

**From:** [Jenifer Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Jenifer Johnson](#)  
**Subject:** Wyatt W. Underwood Advisory Committee Application AHAC, Planning District 4, Planning At Large  
**Date:** Monday, January 20, 2025 7:15:35 PM

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Name: Wyatt W. Underwood

Home Address: 77009 Miller, Chapel Hill, NC, 27517, USA

Mailing Address: 77009 Miller, Chapel Hill, NC, 27517, USA

Home Phone: 310-292-2957

Cell Phone: 310-292-2957

Email Address: [wyattunderwood@gmail.com](mailto:wyattunderwood@gmail.com)

What District do you reside in? District 1

Are you currently serving on a board or committee in Chatham County? No

If yes, which ones?

Please select up to THREE boards or committees on which you are willing to serve:

Affordable\_Housing\_for\_At-  
Large,Planning\_Board\_for\_At-Large\_Mem

Why do you wish to serve in this capacity? I am eager to serve on the Chatham County Planning Board to contribute my expertise in community development, safety, and sustainable growth. With over 30 years as a business founder and leader in sports surfacing and recreational spaces, I've worked to create environments that prioritize accessibility, safety, and quality. My certifications as a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and deep knowledge of national safety standards reflect my dedication to thoughtful planning and public welfare. My experience includes collaborating with public and private sectors, navigating regulations, and balancing economic development with environmental stewardship. I share Chatham County's vision of fostering responsible growth while preserving its natural and cultural heritage. If selected, I will bring integrity, innovation, and a commitment to the community to ensure Chatham County thrives as a vibrant, inclusive place for current and future generations.

Education/Experience: I hold an Associate's Degree in Business and Finance, complemented by continuing education through the State University of New York and Capella University. With over 30 years of experience, I've built a career specializing in the design, construction, and safety of playgrounds and recreational spaces. I am a licensed General Engineering and General Building Contractor, a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI), and a member of the National ASTM Committee, contributing to the development of safety standards. I also serve on the National Playground Contractors Association Learning Committee, promoting continuing education and safe playground construction practices nationwide. My deep expertise in ASTM and CPSC guidelines ensures compliance and innovation in all projects. My dedication to creating safe, sustainable communities aligns with Chatham County's goals,

and I am eager to contribute my knowledge to support responsible community development.

Name of Employer: Wyatt W. Underwood & Associates

Address of Employer: 510 Meadowmont Village Circle - 160, Chapel Hill, NC 27517

Position: Chief Executive Officer

Work Phone: 213-279-2455

Civic Involvement: Over my 35-year career, I've combined leadership, technical expertise, and a passion for community development to drive safety and innovation across the playground, construction, and recreational industries. My civic engagement reflects this dedication, focusing on safety, standards development, and community improvement. As a distinguished member of the ASTM F08 Committee on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities, I actively contribute to national standards ensuring the safety and quality of recreational environments. Additionally, I serve on the National Playground Contractors Association's Learning Committee, fostering education and establishing best practices for safe playground construction across the country. These roles highlight my commitment to advancing safety and quality standards for public spaces. I've also engaged in community emergency management and disaster response efforts, working with organizations like FEMA and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. My contributions in crisis situations and preparedness programs have enhanced regional resilience and safety, further demonstrating my dedication to public service. In business, I have a proven record of civic-minded leadership. As Managing Member of Wyatt W. Underwood & Associates and CEO of Pacific Tide Construction, I've prioritized creating safe, inclusive recreational environments. My certifications as a General Engineering and General Building Contractor, along with my CPSI accreditation, support this focus on safety and quality. My educational foundation, with an Associate's Degree in Business and Finance and continuing education at the State University of New York and Capella University, underpins my professional success. Specialized training through FEMA and other institutions has further enhanced my crisis management and leadership skills. Through board and committee memberships, regulatory compliance, and hands-on involvement in community-focused projects, I've consistently worked to foster environments that support the well-being and growth of communities nationwide. I look forward to continuing this work in roles that align with my expertise and values.

