

Fellow Citizens,

What do we know about the business justification for the \$30+ million bond proposed by NCTC? Will these new buildings add 5,000 students a year to the Gainesville Campus? I think the number is closer to 100 if we accept NCTC can increase Health Sciences Enrollment by 30% over what it is now. Dr. Hadlock & NCTC have elected not to answer questions like this. **If NCTC was going to borrow the money from a bank, wouldn't they have to demonstrate a Return on Investment? As stockholders and taxpayers, shouldn't we be asking similar questions?**

The bond will result in the demolition of two buildings with sinking floors. We have an engineer's report commissioned by NCTC saying that the **300 building floors can be torn out and replaced with virtually 100% chance of success, for less than \$300,000.** Don't take our word for it, we posted it @ www.cookecitizens.org . **But if NCTC had fixed the floors for \$300,000, they wouldn't have pictures showing the floors separating from the walls to help sell us on a \$30+ million bond.**

We know that the **new NCTC Administration Building with more than an acre of floor space will cost almost \$12 million.** NCTC justifies this as "One Stop Shopping" for Student Services. What about the 3 in 4 NCTC students who don't attend the Gainesville Campus? How do they live without that on their campuses? **None of them cost \$12 million for the entire campus, let alone one building.** Many student classes & services are moving to the Internet. More will continue to move there as it is more convenient for the students and less costly to deliver. **These buildings may be obsolete before they are paid for.**

NCTC wants to remodel the current Administration Building, the oldest building on campus for almost \$5 million and convert it to a Student Activity Center. They say they don't have enough room to feed the students. What about the student activity center behind the cafeteria? If they don't have room to feed all the students, why not free the dorm students from the mandatory meal plan and make it optional? That might help local restaurants and be a lot less expensive than spending almost **\$5 million of Cooke County Tax dollars for resident students, almost all of which are not from Cooke County.**

That brings me to Nursing and Health Sciences. I agree they need to improve these but it doesn't have to cost \$12 million of our tax dollars. **NCTC only graduates 27 Cooke County Nurses a year,** on average. See NCTC's Facts Brochure @ www.cookecitizens.org Shouldn't they be able to fit in a couple of classrooms? If the other 75% of the students are from outside Cooke County, the cost of the facility upgrades should be paid out of their tuition, not Cooke County Tax dollars. NCTC Gainesville has 59 classrooms. Corinth with more than *double the students Gainesville has* gets by with 46 classrooms. **If more health sciences space is needed, why can't they reassign some of the classrooms they already have? If they really do need space, why not lease or buy part of the Outlet Mall? 100,000 Square Feet might cost a couple million dollars.**

I've been a supporter of NCTC for many years. My entire family takes classes at NCTC. I have also made a \$1,000 donation. **I don't agree that a \$30+ million bond is justified when there are several lower cost alternatives. Get the facts and see NCTC's own documents which back up our statements, on the web @ www.cookecitizens.org .**

Attention Seniors: please do not be misled by phone calls informing you that since you are 65 years of age that your property taxes will not increase by voting “yes” for the new **NCTC \$30+ Million bond** proposal. When several people, including myself, helped pass a referendum to cap taxes for the 65 and older, I would not have dreamed that any of the taxing entities would have used the tax freeze in a way to mislead the people who qualify for this exemption.

The correct statement is: your taxes are “capped” on your home/ homestead, not “frozen”. NCTC failed to inform you that your taxes can increase up to the cap. That means if this bond passes, and your NCTC taxes are below your cap, your taxes will increase up to the cap. Collectively NCTC is currently collecting \$40,000 less than the overall cap. NCTC will be collecting part of that \$40,000 from each senior and disabled currently paying taxes below their NCTC “cap”, if the bond passes.

If you have agriculture-exempt property, rental property, oil and gas minerals, business, or any other property subject to property tax, those are not frozen. Someone will have to pay the bond payments such as your children and/ or grandchildren. They will see, as you and I also, a tax increase of double to triple our tax liabilities if the economy falls into a double dip recession.

Please do not be misled into believing your taxes will not be raised. Someone will have to pay for this bond debt. Are you going to pass this to your loved ones? If you are as old as, or older than I am, we will not live to see the debt paid for. **Please vote NO do not let your children/ grand children inherit this NCTC Tax debt.**

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