

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: June 3, 2026

SUBJECT: Grant Project Resolution – NC Dept. Commerce – Small Business Infrastructure Grant Program

PRESENTER(S): Emily Schwartz, Grants Administrator

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

1. Grant Application Resolution

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Henderson County is pursuing grant funding for the engineering fees for the Etowah Sewer System. The Small Business Infrastructure Grant Program from the North Carolina Department of Commerce funds recovery and resiliency measures for infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Helene. Staff is asking for Board permission to apply for the grant maximum, \$1,000,000. No matching funds are required.

This grant will assist in funding the engineering costs for the Etowah Wastewater Treatment Plant project, which will exceed \$1,000,000. The next funding announcements will be made on June 30, 2026, and are awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to permit staff to apply for the Small Business Infrastructure Recovery Grant from the North Carolina Department of Commerce to fund the engineering fees incurred by the Etowah Wastewater Treatment Plant project.

Suggested Motion:

I move that the Board adopt the grant project resolution required for the NC Department of Commerce Small Business Infrastructure grant application to fund the engineering of the Etowah Sewer System.

**Henderson County
Board of Commissioners**

1 Historic Courthouse Square • Suite 1 • Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4808 • Fax (828) 692-9855 • www.hendersoncountync.gov

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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF

***Etowah Wastewater Treatment Plant for Commercial Expansion
Application for North Carolina Department of Commerce Small Business
Infrastructure Grant Program Rural Engagement & Investment Program in***

HENDERSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners has indicated its desire to assist in Hurricane Helene recovery efforts within Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, the Board fully supports the proposed project, Etowah Wastewater Treatment Plant for Commercial Expansion, which will result in the repair of the Etowah Wastewater Treatment Plant at 129 Etowah Center Dr. in Etowah, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to pursue a formal application in the amount of \$1,000,000 from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Small Business Infrastructure Grant Program (SmBIZ) Rural Engagement & Investment Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners that Henderson County is authorized to submit a formal application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Engagement & Investment Program, in order to provide assistance to benefit Etowah Wastewater Treatment Plant for Commercial Expansion.

That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Approved after motion duly made by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, this the 3rd day of June, 2026.

WILLIAM G. LAPSLEY, CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

DENISA A. LAUFFER
CLERK TO THE BOARD