



Preparing for Future Disasters Recovering Smarter and Stronger

INVESTMENTS *for a*
Determined North Carolina

In recent years, no corner of North Carolina has been spared from natural disasters, and Hurricane Florence hit the state especially hard. To date, North Carolinians have gotten more than \$1.2 billion in state and federal help to recover and rebuild from the storm. Gov. Cooper worked with state legislators to get help to families, schools, business owners, farmers and fishermen, and he's asked Congress for an additional \$6.3 billion in federal recovery aid.

The recent federal government shutdown has slowed action on North Carolina's request. Once North Carolina knows what additional federal assistance we'll get, Gov. Cooper anticipates requesting more state help for Hurricane Florence recovery.

While we wait on Washington, the governor's proposed budget makes strategic investments to help North Carolina recover and prepare for the next disaster, including:

- \$1.5 million for statewide search and rescue teams. This supplement local funding for training, administration and equipment maintenance expenses and ensures the teams meet national standards.
- \$250,000 for the North Carolina 2-1-1 network, an information, intake and referral service which connects North Carolinians with needed resources during disasters and other emergency situations
- 8 new positions for NC Emergency Management to support school safety initiatives, cyber security, disaster recovery operations and division-wide financial oversight and management.
- \$10 million for the State Emergency Response & Disaster Relief Fund, to ensure the State has adequate immediate response funds available in case of an emergency.
- \$1 million to local food banks, to assist with the increased demand caused by recent disasters.
- 4 new positions for the Department of Agriculture's Emergency Programs Division to bolster statewide response coordination, emergency planning, safety, training, and maintenance of specialized equipment.
- \$1.5 million to replace outdated Forest Service equipment to fight and suppress wildfires.
- \$2 million to up required insurance coverage for state agencies, through the Department of Insurance's Property Insurance Fund.
- Necessary flexibility to ensure that funding designated for Hurricane Florence relief is routed to the communities and individuals who need it.
- A new historic tax credit of 5% up to \$20 million to encourage projects in disaster areas, as designated by FEMA.