CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

"A World Class City"

Department of Neighborhood Development Services

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March 27, 2007

To: Community Realtors and Local Businesses

There are several signs erected around the City of Charlottesville that do not comply with regulations set forth in the zoning ordinance. Typical issues/violations found around the city are off premises signs and those located on public land or right-of-way. Please be aware that laws that regulate these type of signs can be found in the Zoning Ordinance under Section 34-1024- Prohibited Signs.

A citywide effort is being made to address this matter for many reasons other than aesthetics. Some of the signs that do not adhere to code create safety issued by obstructing, in whole or part, visibility of motorists particularly at intersections. Sighs on public right-of-way occasionally pose obstacles for city work crews, impacting necessary work on the transportation infrastructure. All of the above are objectives that the zoning Department would like to meet in order to maintain compliance with the sign ordinance. The Zoning Inspector will be responsible for street monitoring and keeping records of inspection. Questions, comments, and appeals to legal action can be addressed to me.

Please review and discuss these issues with appropriate coworkers and staff members responsible for the inventory and placement of your signs within the city limits. Sighs should be removed if they are on public right-of-ways, off premises, or if they do not comply with the sign ordinance which can be found on the city website (www.charlottesville.org). So that ample time is given to you, the Zoning Department has schedules Monday, April 30, 2007 to begin this effort.

Illegal signs will be removed by city staff and destroyed. In addition, the Zoning Ordinance states that this type of violation can be accompanied by a civil penalty of one-hundred (100) dollars for a first violation and two-hundred-fifty (250) dollars for each additional violation.

Sincerely,

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Zoning Administrator

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