



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0001

THE SECRETARY

February 15, 2006

David Sacks, AICP
Acting Director
Department of Community Development
City of Richmond, Virginia
900 East Broad Street, Room 501
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mr. Sacks:

It is a pleasure for me to congratulate Richmond, Virginia's Neighborhoods in Bloom Program as this year's winner of the HUD Secretary's Opportunity and Empowerment Award. HUD and the American Planning Association believe your program to be exemplary of the kinds of success that can be accomplished through neighborhood revitalization and rehabilitation.

Once again, congratulations and I wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alphonso Jackson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alphonso Jackson