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ULI-NNJ Gathers To Discuss Emerging Trends In Real Estate

The Emerging Trends in Real Estate conference was held at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ. About 125 people attended, including developers, builders, property owners, investors, architects, public officials, planners, real estate brokers, appraisers, attorneys, engineers, financiers, academics, students and politicians. The event was sponsored by the Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ).

ULI is a worldwide organization that provides leadership in the responsible use of land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities by bringing together leaders to exchange the best practices.

The event coincided with the 30th annual publishing of the ULI “Emerging Trends in Real Estate” report, the longest published and most highly regarded survey in the industry. The report draws on formal and informal surveys of real estate executives and market experts from around the United States, including survey responses from over 400 real estate executives and personal interviews with over 150 industry leaders.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS
ULI-NNJ Conference
May 21: The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) will assemble a panel of government officials, leaders and analysts in the real estate industry for a conference entitled “Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?” to be held at the Rutgers’ Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy, 33 Livingston Ave., from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Visit www.nnj.uli.org for registration and information.
ULI-NNJ Conference to Discuss Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing

New Brunswick, NJ, May 8, 2009 - /FLIERWIRE/-- The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) has announced that they have assembled a panel of government officials, leaders and analysts in the real estate industry for a May 21 conference entitled "Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?" to be held in New Brunswick, N.J.

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The panel will address a problem of increasing importance to New Jersey communities: the use of age-restricted housing as a means of keeping a lid on school enrollments.

Many communities have encouraged age-restricted housing as a way of limiting school expenses, but the overbuilding of age-restricted housing means that many of these projects are not selling or are not moving forward.

The New Jersey Senate has proposed a bill, S - 2577 -- "Opening Up Of Age-restricted Housing" that would allow communities and developers to lift age-restrictions on age-restricted developments in order to meet demands for affordable housing and to sell vacant units.

"What can be done?" asked Anne Studholme, an attorney at Herrick, Feinstein LLP who is organizing the event. "Legislation awaiting the governor's signature could alleviate some of the immediate market distress, but it would not address the municipal budget issues. We encourage those in the industry to join ULI-NNJ as we try to tackle the situation with some of the brightest minds in the state."

The goal of the event is to help clear up some of the confusion that the proposal to lift the age-restricted housing designation has caused. Some think the state has the authority to lift the designation; others think the designation can only be lifted if units aren't selling; and still others think that only local government has the power to remove the designation upon petition from the developer.

The four-hour program of lectures and panel discussions will include such topics as the fiscal, demographic and market forces at play; the legal history and ramifications; what forces constrain potential solutions; the developer's story; the municipality's story; and "Where do we go from here?"
Speakers will include Jeffrey Otteau, president of the Otteau Valuation Group, a leading real estate market analyst; Stephen M. Eisdorfer Esq., partner of Hill Wallack LLP, where he is a member of the Land Use Division; Ralph Zucker, president of Somerset Development, who has been at the forefront of bringing New Urbanism to New Jersey and New York; and mayors from around the state.

Otteau's presentation will provide an assessment of the age-restricted housing market as well as a demographic profile of future home buying demand in New Jersey.

"The focus by local government on limiting school enrollment is both misinformed and misguided as future household growth will be dominated by childless households," said Otteau. "Further, the trend towards encouraging age-restricted development and the down-zoning of land to lower densities has been a major contributor to housing affordability problems and extreme oversupply of age-restricted housing product in New Jersey."

Age-restricted developments slide through a loophole in fair housing laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of age or familial status, Studholme said. The loophole was originally written to protect what was at that time a very small component of the housing market - communities intended for occupation by the infirm elderly.

But the loophole got larger, eliminating the requirement that developments accommodate the infirm, and lowering the cut-off age to 55, Studholme continued. Meanwhile, in states like New Jersey where local property taxes fund the schools, the immediate fiscal logic of restricting housing for the young came to be seen as compelling. Municipalities began to require developers to build for this loophole or not at all.

The event will be held at Rutgers' Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy located New Brunswick, N.J., at 33 Livingston Ave., from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with an 8 a.m. registration/networking breakfast. For more information or to register, visit ULI-NNJ's Web site at www.nnj.uli.org. The cost is $55 for members, $75 for non-members and free for students and the media. Media please RSVP to Jason Heller at jheller@beckermanpr.com.

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Urban Land Institute Holds Second Annual “Gritty Cities” Event in Jersey City, N.J.

