



keep space

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Sept. 25, 2007
Contact: Kris Allard,
Im-aj Communications & Design, Inc.
(w) 401 654-6663
(c) 508 942-3147

KeepSpace Brings Developers and Municipalities Together

Rhode Island Housing Workshop Draws Hundreds Ready to Build A Better Rhode Island

Warwick, RI (Sep. 25, 2007) – In an unprecedented turnout, more than 120 developers and representatives of Rhode Island’s cities and towns attended a workshop Monday on a revolutionary statewide development initiative – KeepSpace: where neighbors meet, people work, children play.

Representatives from Rhode Island Housing – the KeepSpace founding partner – as well as other partners, including the State Department of Planning, led a series of workshops and roundtable discussions, bringing together a broad-based contingent of developers and municipalities from throughout the state. Designed to illustrate the KeepSpace principles and explain the ongoing KeepSpace Request for Proposals (RFP) process, attendees were given a thorough understanding of the initiative and how they can apply for funding to engage in the initial 3-5 model communities.

To start the event, a new video was unveiled to show what KeepSpace is all about – highlighting the elements of KeepSpace Communities and illustrating the initiative’s innovative, collaborative approach to development.

The KeepSpace video is now available for viewing at www.KeepSpace.org.

KeepSpace is a comprehensive and cooperative approach to building a better Rhode Island. KeepSpace Communities will incorporate safe, attractive homes; a healthy environment; strong commerce with good jobs; sensible, creative infrastructure; community involvement; and integrated arts, culture and religion. It is a broad-based solution to addressing the state’s need for affordable homes and good jobs while preserving Rhode Island’s most precious commodity: open space. The KeepSpace initiative is designed to balance each of these vital concerns in a complementary and cooperative way.

Many KeepSpace proposals will incorporate revitalizing existing areas that are underutilized or poorly developed.

“Since we officially launched KeepSpace last month, the response on the part of Rhode Island’s developers, and cities and towns – as well as its residents – has been overwhelmingly positive,” says Richard Godfrey, Executive Director of Rhode Island Housing and Founding Partner of KeepSpace. “Rhode Islanders are ready for a broad-based solution for communities that works without damaging Rhode

where neighbors meet, people work, children play.



Island's beauty and vitality. The success of this workshop speaks to the willingness for innovation and partnership on the part of the state's development community."

"KeepSpace answers the need for vibrant, mixed-use communities that preserve Rhode Island's limited land and other natural resources in a way that is unparalleled," says Kevin Flynn, Associate Director of the Rhode Island Division of Planning and member of the KeepSpace Advisory Committee. "The initiative, which supports Land Use 2025 – Rhode Island's plan for managing the state's limited land for the future – is being received with great enthusiasm."

For more information and to view the KeepSpace Communities video, visit www.KeepSpace.org.