

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Vision for SoNo Moves Closer to Reality**  
*Development Group with Chesapeake ties to redevelop  
South Norfolk's "Gateway"*

**CHESAPEAKE, VA** – A development team featuring a long time Chesapeake development firm and a native of the City who gained fame in the National Football League have won the right to create an exciting mixed-use project on a well-known parcel in the South Norfolk section of Chesapeake.

The City of Chesapeake has awarded Harris-Judah Development, headed by William "Bill" Judah and Jerry Harris, and Fulco Development, headed by former All-Pro NFL defensive end William Fuller, the go-ahead to create **The Gateway at SoNo**. To be constructed on the site of the former Big Pig Supermarket at the corner of Bainbridge Boulevard and Poindexter Street, the development is expected to transform a historic, yet long neglected area, into a vibrant community once again.

"The 'Gateway' is an important initiative in the South Norfolk Redevelopment plan," said Dalton S. Edge, Mayor of Chesapeake. "It's the first major development you see when you enter South Norfolk, and we want to create a gateway that is attractive and inviting to residents and visitors alike."

The 6-acre site, for which the developers will pay the City \$1.475 million, will feature 108 residences that will appear from the street as a series of "mansion-style" condominiums with architectural design that is in keeping with the roots of the South Norfolk neighborhood. In addition, **The Gateway at SoNo** will feature two cornerstone mixed-use buildings along Poindexter Street providing 84,000 square feet of retail and office space, which will create business opportunities and deliver goods and services to this historic community.

The project will coincide with the Poindexter Streetscape Improvement project along this primary business corridor into the South Norfolk district, which will begin this summer. Streetscape improvement funding was secured through a

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series of federal TEA-21 grants, funds provided through the City's capital improvement budget, and the City Council's establishment of the South Norfolk Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District.

Judah, President of Harris-Judah Development, has a long history with the City of Chesapeake as a resident, a business owner, and as a principal in the development of Greenbrier. "The opportunity to be part of such an important redevelopment project in South Norfolk is a source of tremendous pride," stated Judah. For Fuller, this is his first business venture in Chesapeake. His firm, however, developed a recently opened shopping center featuring a Farm Fresh Supermarket in Norfolk's Berkley community and is a partner in a Hilton Hotel development planned for Main Street in downtown Norfolk.

**The Gateway at SoNo** will mark the second major initiative in development in the execution of the South Norfolk Strategic Development Plan prepared by Urban Design Associates of Pittsburgh, PA. If approved, Belharbour Station @ SoNo, a mixed-use waterfront development, is set to break ground by mid-summer on a 23-acre waterfront site along the southern branch of the Elizabeth River. It will host a \$200 million urban mixed-use development that will include a marina, 600 residential units (townhomes, apartments and mid-rise condominiums), 100,000 square feet of Class "A" office space, 40,000 square feet of new retail space, and three parking decks.

For more information or to set up interviews, please call **Warren D. Harris** at (757) **382-8040**.

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