

MEMO

TO: Mayor Mitch Colvin, Mayor Pro Tem Theodore W. Mohn, and Fayetteville City Council Members
CC: City Manager Doug Hewett
FROM: Robert Van Geons, President and CEO
DATE: October 24, 2018
RE: *Amendments to the FCEDC By-Laws approved by Board of Directors*

Honorable Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Fayetteville City Council Members:

Thank you again for your continued support of our organization, its Board of Directors, and our ongoing economic development efforts. Over the past year, the size of our Board, the ratio of appointments-to-funding and our operational calendar, have been topics of pragmatic discussion.

After considerable conversation and review, the FCEDC Board of Directors has adopted the attached amendments to our By-Laws, which require your approval to become effective. The unanimously passed amendments can be summarized as follows:

1. The number of City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County appointments shall increase from 3 (each) to 4 (each). Effective December of 2018, the County will appoint 4 members (with the Chairman or his designee being one), the City will appoint 4 members (with the Mayor or his designee being one), and 2 members will continue to be appointed by the private sector. Our Ex officio officers would remain the County Manager, City Manager, and Community College President.
2. Election of Officers will now occur at the July meeting: This is a change from our current practice of electing officers at the December meeting.
3. Amendment to FCEDC Address. The FCEDC By-Laws will now reflect our new office address of 201 Hay Street, Suite 401A, Fayetteville, NC 28301.

The Board of Directors believe this expansion will provide multiple operational benefits. Primarily, the appointment-to-funding ratio for our Board will more closely align with our operational resources. Currently, our funding is approximately 40% from Cumberland County, 40% from the City of Fayetteville, and 20% from other sources (private sector funding / grants / contracted services). With this update, each appointed member will represent approximately 10% of our funding. Subsequently, it will also help us ensure quorum for our meetings.

The Board appreciates the value this expansion will bring to our economic development endeavors, as we continue to build partnerships. These amendments will allow us to tap a greater range of expertise, while also diversifying the industry sectors and perspectives represented by Board. Most importantly, it ensures additional opportunities for the City and County to appoint members from the broader business community and expand our engagement with local business leaders and stakeholders.

While Board Member terms will remain as they currently are (December – November), we believe that moving the election of officers to July will provide newly appointed members time to acclimate themselves, prior to being asked to serve as an officer (or support other Board Members for an Officers position). Additionally, officer terms will now coincide with our fiscal year.

It is our hope that you will support these modifications to the FCEDC By-Laws, and approve them as presented. For your reference, we have attached a “red-line” version of our By-Laws, an updated membership roster, and an “Requested Action Memo”. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have, or should you wish to discuss this in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Robert Van Geons
President and CEO