



## Legislative Update

August 2009

Thank you for your continued interest in the Greensboro Partnership's Governmental Affairs Department. This edition contains an update of the 2009 Legislative Agenda, policy issues of interest and other informational items. If you have a policy issue, which concerns your business, we would like to hear from you. Please contact the Governmental Affairs staff and alert us to your concern.

Sincerely,

Jason Cannon  
VP, Governmental Affairs

### 2009 Greensboro Partnership Legislative Agenda

#### *Budget Update*

We have a budget. Earlier this week, the North Carolina General Assembly passed a \$19 billion budget for the 2009-2011 biennium. The budget comes over a month after the start of the fiscal year and generates approximately \$990 million in new revenue. Due to the state's poor fiscal condition and to avoid some of the most extreme cuts to state services, it includes the following tax increases:

1-cent increase to the state sales tax through January 1, 2011.

(In Guilford County, the sales tax rate will be 7.75%.)

2.25% per pack increase on cigarettes.

Surcharge on personal income tax owed at the following levels:

2% on married couples making \$100,000 to \$250,000

2% on a single person making \$60,000 to \$150,000

3% on married couples making \$250,000 or more

3% on a single person making \$150,000 or more

3% Surcharge on Corporate Income Tax owed

Click thru tax on certain items purchased online

The budget is now on the desk of Governor Perdue and she has earlier indicated that she does intend to sign it into law.

Following the passage of the budget earlier this week, the Senate announced its intention to adjourn session for the year today (Friday). The House intends to complete its work next Monday or Tuesday. As a result, a flurry of activity has been ongoing at the General Assembly this week. I am pleased to report that The Greensboro Partnership's legislative agenda items were well received

### Upcoming Events

#### REGISTER TODAY

**August 26-** State of Our Community Luncheon, Koury Convention Center

**September 2 -** JobExpo, Four Seasons Town Center

**September 3 -** Golf Outing, Bryan Park Golf Course

**October 7 -** Women's Executive Connection, Proximity Hotel

**October 14 -** City Council Candidate's Forum, Empire Room

**October 29 -** Annual Elected Officials Reception, Revolution Mills

### Local Update

#### *Urban Loop Locator*

In an effort to make information about the Urban Loop more accessible, the City of Greensboro now has an Urban Loop Locator. For additional information about the Greensboro Urban Loop and to use to urban loop locator, click [here](#).

#### *Land Development Ordinance*

by the General Assembly. Below is a summary of the results:

### *Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering*

Under the adopted budget, the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering is slated to receive an additional \$1 million in new recurring funding bringing the School's total appropriation to \$3.9 million annually. This increased funding will further assist the School in its ongoing establishment and growth.

### *National Science Foundation/Engineering Research Center*

The Engineering Research Center in the College of Engineering at NC A&T State University will receive \$2 million in matching funds on a recurring basis under the adopted budget, which will serve as matching funds for an \$18.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

*Flight Simulator Tax Exemption* SB1057, a bill expanding the sales tax exemption on flight simulators, was also approved by the General Assembly in its final actions of the legislative session. This expanded tax exemption allows the tax-free purchase of flight simulators when purchased for the purpose of training aviation crews for planes weighing less than 12,500 lbs. This exemption will benefit Greensboro and the Piedmont Triad through the expected creation of jobs as our region moves forward in the continued development of an aviation cluster.

### *Jordan Lake Stormwater Rules*

HB239, addressing concerns involving the existing development and wastewater treatment rules promulgated last year by the NC Environmental Management Commission, was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Perdue on June 30, 2009. A final issue involving new development requirements within the original Jordan Lake rules was also approved by the General Assembly this week. This change, agreed to by all interested parties, provides the same level of environmental protection to Jordan lake but simply changes the means by which required controls may be implemented.

## *10th Annual State of Our Community Luncheon*

This year's Greensboro Chamber of Commerce Annual State of Our Community Luncheon plans to be different than all those past. Instead of speeches, we decided to shake things up with a panel discussion. We have confirmed Mayor Yvonne Johnson, City of Greensboro; Chairman Skip Alston, Guilford County Board of Commissioners; and Chairman Alan Duncan, Guilford County Board of Education to serve as our panelists. Chuck Burns, Chair of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce Operating Group, will moderate. The questions presented to the panelists will be designed to provoke long-term ideas around the future of Greensboro and Guilford County. Register today for this informative event and gain valuable insight into our elected officials' ideas for the future.

### **Event Info**

Koury Convention Center/Sheraton Four Seasons  
3121 High Point Road  
Greensboro, North Carolina 27407  
August 26, 2009  
Noon-1:30PM

**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!**

As you may know, the City of Greensboro Planning Department undertook a rewrite of the Land Development Ordinance to update the ordinance to fit the current needs of the City. The Land Development Ordinance public review draft is now available. To read the draft click [here](#).

If you would like to comment on the draft, contact Rawls Howard at 336.373.2748 or by email at [rawls.howard@greensboro-nc.gov](mailto:rawls.howard@greensboro-nc.gov)

## *Greensboro City Council Candidates*

2009 is election year for members of the Greensboro City Council. In an effort to keep you informed, we have requested that the 33 candidates fill out a survey containing economic development and quality of life questions. These surveys, their pictures and campaign information will be posted to the Governmental Affairs section on the Greensboro Partnership's website. Look for this page the last week of August and see how the candidates answered the survey. For a list of candidates and other election information, visit the [Guilford County Board of Elections](#).

Also, mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 14th from 7:30am until 9:30am and come to the **Annual Economic Development Candidate's Forum** featuring the Greensboro

City Council candidates on the general election ballot. This event will take place at the Empire Room and is generously sponsored by **Duke Energy and GMA.**



The Greensboro Partnership is the principal economic and community development organization in Greensboro, NC. The Partnership works to strategically develop a vibrant community that creates, expands and attracts business while advancing the quality of life for all. The Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, Greensboro Economic Development Alliance, and Action Greensboro are all members of the Partnership.

Visit us online at:

[www.greensboropartnership.com](http://www.greensboropartnership.com)

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