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Christopher Alexander Chairman of the board

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Arch. Professor Emeritus Dimitris Fatouros,
15 Kodrou Str.
ATHENS 10558
GREECE.
By fax: 011-301-3225-795

Dear Dimitris,

It was a very great pleasure to see you, in Greece, after so many years. The years have flown so fast! It was fascinating to hear of the great road whose construction you are heading -- for an architect to undertake such a giant project is wonderful. And then not long ago, you were kind enough to give me a second great pleasure to receive, from you the copy of the monograph dealing so extensively with your earlier building works.

I have known your work well enough over the years, to recognize its physical character, and it stamp as yours -- and have seen several buildings in books about Thessaloniki. I came to appreciate, especially, the very characteristic and harmonious way you used rectangular and simple masses coupled with the use of random stone, to offset other parts in concrete or smooth plaster... I find this style of work, and its harmonies, very, very successful, and have also tried, myself, in several buildings, to use natural stone and old brick, in conjunction with larger areas of new plaster or concrete, in a single building - so I have a special appreciation for this quality. I should really love a chance, one day, to see one of these buildings in the Thessaloniki area.

I hope you were pleased with the progress of the conference speeches at the conference we attended. What was your impression from the conference? As you know, it is my hope to undertake the program that I

*Architects * Engineers * General Contractors*
*2701 Shasta Road, Berkeley, California, 94708 * e-mail ca@patternlanguage.com*
*Fax * California 1-510-841-8668 * UK 44-1243-554-363*
*Telephone * California 1-510-841-6166 * UK 44-1243-551-435*

outlined in my speech, as a real help to the City of Thessaloniki, more or less along the general lines I suggested in our dinner with Dimitrios in Athens. I have written him with a rather more detailed outline, of some aspect of the methods we may use to achieve this goal, but I am fully aware that it could not be done successfully without your help.

It would please me very greatly if you felt sufficiently moved by the proposal I have made, and sufficiently interested in their intellectual and architectural force, that you may be willing to stand together with me, and give the project your help and support.

The first step, of course, will be two: first to find a level of enthusiasm and support among major forces in the city , the University, and in the Ministry of Public Works; and secondly, to undertake, on a pilot basis, a series of demonstrations sufficiently large to provide us the opportunity to work out the practical and procedural details of the approach, in a way that can be implemented. It is also my very strong hope that Dimitrios, will be interested in helping as a core player.

I hope you have the same strong feeling that I do about the need to reconstruct the public space of the old center of the city, in a step by step way, so that it may be brought to life, in the future by means of the very advanced technical and internet program I have described.

Would it be possible for you to write to me, and express your own ideas for a political strategy that could succeed, step by step, in establishing this project. I hope you are extremely well, and that I shall have the pleasure of hearing from you.

With all kind regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Chris' written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris