

Gene McLaurin

March 25, 2024

To: NCLM Nominating Committee

I am pleased to submit a letter of recommendation for Mary Jo Adams of Laurinburg to serve on the NC League of Municipalities board of directors. I first met Mary Jo over 20 years ago when we served together on the Richmond Community College board of trustees. Later we worked together while I was Mayor of Rockingham and in the NC Senate. In recent years, as Chair of the Economic Development Partnership of NC (EDPNC) board, I have worked with her.

In every capacity where I have served with Mary Jo, I have seen firsthand how committed and dedicated she is to her community, our state and to public service. She is positive, engaged, and brings tremendous leadership and insight into every situation. Mary Jo's resume speaks for itself with service on Laurinburg city council, Lumber River COG, Southeastern Regional Airport Authority and in many other community roles.

Mary Jo is a natural leader and positive consensus builder. She would be an outstanding member of the NCLM board of directors.

Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene McLaurin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

Gene McLaurin

Chairman of the Board

Economic Development Partnership of NC (EDPNC)