

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUNCOMBE COUNTY TO ENTER INTO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS
WITH THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE, TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN, AND THE TOWN OF
WEAVERVILLE TO ADMINISTER THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

- WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (“FEMA”) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (“HMGP”), available to communities that have experienced a federally recognized disaster, provides funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to develop hazard mitigation plans and rebuild in a way that reduces future losses arising from such events;
- WHEREAS, the HMGP authorizes, in part, the acquisition of real property located in high flood risk areas that have experienced substantial flood damage by local governments which then remove structures and maintain, in perpetuity, the property as deed-restricted open space;
- WHEREAS, on September 27-28, 2024, Tropical Storm Helene, devastated portions of Buncombe County and the incorporated municipalities;
- WHEREAS, on September 25, 2024, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper issued Executive Order 315 declaring a statewide State of Emergency and on September 26, 2024, President Joseph R. Biden likewise approved a federal disaster declaration for Buncombe County;
- WHEREAS, North Carolina has adopted a “state centric” HMGP model whereby the North Carolina Department of Public Safety- Division of Emergency Management (“NCEM”) acts as an intermediary between the property-owners, FEMA and local governments; it is the preference of NCEM that the HMGP applications are organized by County rather than by municipality; accordingly, municipalities and counties must work together with respect to the HMGP application process;
- WHEREAS, to facilitate a strong and sustainable recovery, Buncombe County, the City of Asheville, the Town of Black Mountain, and the Town of Weaverville desire to participate in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;
- WHEREAS, to achieve orderly and equitable management of HMGP applicant properties, the City of Asheville, the Town of Black Mountain, and the Town of Weaverville each desire that Buncombe County coordinate the HMGP application process for real property owners located within their respective territorial jurisdictions, and

WHEREAS, cities and counties are authorized to enter into joint undertakings as authorized by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-445 and Ch. 160A, Art. 20, Part 1, Joint Exercise of Powers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

1. That the Chairman and County Manager, or either of them, are hereby authorized to execute interlocal agreements with the City of Asheville, the Town of Black Mountain, and the Town of Weaverville to administer their respective FEMA-approved HMGP applications.
2. That all acts and doings of officers, employees and agents of the County, whether taken prior to, on, or after the date of this Resolution, that are in conformity with and in the furtherance of the purposes and intents of this Resolution as described above shall be, and the same hereby are, in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.
3. That this resolution shall be effective upon its adoption.

This 1st day of April, 2025

ATTEST

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

Sarah Gross, Clerk

By: _____
Amada Edwards, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM

County Attorney