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BUILDING LIVABLE CITIES *for* NORTH CAROLINA'S FUTURE

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**For Immediate Release  
October 29, 2004**

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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*

**Kannapolis, 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 at the site of the abandoned Pillowtex Plant Number One in Kannapolis – a building that could benefit from voter passage of Amendment One. The mayors, members of the NC Metropolitan Coalition, were hosted by Kannapolis Mayor Ray Moss 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 next week. 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.

“As a mayor, I am acutely aware of how the globalization of North Carolina's economy has impacted the state. Not only are we losing jobs to offshore outsourcing, but we are also facing increased competition from other states as they try to lure new business development.” said Kannapolis Mayor Ray Moss. “Citizens have the choice to allow local governments to compete on an equal playing field with neighboring states as we try to lure new industries, redevelop abandoned factories and bring new life into downtowns. I urge voters to thoughtfully consider the issue.

**-MORE-**

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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 North Carolina,” said Mayor Keith Holliday. “Next week voters need to help us by allowing us to use an important tool economic development tool that can make our communities more competitive – a tool that cities in other states already have. We are excited that we can all come together to support this initiative and urge people to learn more about Amendment One. It can help revitalize our downtowns, rejuvenate our economy and create jobs.”

For additional information on Amendment One, visit [www.amendmentone.org](http://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](http://www.ncmetros.org).

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