News Release

Board of Commissioners

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WAKE SELLS $96.79 MILLION IN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, REFUNDS $124 MILLION TO FIXED RATE

Wake County competitively bid and sold $96.79 million in fixed-rate, tax-exempt general obligation bonds on **Tuesday, January 24, 2012**, to Bank of America Merrill Lynch, at a true interest cost of 2.40 percent. Eight bids were received.

The bonds will be used for Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) capital projects; a portion of the funds will be used toward the construction of West Apex High in Apex and Richland Creek Elementary in Wake Forest. Wake Commissioners approved the resolution to sell the bonds at their regular business meeting on Monday, December 5, 2011.

In November 2006, Wake County voters authorized the use of general obligation bonds to support the WCPSS Capital Improvement Project (CIP) 2006 building program. With today's sale, all of the bonds authorized by the voters have been issued in support of CIP 2006.

The County also competitively bid and sold refunding bonds to J.P. Morgan Securities, LLC, at a true interest cost of 1.39 percent, to refund $124 million of variable rate debt originally issued in 2004 in support of WCPSS capital projects. Seven bids were received. As part of this transaction, the County intends to use $30 million to reduce the debt outstanding.

The County's triple-A bond rating allows the County to receive lower interest rates on debt issued for capital expenditures. Rating agencies Fitch, Moody's, and Standard and Poor's base their decisions on factors including the County's excellent financial management, diverse economic base and sound financial position.

Wake County has received the highest possible rating from Moody's since 1973; Standard & Poor's, 1983; and Fitch, 2000.

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