The association of the State of New Jersey with crime, pollution and political corruption is undeserved, with New Jersey -- and especially its formerly “gritty cities,” such as Jersey City -- having much to offer the nation in terms of serving as a model of how to successfully deal with urban issues. That was the conclusion of the participants in “Gritty Cities,” the Second Annual Urban Revitalization Conference sponsored by the Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ).

The conference, which was held April 21 in Jersey City, was attended by more than 150, including developers, builders, property owners, investors, architects, public officials, planners, real estate brokers, attorneys, engineers, financiers, academics and students.

The state, whose population is more than 95 percent urban, is the first in the nation to have reached a density of more than 1,000 inhabitants per square mile, said keynote speaker Dr. Kenneth T. Jackson, whose address was entitled “If All the World Were
New Jersey: The Past and Future of Garden State Cities.” The state’s population is also incredibly diverse, with a multi-racial, multi-cultural population in which 15 percent of residents were born in a foreign country, he noted.

As such, New Jersey has already reached the point where other cities around the nation are headed, and its willingness to address many of its urban problems means that it has much to offer the nation that is not conveyed by the stereotype, Jackson said. He cited the opening sequence of the popular HBO television series, “The Sopranos,” in which Tony Soprano is portrayed driving through a landscape of urban blight, as an example of how much of the nation thinks of New Jersey.

“The stereotype conveys a misleading impression,” said Jackson, who is the Jacques Barzun Professor of History and the Social Sciences at Columbia University, director of the Herbert H. Lehman Center for the Study of American History and editor-in-chief of the 1,373-page Encyclopedia of New York City. “New Jersey has already addressed many of the big issues that are facing the United States. The state -- and especially its gritty cities -- is a beacon that can lead the way for the rest of the nation.”

Also speaking at the conference were Dr. James Hughes, dean of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J.; Tony Nelessen of A. Nelessen Associates, based in Belle Mead, N.J., which specializes in urban design; and Petra Todorovich, director of American 2050, an urban planning initiative to develop an infrastructure and growth strategy for the nation.

The conference was organized by the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency, whose executive director, Robert Antonicello, delivered the opening remarks. Antonicello was recently named vice chair ULI-NNJ. ULI is a worldwide organization that provides leadership in the responsible use of the land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities by bringing together leaders to exchange best practices.

Among the assets noted by Jackson were the state’s outstanding public transportation system -- the state is very “un-American” in its level of public transportation ridership, he said; its outstanding transportation infrastructure -- it is unique on the planet in having a major container port and international airport that are side-by-side; and a commitment to affordable housing. Unlike many other states, New Jersey is making an effort to deal with is discriminatory past, however haltingly, he said.

He also noted that the state is safer than almost anywhere else in the country, has been a leader in the preservation of open space, has a history of commitment to local and regional planning, possesses a vibrant cultural life, spends more on education than other states, has the highest household income of any state in the nation and has attracted a “creative class” that contributes to its prosperity by creating new ideas and businesses.

But he also noted that every stereotype contains an element of truth and that the state has to deal with problems such as political corruption and violent crime before it can
advance further. With regard to political corruption he noted that New York City hasn’t had a corrupt mayor since the 1920s, while the last three mayors of Newark have been indicted. And with regard to violent crime, he noted that Newark has five times as many homicides as the Bronx, demonstrating that “you can get rid of crime.”

Other challenges faced by the state include the reliance on the property tax to fund schools, the poor health of many of the state’s inner cities and the expense of “political Balkanization,” he said. The state has 566 municipalities and almost as many school districts, while the country of France, by comparison, has one school district.

Jackson’s address was followed by that of Hughes, who, after describing himself as the “prince of pessimism” and in other equally negative terms, gave a disheartening account of the economic downturn that began in December 2007 in which he said it would be years before the state recovered from “economic armageddon.” As of May 1, the current recession, which is now generally referred to as the “Great Recession,” will be the longest on record since World War II, he said.

Hughes said a new economic landscape will emerge from what he called “the most formidable manmade financial calamity in modern history” that will be characterized by less reliance on debt, diminished debt-fueled consumerism, a readjustment in the retail sector, a restructured housing industry with a reduced rate of home ownership, a world less dependent on exports to the United States and a diminished role for New York City, whose prosperity has been closely linked with that of the financial industry.

“The unsustainable lending and borrowing binge that has been the key to the engine of regional prosperity is now history,” he said, noting that “it is vitally important to grasp the seriousness of the current situation if we want to get on with it.” He added: “There is no way to sugar-coat the current economic situation.”