Gender: Male

Ethnic Origin/Race: White\_non-Hispanic

Year of Birth: 1968

Attachments: {"file\_upload": [{"id":44,"url":"[https://services3.arcgis.com/YgrExeJfxG5F4At7/arcgis/rest/services/survey123\\_6611c3ec93924379a243a4c073364330\\_form/FeatureServer/0/103/attachments/44](https://services3.arcgis.com/YgrExeJfxG5F4At7/arcgis/rest/services/survey123_6611c3ec93924379a243a4c073364330_form/FeatureServer/0/103/attachments/44)","name":"Chatham County \_ Intro \_ Bio - Wyatt Underwood 01\_19\_25.pdf","size":242946,"contentType":"application/pdf","keywords":"file\_upload","globalId":"{5372DF7C-0BFB-45A9-8C5B-2A1B46230271}","parentGlobalId":"{5AB98E61-DAF7-4BDB-81EF-1C437C14137C}"}]}

*The Office of*  
**Wyatt W. Underwood**

January 19, 2025

Ms. Jenifer Johnson  
Chatham County Government Offices  
12 East Street  
Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312  
919-542-8200

Regarding: Chatham County Key Advisory Committees

Dear Ms. Johnson;

As a passionate advocate for community development, sustainability, and safety, I am honored to express my interest in serving on the Chatham County Planning Board. This role aligns seamlessly with my professional background, personal values, and longstanding commitment to fostering inclusive and forward-thinking communities.

With over 30 years of experience as a business founder and industry leader in sports surfacing and recreational spaces, I have dedicated my career to creating environments where people can thrive. Through my companies, I have designed and built safe and accessible playgrounds, athletic fields, and synthetic surfacing solutions that prioritize public safety and usability. My work has been driven by a belief that every community deserves spaces that encourage physical, cognitive, and social development, particularly for children and underserved neighborhoods.

Beyond my professional endeavors, I bring a wealth of certifications and expertise that are particularly relevant to the Planning Board's mission. I am a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and an expert in compliance with national safety standards and guidelines, such as those established by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). These credentials underscore my commitment to integrating safety and quality into all aspects of planning and development.

Living in and serving diverse communities has instilled in me a deep understanding of the complexities involved in land use, zoning, and infrastructure planning. My company's work often requires navigating municipal regulations, collaborating with stakeholders, and balancing environmental stewardship with economic growth. I have honed my ability to listen to various perspectives and make informed decisions that prioritize the best interests of the community.

I believe my values align closely with Chatham County's priorities of responsible growth, sustainability, and fostering a high quality of life for residents. I am particularly drawn to the county's efforts to balance development with the preservation of its natural and cultural heritage. My experience working with public and private sectors, including schools, parks, and nonprofits, equips me to contribute a pragmatic yet innovative perspective to planning initiatives.

*The Office of*  
**Wyatt W. Underwood**

If given the opportunity to serve, I would approach this role with integrity, collaboration, and a deep sense of responsibility. I am committed to contributing my expertise to advance the county's goals, ensuring that Chatham County continues to be a vibrant and sustainable place for current and future generations.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of serving and making a meaningful impact on the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

*Wyatt W. Underwood*

Wyatt W. Underwood

(o) 213-279-2455 ext. 101

(m) 310-292-2957

[wyattunderwood@gmail.com](mailto:wyattunderwood@gmail.com)

## **Objective Statement:**

To leverage 35 years of leadership and hands-on experience in the sports surfacing, construction, and business management industries, combining entrepreneurship and industry leadership with a proven track record in regulatory compliance, licensing, organizational growth, crisis management, and emergency planning to drive improvement, innovation, and safety in mutually beneficial roles.

## **Professional Experience:**

### **Managing Member | Wyatt W. Underwood & Associates, LLC** **June 1992 – Present**

- **Regulatory Compliance & Corporate Governance:** Maintained an impeccable record of compliance with state and federal regulations, ensuring all licensing requirements were met. Championed ethical business practices to uphold the organization's reputation.
- **Strategic Business Leadership:** Spearheaded the development and execution of business plans, driving a 142% revenue increase over four years. Expanded market presence across the Southeast through acquisitions and strategic partnerships.
- **Construction Expertise:** Established innovative playground design and build services, positioning the company as a leader in the Playground Environment Industry, with an emphasis on safety and compliance.
- **Customer Retention & Quality Assurance:** Directed initiatives that led to a 98% customer retention rate by delivering exceptional service and maintaining high-quality standards.

### **Chief Executive Officer | Pacific Tide Construction,** **Nov 2018 – Present**

- **Strategic Leadership & Industry Positioning:** Led Pacific Tide Construction to a leading position in the competitive construction industry by steering strategic direction and fostering innovation in construction practices. Achieved a 33% year-over-year growth by entering new markets and securing high-value contracts.
- **Operational Efficiency & Safety Standards:** Implemented cutting-edge technologies and lean management practices to enhance operational efficiency, reduce waste by 16%, and improve profit margins. Championed a safety-first culture.
- **Financial Stewardship & Growth Management:** Directed comprehensive financial strategies that supported sustainable growth, including capital investments, cost control, and revenue optimization. Enhanced financial performance, resulting in a 19% increase in EBITDA and a strong balance sheet.

