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RICHARD MOE  
PRESIDENT

March 16, 2004

Olmsted Medal Nominations  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Committee Members:

It is my distinct pleasure and honor to support the nomination of Mayor Joseph P. Riley of Charleston, South Carolina for the Olmsted Medal. For more than two decades Joe has provided leadership for the City of Charleston in protecting its built and natural environment. His leadership has had tremendous impact beyond the boundaries of his city. Throughout his tenure as mayor, and in every aspect of his public service, Joe Riley has exhibited a dedication to the ideals embodied in the Olmsted Medal. I can think of no more deserving individual for this honor.

Any list of Joe's accomplishments and qualifications in the area of design and stewardship must be prefaced by his guiding principle that every citizen deserves the best that can be done by his government. The pioneering scattered site public housing program of the early 1980's integrated public housing and its residents back into the community. The development of the Waterfront Park reclaimed abandoned wharves and parking lots, reclaiming this land as an amenity for residents and visitors alike. In his capacity as chairman of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Joe instituted the Mayors Design Institute with the National Endowment for the Arts, benefiting mayors and their constituents through design education.

Mayor Riley is a tireless, inspirational speaker on behalf of design, stewardship and its impact on improving the lives of all Americans. What sets Joe apart from many other speakers is that he has spent a career of public service implementing and proving his rhetoric.

We in the preservation community and I, personally, have the utmost respect and admiration for Joe Riley. I hope that you will favorably review his nomination and bestow on him this most deserved award.

Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Richard Moe

RM: jh:bc



*Recipient of the National  
Humanities Medal*

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