

February 23, 2026

Pine Lake Preparatory
104 Yellow Wood Circle
Mooresville, NC 28115

Dear Pine Lake Preparatory Board of Directors,

My name is Ashton Watson, and I am writing to formally express my intent to continue serving on the Pine Lake Preparatory Board of Directors for an additional one-year term. After being appointed last year, I have had the privilege of serving on the board for the past year, and this experience has only strengthened my commitment to PLP's mission, values, and long-term success.

Over the past year, I have worked diligently to contribute meaningfully to board discussions, strategic planning efforts, and ongoing initiatives. Serving alongside this dedicated group has given me a deeper understanding of the school's needs, opportunities, and challenges. I believe this perspective, combined with my professional background, positions me well to continue supporting the board's work in a productive and impactful way.

My strengths in strategic planning, project management, engineering and construction have proven especially relevant during my first term. I have appreciated the opportunity to apply this expertise to conversations around capital planning and campus development. Looking ahead, I am eager to continue contributing to efforts that expand academic space on the main campus and advance the vision for a Field House at the athletic campus. These projects are critical to supporting PLP's growth, and I am committed to helping guide them responsibly and effectively.

It would be an honor to continue serving with this board and to build on the momentum we have created together. Thank you for considering my Letter of Intent. I remain deeply committed to Pine Lake Preparatory and look forward to the possibility of contributing to another year of progress and success.

Sincerely,

Ashton B. Watson

Ashton B. Watson, P.E. C.M., ACE
Current Board Member, PLP
Director of Engineering, CLT Airport

Ashton B. Watson, P.E., C.M., ACE

Director of Engineering

Ashton.Watson@cltairport.com

980-722-8136



Bio

Ashton Watson has worked for the Charlotte Douglas International Airport for 11 years, and for the City of Charlotte doing Capital Program and Project Management for nearly 8 years with the Department of Transportation (CDOT). He is an accomplished and results-driven Airport Engineering Program Director with nearly two decades of experience leading complex, large-scale aviation and transportation infrastructure projects. Ashton has overseen more than \$3 billion in capital development at Charlotte Douglas International Airport, successfully delivering 60+ projects across airfield and landside environments. Recognized for strategic leadership, technical excellence, and collaboration with FAA, ATCT, airlines, and stakeholders to ensure operational success and regulatory compliance.

Selected Experience

4th Parallel Runway Program
South Ramp Expansion
North End Around Taxiway Program (NEAT)
Deice Pad, Taxiway F Extension, & South Crossfield Taxiway
Taxiway M Rehabilitation (Award Winning)
Taxiway C North Rehabilitation (Award Winning)
Concourse A Building and West Ramp Expansion
RWY 18L/36R Rehabilitation (twice)
RWY 18L/36R C4 Highspeed Taxiway Exit
South Cargo Ramp Expansion
Airport Entrance Road (Josh Birmingham Parkway Realignment)
Energy and Communication Infrastructure throughout the Airfield
I-85/I-458 CLT Airport Re-Branding and Wayfinding Signage Updates
Berewick Town Center/Outlet Mall/Dixie River Road
Midtown-Metropolitan Redevelopment
3rd Ward Redevelopment: Knights Ballpark and Romare Bearden Park

B.S. Civil Engineering,
University of North Carolina
at Charlotte - 2006

M.S. Civil Engineering,
University of North Carolina
at Charlotte - 2009

Registered Professional
Engineer, North Carolina
P.E. # 036863

Certified Member (C.M.) –
American Association of
Airport Executives (AAAE)

Airport Certified Employee-
Operations (ACE-Ops) –
American Association of
Airport Executives (AAAE)

Ashton Bryan Watson, P.E., C.M., ACE

 CLT Airport: 5601 Wilkinson Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28208
 (980) 722-8136  Ashton.Watson@cltairport.com

OBJECTIVE

Accomplished professional engineer with 20 years of progressive leadership experience in aviation, transportation, and infrastructure management. Currently leveraging technical expertise, program management, and strategic leadership as **Engineering Director** at Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Civil Engineering – University of North Carolina at Charlotte, *Summa Cum Laude*, Dec. 2009

Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering – University of North Carolina at Charlotte, *Cum Laude*, Dec. 2006

CORE COPETENCIES

Airfield & Landside Infrastructure • Capital Project & Program Management • FAA Coordination & Regulatory Compliance • Design-Build & Construction Oversight • Budget & Contract Administration • Airfield Lighting & Drainage Systems • Stakeholder & Tenant Engagement • Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) • Strategic Planning & Leadership

