



Josh Stein, Governor

NC Department of Public Safety
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jeffrey Smythe, Secretary
William C. Ray, Director

19 March 2026

Honorable Congressman David Rouzer
2333 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rouzer,

I write today on behalf of the North Carolina State Administrative Agency (SAA) and the Homeland Security Advisor in support of the Town of Navassa's proposal for grant funding from the federal government to support the town's hazard mitigation project proposal.

As the SAA responsible for administering pass-through of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds to local governments across North Carolina, I believe that the Town of Navassa's request for grant funding to support the replacement of two undersized and flood-prone culverts on Daniels Road and Cedar Hill Road meets all the requirements of the Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) guidelines. Additionally, the proposal project is critical to the long-term safety and resiliency of the citizens in the 7th District as these locations are critical to local transportation and are subject to frequent flooding.

Your support for the Town of Navassa in this initiative is greatly appreciated.

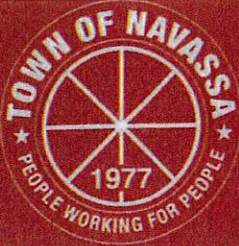
Respectfully,

DocuSigned by:
William C. Ray

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William C. Ray

Director & Deputy Homeland Security Advisor
North Carolina Emergency Management





TOWN COUNCIL

*Rosetta Terry, Mayor
Jerry Merrick, Mayor Pro Tem
William Ballard, Councilman
LaTonyia Lowe, Councilwoman
Wanda Willis, Councilwoman
Craig Suggs, Councilman*

Michelyn Alston, Town Clerk

RE: Letter of Support – Cedar Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project

Congressman Rouzer:

On behalf of the Town of Navassa, I am writing to express strong support for the Cedar Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project, a critical infrastructure improvement necessary to address ongoing flooding and roadway overtopping within our community.

The Cedar Hill Road crossing serves as a vital access point for residents, emergency services, and daily travel. During major storm events, including Hurricane Florence, similar infrastructure failures in the area resulted in roadway overtopping and the isolation of portions of the community. These conditions significantly hinder emergency response capabilities and pose a direct risk to public safety.

The urgency of this project is further elevated by rapid growth within the Town and surrounding area. More than 3,000 homes are planned or approved within areas that have experienced isolation during past storm events. Without necessary infrastructure improvements, future flooding will place a substantially larger population at risk of being cut off from essential services and emergency response.

The Town of Navassa has completed the design of this project and is prepared to advance to construction. However, as a small municipality with limited financial resources, we are unable to undertake a project of this scale without external support.

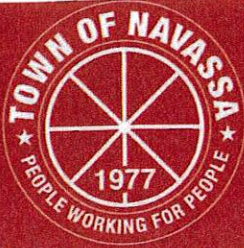
The Cedar Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project will improve stormwater capacity, enhance roadway resiliency, and ensure reliable access for residents and emergency responders during future storm events. This investment is essential to protecting public safety, supporting continued growth, and strengthening the Town's infrastructure for years to come.

We respectfully request favorable consideration of this project and appreciate your support in advancing this critical infrastructure improvement.

Sincerely,



Jerry Merrick
Mayor Pro Tem
Town of Navassa



TOWN COUNCIL

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Jerry Merrick, Mayor Pro Tem
William Ballard, Councilman
LaTonyia Lowe, Councilwoman
Wanda Willis, Councilwoman
Craig Suggs, Councilman

Michelyn Alston, Town Clerk

RE: Letter of Support – Cedar Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project

March 19, 2026

Congressmen Rouzer:

As the newly elected Mayor of the Town of Navassa, I am writing to express my strong support for the Cedar Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project, a critical infrastructure improvement that is essential to the safety and resilience of our community.

Cedar Hill Road, located at Exit 10 on I-140, serves as a primary access corridor for residents and emergency services. During significant storm events, including Hurricane Florence, this area experienced roadway overtopping and flooding conditions that contributed to the isolation of portions of the community. These conditions present a direct threat to public safety and limit the ability of emergency personnel to respond when needed most.

This project is not only a priority for the Town, it is also one I understand personally. I reside immediately adjacent to one of the proposed culvert replacement locations along Cedar Hill Road and have firsthand knowledge of the flooding challenges that occur in this area. The impacts are not theoretical; they are real, recurring, and increasingly concerning as our community continues to grow.

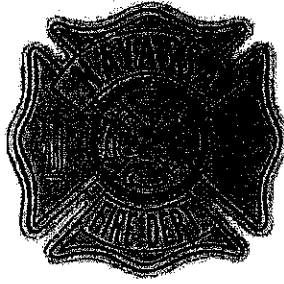
The urgency of this project is further heightened by rapid development within the Town and surrounding area. More than 4,000 homes are planned or approved in areas that rely on this corridors for access. Without necessary improvements, future storm events will place a significantly larger population at risk of isolation and reduced emergency response capability.

The Town has completed the design of this project and is prepared to move forward with construction. However, as a small municipality, we lack the financial capacity to undertake this effort without external support. Investment in this project will improve stormwater capacity, enhance roadway resiliency, and ensure reliable access for our residents.

I strongly encourage favorable consideration of this project. The Cedar Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project represents a necessary and timely investment in public safety, infrastructure reliability, and the future of the Town of Navassa.

Sincerely,

Rose Terry, Mayor
Town of Navassa



NAVASSA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

336 MAIN STREET
NAVASSA, NORTH CAROLINA 28451

DONNY WILLIAMS, FIRE CHIEF

TELEPHONE (910) 371-9988

FAX (910) 371-0110

March 18th, 2026

Navassa Volunteer Fire Department
336 Main Street
Navassa, North Carolina 28451
3/5/2026

RE: Letter of Support – Three Crossings Culvert Replacement Project (Daniels Road and Cedar Hill Road)

Congressmen Rouzer:

On behalf of the Navassa Volunteer Fire Department, I am writing to express our full support for the Town of Navassa's proposed culvert replacement project at Daniels Road (Indian Creek Crossing) and Cedar Hill Road (Mill Branch Crossing).

These crossings are critical components of the Town's transportation network and serve as essential access routes for emergency response. During Hurricane Florence, Daniels Road experienced significant flooding that directly impacted emergency operations, including flooding at the satellite fire station located on Daniels Road. This event highlighted the vulnerability of existing infrastructure and the risk it poses to public safety and emergency response capabilities.

The proposed replacement of the culvert at Daniels Road will significantly reduce the likelihood of roadway overtopping and localized flooding, thereby improving reliable access for emergency personnel and equipment. Ensuring uninterrupted access to this area is vital for maintaining adequate fire protection and emergency response services for residents of Navassa.

Similarly, improvements at the Cedar Hill Road crossing will enhance overall system resiliency and support safe and dependable travel routes during storm events and heavy rainfall. As Fire Chief, I strongly support this project and its advancement to construction. These improvements will play a critical role in protecting public safety, maintaining emergency response access, and strengthening the Town's infrastructure against future storm events.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Donny Williams
Fire Chief