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Wallace
Watha

April 6, 2026

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

NCLM Board Nominating Committee,

I am writing to encourage you to appoint Justin Whiteside to the NCLM Board of Directors. I met Justin many years ago when he was the Planning Director in Ocean Isle Beach and I was the Planning Director in neighboring Shallotte. I had the privilege to work closely with him while he served on the Shallotte Planning Board. He always showed such impressive leadership and thoughtfulness for his age.

In my roles as Local Government Services Director and now Executive Director at the Council, I continued to work closely with Justin as he has been promoted from Planning Director to Assistant Town Manager and now to Town Manager. I've also had the privilege of serving with him on the Grand Strand MPO Technical Advisory Committee. Throughout his career, I have always been impressed by Justin's professionalism and strong sense of civic duty.

Justin's rise through the ranks at Ocean Isle Beach is notable. In my experience, coastal municipalities can be particularly difficult places of employment, from natural disasters to demanding and ever-changing governing boards. Justin has thrived at Ocean Isle Beach and is now a respected manager in the region.

Justin would be an excellent addition to your Board and brings a critical perspective as a representative of Brunswick County, the state's fastest growing county and the sixth fastest growing in the country. Feel free to reach out to me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Allen Serkin
Executive Director