SUMMARY OF STRENGTHS

- Proven record managing **billion-dollar aviation infrastructure programs**
- Skilled in **strategic planning, stakeholder relations, and cross-functional leadership**
- Recognized for **exceptional performance, innovation, and mentoring**
- Deep expertise across **civil, transportation, and aviation engineering**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT)

Director of Engineering | 12/2025 – present

Airport Engineering Program Director | 01/2023 – 12/2025

Airport Engineer | 05/2018 – 01/2023

Engineering Program Manager | 04/2014 – 05/2018

- Lead the implementation of CLT's **\$3B+ Capital Investment Program**, delivering major runway, taxiway, drainage, and lighting projects, including the **Fourth Parallel Runway, North End-Around Taxiway (NEAT), South Crossfield Taxiway & De-Ice Pad, and South Ramp Expansion** programs.
 - Directly manage **90+ team members**, including 30 Aviation Department staff and 60 consultants, overseeing projects across multiple shifts and 24/7 operations.
 - Delivered award-winning **Taxiway C Rehabilitation Project**, named *Commercial Service Project of the Year* by the Southeast Chapter of AAAE.
 - Accelerated completion milestones for the **West Ramp/Concourse A Expansion**, providing critical ramp capacity for Delta Airlines.
 - Enhanced customer satisfaction by over **40% (50–90%)** through design and delivery of the **Airport Entrance Roadway**, significantly improving congestion, wayfinding, and terminal access.
 - Forge strong partnerships with **NCDOT, CDOT, FAA, major airlines, utilities, and city departments**, fostering collaboration across infrastructure initiatives.
 - Mentored interns through the **Mayor's Youth Employment Program** and university partnerships.
 - Recipient, **CLT Airport "Rookie of the Year" (2015)**.
 - Earned "**Exceptional Performance**" ratings on **18 of 19** annual reviews.
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City of Charlotte – Department of Transportation

Project Manager | 12/2009 – 04/2014

Project Coordinator | 10/2006 – 12/2009

- Delivered over **60 Capital Investment Projects**, totaling **\$51M**, including **5 miles of street improvements, 6 miles of bike lanes, and 21 miles of sidewalks**.
- Oversaw active management of **40+ projects** worth **\$90M**, adding **8 miles of new streets, 7 miles of bike lanes, and 28 miles of sidewalks**.
- Key contributor to **3rd Ward revitalization**, including **Romare Bearden Park, Charlotte Knights Ballpark, and two-way street conversions** that revitalized Uptown Charlotte.
- Led the **Dixie River Road Project**, balancing stakeholder needs across public, private, and municipal partners.
- Served on committees: **APWA Accreditation, Safety, Mid-Block, and Land Development Standards**.
- Recognized for consistent **Exceptional Performance** on all annual reviews.

Ralph Whitehead Associates (STV, Inc.) | 05/2006 – 09/2006

Roadway Design Intern

- Conducted CAD and cost estimation for roadway projects using **MicroStation** and **Geopak**.
 - Designed roadway improvements for the **NASCAR Hall of Fame** corridor and for the **CATS Blue Line** Transit project.
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City of Charlotte – DOT (Co-op) | 06/2004 – 08/2005

Transportation Analyst

- Developed **signal timing** using **Synchro** and **SimTraffic**.
 - Designed **bike lanes** and **pedestrian crossings** along the **Charlotte Light Rail Corridor**.
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TECHNICAL SKILLS

AutoCAD 2022 | MicroStation V8 | Geopak | ArcGIS | Synchro | SimTraffic | MS Project | E-Builder
| Bluebeam | Procore | NewForma | MUNIS | Microsoft Office Suite | WorkDay

HONORS & AWARDS

- CLT Airport **Rookie of the Year**, 2015
 - Speaker, UNC Charlotte Graduation, Dec. 2006
 - Chancellor's and Dean's Lists (6 semesters)
 - **Chancellor's Citation for Leadership & Service**
 - **Chi Epsilon, Tau Beta Pi, Order of Omega** Honors Fraternities
 - Graduate, UNC Charlotte **College of Engineering Leadership Academy**
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LEADERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

- **Adjunct Professor & AIR Advisory Board Member**, UNC Charlotte Aviation Innovation and Research Institute
- **Board Member**, Pine Lake Preparatory School
- **Certified Member (C.M.) and ACE Operations**, American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE)
- **Leadership Academy Board Member**, UNC Charlotte
- **Mentor**, FYI Mentoring Program & Mayor's Youth Employment Program
- **Coach**, Lake Norman Little League Baseball & Pop Warner Football