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MEDIA RELEASE

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Norfolk says, “YES” to Norfolk Resort & Casino – Pamunkey Indian Tribe to open \$500 million resort and casino in Downtown Norfolk –

NORFOLK – Norfolk voters have spoken and overwhelmingly voiced their support for the Norfolk Resort & Casino in today’s ballot referendum to allow casino gaming in the City. With approximately 95% of the in-person votes counted, the Norfolk Resort & Casino is on track to win by an approximate 2:1 margin.

“While every vote deserves to be counted, the residents of Norfolk have made it clear that they are excited about a resort and casino coming to the Mermaid City,” said Jay Smith, Spokesman for the Norfolk Resort & Casino. The waterfront resort and casino will be built by the Pamunkey Indian Tribe on the Elizabeth River next to Harbor Park.

“We are moved beyond words by the tremendous display of support we’ve received from the Norfolk community,” said Robert Gray, Chief of the Pamunkey Indian Tribe. “To everyone who advocated on our behalf, shared our message with their friends and neighbors, put up a yard sign, wore a sticker or simply voted YES, we cannot thank you enough. We look forward to working with you to make Norfolk even stronger for decades to come.”

The next step for the project includes obtaining the necessary permits from the City and announcing the construction team. The Tribe is planning to break ground in early Spring and to have the project completed by the end of 2022. The \$500 million resort will include a 300-room hotel, entertainment venue, spa, pool, multiple restaurants and a gaming floor for the casino. The project is estimated to generate more than \$30 million annually for the City of Norfolk and \$50 million annually for the construction and renovation of Virginia public schools. Construction is expected to create 2,000 jobs, and approximately 2,500 permanent jobs are expected once operations begin. Under the minority outreach and hiring plan, the Tribe has set the goal of having 90 percent of the resort and casino’s workforce be residents of Norfolk or surrounding localities and 50 percent individuals from minority groups.

The Pamunkey Tribe has already begun working in the community and made access to food, an issue that disproportionately affects minorities, the cornerstone of its community involvement mission. A commitment of \$150,000 in financing has been made to open a much-needed grocery store in the St. Paul’s neighborhood. The Tribe has also been working with area churches and non-profit organizations over the past two months to provide funding for food pantries and hot meals for those in need.

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To learn more about the Norfolk Resort & Casino, visit www.AllinNorfolk.com or check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AllinforNorfolkCasino.