**Wyatt W. Underwood**  
**Executive Biographical Summary**

77009 Miller, Chapel Hill, NC 27517 | O 213-279-2455 | M 310-292-2957  
wyattunderwood@gmail.com

- **Team Leadership & Development:** Built and mentored a high-caliber team of construction professionals, emphasizing leadership development, skill enhancement, and career progression. Created a collaborative work environment that attracted and retained top talent.
- **Regulatory Compliance & Ethical Practices:** Ensured strict adherence to all construction codes, regulations, and ethical standards, maintaining an unblemished compliance record. Actively engaged in legislative processes to advocate for fair and sustainable construction practices.
- **Community Engagement & Corporate Responsibility:** Led community development projects and philanthropic efforts, enhancing the company's community relations and contributing positively to local economies. Recognized as a community leader for contributions to Federal Head Start Playground Environment Initiatives.

<b>Education and Certifications:</b>
--------------------------------------

- **Business Administration** | Suffolk Community College / State University of New York
  - *Minor in Accounting*
  - Gained comprehensive knowledge in business operations, finance, and strategic management. Specialized in accounting principles, equipping me with a robust financial acumen.
- **Emergency Management** | Capella University
  - *Concentration in Homeland Security & Foreign Affairs*
  - Advanced studies focused on emergency preparedness, crisis management, and the strategic intricacies of homeland security on a global scale.

**Professional Certifications and Continuing Education:**

- **The Strategic Coach Program**
  - Participated in dynamic coaching for entrepreneurs, emphasizing strategic thinking, personal growth, and business scalability.
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**
  - Completed intensive courses in emergency planning, disaster response, and crisis mitigation, enhancing my capabilities in managing high-stress situations.
- **Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI)**
  - Accredited by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), validating my expertise in playground safety and risk management.
- **Department of Homeland Security Training Instructor**
  - Master Counter Terrorism Training Instructor (MTTI) at Los Angeles International Airport, and Chief Communications Officer for DHS / FEMA Mobile Response Team.

### Accolades and Community Engagement:

1. **Distinguished Board Leadership:** Serve as a strategic member of the Board of Directors for the Entrepreneurs Organization Los Angeles Chapter, playing a pivotal role in the ideation and execution of advanced business enrichment programs. Lead initiatives that drive entrepreneurial success, economic growth, and innovation across the Los Angeles business community.
2. **Distinguished Committee Member of the ASTM F08 Committee for Sports Equipment & Playing Surfaces and Facilities:** I am honored to serve as a member of the ASTM F08 Committee on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities. This role highlights my commitment to developing and refining industry standards that ensure the safety, quality, and performance of recreational environments, reflecting my dedication to advancing excellence in construction and public safety.
3. **Exemplary Emergency Management Advocacy:** Maintain active involvement in critical emergency management and disaster response efforts in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department and FEMA. Recognized for contributing expert guidance in crisis situations and spearheading community preparedness programs, significantly enhancing regional resilience and safety.

### Expertise and Abilities:

1. **Advanced Crisis Management & Risk Mitigation:** Demonstrated mastery in navigating complex crises, with a proven track record in developing and implementing robust emergency response strategies and ensuring playground safety. Recognized for minimizing risk exposure and maintaining operational continuity under challenging conditions.
2. **Strategic Planning & Financial Oversight:** Highly skilled in formulating strategic business plans that drive company growth and profitability. Expert in financial oversight, adept at budgeting, financial forecasting, and resource allocation to optimize fiscal performance and shareholder value.
3. **Legal Compliance & Ethical Governance:** Proficient in steering organizations to full legal compliance across all operational aspects. Maintains an exemplary record in corporate governance, with a strong emphasis on ethical practices and adherence to regulatory standards.
4. **Executive Leadership & Organizational Development:** Exceptional leadership capabilities with a focus on cultivating a vision-driven culture and empowering cross-functional teams. Excel at fostering leadership within teams, driving organizational change, and inspiring peak performance.
5. **Strategic Negotiations & Stakeholder Engagement:** Skilled in conducting high-level negotiations and building beneficial partnerships. Adept at stakeholder management, securing favorable terms, and aligning diverse agendas to achieve consensus and forward momentum.
6. **Project Management & Operational Execution:** Strong command of project management principles, with a history of delivering complex projects on schedule and within budget. Utilizes a detail-oriented approach to orchestrate project lifecycles, from inception through to successful completion, with a focus on quality outcomes.

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