



For Immediate Release

February 25, 2005

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LOWE'S STORE SLATED FOR DURANT

The Do-it-Yourself retailer invests \$12 million to build one-stop shop for appliances, furnishings, building materials and lawn/garden products

Mooreville, N.C. – A new Lowe's will soon be underway on University Place across the street from the Wal-Mart Supercenter. Construction of the Lowe's store is expected to start this summer with an anticipated opening in the fourth quarter of 2005. The do-it-yourself retailer is known for helping homeowners find the right equipment and supplies to build, improve, beautify and enjoy their homes.

"Lowe's presence will not only provide new jobs but will also strengthen the City's attraction to other regional and national retailers and franchises," said Durant Mayor Jerry Tomlinson. "Lowe's and TEAM DURANT worked collaboratively to bring this development to Durant for the benefit of area consumers, businesses and Durant taxpayers."

A store of this size represents an average investment for the company of \$12 million and creates up to 120 new jobs.

Lowe's is proud to offer 32,000 products under one roof. The home improvement warehouse store will have 94,000 square feet of retail sales space under cover. An additional over 27,000 square foot garden center will offer an impressive selection of flowers, bushes, trees and garden supplies tailored to the Southern Oklahoma climate and lifestyle.

"Lowe's will be a wonderful addition to Durant's new west side retail shopping area," said Tommy Kramer, Executive Director, Durant Industrial Authority.

Lowe's reaches out to the community through partnerships with the American Red Cross, United Way, Habitat for Humanity and the Home Safety Council to create safer homes. In addition, the Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation gives more than \$1 million dollars each year to support educational and community projects across the country.

With fiscal year 2004 sales of \$36.5 billion, Lowe's Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE® 50 company that serves approximately 11 million customers a week at more than 1,075 home improvement stores in 48 states. Based in Mooreville, N.C., the 59-year old company is the second-largest home improvement retailer in the world. For more information, visit Lowe.com.

FAST FACTS ABOUT LOWE'S:

- First store opened in Oklahoma in 1996; Currently has 21 stores in Oklahoma with stores under construction in McAlester and Central Oklahoma City
- Employs approximately 160,000 people, including more than 2,500 employees in Oklahoma
- Nation's 2nd largest appliance retailer, with more than 250 models in stock daily

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