members of the Policyholder

24-Hour Coverage Line-of-Duty Coverage

Number of Insured Persons (Active Members): 400

Quote Options:	<u>Plar</u>	<u>1 1</u>	Pla	<u>ın 2</u>	<u>Pla</u>	<u>n 3</u>
AD&D Principal Sum:	Class A: Class B:	\$10,000 \$20,000	Class A: Class B:	\$15,000 \$30,000	Class A: Class B:	\$20,000 \$40,000
	Premiu	m Option fo	r Class A & E	3 Coverage:		
Annual		\$3,176.00		\$4,719.00		\$6,267.00
	Premiur	m Option for	r Class A Cov	erage only:		
Annual		\$2,268.00		\$3,360.00		\$4,458.00

Premium is due on the chosen effective date.



#### **South Carolina Office of State Treasurer**

Curtis M. Loftis, Jr.

Local Government Investment Pool Statement of Account 11/01/2024 - 10/31/2025

NEWBERRY COUNTY TREASURER SCLGIP OPIOID PLANNING GRANT PO BOX 206 NEWBERRY SC 29108 Account Number: 3385
Beginning Balance: 0.00
Ending Balance: 25,299.34
Average Balance: 6,809.76
Average Interest Rate (365): 4.3957 %

Date	Description	Contributions	Withdrawals	Balance
11/01/2024	Beginning Balance		MAYON TV	0.00
07/25/2025	Deposit	25,000.00		25,000.00
07/31/2025	Reinvestment	21.42		25,021.42
08/31/2025	Reinvestment	94.73	10\\ <u>-</u> 1	25,116.15
09/30/2025	Reinvestment	90.74		25,206.89
10/31/2025	Reinvestment	92.45		25,299.34

	Funds Received	Funds Withdrawn	Interest Earned
MTD	0.00	0.00	92.45
YTD	25,000.00	0.00	299.34

# NEWBERRY COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING



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BERQUIST RECOVERY CONSULTING

PRESENTED BY:

OCTOBER 13, 2025

### AGENDA

**Project Progress** FEMA PA Process &

Federal Shutdown Impact

- Engineering & Bridge Projects

- Summary & Next Steps
- **Debris Removal** Roads Repair
  - Parks & Community Facilities
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Application Queue HMGP



### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

# FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROCESS & PROJECT PROGRESS

### COMPLETED

- Airport Repairs (Project #818294) involved gate and fuel pump awning repairs.
- Total project cost: \$9,570.06, with Federal share of \$7,177.55 and Local share of \$2,392.51.
- This project is fully completed and paid, marking a successful milestone.
- Completion of this project enhances airport infrastructure and operational safety.

### PROJECTS OBLIGATED (PENDING PAYMENT)

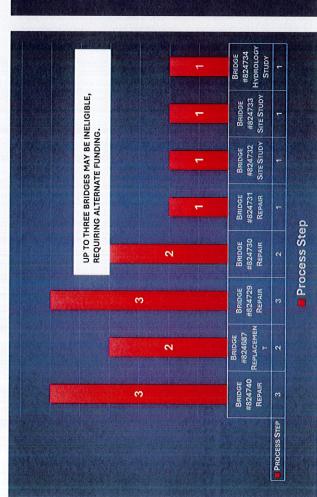
- Total obligated amount pending payment is approximately \$460,000.
- Lynches Woods Shelter (Project #957968) obligated for \$56,483.34 (Federal \$42,362.51, Local \$14,120.83).
- Debris Removal Category A (Project #806991) obligated for \$52,414.38, fully federally funded.
- Emergency Protective Measures Category B (Project #806871)
   obligated for \$354,763.51, fully federally funded.

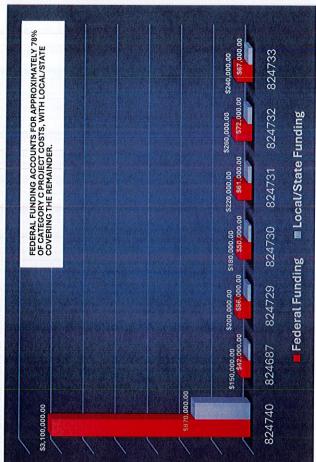
NEWBERRY COUNTY HAS
COMPLETED KEY PUBLIC
ASSISTANCE PROJECTS
INCLUDING AIRPORT
REPAIRS, WITH FULL
PAYMENTS MADE. SEVERAL
PROJECTS TOTALING
\$460,000 ARE OBLIGATED
AND PENDING PAYMENT,
EXPERIENCING A DELAY OF
APPROXIMATELY 16 DAYS.
FEDERAL FUNDING COVERS
THE MAJORITY OF COSTS,
SUPPORTING ONGOING
RECOVERY EFFORTS.

# ENGINEERING & BRIDGE PROJECTS

CATEGORY-C BRIDGE PROJECTS & PHASE IN FEMA REVIEW QUEUE

FEDERAL VS LOCAL FUNDING SPLIT





THE BRIDGE PROGRAM IS ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY \$4 MILLION, WITH A PHASED APPROACH PRIORITIZING EVALUATIONS OF KEY BRIDGES AND SITE STUDIES. FEDERAL FUNDING CONSTITUTES THE MAJORITY OF THE CATEGORY C PROJECTS, HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF SECURING ALTERNATE FUNDING FOR POTENTIALLY INELIGIBLE BRIDGES.

