



GrowSmartRI
Sustainable Economic Growth
& Quality of Place

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Grow Smart RI to Locally Recognize Bike Newport and Queen Anne Square Restoration at July 17, 2014 “Friendraiser”

July 14, 2014, Providence, RI – Grow Smart Rhode Island (“Grow Smart”) will join with Aquidneck Island community leaders to celebrate ongoing local community revitalization and quality of life efforts next Thursday, July 17th during a “Friendraiser” for the organization hosted by Grow Smart Board member and Aquidneck Island resident Barbara van Beuren. The Friendraising event will take place in Honyman Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church, adjacent to Queen Anne Square from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

A short speaking program will include remarks by Barbara van Beuren, Grow Smart Board Chair Howard Kilguss, and Grow Smart Executive Director Scott Wolf. Highlighting the event will

be the local recognition of two Newport initiatives -- Bike Newport and the restoration of Queen Anne's Square by the Newport Restoration Foundation and the City of Newport. Both received state smart growth awards at Grow Smart's recent Power of Place Summit, held in Providence. Bike Newport's Executive Director Bari Freeman, the Newport Restoration Foundation's Executive Director Pieter Roos and officials from the City of Newport will accept the awards on Thursday. In addition, Scott Wolf will briefly describe Grow Smart's past, present and future work that enhances Aquidneck Island's quality of life and place. Future work includes training and technical assistance that Grow Smart anticipates providing as part of a pedestrian safety project supported by the RI Department of Health.

Grow Smart Rhode Island provides statewide leadership for diverse public and private interests seeking sustainable and equitable economic growth. It promotes such growth by advocating for compact development in revitalized urban, town, and village centers balanced with responsible stewardship of our region's natural assets – farmland, forests, the coastline, and the Bay. It informs leaders, decision makers, and concerned citizens about the many benefits of compact development and asset stewardship and provides research and training on proven smart growth strategies. It also convenes broad coalitions that advocate policy reforms and specific projects designed to build communities where all people and businesses can thrive