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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOUTHWEST AREA STUDY TO HOST PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

RALEIGH, NC – MAY 16, 2011 – In an effort to secure community and stakeholder input, the Southwest Area Study Team will be conducting a series of three public workshops from May 24-26.

The workshops will be conducted at the following sites and all workshops will take place from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, May 24	The Angier Municipal Building,, 28 North Raleigh Avenue
Wednesday, May 25	Fuquay-Varina Community Center, 820 South Main Street
Thursday, May 26	Bass Lake Retreat Center, 900 Bass Lake Road, Holly Springs

Residents, business owners, developers, and property owners, as well as members of community groups, are invited and encouraged to attend.

The Southwest Area of Wake and Harnett Counties and the corresponding regional routes to Cary, Raleigh, and RTP are consistently reported as one of the area's most congested commuter routes within the region. Over the last 20 years the area has experienced a 200+% population increase. This growth has caused a significant amount of traffic obstruction along major commuter corridors, including NC 55, US 401, NC 42, and NC 210. Planners predict that this trend is likely to continue and therefore suggest that a plan including a coordinated strategy for transportation is imperative.

The workshops focus on communicating the likely outcomes of existing growth trends and will be used to gather input from participants regarding priority needs for transportation, enhanced mass transit, and improved walking and bicycling conditions. The planning process will also allow participants an opportunity to explore a series of "what if" scenarios that takes into account future development, environment, and transportation. The format for these public workshops will include a formal presentation, multiple interactive activities, and a question and answer session.

The Southwest Area Study is a collaborative study funded by the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The study began in February 2011 and will be completed in approximately 18 months. The roughly 230 square mile study area generally includes the southwestern portion of Wake County and northern portion of Harnett County including the Towns of Angier, Apex, Fuquay-Varina, and Holly Springs.

For more information about the Southwest Area Study Public Workshops, contact the study's Project Manager [Gerald Daniel](#) at (919) 996-4396.

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For more information about the Southwest Area Study, contact Public Relations Manager [Kara Louise](#) at (919) 521-4499, visit the project website www.southwestareastudy.com, or "like" the Southwest Area Study site on Facebook.