# **DEBRIS REMOVAL (CATEGORY A)**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW AND FUNDING STATUS

- Total Debris Removal portfolio is \$324,720.78, fully federally funded (100%).
- Project #806991 (PW 249) is fully complete and paid at \$52,414.38 (16% of portfolio).

\$324,720.78, FULLY

PORTFOLIO TOTALS

FUNDED BY FEDERAL

DOLLARS, PROJECT

#806991 IS

COMPLETE AND PAID,

WHILE #806964 IS

50% COMPLETE AND

SHOWING ONGOING

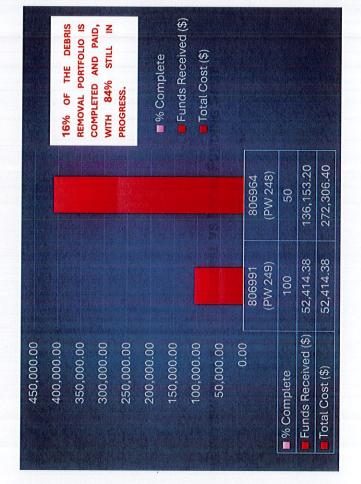
PROGRESS.

PENDING REVIEW,

THE DEBRIS REMOVAL

- Project #806964 (PW 248) costs \$272,306.40, 50% complete, pending PDMG review.
- Pie chart shows completed \$52,414.38 vs in-progress \$272,306.40 amounts.
- Bar chart details each project's cost, funds received, and % completion.

# DEBRIS REMOVAL PROJECT PROGRESS AND FUNDING BREAKDOWN



# ROADS REPAIR (CATEGORY C)



## Roads Repair Project Overview

- Current estimated total project cost: \$960,385.50, pending FEMA scope and quantity validation.
- Last week, a full-day coordination meeting was held to review and confirm eligible repair
- A follow-up coordination session is scheduled this Thursday to finalize project scopes.
- Once scopes are agreed, the next steps include obligation of funds, procurement of contractors, and construction initiation.
- Category C summary table presents detailed status and completion percentages across repair sites.

SCOPE AND QUANTITIES, THE PROCESS WILL ADVANCE THROUGH OBLIGATION, PROCUREMENT, THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST FOR ROADS REPAIR UNDER FEMA REVIEW IS \$960,385.50, WITH DETAILED COORDINATION ONGOING TO FINALIZE ELIGIBLE SITES. FOLLOWING AGREEMENT ON AND CONSTRUCTION PHASES TO RESTORE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE EFFICIENTLY.

# PARKS & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS. COMMUNITY FACILITY COMMUNITY EVENTS PROJECTS WITH KEY REFLECTING ACTIVE REIMBURSEMENTS RECOVERY AND PENDING AND IN PARKS AND SCHEDULED,

Sep 2025 Aug 2025

Lynches Woods Picnic Lynches Woods Trails

reopened to the public; Ongoing repairs; park scheduled for Nov 15, Spartan Race event 2025.

Construction complete;

Shelter

\$460,000 pending

reimbursement awaiting

**SCEMD** payment

processing.

Reimbursement & **Community Center** Repairs

obligation; historic gutter \$19,023.74 submitted for under CRC review. Repairs complete;

Oct 2025

Oct 2025

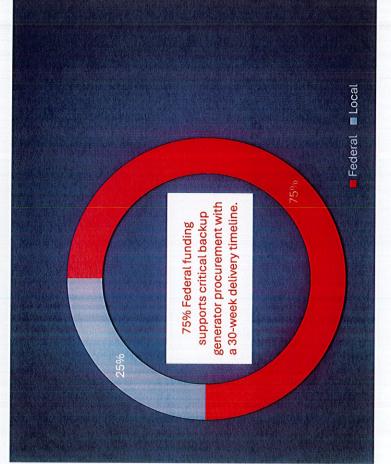
reimbursement processing compliance for community Final steps focus on and CRC historic Review projects.

# HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)

## **DETAILS AND VISUAL INSIGHTS**

- A purchase order (PO) of \$289,409 has been issued for backup generators under Hurricane Ian, funded with a 75% federal and 25% local cost share.
- The procurement timeline for these generators is approximately 30 weeks, emphasizing the need for early planning and coordination.
- For Hurricane Helene, all hazard mitigation grant applications have been submitted and are now awaiting state review and award decisions.
- The 75/25 funding ratio aligns with FEMA HMGP cost-sharing rules, ensuring strong federal support while engaging local investment.
- Ongoing monitoring of procurement progress and application reviews is essential to maintain momentum and meet project timelines.

