

## Governor's Advisory Committee on Western North Carolina Recovery

June 22, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Virtual

### AGENDA

- 10:00 Call to Order and Introductory Remarks  
Senator Kevin Corbin (presiding) and Mayor Esther Manheimer, Co-Chairs
- 10:10 FEMA North Carolina Recovery Office  
Jordan Rink, Director, North Carolina Recovery Office, Region 4, FEMA
- 10:25 Disaster Communications & Communications Resiliency Planning  
*Regional Communications Resilience Plan*  
Sara Nichols, Energy & Economic Development Manager, Land of Sky Regional Council
- Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) System*  
Major Kevin Owens, North Carolina State Highway Patrol  
Captain Dustin Sloop, North Carolina State Highway Patrol
- 10:50 Remarks  
Governor Josh Stein
- 10:55 Governor Stein's Revised Federal Helene Request  
Forrest Gilliam, Legislative Director, Governor's Recovery Office for Western North Carolina (GROW NC)
- 11:05 Tourism Recovery Efforts  
Marlise Taylor, Director, Tourism Research, Visit NC  
Representative from a local Tourism Development Authority
- 11:30 Recovery Updates  
Director Matt Calabria and Chief Deputy Director Emily Gangi, GROW NC
- 11:50 Next Steps - Director Matt Calabria
- Input on agenda items for next meeting: What needs and programs would committee members like to discuss?
  - Next meeting: Friday, July 17, 10:00am – 12:00pm (in person, Caldwell Community College – Watauga Campus)
- 12:00 Adjourn