



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 11/19/2024

New Business

Department: SOLID WASTE/LEGAL

Presenter(s): Amy Broughton, Staff Attorney

Contact(s): Amy Broughton, Staff Attorney

Subject: Debris Removal Interlocal Agreements with the City of Asheville and Town of Black Mountain

Brief Summary: Tropical Storm Helene yielded over 10 million cubic yards of debris countywide, much of which is on private property (residential, commercial, and in waterways) and constitutes a threat to public health, safety, and welfare. It is estimated that approximately 4000 private property owners in the county (including the incorporated municipalities) require storm-related debris removal. Many of these property owners and some businesses will qualify for no-cost private property debris removal (PPDR) by a third-party debris-removal entity and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In order to qualify for no-cost PPDR, property owners must participate in a detailed intake process involving an application, insurance verification, a right-of-entry, and inspection. Tetra Tech, Inc., the County's disaster-recovery consultant has been tasked with designing and implementing a PPDR intake process. To facilitate the intake process, Tetra Tech will perform PPDR outreach in person at intake centers, online through a PPDR dashboard, and via a call center. The City of Asheville and the Town of Black Mountain have expressed interest in having the County, by and through Tetra Tech, administer the intake process for their residents and businesses. The interlocal agreements would govern the PPDR intake for Asheville and Black Mountain. It is anticipated that FEMA will reimburse the County for these services entirely, but to the extent that they are not reimbursed, the municipalities will reimburse the County for the actual costs incurred by the County to administer the PPDR intake for Asheville and Black Mountain residents. Once the intake process is complete, Asheville and Black Mountain will each engage a third-party entity to remove the debris.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Authorize the execution of the Interlocal Agreements.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation: