



Town of Blowing Rock

1036 Main Street ★ Post Office Box 47 ★ Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605

March 11, 2025

North Carolina League of Municipalities
434 Fayetteville Street
Suite 1900
Raleigh, NC 27601

Subject: Nomination for North Carolina League of Municipalities Board of Directors

Dear Members of the Nominating Committee,

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving on the North Carolina League of Municipalities Board of Directors as an at-large Town Manager representative. As a dedicated public servant from the vibrant tourist town of Blowing Rock in Western North Carolina, I believe I can contribute a valuable and unique perspective to the League.

Small, thriving towns like Blowing Rock face distinct challenges and opportunities that require a focused and informed voice at the state level. We need a representative who understands the intricacies of balancing tourism, infrastructure, and the needs of our residents and workforce. I am confident that my experience and commitment make me an ideal candidate to advocate for these crucial issues.

In Blowing Rock, we are not simply discussing progress; we are actively implementing it. We have demonstrated our commitment to our employees and community through several key initiatives:

- **Employee Childcare:** We established the Blowing Rock Academy, a childcare program for our employees, which has significantly reduced our turnover rate to near zero. This initiative has been instrumental in maintaining a fully staffed law enforcement agency, a unique achievement in our region.
- **Employee Housing:** Recognizing the critical importance of workforce housing, we are actively addressing this issue. We have introduced a local bill to Representative Pickett to enable the construction of employee housing, demonstrating our proactive approach to this challenge.
- **Infrastructure Investment:** We have made substantial, lasting upgrades to our water and sewer infrastructure, investing over \$6 million in the past two years, with an additional \$5 million planned for the next year. These investments ensure the long-term sustainability and growth of our community.



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- **Quality of Life and Service:** We prioritize providing premium services to our citizens and visitors, recognizing the vital connection between quality of life, tourism, and work/life balance.

These initiatives demonstrate my commitment to innovative solutions and proactive leadership. I work each day with a desire to accomplish through collaboration and my resume demonstrates that commitment. I currently serve on several boards in the High Country including the Watauga Housing Council, the Watauga Children's Council and the Blowing Rock Village Foundation. I have a deep and unwavering commitment to the betterment of Watauga County, the High Country, and North Carolina.

I understand the importance of addressing the challenges facing municipalities across North Carolina, and I am eager to contribute my experience and insights to the League's efforts. I am particularly interested in advocating for policies that support:

- Workforce development and affordable housing solutions.
- Childcare and providing opportunities to increase and expand the workforce
- Sustainable infrastructure investment and resilience.
- The unique needs of tourist-driven economies.
- The importance of quality municipal services.

I believe my experience in Blowing Rock, experience as a County Manger, and CPA, coupled with my passion for public service, would make me a valuable asset to the North Carolina League of Municipalities Board of Directors. I am committed to working collaboratively with other members to advance the interests of municipalities across the state.

Thank you for your consideration. I have attached my resume for your review and welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy further.

Sincerely,

Shane Fox