Similarly, Nelessen called upon New Jerseyans to confront the changing economic climate by developing a clear vision of the direction in which the state should go -- and to make sure that smarter, greener buildings are a part of it. In considering the city of 2050, he noted that 60 percent of the buildings that will be needed have not yet been built, and that if the region is going to compete globally, it has to deliver the kind of “green urbanism” that has been embraced in other parts of the world.

Nelessen’s remarks echoed themes sounded by Antonicello. “We’ve got to get it right,” the leader of the redevelopment agency said in summing up. “The clock is ticking.”

“Gritty Cities” was sponsored by Landmark Developers Inc., Liberty House Restaurant, Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the American Planning Association and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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ULI-NNJ Conference to Discuss Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing

By Mel Fabrikant

The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) has announced that they have assembled a panel of government officials, leaders and analysts in the real estate industry for a May 21 conference entitled "Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?" to be held in New Brunswick, N.J.

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Speakers will include Jeffrey Otteau, president of the Otteau Valuation Group, a leading real estate market analyst; Stephen M. Eisdorfer Esq., partner of Hill Wallack LLP, where he is a member of the Land Use Division; Ralph Zucker, president of Somerset Development, who has been at the forefront of bringing New Urbanism to New Jersey and New York; and mayors from around the state.

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But the loophole got larger, eliminating the requirement that developments accommodate the infirm, and lowering the cut-off age to 55, Studholme continued. Meanwhile, in states like New Jersey where local property taxes fund the schools, the immediate fiscal logic of restricting housing for the young came to be seen as compelling. Municipalities began to require developers to build for this loophole or not at all.

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ULI-NNJ Conference to Discuss Anti-Family Bias in Age-Restricted Housing

By Betsy Kraat

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The New Jersey Senate has proposed a bill, S-2577--"Opening Up Of Age-restricted Housing"--that would allow communities and developers to lift age-restrictions on age-restricted developments in order to meet demands for affordable housing and to sell vacant units.

The goal of the event is to help clear up some of the confusion that the proposal to lift the age-restricted housing designation has caused. Some think the state has the authority to lift the designation; others think the designation can only be lifted if units aren't selling; and still others think that only local government has the power to remove the designation upon petition from the developer.

Speakers will include Jeffrey Otteau, president of the Otteau Valuation Group, a leading real estate market analyst; Stephen M. Eisdorfer Esq., partner of Hill Wallack LLP, where he is a member of the Land Use Division; Ralph Zucker, president of Somerset Development, who has been at the forefront of bringing New Urbanism to New Jersey and New York; and mayors from around the state.

Otteau's presentation will provide an assessment of the age-restricted housing market as well as a demographic profile of future home buying demand in New Jersey.

Age-restricted developments slide through a loophole in fair housing laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of age or familial status, according to Anne Studholme, an attorney at Herrick, Feinstein LLP who is organizing the event. The loophole was originally written to protect what was at that time a very small component of the housing market - communities intended for occupation by the infirm elderly.

But the loophole got larger, eliminating the requirement that developments accommodate the infirm, and lowering the cut-off age to 55, Studholme continued. Meanwhile, in states like New Jersey where local property taxes fund the schools, the immediate fiscal logic of restricting housing for the young came to be seen as compelling. Municipalities began to require developers to build for this loophole or not at all.

ULI-NNJ
www.nnj.uli.org
Urban Land Institute Holds Second Annual "Gritty Cities" Event in Jersey City
By Betsy Kraat

JERSEY CITY, NJ-- The association of the State of New Jersey with crime, pollution and political corruption is undeserved, with New Jersey -- and especially its formerly "gritty cities," such as Jersey City -- having much to offer the nation in terms of serving as a model of how to successfully deal with urban issues.

That was the conclusion of the participants in "Gritty Cities," the Second Annual Urban Revitalization Conference sponsored by the Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ). The conference, which was held April 21 in Jersey City, was attended by more than 150, including developers, builders, property owners, investors, architects, public officials, planners, real estate brokers, attorneys, engineers, financiers, academics and students.

The state, whose population is more than 95 percent urban, is the first in the nation to have reached a density of more than 1,000 inhabitants per square mile, said keynote speaker Dr. Kenneth T. Jackson, whose address was entitled "If All the World Were New Jersey: The Past and Future of Garden State Cities." The state's population is also incredibly diverse, with a multi-racial, multi-cultural population in which 15 percent of residents were born in a foreign country, he noted.

As such, New Jersey has already reached the point where other cities around the nation are headed, and its willingness to address many of its urban problems means that it has much to offer the nation that is not conveyed by the stereotype, Jackson said. He cited the opening sequence of the popular HBO television series, "The Sopranos," in which Tony Soprano is portrayed driving through a landscape of urban blight, as an example of how much of the nation thinks of New Jersey.

