

A letter to the citizens of the City of Goldsboro and Wayne County.

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As Mayor of Goldsboro I wanted to take a minute on behalf of myself and all the elected officials' serving this city and county to reach out to our citizens, especially the ones who have been so drastically affected by this catastrophic storm. The county, city and all of our sister agencies and partners are working 24/7 to bring in and place resources from across this state to help make it better and overcome this storm.

Now that the sun is shining and water is receding, we have staff out accessing the damage so that we can start the rebuilding process. To those of you who have lost your home or it has enough damage that it will require weeks or months of repair, please know that finding you and your family proper shelter is our number one priority. We have already started the process through FEMA and the county to figure out how and where we are going to provide temporary housing for those that need a temporary place to stay.

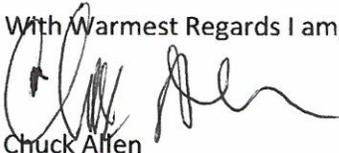
The city and county have agreed to waive permit fees for any properties that were damaged by the storm and will work with owners to make this process as smooth as possible. I would like to take this time to remind all our citizens that the damage and devastation to our county and city is so severe that in many cases it will take weeks or months to make the necessary repairs. Thus, in the coming months there will be tremendous pressure on the resources of the state, county and city as we rebuild and recover from the storm. I ask that all our citizens please show patience and civility to others and our employees during this process.

I want to take a minute to publicly thank all of the many employees of the City of Goldsboro and Wayne County along with our many, many sister agencies and partners that are here doing unbelievable work since the storm hit. Most of our efforts have been orchestrated and directed from the Emergency Operations Center. I am so proud of the effort, teamwork and organization that this group of dedicated professionals has provided. I would put the staff of our Emergency Operations Center into any disaster; anywhere, anytime, anyplace and know that it was going to be well handled because they are that good! We are extremely lucky to have these dedicated people working in our community.

In closing, I would like to end on a positive note and share that the one good thing that has occurred as a result of the storm, and I believe will continue to improve, is the community relationship building. We hear every day about the dividedness and discourse in our country-but today, here in Wayne County and Goldsboro; we have hundreds of people through various agencies, individuals and corporations doing phenomenal acts of kindness just trying to help people who have been affected adversely by Hurricane Matthew regardless of their religion, race, gender or economic status. That's what makes America great, people helping people. In Wayne County, that's what we do, so I appreciate everyone who is doing something to help those who have been affected and ask that we don't forget these folks in the weeks to come. If you want to know how you can get involved, please call (919) 705-6599.

More updates soon.

With Warmest Regards I am,



Chuck Allen

Mayor, City of Goldsboro