# HMGP FUNDING & PROCUREMENT TIMELINE



SPLIT AND A 30-WEEK THE HMGP PROGRAM WITH A SIGNIFICANT **HURRICANE HELENE** ALL SUBMITTED AND HAZARD MITIGATION DELIVERY TIMELINE. AWARD DECISIONS, 75/25 FEDERAL TO HIGHLIGHTING THE APPLICATIONS ARE STATE REVIEW AND PURCHASE ORDER **CURRENTLY AWAIT** IS PROGRESSING REFLECTING THE COMMITMENT TO LOCAL FUNDING **HURRICANE IAN** GENERATORS, IN NEWBERRY ISSUED FOR MITIGATION BACKUP

# **HMGP APPLICATION STATUS UPDATE**

### PROJECT TYPE

#### General (GEN) projects dominate with \$3.28M requested.

Law Enforcement & Fire (LFR) projects total \$414K

**APPLICATION** 

OVERVIEW

projects represent \$406K. Public Safety (PS)

### **APPLICATION TITLE**

AMOUNT

#### Generators - \$800K. Magistrate Office, Auditor/Treasurer Airport,

- Control Shop Generators Public Works, Animal - \$400K.
- Flood Mitigation \$150K. Lynches Woods Park

### **WORKSPACES COUNT**

#### 50 total workspaces in duene.

 Total requested: \$4,104,610.07. **GEN** requests

GEN projects use 32 workspaces.

\$3,284,360.07 (80%)

Workspaces indicate application complexity.

\$414,250.00 (10.1%)

LFR requests

### REFERENCE # & LINK Applications have

- Each links to portal for unique reference numbers.
  - detailed review.
    - Example: Magistrate Office (Ref 100908).

#### All 50 applications at Specialist Initial Review.

days, signaling delays. Queue static for 43

WORKFLOW

STATUS

expediting reviews are **Monitoring and** critical.

 GEN projects receive largest share.

Applications in review

for 43 days.

Consistent duration

Timely completion suggests backlog.

essential to avoid

delays.

- smaller but significant. Allocation aligns with LFR and PS funding project priorities.
- Monitor WS counts to identify bottlenecks.
- supports transparency. Open portal access

Higher WS counts can

slow review.

Balanced workload recommended.

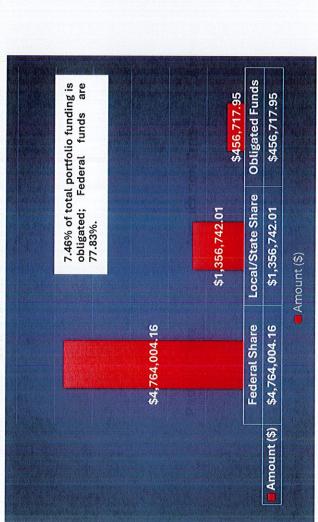
- Stakeholders monitor progress.
- Facilitates timely grant management.

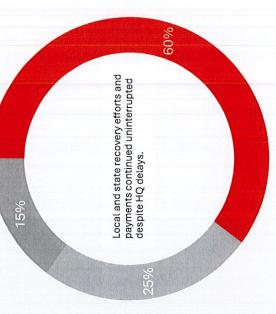
THE HMGP APPLICATION QUEUE HOLDS 50 APPLICATIONS TOTALING \$4.1 MILLION, MOSTLY GENERAL PROJECTS. ALL REMAIN AT SPECIALIST INITIAL REVIEW FOR 43 DAYS, INDICATING A PROCESSING DELAY THAT NEEDS ADDRESSING TO ADVANCE FUNDING AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IMPACT

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION & OBLIGATIONS

**OPERATIONAL IMPACT SUMMARY** 





■ HQ Sign-off

Delays

Continuous

Processing

Payment

■ Minimal Local

Disruption

LOCAL RECOVERY AND PAYMENT PROCESSING CONTINUED SMOOTHLY DESPITE THE FEDERAL SHUTDOWN, WITH ONLY HQ SIGN-OFF DELAYS CAUSING MINOR OBLIGATION HOLD-UPS. THIS ENSURED STEADY PROGRESS IN RECOVERY FUNDING AND PROJECT EXECUTION.

# **SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS**

KEY ACTIONS TO ADVANCE RECOVERY AND ENSURE STAKEHOLDER AWARENESS

- Advance CRC and PDMG actions towards obligation to expedite funding and project execution.
- Track the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) queue closely, noting 9 applications totaling \$4.10M, all currently in Specialist Initial Review for 43 days.
- Proceed with procurement for HMGP backup generators, accounting for the ~30-week delivery timeline to avoid delays.
- Prepare and deliver the Q4 update to the Board, highlighting obligation progress and outcomes related to bridge eligibility.
- Maintain clear communication channels with stakeholders to ensure transparency and timely decisions.
- Coordinate with engineering and project teams to finalize documentation and resolve any pending eligibility concerns.
- Contact for further information: Chris Wood Berquist Recovery Consulting.

PREPARE FOR LONG-LEAD PROCUREMENT TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM IN RECOVERY EFFORTS. PROVIDE TIMELY UPDATES TO LEADERSHIP ON FOCUS ON ADVANCING OBLIGATION ACTIONS FOR CURRENT PROJECTS, CLOSELY MONITOR THE HMGP APPLICATION QUEUE, AND PROGRESS AND CRITICAL ELIGIBILITY OUTCOMES.

