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**ALACHUA
COUNTY**
BICENTENNIAL

**Alachua County
Board of County Commissioners**

County Commissioner - District 4
Ken Cornell, Vice Chair

October 23, 2025

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida
Attn: Paul Martinez, President and CEO
10 South Newnan Street, 2nd Floor
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Re: Boys & Girls Clubs of Alachua County

Dear Mr. Martinez:

I join other local leaders as an Interested Party in expressing concern regarding the potential sale of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida, Inc. ("B&GC NE FL") and the real property (the "Real Property") formerly owned by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Alachua County. I am writing in support of Doug Johnson, former principal of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Alachua County, Inc.

This property has served the youth of Alachua County for more than fifty years, particularly through sports and enrichment programs. Its unique history, special zoning designation (Club, Lodge, and Union Hall), and deep community roots make it a vital resource that should continue to fulfill its original purpose. As a partner in advancing opportunities for Alachua County's youth through afterschool, summer camp, and other learning programs, I urge thoughtful consideration of decisions that will strengthen these efforts and support the children and families who rely on them.

As an Interested Party, I believe that changing the use or purpose of the Real Property would conflict with both the spirit and the letter of the original Acquisition Agreement. Additionally, I understand there may have been a discontinuation of the long-standing tackle football program previously hosted at the site. I respectfully request confirmation of the current status of that program and, if it has been discontinued, that Mr. Johnson be afforded an opportunity to engage in good-faith discussions regarding possible lease terms.

We remain committed to working collaboratively with B&GC NE FL to ensure that the property continues to serve the youth and community of Gainesville in a manner consistent with its legacy and the intent of the original acquisition. We value the important work you do for children and families across Alachua County and recognize the sensitivity of this matter.

This letter is intended to encourage constructive dialogue between B&GC NE FL and Mr. Johnson toward a resolution that benefits all parties involved. Thank you for your attention to these matters. Through collaboration and shared commitment, a path forward can be identified that honors the past, addresses present needs, and strengthens the future for the youth of Alachua County.

Sincerely,



Ken Cornell, Vice Chair
Alachua County Commission