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Contact: Anne Richardson, Marketing and Communications Manager

anne.richardson@sfdc.org

(703) 360.5008 *office*

(928) 600-9675 *cell*

Two more Richmond Highway businesses to receive Façade Improvement grants

Program has fostered \$1.2 million in building upgrades in six years

(August 5, 2008) Fairfax County, Virginia – Two businesses on U.S. Route 1/Richmond Highway, Joe Shifflett HVAC and the Gum Springs Shopping Center, will receive Fairfax County grants to upgrade and beautify their buildings. The grants, which are administered by the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) Design Review Committee, are the latest given as part of the Façade Improvement Program, which has fostered more than \$1.2 million of private investment since 2002.

The SFDC's Design Review Committee supported architectural renderings and improvements to the structure for Joe Shifflett HVAC at 8123 Richmond Highway, formerly Casa Furniture, and initial design funding for the Gum Springs Shopping Center at 7851 Richmond Highway. The Design Review Committee consists of SFDC board members, local business and property owners and Fairfax County Staff.

Five businesses along Richmond Highway have received Façade Improvement grants since the program began. The program provides a 50-50 grant match up to \$25,000 for building façade improvements. The program also includes free conceptual design services provided by a qualified architect. Former participants include Gold's Gym, Cintron Lock and Key, Bodner Chiropractic, the Adler Shopping Center and Hybla Valley Veterinary Clinic

The SFDC helps participants locate an architect to design property improvements including signage, site/access design and landscaping, and facilitates support and funding from the Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment.

The Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation promotes the economic revitalization of Richmond Highway in Fairfax County, Virginia, by assisting businesses in identifying and procuring property to suit their needs. The SFDC also markets Richmond Highway as a commercial center, promotes active economic restructuring and develops urban design plans. Visit www.SFDC.org to learn more.

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