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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WAKE FOREST TOWN HALL EARNS LEED PLATINUM CERTIFICATION

WAKE FOREST, NC – December 1, 2011 – Mayor Vivian Jones announced today that the Wake Forest Town Hall has been awarded LEED Platinum Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

The USGBC's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the foremost program for the design, construction, and operation of green buildings. By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for businesses and taxpayers, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, staff, and the community.

The Wake Forest Town Hall is one of only a few municipal facilities in the United States to achieve LEED Platinum status. By reaching the Platinum level, the Town is not only helping conserve resources and create a healthier environment for employees and visitors, but it is also saving substantially on costs through green building maintenance practices.

LEED features in the 44,000 square foot facility include an energy efficient lighting system, a reflective roof, low-flow water fixtures, ultra low-flush toilets, energy-efficient heating and cooling systems, recycled and rapidly renewable construction materials, and use of low VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds). Bike racks and dedicated parking spaces for carpooling and fuel-efficient/low-emitting vehicles encourage alternative transportation and maximized day lighting with lighting controls significantly reduce the building's lighting load.

Collectively, town hall's array of energy efficient systems and strategies is expected to result in a nearly 25% reduction in overall annual energy costs. In addition, 70% of the anticipated energy usage will be offset with green power, including wind and solar farms located throughout the country.

Mayor Jones said today's announcement is a testament to the Town's commitment to sustainable green building and development practices.

“From start to finish, we worked closely with the architects and contractors to create an appealing, sustainable, and energy efficient town hall of which all Wake Forest residents can be proud,” she said.

I want to thank the members of the Board of Commissioners and the members of the architectural team for their outstanding leadership and commitment to what is an environmentally responsible facility. I also want to especially commend Roe O’Donnell for his commitment and persistence in pursuit of the Platinum designation. We’re extremely proud of our town hall and are truly honored to be recognized for it.”

For a complete list of the sustainable features incorporated into the Wake Forest Town Hall, visit www.wakeforestnc.gov/newtownhall.aspx.

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For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov.