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July 17, 2007

The Honorable David Brown
Mayor, City of Charlottesville
PO Box 911
Charlottesville, VA 22902

The Honorable Kenneth Boyd
Chair, Albemarle County Board of Supervisors
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr.
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
University of Virginia
PO Box 400228
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4228

**EACH BOS MEMBER
RECEIVED OWN COPY**

Dear David, Ken, and Leonard:

I was pleased to hear the Council, Board, and University are proceeding with the housing task force requested by IMPACT and am writing to offer some help. I presently serve on both the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Developing (DHCD), chairing the Housing Committee, and Community Development and Virginia Housing Development Authority boards. In addition, I chair the Advisory Committee for the Virginia Community Capital, a state-wide community development bank.

Bill Shelton, the Director of VDHCD, has offered to assist this area by convening a meeting of decision-makers from all the state-wide agencies (governmental and non-governmental) with a housing purpose (and sometimes funds) which might be very helpful to our area. The officials from Southwest Virginia, for whom he initiated a similar gathering, found it very helpful in formulating their strategies. Perhaps this would be helpful to the formative days of the Task Force here in Charlottesville as well. Understanding the potential resources could leverage local efforts significantly.

Should you and the other members agree such a meeting would be helpful, I'd be happy to work with you and Bill to bring the meeting together. It would need to take place in Richmond as that is where the state decision-makers are, so some logistics would be involved. Serving on these boards and committees has impressed upon me how interwoven state agency and local needs are and how, when used together, they can create a greater impact than when the problem is approached in isolation.

Feel free to email me at nobrien@cstone.net or call me at 293-8480 should you wish to discuss this and pursue the possibilities.

Sincerely,



Nancy K. O'Brien

cc: City Councilors
Gary O'Connell
Board of Supervisors
✓ Robert Tucker
William Shelton
Susan Dewey