"The stereotype conveys a misleading impression," said Jackson, who is the Jacques Barzun Professor of History and the Social Sciences at Columbia University, director of the Herbert H. Lehman Center for the Study of American History and editor-in-chief of the 1,373-page Encyclopedia of New York City. "New Jersey has already addressed many of the big issues that are facing the United States. The state -- and especially its gritty cities -- is a beacon that can lead the way for the rest of the nation."
Also speaking at the conference were Dr. James Hughes, dean of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ; Tony Nelessen of A. Nelessen Associates, based in Belle Mead, NJ, which specializes in urban design; and Petra Todorovich, director of American 2050, an urban planning initiative to develop an infrastructure and growth strategy for the nation.

The conference was organized by the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency, whose executive director, Robert Antonicello, delivered the opening remarks. Antonicello was recently named vice chair ULI-NNJ. ULI is a worldwide organization that provides leadership in the responsible use of the land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities by bringing together leaders to exchange best practices.

Among the assets noted by Jackson were the state’s outstanding public transportation system -- the state is very "un-American" in its level of public transportation ridership, he said; its outstanding transportation infrastructure -- it is unique on the planet in having a major container port and international airport that are side-by-side; and a commitment to affordable housing. Unlike many other states, New Jersey is making an effort to deal with its discriminatory past, however haltingly, he said.

"Gritty Cities" was sponsored by Landmark Developers Inc., Liberty House Restaurant, Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the American Planning Association and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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ULI-NNJ
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ULI-NNJ Conference

May 21: The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) will assemble a panel of government officials, leaders and analysts for a conference entitled “Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?” to be held at the Rutgers’ Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy, 33 Livingston Ave., from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Visit www.nnj.uli.org for and details.
ULI-NNJ Announces Jeffrey Otteau as Keynote Speaker for Age-Restricted Housing Conference

New Brunswick, NJ, May 15, 2009 - /FLIERWIRE/-- The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) announces that Jeffrey Otteau, the president of the Otteau Valuation Group, a leading real estate market analyst, will be the keynote speaker at a conference entitled "Anti-family Bias in Age-Restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?" to be held on May 21, in New Brunswick, N.J.

The conference will address a problem of increasing importance to New Jersey communities: the use of age-restricted housing as a means of keeping a lid on school enrollments.

Otteau's presentation will provide an assessment of the age-restricted housing market as well as a demographic profile of future home-buying demand in New Jersey.

"The focus by local government on limiting school enrollment is both misinformed and misguided as future household growth will be dominated by childless households," said Otteau. "Further, the trend towards encouraging age-restricted development and the down-zoning of land to lower densities has been a major contributor to housing affordability problems and extreme oversupply of age-restricted housing product in New Jersey."

Many communities have encouraged age-restricted housing as a way of limiting school expenses, but the overbuilding of age-restricted housing means that many of these projects are not selling or are not moving forward.

The New Jersey Senate has proposed a bill, S - 2577 -- "Opening Up Of Age-Restricted Housing," that would allow communities and developers to lift age restrictions on age-restricted developments in order to meet demand for affordable housing and to sell vacant units.

The goal of the event is to help clear up some of the confusion that the proposal to lift the age-restricted housing designation has caused. Some think the state has the authority to lift the designation; others think the designation can only be lifted if units aren't selling; and still others think that only local government has the power to remove the designation upon petition from the developer.
The four-hour program of lectures and panel discussions will include such topics as the fiscal, demographic and market forces at play; the legal history and ramifications; what forces constrain potential solutions; the developer's story; the municipality's story; and "Where do we go from here?"

Other speakers include Stephen M. Eisdorfer Esq., partner of Hill Wallack LLP, where he is a member of the Land Use Division; Ralph Zucker, president of Somerset Development, who has been at the forefront of bringing New Urbanism to New Jersey and New York; and mayors from around the state.

The event will be held at Rutgers' Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy located New Brunswick, N.J., at 33 Livingston Ave., from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with an 8 a.m. registration/networking breakfast. For more information or to register, visit ULI-NNJ's Web site at www.nnj.uli.org. The cost is $55 for members, $75 for non-members and free for students and the media. Media please RSVP to Jason Heller at jheller@beckermanpr.com.

