



# News Release

## Board of Commissioners

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 18, 2013

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### **BRYAN SAYS WAKE IS SOLID AND GROWING IN STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS**

“We have had a successful year, in which we have made progress,” Wake County Board of Commissioners Chair Joe Bryan reported during his State of the County address **today, Monday, November 18, 2013**, during the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners’ meeting in **room 2700 of the Wake County Justice Center, 300 S. Salisbury St., Raleigh**.

“At the beginning of this year our number one priority goal was a successful bond referendum to support the Wake County Public School System,” said Bryan. “Last month, 58 percent of voters supported the bond which will fund school construction and renovations. This is an investment in our children, in our future and in a great Wake County.”

Bryan showed several indicators of a solid economy in the County including:

- a 30 percent increase in the number of new residential permits in the first nine months of 2013 compared to the same period last year;
- a lower unemployment rate than North Carolina and the United States; and
- continuing to receive a AAA rating from all three rating agencies.

Bryan discussed progress on other Board goals and provided the Board with a printed summary.

#### Economy and Jobs

- The County increased the number of jobs in the community by working with partners to attract and retain companies. This includes securing MetLife’s commitment to North Carolina and bringing 1,200 jobs, with an average salary of \$112,000 per year, to Wake County.

#### Justice and Safety

- The new 577,000 square-foot Justice Center that has the capacity to accommodate court services and county administration for 50 years or more.
- Continued to find effective and efficient ways to provide fire and Emergency Medical System (EMS) services. In exchange for constructing of a new Bay Leaf Fire Station No. 1, the County acquired Bay Leaf Station No. 3 on Lynn Road to use as an EMS station.
- More ambulances to allow EMS to continue to provide the public with prompt treatment and care.

“Great schools, great businesses and a great community make Wake County a great place to be. It’s the synergy that makes us strong and why not just businesses, but families move here and stay here,” said Bryan. “We have seen modest growth and made significant progress on our goals, each step along the way building momentum for the future.”

He also spoke about the future including the Boards’ ongoing goals to be the healthiest capital county in the country and developing infrastructure to meet the needs of the Community.

A video of the 2013 State of the County address will be available on [WakeGOV.com](http://WakeGOV.com) shortly after the board meeting ends. The printed summary of work related to the Board of Commissioners goals is attached to this news release. Accomplishments for all County departments are available starting today on the #WakeIsGreat portion of WakeGOV.com.

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