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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Madison County FEMA Public Assistance Request
Madison County, NC – January 23, 2025

Four months post Hurricane Helene, recovery efforts of the event have provided evaluations in excess of $140 Million for the FEMA Public Assistance Program under the current assessment of damages sustained in the County.

County Manager Rod Honeycutt said, "to date we submitted required FEMA documentation for $3 Million for temporary facility procurement and anticipate submitting $44 Million for waterway and personal property debris removal very shortly." Madison County's next batch of Public Assistance requests is to repair or replace damaged government facilities. The permanent facility request will exceed $90 Million.

Navigating the FEMA documentation process is complex, with several gates to pass before a Public Assistance request reaches a FEMA decision-maker. FEMA and state officials estimate the county will receive funds six to eight weeks after approval of the final FEMA step. Along with the direction of the Board of Commissioners and the management of the Finance Director, "we have been very deliberate in separating day-to-day operating costs from recovery costs." Honeycutt stated, "Annually the County operates on $32 Million. There is no way Madison County could recover without State and Federal assistance".

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