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Mayor Tony Chavonne Announces Decision Not to Seek Re-election

Fayetteville, NC . Eight years ago on a blistery winter day Joanne and I stood in front of Massey Hill High School to begin to talk about an exciting journey for this city.

It has been an exciting journey for both of us as well. The historic image and economic transformation we have helped lead for this city have been one of the greatest blessings of our lives. And while we can see the tangible results of our efforts in the higher quality of life our residents enjoy, in neighborhood sidewalks, in new buildings and roads, and in the faces of our youth who are electing to stay here - it will always be the people that touched our lives along the way that we will remember most. People like the young single parent that can now ride a city bus to work each day, Ms. Shelly who now lives in a new Hope VI home, the young children who helped us bring home the All-America City award, and the Vietnam Veterans who were finally given the welcome home they richly deserved.

After prayerful consideration I have decided to not seek re-election for a fifth term as mayor this fall. I will continue to focus my attention on implementing the strategic goals of the City and working with the City Council and others to address our challenges and take advantage of the many opportunities we enjoy.

In November Fayetteville will face the first open seat for mayor in almost twenty-five years. There is no shortage of great leaders in our city – leaders with new ideas and new energy. This announcement today will provide them adequate time to step forward to explain their vision for Fayetteville and to earn the citizens’ trust to lead our city forward. I encourage each of you to get involved in the process to help ensure we continue the progress we’ve seen over the past several years.

My love for this city and my efforts to improve Fayetteville didn’t start with my election as mayor and those efforts will not end as I begin this next part of my life that God has planned for me. I look forward to spending more time with my family, friends and business and working with others interested in a better city for all of us.

Thank you for your support over the last eight years and for your continued prayers as we work together to move Fayetteville Forward!