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October 29, 1976

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Dear Jay:

One of the delegates has asked us a question that our extensive imported library cannot answer. It concerns the Virginia statutory and constitutional provisions described in the circled paragraph on the attached page. Could you have someone identify the relevant constitutional provision and locate the relevant statute along with the legislative history and any explanation of that statute?

Thanks.

Sincerely,

Neal Solomon

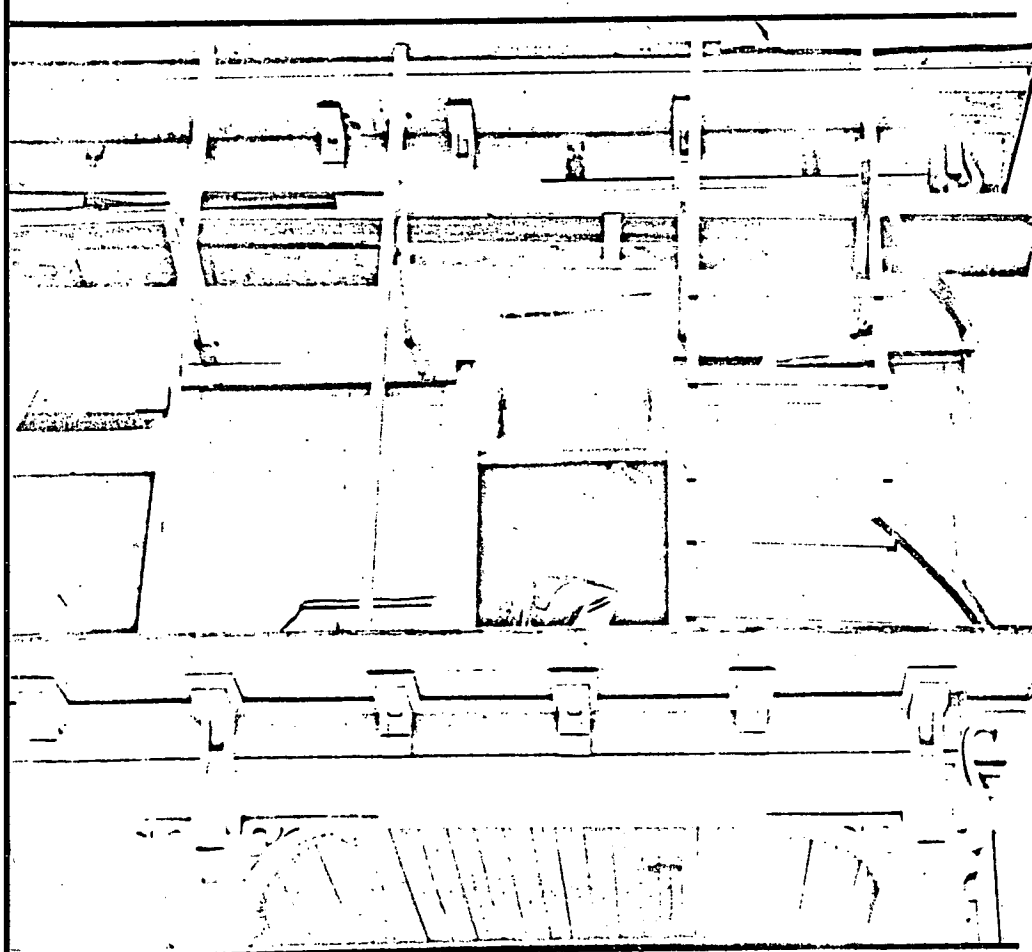
Enclosure

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

## USED TO SET UP LOCAL REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM

by

Pat W. Collins, Special Programs Assistant,  
Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Portsmouth, Virginia



The Portsmouth, Virginia redevelopment and housing authority, as part of its extensive ongoing conservation program, has utilized \$200,000 in community development funds as a subsidy and loan guarantee to provide \$500,000 in low-interest rehabilitation loans to project area propertyowners. This program is in keeping with the objectives of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Portsmouth was the fourth locality in the country and the first in its region to receive approval of its 1975 community development application. The Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority is carrying out the majority of activities for the community development program as agent for the city government. With regard to conservation activities, Virginia state law specifically empowers only redevelopment and housing authorities to make loans to conservation project propertyowners. Municipal governments are expressly forbidden to make such loans under the Virginia constitution.

**Previous Local Program:** As a result of the drastic curtailment of the funding level of the Section 312 rehabilitation loan program during the past several years, the authority established one of the first local rehabilitation loan programs in the nation in May 1973, in order to meet the growing need for home improvement