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Connerton Named “Outstanding Florida Friendly Community” at 2007 Southeast Building Conference

TAMPA, Fla. (July 17, 2007) – Connerton, the nearly 5,000-acre New Town currently under development in Pasco County, was honored last Thursday in an awards ceremony at the 2007 Southeast Building Conference (SEBC) in Orlando. Connerton received the *Outstanding Florida Friendly Community Award* for its environmentally sensitive approach to development. Winners of the award were judged on community design and preservation, landscaping, water quality and conservation, maintenance and education.

“This is a great honor for us, and it’s a testament to our team’s vision to make Connerton a leader in sustainable Florida communities,” said Connerton President Stewart Gibbons. “We want Connerton to set the example for environmentally responsible development.”

The awards are part of the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods initiative, developed by the University of Florida to recognize new developments that incorporate Florida-friendly landscaping and irrigation practices into their communities, thereby creating sustainable development in Florida. In a letter nominating Connerton for the award, a representative of Florida Yards & Neighborhoods characterized the Connerton team as a “small and committed group of professionals who are truly changing the world from right here in Pasco County.” Water conservation efforts, wildlife habitat preservation and erosion control were among the items identified as setting Connerton apart from other communities in Florida.

The SEBC is the largest building and education conference in the South. Hosted by the Florida Home Builders Association, the 2007 conference took place July 11-14 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando.

About Connerton

Connerton is a 4,800-acre mixed-use master planned community in Central Pasco County, and the only “New Town” currently under construction in the greater Tampa Bay

area. In total, there are approximately 8,500 residential units planned with over 3 million square feet of commercial space for office, retail and industrial uses. The Arbors, the first village in Connerton, is nearly sold out. The community will feature many amenities, including a Town Center, fitness and aquatics complex, amphitheatre, parks, walking trails and conservation areas. A hospital, regional park and three schools are also planned.

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