From:	Tim Holloran
To:	Rep. Mike Clampitt; Sen. Kevin Corbin
Subject:	Trash on the roads...
Date:	Wednesday, January 20, 2021 03:14:51 PM

Good Afternoon,

I am writing this with the understanding that there are many priorities right now with Covid and vaccinations being first and foremost on everyone's mind but as a small business owner running a fairly successful Airbnb, I have another concern which is the trash on the sides of the roads in Jackson County and western NC overall. The trash on many of the scenic and often highly trafficked tourist roads in western North Carolina is really getting out of control. I do what I can in picking up the larger bags of trash, car bumpers etc but the volume is overwhelming for one person. This affects my Airbnb business that is dependent on tourists who want to visit this visually beautiful part of NC. As the owner of a successful Airbnb in the area, I am unfortunately on the front lines with conversations from visitors to the area who wonder aloud about how beautiful the area is if only there wasn't trash everywhere they drive.

As a state representative who is supportive of western NC *tourism* as an economic driver for the area please read the comments below that I have gotten from some of the people visiting western NC and staying at my Airbnb. Further, all it would take for you to see this trash is to take a drive from Asheville on Interstate 40 heading west- it does not look good! Storms drains covered with litter, blown-out tires. It really is embarrassing and to be frank third-world looking in its appearance.

Unfortunately, as I said there is only so much I can do but when I talk to DOT they say there is no money for trash pickup and that concerns me b/c as I am sure you know tourism is all about the aesthetic of things, not only the "look" of the mountains or waterfall but they also remember the drive to those places.

How does it look in Jackson County? Pretty trashed.

Here is some feedback from guests who have stayed at our Airbn:

"We thoroughly enjoyed our stay at your house. Thanks for the GREAT hiking information. Too bad the trash on the roads getting to them is so bad..."

"...Winding Staircase was a great recommendation. What's with all the trash on the roads in, I think its Franklin?"

"you have a true gem of a place....we thoroughly enjoyed our stay but were saddened to see

all the trash on the roads in western NC..."

Sincerely
Tim Holloran
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