

Blount County

Highway Department

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To: Blount County Budget Committee

From: Jeff Headrick
Highway Superintendent

Date: 10/31/2024

Subject: Hazard Mitigation Grant

The area around Caldwell Road has been known to flood frequently. During past storms it has flooded to the point that there was destruction to private property and FEMA provided Blount County with pumps to mitigate the flood waters.

On February 20, 2020, the Commission approved the Highway Department to apply for a Hazard Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$120,957.25 to improve the area around Caldwell Rd. This grant is a 75% Federal, 12.5% State and 12.5% Local match. The local portion will be met with "in kind" match with labor. The grant will be fully funded and the county will request reimbursement as the project progresses.

The area around Caldwell Road will continue to have flood issues during large storms which has the possibility of causing additional private property damages and road closures.

This grant will be used to make the necessary modifications to drainage in the area around Caldwell Road so that the flooding issues will be mitigated for the property owners in that area.

If this is not funded, the current state for the lack of adequate drainage to handle large storm events will continue. The likelihood of private property damage continues along with hindering emergency services to residence on the lower portion of Caldwell Road during major storm events. The flooding will have to be addressed with each storm event through pumping water (if available) and/or road closures. The road closures will threaten the availability of emergency services to the public.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Headrick", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Headrick, Blount County Highway Superintendent