

**Board of Commissioners**

Linda Rouse Sutton, Chairman  
Eric Rouse, Vice Chairman  
June Cummings  
J. Mac Daughety  
Preston Harris  
Keith King  
Cleveland Lovick



Lenoir County Administration  
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Kinston, NC 28502

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Michael S. James, County Manager  
Adam T. Short, Assistant County Manager  
Reekitta B. Deaver, Clerk to the Board

March 9, 2026

The Honorable Dr. Greg Murphy  
407 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC, 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-3415

Dear Congressman Murphy:

On behalf of the Lenoir County Board of County Commissioners, I am writing to express our strong support for two critical capital projects that represent our highest infrastructure priorities for Lenoir County. These projects are essential investments in public safety, education, and long-term community resilience, and we respectfully seek your support as we pursue federal funding opportunities for both.

Our first and highest priority is the development of a new Joint Bus Maintenance and Workforce Training Facility, a collaborative partnership between Lenoir County Public Schools and Lenoir Community College. For this project, we intend to pursue funding through the USDA Community Facilities program.

Relocating the current bus garage out of the floodplain is a necessary and responsible step to protect an essential public service. This move will safeguard county assets, reduce the risk of costly disruptions, and ensure the reliable transportation of students to and from school. Beyond infrastructure protection, this project represents a forward-thinking workforce investment. By co-locating the Lenoir Community College Automotive Systems Technology program within the facility, students will gain hands-on experience working in a real fleet environment—including school buses—while supporting daily operations. This partnership strengthens both our public school system and our workforce development pipeline.

Our second priority is the construction of a new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) station, for which we intend to apply for funding through the USDA Community Facilities Program.

As emergency call volumes increase and service demands grow more complex, it is imperative that we invest in infrastructure that supports rapid response, operational efficiency, and high-quality patient care. A strategically located EMS station will improve coverage, reduce response times, and enhance coordination with municipal and volunteer public safety partners. Modern facilities will also support equipment readiness, infection control standards, workforce recruitment and retention, and ongoing training. This project is foundational to maintaining a dependable emergency response system in our rural community.

Both projects align with federal priorities to strengthen rural infrastructure, expand workforce opportunities, and protect public health and safety. The Board of Commissioners is committed to advancing these applications and leveraging every available resource to deliver these critical improvements for our residents.

We respectfully request your continued support as we pursue USDA Community Facilities for the Joint Bus Maintenance and Workforce Training Facility and USDA Community Facilities funding for the new EMS station. We greatly appreciate your leadership and advocacy on behalf of eastern North Carolina communities and look forward to working closely with your office throughout this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Rouse Sutton" with a small smiley face at the end.

Linda Rouse-Sutton, Chair  
Lenoir County Board of County Commissioners



# LENOIR COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

PO BOX 3289  
Kinston, NC 28502  
(252) 559 - 1911

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Date: March 2, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

As Director of Lenoir County Emergency Services, I am writing to express my full and unequivocal support for the proposed construction of a new EMS station to be funded through a Directed Congressional Appropriation.

This project represents a critical investment in the operational readiness and long-term sustainability of our county's emergency medical response system. Call volumes continue to grow, service demands are becoming more complex, and response expectations remain high. Strategic placement of a new EMS station will improve deployment efficiency, reduce response times, and strengthen coverage across our service area.

Beyond response metrics, this station will enhance the quality of care delivered to our residents. Modern facilities support proper equipment storage, infection control standards, crew readiness, training, and overall workforce retention. Our paramedics and EMTs operate in high-stress environments; providing them with appropriate infrastructure directly translates into better patient outcomes and improved public safety.

This investment is not simply about a building, it is about ensuring that when someone in our community dials 911, highly trained professionals arrive quickly and fully prepared to provide lifesaving care.

Lenoir County EMS strongly supports this funding request and respectfully urges favorable consideration of this critical public safety project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Norman Bryson".

