

City of Asheville  
**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**  
Application Form

**APPLICANTS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND SEVERAL MEETINGS OF A BOARD PRIOR TO APPLYING AND/OR APPOINTMENT TO A BOARD**

Name of board or commission(s): City Council  
Your name: Ed Hay Home Phone #: 828-687-3723  
Street address: 210 Blake Mountain Circle City: Asheville Zip Code: 28803  
Mailing address (if different): 137 Biltmore Avenue, Asheville 28801  
Employer: PHH, Hay, + Hugenschmidt, PA  
Your position: Managing Attorney Office Phone #: 828-255-8085  
Resident of City  County \_\_\_\_\_ Race W \* Sex M \* Age 59 \*

Are you a United States Citizen (circle one)?  Yes or No

Residence location (check one): Central \_\_\_\_\_ North \_\_\_\_\_ South  East \_\_\_\_\_ West \_\_\_\_\_

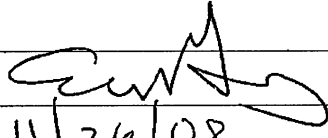
How did you become aware of the opening? \_\_\_\_\_ Webpage \_\_\_\_\_ Current Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ eNews \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Government Channel \_\_\_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ Radio \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Agenda  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the area(s) of expertise that you can bring to the above board(s), and then in detail list education, experience, reasons for your interest, and other factors that support your interest in serving (use additional sheets if necessary). Expertise: \_\_\_\_\_ Legal \_\_\_\_\_ Technical \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Community Contacts \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Business Management (Financial) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Management (Operational) \_\_\_\_\_ Public Speaking \_\_\_\_\_

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**Return to:**  
Maggie Burleson, City Clerk  
Post Office Box 7148  
Asheville, N.C. 28802-7148

E-Mail: [mburleson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:mburleson@ashevillenc.gov)  
Telephone: 259-5601  
Fax #: 259-5499

Signature:   
Date: 11/26/08  
E-Mail: ehay@phhlawfirm.com  
Fax #: 251-2760

\* This information is requested for the sole purpose of assuring that a cross section of the community is appointed.

# Edward C. Hay, Jr.

Home: 210 Blake Mountain Circle  
Asheville, NC 28803  
Work: 137 Biltmore Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801

Home: 828-687-3723  
Work: 828-255-8085  
Fax: 828-251-2760  
E-mail: [chay@phhlawfirm.com](mailto:chay@phhlawfirm.com)

## **Personal Information:**

### Biographical:

Age: 59  
Resident of Asheville since 1976.  
B.A. Davidson College  
J.D. Univ. of Georgia School of Law

### Employment:

Pitts, Hay, & Hugenschmidt, P.A.  
Attorneys at Law  
Managing Partner

### Family:

Wife: Diana Soileau  
Four children: Sarah, Mary, Craig Hay & Laura Buckner

## **Representative Local Government Activities:**

North Carolina Travel and Tourism Authority (by appointment of the Speaker of the House)  
North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission (by appointment of the Speaker of the House)  
First elected to Asheville City Council in 1995, and re-elected in 1997  
Vice-mayor, 1997-1999  
Chair, Task Force on the Future of the Civic Center  
Chair, Housing and Community Development Committee  
City Representative, Economic Development Commission  
Pack Place Board member  
Asheville-Buncombe Vision Board member  
Council Liaison: Civic Center Commission, School Board, Community Relations Council,  
Airport Authority

## **Representative Community Activities:**

Executive Director, Pack Place Education, Arts, and Science Center (2002-2007)  
1997 Recipient, Circle of Excellence Award, Leadership Asheville  
Initial Director, Pisgah Legal Services  
Founding member, Helpmate  
Organizer, Building Bridges  
Board Member: Community Relations Council, Consumer Credit Counseling Service, Asheville-Buncombe Discovery, Leadership Asheville Forum, New Hope Medical Center, Communities in Schools, Asheville Downtown Association.  
Graduate, Leadership Asheville and Leadership North Carolina.

**Representative Professional Activities:**

In private practice in Asheville since 1976.

Certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a Specialist in Bankruptcy Law.

Member, North Carolina Bar Association Bankruptcy Section Council.

Member, Specialization Certification Committee

1. My practice in bankruptcy law has always given me an up-close and personal perspective on the financial well-being of our community, and what recent months have shown me is that our financial difficulties are even worse than generally thought. Many of our citizens and businesses are in crisis, but even as their need for services from the city increases, the city faces a decline in tax revenue. Council needs someone who not only understands complex financial situations, but also someone who can contribute right away. It is this belief that has motivated me to apply for the position. I believe my unique experience as both a bankruptcy attorney and a former member of City Council puts me in a position to be an important contributor from the very first day.

2: The job of the local elected official is to find the middle ground: fairly allocating taxes and resources and meeting the needs of all the citizens in a balanced way. Extreme positions, whether conservative or liberal, have no place in City Government. Therefore, I would serve as a moderate.

3: Fiscal issues will dominate the Council agenda for the next year, but other than that I see:

Downtown master plan: The planning and efforts which produced the resurgence in downtown have matured, and it is time to work on the second generation. A silver lining to recent announcements of delays/cancellations of big projects is that we can take the time we need to rework the master plan without having to do so in the face of ongoing projects.

Sustainable environmental projects: The "greening" of Asheville city government is as important as infrastructure maintenance and should be continued for the cost-savings as well as the environmental benefits.

Affordable housing: The need will only become greater in the next few years, and the City should continue to play a vital role.

City-County relations: Times will be hard for County government as well, and the need to work together will be even more compelling. In light of the recent election, there is opportunity to find new ways to work together, and I think that Asheville citizens expect that to happen.

4: The most crucial problem will be maintaining services in the face of declining revenues. The days when people were willing to invest in Asheville under any circumstances are gone. Small businesses will be especially hit hard. Passing the burden back to the citizens in the way of new taxes simply compounds the problem. City Council will need to take a leadership role in convincing the community of the correctness of the hard choices which will have to be made and in gathering support for new initiatives which are designed to keep businesses open and people at work.

5: Budget writing is not as simple as cutting here and there, and there is no magic trick which will make it easy. Council needs to set its priorities and work with staff to make them happen. Members will need to take personal responsibility for analyzing the budget, line-by-line, and be willing to advocate for cutting programs which are non-essential. Council's primary job will be to take a leadership role in involving the community in the difficult decisions and in

making sure that everyone understands and accepts that sacrifices will have to be made.