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[www.dunn-nc.org](http://www.dunn-nc.org)

**Mayor**  
William P. Elmore Jr.

**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Dr. David L. Bradham

**Council Members**  
J. Wesley Sills  
April L. Gaulden  
Frank McLean  
Billy Tart  
Chuck Turnage

**City Manager**  
Steven Neuschafer

April 28, 2021

U.S. Congressman David Rouzer  
Washington, D.C. Office  
2333 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Rouzer:

The City of Dunn was caught off guard in early March when it received an order from the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), placing a sewer moratorium on the City barring any new wastewater flow into the existing sewer system effective April 18, 2021. As part of the order, the City was required to advertise a public notice, which was published on April 2, 2021.

The City has been aware of the issues with its wastewater system, of which 75% is 50 years or older, for some time. Even with a population that has not grown by a noticeable extent in over 20 years, the City has made concerted efforts in correcting its issues as much as financially possible. In 2019, City Council voted to increase sewer rates by 25%, by another 6% the following year, and anticipating another proposed 6% increase this current year. City leadership has allocated extensive funds towards system repairs and renovations in recent years; is currently securing more loans; and invariably trying to access any available funding to continue repair efforts.

Over the past year, Dunn has not only seen considerable growth, but has also received strong interest from multiple developers that would spur more growth in the next 18 months to 2 years than in the last two decades combined. Recently, private developers significantly invested in parcels of land, within City limits, that were rezoned to allow for construction of approximately 300 homes. Additionally, there are other residential development plans that have preliminary approval and large tracts of land under contract with the intent to develop.



*where community matters*

The City of Dunn remains committed to correcting its wastewater collection system, but to cut off all growth and the revenue that comes with it, creates the ultimate hardship in funding the necessary repairs needed to correct the issue. The Dunn City Council and I are in complete support and in need of the funding request the City staff recently presented to you. All funding received would go directly towards repairing and upgrading the City's wastewater treatment plant and allowing the needed capacity to correct the current issues and prepare for future growth.

On behalf of the City, I would greatly appreciate any support you are able to provide, as we continue to repair our critical wastewater infrastructure.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William P. Elmore Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'W'.

William P. Elmore Jr.  
Mayor