



For Immediate Release
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*****SPECIAL NOTICE TO THE MEDIA*****

The Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center (where Reality Check will be held on Wed., Feb. 2nd) is operated by the U.S. General Services Administration. GSA imposes special security procedures for media representatives who plan to cover events at the building.

Please contact Beth Offenbacher at 703.683.4815 x202 or beth@waterfordinc.com no later than **MONDAY, JAN 31st** if you (or another member of your staff) are interested in attending the February 2nd Reality Check exercise, as building security requires that we provide an advance list of media representatives who are likely to cover the event and any equipment they may plan to bring. Thank you.

MEDIA ADVISORY

Regional Leaders Convene for Feb 2nd Reality Check Summit **Summit Attracts Participants from 20+ Greater DC Jurisdictions**

WHAT Nearly 300 elected officials and community, environmental, housing and business leaders from Washington and more than 20 jurisdictions around the region will attend a unique one-day exercise—known as **Reality Check**—to envision how the region will absorb another 2 million people and 1.6 million jobs over the next 25 years.

WHEN **Wednesday, February 2nd, 2005** at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

7:30 am **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
8:00 am **Welcome Remarks - Len Forkas, ULI Washington**
8:10 am **Trends as Destiny? - Margery Turner, Urban Institute**
8:30 am **Visioning Exercise Commences**
12:00 pm **Networking Lunch**
1:15 pm **Reality Check Afternoon Program Commences**
Keynote Speaker - Robert Grow, Founder & Emeritus Chairman, Envision Utah
1:45 pm **Presentation of Findings from Reality Check Exercise**
Gerrit Knaap, Exec Dir, Nat'l Center for Smart Growth, University of Maryland
2:15 pm **Panel: Writing the Next Chapter for the Washington Region**
Moderator: Jay Fiset, Arlington County Board
Panelists: Kate Hanley, Fairfax County
George Vradenburg, The Potomac Conference
Will Baker, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Gary Garczynski, National Association of Home Builders

3:00 pm **Closing Statements**

WHY Reality Check is intended to provoke a regional discussion about **where** we should grow, while future efforts on the local level will consider **how** we should grow. Through discourse and negotiation, all 300 participants will propose alternative growth scenarios by placing LEGO® blocks representing a certain amount of households and jobs on a grid-covered map of the region.

Multi-feed capability will be available for both morning and afternoon sessions.

For more information, visit www.RealityCheckWashington.org or contact Beth Offenbacher at 703.683.4815 x202 (office) or 703.623.4811 (cell).

Sponsored by ULI Washington and the Smart Growth Alliance. Other supporting institutions include: the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Coalition for Smarter Growth, Fannie Mae, George Mason University, George Washington University, Greater Washington Board of Trade, Johns Hopkins University, Metropolitan Washington Builders' Council, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Planning Commission, the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland and the Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech.