MAYOR ANNOUNCES CAMPINAS AS NEW INDIANAPOLIS SISTER CITY

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard joined Campinas Mayor Helio De Oliveria Santos Tuesday to sign an agreement to make Campinas the newest Sister City of Indianapolis. The announcement comes as part of Mayor Ballard’s trip to Brazil to seek investment and technology to benefit the city and help grow the clean energy industry in Indianapolis.

“Making Indianapolis more inviting as an international destination and positioning our city as a global competitor in clean energy are keys to ensuring our success for decades to come,” said Mayor Ballard. "As a leading destination for energy research, Campinas is a perfect international partner for Indianapolis, and I am excited to welcome them as a Sister City."

Both cities will encourage contact between their respective business communities in order to cultivate mutually beneficial economic development opportunities. As both Campinas and Indianapolis share a reputation for sustainability and high-technology; special attention will be paid to economic, cultural, and technological exchanges which emphasize biofuels and renewable energy technologies.

Campinas is an industrial city with a population of 1,039,297, making it the third largest city in the state of São Paulo. It also serves as the administrative center of the meso-region of Campinas and is the eleventh richest city in Brazil. Home to world-wide companies including IBM, Motorola, Honda, General Motors and others, Campinas emphasizes agriculture, high-tech and automotive industries, and it has positioned itself as a leader in alternative energy research. The Brazilian Pró-Alcool Program, developed in Campinas, is an industry based on the use of ethanol as a combustible for motor vehicles.

The Mayor’s criteria for selecting a Sister City include having a metropolitan population of more than one million, an international airport, economic vitality in multiple industries and an education and cultural infrastructure able to foster exchanges with Indianapolis institutions. The city has existing partnerships with Cologne, Germany; Monza, Italy; Piran, Slovenia; Hangzhou, China; and Taipei, Taiwan.