



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 11/19/2024

Public Hearings

Department: Economic Development

Presenter(s): E.B. Odderstol

Contact(s): E.B. Odderstol, Tim Love, Rachael Sawyer

Subject: Public Hearing to consider the administration of a small business job retainage grant program to assist those individuals who have suffered substantial financial damages due to Hurricane Helene

Brief Summary:

The purpose November 19th Public Hearing is to authorize \$1.5 million in economic development appropriations in accordance with GS 158-7.1 and Ch. 166A. These appropriations are for the facilitation of the Helene Relief small business job retainage grant program to assist those individuals who have suffered substantial financial damages due to Helene. This project was approved by the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners at its November 1st meeting. As an economic development appropriation, staff have provided a 10 day notice for this public hearing. If approved, funds will be made available for this program and the County will partner with Mountain BizWorks, a Community Development Financial Institution, to administer the program.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Conduct the public hearing and approve the Resolution authorizing the economic development appropriation for the Small Business Helene Relief program.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation: Manager recommends approval as presented.