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NAIOP-MD ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE FOR LOCAL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

Peter Garver of Sustainable Development Partnerships and David Pratt of Lorax Partnerships Named Co-chairmen

Baltimore (Oct. 7, 2009) – NAIOP-MD, the local chapter of the national trade association comprised of commercial real estate professionals, has announced the creation of a new Sustainability Committee. Peter Garver, founder of Sustainable Development Partnerships and David Pratt, founder of Lorax Partnerships, who are each recognized for their expertise in the area of sustainable commercial real estate development practices, have been named co-chairmen.

The primary objectives of the new group are to foster increased education and awareness concerning the importance of sustainable – or “green” – development practices in the commercial real estate sector, as well as to offer legislative advocacy efforts aimed at achieving positive outcomes in Maryland. In the near future, the two chairmen intend to organize regular informational seminars and conferences that help define and explain sustainable development activities, as well as highlighting the economic and environment benefits by adhering to these policies.

“The sustainable building movement is rapidly spreading around the country. This trend has quickly gained momentum and support from national commercial real estate organizations and government at the local, state and federal levels,” explained Peter Garver. “Many NAIOP-MD members have played leadership roles both locally and nationally to devise green building standards and promote the importance of this building method. The intent of this committee is to better focus our state and regional efforts in -- what we believe to be is – the future of commercial real estate.”

NAIOP-MD consists of more than 330 active members throughout the state, and the national organization includes over 16,000 commercial real estate professionals.

“Our organization reaches out to and influences not only owners and builders of commercial real estate, but also to affiliate vendors and partners such as the real estate brokerage community, architects, engineers and legal professionals,” Cole Schnorf, President of NAIOP-MD said. “It is vital to engage all of these associated groups and educate them about the importance of sustainable development.”

About NAIOP-Maryland

NAIOP-MD has more than 330 members and is comprised of individuals working for real estate development companies, brokerage firms and affiliated companies such as financial institutions, architectural firms and engineers. For additional information, visit www.naiopmd.org

About NAIOP

NAIOP is the nation's leading trade association for developers, owners, investors and other professionals in industrial, office and mixed-use commercial real estate. Comprised of more than 16,000 members in 55 chapters, it provides networking opportunities, educational programs, research on trends and innovations and strong legislative representation.

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