Student Family Housing Redevelopment Committee – Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: 2-24-2015  Time: 1:00PM – 2:30PM PST

Participants: Associate Dean Lenora Timm (Chair), Derby (Project Manager), Brittany Derieg (Project Assistant), Professor Michael Rios, Graduate Student Assistant to the Dean and Chancellor Angel Hinzo, Graduate Student Representatives Cutcha Risling Baldy, Carlos Colman Meixner, Gordon Rees, Sara Petrosillo, and Paul Johnson, and Undergraduate Student Representative Ryan Reynolds.

CGPSA Survey: General Results of Analysis

Major finding #1: At capacity, Orchard and Solano do not even meet the current need for affordable housing. This suggests that closing Orchard Park burdened the City of Davis with a large number of student families needing affordable housing.

Major finding #2: Poorer students are hardest-hit by higher Davis prices, as those with lower incomes are much more likely to live in Davis, not less likely as one would expect due to the higher cost of living in Davis.

Major finding #3: Compared to students without kids, students with children face particularly severe financial burdens. Having kids greatly impacts the importance students place on support for student families in deciding whether to continue at UC Davis.

Major finding #4: International students are particularly vulnerable financially. Compared to non-international students, they had lower income on average and were less likely to use student loans.

Upcoming Community Workshop

All interested students, scholars, and family members are encouraged to take our community survey and attend the workshop. It is not limited to current or former resident of Orchard or Solano Park.

We spent the fall quarter gathering input from constituents regarding the needs of families, considering design features, identifying quality of life issues, and exploring options to keep the rates as affordable as possible. During winter quarter we summarized our preliminary findings and are surveying the community, including past residents and interested non-residents.

At the Community Workshop we will share the results of the survey as well as review the goals and priorities for the redevelopment of student family housing in the following areas:

1. Facilities – Includes topics related to housing density (units per acre) and shared public spaces (e.g., the community center and playgrounds).
2. Quality of Life Issues – Includes topics related to community support programs, policies, procedures, and design elements which contribute positively to a sense of community and belonging for students/scholars and their families.
3. **Affordability** – Includes topics that might impact construction costs and rental rates.

Next steps: The committee will incorporate the feedback from this community workshop, previous student focus groups, and the online survey as we draft recommendations for the University. We will share a draft of the report with the community in April for comment. The final report will be presented in late May of 2015.

**Comments on the Survey Draft**

Affordability needs to be the first section (beyond basic demographic data), and the questions need to be separated out into single trade offs, such as between density, and price, between third party, and price, etc. Supporting explanations should be split between the web and the survey itself.