



Town of Atlantic Beach
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Town Council
Mayor Jake Evans
Mayor Pro Kenneth McLaurin
Councilmember Josephine Isom
Councilmember Jacqueline Gore
Councilmember Lenearl Evans

June 8, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

We the members of Atlantic Beach's Town Council are writing to you to reopen dialogue about assisting The Town of Atlantic Beach with economic development assistance from the State of South Carolina. Prior discussions with the South Carolina Department of Parks Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) ended abruptly without any conclusions. We apologize for not responding to the economic proposal submitted by SCPRT in a timely fashion.

The Town of Atlantic Beach is a proud community with a rich cultural heritage and legacy that has existed since its incorporation in 1966. This year, 2016 marks the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Town. For the past 36 years, Memorial Day Weekend celebration "Bike Fest" has been an annual celebration that residents, past residents and longtime attending tourist have made a tradition over the years. The economic benefits from tourism to neighboring municipalities and communities along the Grand Strand far exceeds the financial gains to the Town of Atlantic Beach.

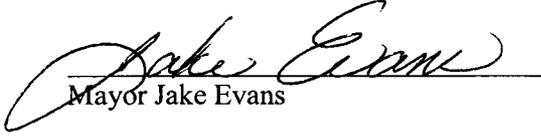
Given the historical and cultural significance that Bike Fest has become over the years since its inception, we respectfully request that your office assist the Town of Atlantic Beach "unconditionally". We acknowledge, agree and support the eventual transition of Bike Fest to a broader and universally appealing festival. We welcome your office's assistance, support and resources to provide a smooth and seamless transition to "rebranding" Bike Fest to be a larger and a more attractive destination for tourist seeking a rich cultural vacation experience in South Carolina.

We wish to resume discussions with your office to seek common ground in achieving our mutual desired goal of assisting our community in achieving greater economic development and an improved quality of life for its residents. We look forward to meeting you and or your representatives to begin achieving these stated objectives.

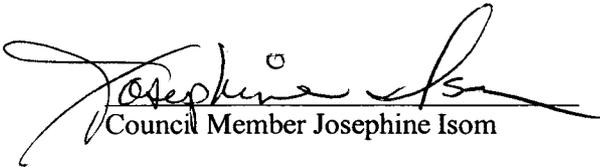
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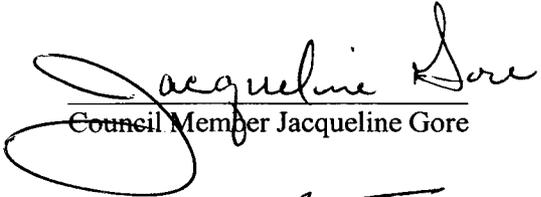
Thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Respectfully,


Mayor Jake Evans


Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth McLaurin


Council Member Josephine Isom


Council Member Jacqueline Gore


Council Member Lenearl Evans