

PRESS RELEASE

Ground Breaking Set for Franklin County Hub Site

Ceremony scheduled for June 7th.

Louisburg, June 5, 2007: The Franklin County Board of Commissioners, The Franklin County Economic Development Commission, the Franklin County Committee of 100 and Wake Electric Membership Corporation are hosting a ground-breaking ceremony for the first shell building to be constructed at the Franklin County Hub Site on June 7, 2007 at twelve noon. The Hub Site, located at 440 Airport Road across from the Franklin County Regional Airport, is the first of four (4) planned Kerr-Tar Hub Sites to break ground on a shell building. The Hub Site concept was developed from a study by the Research Triangle Regional Partnership for the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments encouraging multiple counties to work together for the benefit of all. The Franklin County Hub Site is one of four (4) in the counties of Warren, Franklin, Granville and Vance. Costs of development and taxes paid on the property will be shared by all four (4) counties.

"This is a great opportunity for Franklin County and the other three (3) counties to make something happen and to be proactive in shaping the economic future of the County and the Region," commented Donald C. Lancaster, Franklin County Commissioner and Chairman of the Committee of 100.

The project has received support from both the General Assembly and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The General Assembly has allocated four (4) million dollars for land acquisition and infrastructure while the North Carolina Department of Commerce is providing economic development funds for access roads to the sites.

"The Franklin County Hub site will be the only site of the four (4) to be housed adjacent to a regional airport," stated Chris Coudriet, the Franklin County Manager. "We are proud to be the first of the four (4) hub sites to break ground," added the Chairman, Franklin County Board of Commissioners, Lynwood D. Buffaloe.

Additionally, the Franklin County Hub Site provides increased benefits for businesses locating within the site. Today Franklin County is classified as a Tier 3 county and as such may award a maximum of \$750.00 per job as incentives for new job creation. The Hub Site is classified as a Tier 1 and as such may award up to \$12,500.00 per job as incentives for new job creation.

"This provides a unique industrial park with an attractive set of incentives to add to the ever growing Franklin County industrial sites," added Ronnie Goswick, Director, Franklin County Economic Development Commission. For more information, please contact Ronnie Goswick at 919-554-1863.

Franklin County Government is committed to effective and innovative public services for all Franklin County citizens and businesses.