About the Urban Land Institute
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NEWARK, NJ, May 29, 2009 - /FLIERWIRE/-- The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) along with 11 other companies and organizations, including the New Jersey chapter of the Society of Women Environmental Professionals (SWEP) will sponsor an all-day workshop on brownfields entitled, "Northeast Sustainable Community Workshop," which will take place in Newark on June 18 at The New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

Stakeholder perspectives including real estate finance, government at all levels, corporations, community representatives and consultants who provide a range of technical expertise will participate in interactive sessions that focus on best practices and the challenges to their implementation.

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"The workshop will not simply add 'sustainability' to the list of issues related to brownfields, but will look deeply at the interconnections and confluences that make for creating sustainable communities through brownfield redevelopment," said Susan Boyle, senior environmental practice leader at GEI Consultants, vice chair of programs for ULI-NNJ and a panel moderator at the event. "In doing so, the program will focus on the restoration and long-term stewardship, planning, redevelopment and policy of brownfields."

Topics will include multi-stakeholder initiatives for sustainable brownfields redevelopment; brownfields and climate change; communities as brownfield developers; regionalism, smart growth and brownfields; sustainable approaches to assessment and remediation of brownfields sites; green development on brownfields; sustainable approaches to restoration of water systems; using brownfields to create self-sufficient neighborhoods; and public and private partnerships for sustainability.

The all-day workshop will begin with the welcome and introduction by Newark Mayor Cory A. Booker. Following Booker's remarks there will be two morning plenary sessions, three morning workshops, a luncheon address, three afternoon workshops and an afternoon plenary session,
which will conclude the program. A reception will immediately follow the program.

Moderators include Colleen Kokas, bureau chief for the Office of Brownfield Reuse, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP); Elizabeth Barton, Esq., partner, Day Pitney LLP; Lee Ilan, chief of planning, New York City Mayor’s Office of Environmental Remediation; Tracey Vernon, brownfield action team director, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP); Robert Santy, president, Connecticut Economic Resource Center; Gary Rozmus, vice president, Gannett- Fleming; Anna Willett, director, Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council; Mark N. Mauriello, acting commissioner, NJDEP; Barry Hersh, associate clinical professor, New York University’s Schack Institute of Real Estate; Lawrence P. Schnapf, Esq., Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP; Susan Boyle, senior environmental practice leader, GEI Consultants; Michael Taylor, president, Vita Nuova LLC; Chelsea Albucher, sustainability director, City of Newark; Rick Gimello, vice president and senior consultant, WCD Capital Partners; and Anthony Slimowicz, director, WCD Capital Partners. Other sponsors include the NJDEP; PADEP; DuPont; New York City Mayor’s Office of Environmental Remediation, Capital chapter; Society of Women Environmental Professionals, Inc., Greater Philadelphia chapter; Society of Women Environmental Professionals, Inc., New Jersey chapter; Society of Women Environmental Professionals, Inc.; the Connecticut Society For Women Environmental Professionals Inc.; Connecticut Economic Resource Center Inc.; New York City Partnership of Brownfields Practitioners and the New York City Office of Environmental Remediation.

The "Northeast Sustainable Communities Workshop" is approved for eight Certification Maintenance (CM) credits by the American Planning Association. Members of the AICP can register to receive CM credit for the workshop at http://planning.org.

The event will be held at the New Jersey Institute of Technology located in Newark, N.J., from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a 7:45 a.m. registration and a 4:30 p.m. reception. For more information or to register, visit the event Web site at http://nscw.net. Before June 1 the cost is $135 and $50 for government and non-profit practitioners; after June 1, the cost is $175 and $75 for government and non-profit practitioners. Media are welcome to attend free of charge, but must RSVP to Jason Heller at jheller@beckermanpr.com.

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May 29, 2008

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May 2009

Event:

Anit-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?
The Northern New Jersey District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NNJ) will assemble a panel of government officials, leaders and analysts in the real estate industry for a conference entitled "Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?"

Details:

Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
33 Livingston Ave.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

PRICE: $55 for members, $75 for non-members and free for students and the media

PHONE: (908) 781-6420

When:

Thu - Jun 25, 2009
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Event: Anti-family Bias in Age-restricted Housing: A Sustainable Land Use Policy?

UU-NNJU will assemble a panel of government officials, leaders and analysts in the real estate industry, who will address the problem of the use of age-restricted housing as a means of keeping a lid on school enrollment. The program of lectures and panel discussions will include such topics as the fiscal, demographic and market forces at play; the legal history and ramifications; what forces constrain potential solutions; the developer's story; the municipality's; and "where do we go from here?"

Details:

The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers
33 Livingston Ave.
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901

PRICE: $55 members, $75 nonmembers, free for students and the media
PHONE: 908-787-6420

When:

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