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Facilitators Announce Agenda for Meetings of Special Committee

DURHAM – OpenSource Leadership Strategies, Inc. announced its agenda for facilitating the discussion of the Town of Chapel Hill's Special Committee to Consider the Renaming of Airport Road. The initial meetings of the committee are scheduled for November 5 and 6 at the Courtyard Marriott across from the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. Registration begins each day at 8:00 a.m., and the committee will begin its work at 8:30. Each day will conclude no later than 4:00 p.m. A half-day follow-up meeting is scheduled for November 20. The committee has been asked to provide written recommendations to the Town Council by its December 6 meeting.

The meetings will move the committee towards three outcomes:

- Promoting constructive dialogue across lines of difference
- Sharing and understanding individual constituent needs
- Collective decision making about the recommendations

The OpenSource team has designed a process to engage the committee in dialogue to address the renaming issue, as well as its link to broader racial relations in Chapel Hill. The team customized its design based upon information gathered from individual conversations with committee members and from the members' applications. These conversations, which have already begun and will be completed this week, elicit committee members' feelings on the issue of renaming Airport Road and their hopes for the committee's work together.

OpenSource President Gita Gulati-Partee said, "We are confident that this committee can provide an example for the entire community of how to talk – and listen – across lines of difference to reach consensus on challenging public conflicts."

All meetings are open to the public. An agenda is available on the Town of Chapel Hill's website and enclosed with this announcement.

OpenSource Leadership Strategies, Inc. is a Triangle-based consulting firm that specializes in nonprofit and public sector organizational development. In addition to Gita Gulati-Partee, OpenSource Consulting Partners include Calvin Allen, Chantelle Fisher-Borne, and Graig Meyer.