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BUILDING LIVABLE CITIES *for* NORTH CAROLINA'S FUTURE

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**NORTH CAROLINA MAYORS GATHER TO SHOW
SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENT ONE**

Mayors describe how Amendment One will help create jobs and revitalize communities

Greenville, N.C. – At a time when cities are competing to create jobs and improve their economies, mayors from across the state today pledged their enthusiastic endorsement and vowed to work together to support passage of Amendment One - a constitutional amendment on the ballot in November.

The mayors announced their support for Amendment One in downtown Greenville near a site that could benefit from voter passage of Amendment One. The mayors, members of the NC Metropolitan Coalition, were hosted by Greenville Mayor Don Parrott and led by Metropolitan Coalition chair, Greensboro Mayor Keith Holliday. The mayors gathered with a group to show their support for the constitutional amendment, which will be on the ballot in November. The group discussed the economic and redevelopment opportunities Amendment One could bring to their communities.

Amendment One, or self-financing bonds, will be on the statewide ballot in November. These bonds are used to pay for public improvements in partnership with private investment within a designated development district. Projects can include streets, water and sewer service and sidewalks. The additional tax revenues from the increased property values in the district are used to pay off the bonds. No tax increases are necessary to pay off self-financing bonds, and taxes cannot be pledged to pay off these without an approval by vote of the people.

“In the future, these funds can help us with the revitalization of our downtown area. As a result of this revitalization, jobs will be added in the downtown area and provide the area neighborhoods with a variety of services that currently do not exist,” said Greenville Mayor Don Parrott.

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Self-financing bonds – currently used in 48 other states – can be used to redevelop abandoned factories and plants into small business centers, build new manufacturing plants and affordable housing, spur community revitalization, build business incubators and commercial development and clean up environmentally damaged areas.

“As mayors, we are fighting daily to bring jobs to our cities,” said Mayor Keith Holliday. “Amendment One is an important job development tool that can help all of our communities stay competitive. We are excited that we can all come together to support this initiative and urge people to learn more about Amendment One. It is a tool that can help rejuvenate our economy and create jobs.”

For additional information on Amendment One, visit www.amendmentone.org.

The NC Metropolitan Coalition was established in 2000 and is comprised of 23 of the largest cities in North Carolina. It was formed by the mayors to encourage the continued development of the urban areas in North Carolina as livable, environmentally sound and economically viable centers. More details on the Coalition, including its priorities can be found at www.ncmetros.org.

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