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<u>Asheville, Other North Carolina Communities May Get Cut</u> <u>by S&P Over Helene.</u>

North Carolina municipalities such as Asheville and Blowing Rock and communities in Tennessee may see a credit downgrade in the wake of Hurricane Helene, S&P Global Ratings said in a report on Thursday.

The company placed the rating of a dozen municipalities on CreditWatch with negative implications. All have investment-grade ratings — the city of Asheville has a AAA mark. The storm unleashed flooding across the US South late last month.

S&P said it wasn't worried about disruptions to debt payments, but "potential long-term implications could impair credit quality."

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Bloomberg Markets

By Amanda Albright

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