

County of Williamsburg



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October 26, 2015

Honorable Nikki Haley, Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29556

As you know, our community has been impacted greatly by the storm and the subsequent overwhelming flow of water from the Black River and the watershed. The rising and rushing waters of the Thousand-Year Flood have collapsed bridges, overcome riverbeds and levies and destroyed most of the County owned roads leaving whole communities underwater and total destruction of homes and property.

Thanks to the courage of our first responders, the outpouring of caring from our citizens and partnership of local, state and federal authorities, we have weathered the initial storm. But our need in terms of immediate emergency resources as well the long road of recovery ahead of us remains dire.

In short, we need all resources available and we appreciate your help to ensure that they are brought to bear as quickly and effectively as possible including:

- Passage of a supplemental disaster appropriation providing emergency funds and incentives to aid in the recovery of impacted areas. These supplemental appropriations should include Disaster Community Development Block Grant funds, tax incentives like New Market, Low Income Housing and Historic tax credits as well as funding through the Economic Development Administration, the Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies.
- The waiver of the local cost share requirement for FEMA funds.
- Approval of Community Disaster Loans (CDLs) for the County of Williamsburg to help compensate for the serious and ongoing loss of revenues needed to perform governmental functions due to this historic disaster.

- Approval of Immediate Need Funding through FEMA's PA program to address the urgent need for emergency work including debris removal, emergency protective measures and removal of health and safety hazards.
- Relief from the NFIP penalty for homeowners, PNPs and local governments.
- Relief from the USDA crop insurance penalty for our impacted farmers.
- Temporary housing for storm-displaced families and participation on the State Housing Task Force.
- Immediate assistance with mosquito abatement/eradication.

Let me be clear, there is no hyperbole in my saying that this storm has caused overwhelming devastation for the government and the families who reside in Williamsburg County. Still, we are a resilient people. Our spirit and resolve remain strong.

We are a great people but, without the immediate and ongoing support of our federal government, I don't know if we could ever truly recover.

We ask only what is necessary as we work tirelessly to meet those critical needs across our community and rebuild as a smarter, safer and stronger Williamsburg County.

Governor Haley, we thank you for your tremendous support and leadership to this point, as well as your consideration in this matter. Please contact me with any questions that you may have.

Best Regards,



Stanley S. Pasley
Supervisor/Chairman

pc: Senator Ronnie Sabb
Representative Cezar McKnight
Representative Carl Anderson