

## Symposium set on growth, housing

Sunday, Sep 23, 2007 - 12:04 AM

How are affordable housing, suburban sprawl and transportation affecting the Richmond region?

The Southern Environmental Law Center and Virginia Local Initiatives Support Corp. will discuss the hows, whys and what the area can do. The symposium on land use, transportation and housing affordability is Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Virginia Historical Society. The event is free and open to the public.

At the symposium, the groups will release a report titled "Connections and Choices: Affordable Housing and Smarter Growth in the Greater Richmond Area."

"This kind of analysis, making the connection between land use, transportation and housing, has never been done in Virginia," said Chip Pollard, director of the law center's land and community program. He is co-author of the report.

Pollard and Frances Stanley, research analyst at Virginia LISC, will provide an overview of the findings.

"We hope that the report will provide a fresh look into the challenges faced by the region and how we, as a region, need to work together to effectively address these challenges," she said.

After the overview of their findings, a panel response will take place with Greta Harris of Virginia LISC; Gary Johnson, a Virginia Commonwealth University professor; and S. Buford Scott, chairman of Scott & Stringfellow. A question-and-answer session will follow.

-- Linda Dunham

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