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CONTACT:

Karen Larimore Wilkinson, PIO
Director of Public Information and Communications
City of Salisbury, 217 S. Main Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28144
Work Phone: 704-638-2113 Cell: 704-213-1050
Information: <http://www.salisburync.gov>
Work Email Contact: kwilk@salisburync.gov

City of Salisbury Completes Initial Phase of Historic Preservation Master Plan Process

Citizen Input Will Continue to Provide Key Role in Development of Master Plan

Salisbury, NC_February 12, 2011 – The City of Salisbury announced today that the initial phase of the Salisbury Historic Preservation Master Plan process is now complete. Muldrow & Associates, facilitators for the master plan process, have finalized necessary background research and field review. In addition, more than twenty stakeholder interviews and local focus group sessions have been held. The master plan process began in November 2010 and has provided numerous opportunities for citizen input throughout the initial phase.

Speaking on behalf of the Salisbury City Council, Mayor Susan Kluttz shares that creation of a historic master plan is vital to preserving Salisbury's unique history, aesthetic interest, and enduring charm. "Salisbury offers a rich history that provides permanence to our sense of community. Our local history allows us to embrace our national heritage in a direct and very personal way. By recognizing and preserving the past, our lives and the future of our city are forever enriched."

Janet Gapen, Senior Planner with Salisbury's Community Planning Services Department, notes that various elements of the master plan will emerge over time and that citizen feedback remains vital. "The master plan process is designed to incorporate a high level of community participation. Plan development will continue to offer ample opportunities for input, feedback, and contribution by our citizens. This local support is greatly appreciated." Gapen shares that an established community discourse is currently underway. Interested parties may join the online dialogue by visiting the master plan website at www.salisburyplan.ning.com. The site offers citizens the opportunity to follow plan progression and to view maps and other plan-related documents as they become available. Participation in a moderated discussion allows individuals the opportunity to reply to discussion forums and to tender thoughts concerning the various aspects of the plan.

The subsequent phase of the master plan process is presently underway and includes the strategic assessment of existing preservation activities in the Salisbury area. Gapen shares that numerous common themes and preservation practices surfaced during the public interview process. For more information or questions regarding Salisbury's Historic Preservation Master Plan process, please contact Janet Gapen at 704-638-5230 or by email at jgape@salisburync.org. Additional inquiries may be submitted to Aaron Arnett of Arnett Muldrow & Associates by calling 864-233-0950. Arnett may be reached via email at aaron@arnettmuldrow.com.

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