Peter Katz Headlines Realtors 20/20 Event

Smart Growth makes economic sense and has quickly garnered the interest of cities nationwide. This was evident to the nearly 100 attendees at the recent event Smart Growth Partnership was among the event organizers that also included Greater Fort Lauderdale Realtors®, National Association of Realtors® and Nova Southeastern University.

From left: Peter Katz, Michael Maxwell, Adam Sanders and Marianne Winfield at the 2012 Realtors 20/20 event.

Richard Barkett, Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Realtors® was among the notable people on hand to welcome the audience and present opening remarks. The others included Adam Sanders, Director of Government Affairs for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Realtors®, Michael Maxwell, Interim Director of Real Estate Development/MSRED Program at Nova Southeastern University and Marianne Winfield, Executive Director of Smart Growth Partnership. During her remarks, Winfield presented the 2012 Southeast Florida Awards for Smart Growth Excellence to the City of Dania Beach and the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Peter Katz gave the keynote presentation on the economic advantages of mixed use vs. single tenant development. Katz is an internationally recognized speaker and the author of The New Urbanism: Toward an Architecture of Community. New Urbanism is an urban planning and design movement referred to by The New York Times as, "the most important phenomenon to emerge in American architecture in the post-Cold War era." The movement strives to merge modern technology with traditional planning in creating compelling places that break the suburban mold of enormous shopping malls, cookie-cutter subdivisions and endless highways. Instead, they strive for environmental balance, social equity and a true sense of community. Over the years, Katz has advised many clients including municipal governments and agencies, real-estate developers, non-profit organizations, charitable foundations and civic associations.
After Katz's presentation, there were a series of 10 minute presentations from the following individuals: Greg Stewart, Executive Director of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, Kim Briesemeister, Redevelopment Manager/Executive Director of CRA West Palm Beach and Principal of Redevelopment Management Associates and Gary Rogers, CRA Director of Lauderdale Lakes.

The program concluded with a presentation by Michael Maxwell on The West Village. This project was undertaken by students in Nova Southeastern University’s Real Estate Development/MSRED Program. The students devised a compelling proposal for smart redevelopment of this Sunrise property.