Norman Bryson  
Director  
Lenoir County Emergency Services



**City of Kinston**  
**Department of Fire & Rescue**  
P. O. Box 339 / 401 E Vernon Ave  
Kinston, North Carolina 28502  
Phone: (252) 939-3164 / Fax: (252) 939-3157



Chad Jackson, Fire Chief

To Whom It May Concern:

As Fire Chief for the City of Kinston, I am pleased to provide strong support for Lenoir County's proposed EMS station project.

Fire and EMS services operate as an integrated emergency response system. From cardiac arrests and traumatic injuries to large-scale incidents and disaster response, our departments depend on seamless coordination. Strategic investment in EMS infrastructure enhances overall system performance, improves response capabilities, and ensures that emergency scenes are managed efficiently and safely.

A new EMS station will help distribute resources more effectively, reduce response times, and provide modern facilities that support training, readiness, and equipment reliability. These improvements benefit not only EMS operations but also the broader public safety network that protects our community.

This project reflects thoughtful planning and a shared commitment to strengthening emergency services across Lenoir County. I respectfully urge favorable consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

Chad Jackson  
Fire Chief  
City of Kinston



# Kinston Police Department

P.O. Box 339 / 205 E. King Street  
Kinston, North Carolina 28502  
Phone: (252) 939-3139 / Fax: (252) 939-3276  
Website: [www.kinstonpd.org](http://www.kinstonpd.org)



Keith Goyette, Chief of Police

March 3, 2026

Mr. Adam Short  
Lenoir County  
Assistant County Manager

Ref: Funding for new EMS station within Kinston city limits

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Kinston Police Department is proud to support Lenoir County's request for funding to construct a new EMS station.

Law enforcement officers routinely work in close partnership with EMS personnel during medical emergencies, violent incidents, overdose responses, mental health crises, and major accidents. The ability of EMS crews to respond quickly and efficiently directly impacts scene safety, patient stabilization, and overall incident resolution.

As call complexity continues to increase, especially involving behavioral health and substance-related emergencies, rapid EMS response is essential not only for patient care but also for officer safety and effective scene management. Strengthening EMS infrastructure enhances the entire public safety system.

This project represents a proactive investment in community wellbeing. A strategically located and properly equipped EMS station will improve service delivery, strengthen interagency coordination, and ensure that residents receive timely emergency medical care when they need it most.

We fully support this request for Directed Congressional Appropriation funding and appreciate your consideration of this important public safety initiative. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Keith Goyette  
Chief of Police  
Kinston Police Department

## Mission Statement

*The Kinston Police Department pledges to serve our community, to safeguard lives and property, and to preserve order all while respecting the constitutional rights of everyone to liberty, equality and justice.*

# LENOIR COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

*President*  
Chief Craig Jarman,  
Southwood VFD

*Secretary*  
FF Zachary Jenkins,  
North Lenoir VFD



P.O Box 2249 Kinston, NC 28503  
zjenkins@nlvfd.com



*Vice President*  
Chief Brian Wade,  
North Lenoir VFD

*Treasurer*  
Bn. Chief Craig Jones,  
Southwood VFD

March 4, 2026

Re: New EMS Station

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Lenoir County Firefighters' Association, I am writing to offer our strong support for the proposed new EMS station project.

Fire departments across Lenoir County work side-by-side with EMS personnel on a daily basis. Whether responding to structure fires, vehicle accidents, medical emergencies, or natural disasters, coordinated response between fire and EMS is essential. Strategic placement of an additional EMS station will strengthen that partnership by improving response times, balancing call loads, and enhancing system-wide coverage—particularly in rural areas.

Our departments rely on a dependable EMS system to provide advanced life support, patient transport, and medical oversight at emergency scenes. When EMS resources are stretched thin, it impacts the entire emergency response network. This project will increase system resiliency and improve outcomes for the residents we collectively serve.

We view this as an important investment in public safety infrastructure that benefits every fire district in the county. The Lenoir County Firefighters' Association fully supports this funding request and encourages favorable consideration of the project.

Sincerely,

*Craig Jarman*

Chief Craig Jarman  
President  
Lenoir County Firefighters' Association

Cc: Zack Jenkins, Secretary