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**Sharon Bulova, Chairman of Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and  
John Foust, Dranesville Supervisor Visit Charity Works GreenHouse in  
McLean**

**Designers Show House Set in First Carbon Neutral House on the East Coast**

August 25, 2009 – McLean, Va. -- Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, John Foust, Dranesville Supervisor and senior staff were given a special preview today of the CharityWorks GreenHouse, an unique designers' Show House set in the first carbon neutral house on the East Coast.

The CharityWorks GreenHouse, constructed by WEST\*GROUP in collaboration with Fairfax County based GreenSpur, Inc., will feature the eco-friendly designs of 19 acclaimed interior designers including internationally recognized designer Barry Dixon. Designed by the Washington, D.C. architectural firm of Cunningham Quill, the GreenHouse showcases how energy efficient design, renewable energy systems, and smart locations can come together in a home that is both environmentally friendly and a beautiful place to live.

The GreenHouse was designed to qualify for the LEED Platinum certification. Based on the Energy Star Yardstick this home is more energy efficient than 99.99% of the homes built since 2000. The GreenHouse showcases a new approach to development, which combines more efficient building design, innovative technology and a smart location to reduce carbon emissions — the leading source of harmful greenhouse gases.

Fairfax County officials are currently pursuing plans to encourage development of buildings like the CharityWorks GreenHouse. "We are very supportive of the GreenHouse and expect to learn valuable lessons from its construction," said Chairman Bulova. " This is the future of development and exactly the kind of thing we need to see more of in the County." The County is leading the way with its own Green Building initiative, which seeks to achieve LEED standards for County facilities. County staff is also in the process of developing an energy plan for re-development projects, beginning with Tysons Corner.

"Climate change demands that we learn to build more efficiently, understand renewable energy and that we locate development in places where people can live, work and be less dependent on automobiles," said Mark Lowham, West\*Group Senior Vice President and Chairman of the GreenHouse. The Home site was selected because of its walking distance proximity to the amenities of McLean and to a Metro bus stop. The house is less than a five-minute walk from the grocery store, pharmacy, restaurants and numerous other shops in downtown McLean. "A family can live here and use the Metro bus and train to get downtown or to Tysons in less than a half an hour. Reliable and attractive public transportation is a key piece of the carbon puzzle; we must increase opportunities for people to get out of their cars if we are going to be successful in addressing climate change," added Lowham

Said GreenSpur Founder and President Mark Turner, "This project showcases how energy-efficient design and renewable-energy systems come together in a home that is not only environmentally friendly but also a beautiful place to live. This will be both a model project and home that fits right into the surrounding community."

The CharityWorks GreenHouse is slated to open to the public on October 10 through the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Tickets sales support CharityWorks' mission "to transform lives in the Washington Region."

Since 1999, Charity Works has channeled millions of dollars to community organizations doing the hard work of helping break the cycle of poverty that continues to plague our nation's capital.

Beneficiaries of the CharityWorks GreenHouse include the Friendship Public Charter School, the Injured Marines Semper Fi Fund, the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund and the McLean Project

for the Arts. Additional information and GreenHouse tickets are available at

[www.charityworksgreenhouse.com](http://www.charityworksgreenhouse.com).

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