

March 6, 2019

Dear city council,

When some of the council members requested that AMCAL consider university housing for student families and HSU staff and faculty — HSU was a partner in the village project. To our knowledge, HSU has the legal ability to reserve housing for certain categories of people and could have achieved university housing to include student families, staff and faculty. Although we applauded the council's attempt to diversify the housing type when HSU was a partner, AMCAL's follow-up proposal with large purpose-built student housing next to open market apartments, is unlikely to achieve the originally desired diversification. Most importantly, AMCAL's new version of open market housing resulted in a large population increase, an increase well beyond the 600 bed cap that was nearly approved last summer, and ACRH does not support this new proposal.

There seems to be a push to increase the occupancy numbers well beyond what the public has found acceptable. While in-fill development with high-density housing might be a great goal for a city, it's a lot to ask for one part of town to absorb over a short period of time. In our part of Arcata, we have a number of projects, either under construction or proposed: Sunset Terrace, Canyon Creek Apartments, Creekside Homes, and Lower Twin Parks. The cumulative impact of all the various projects in the same area is a lot to ask, and makes it all the more understandable that the surrounding neighbors ask that you don't make us bear the majority of the impacts of Arcata's growth. The size of the development on the craftsman's mall site should be much smaller, more in the order of an occupancy of 400-500 people.

In the last meeting, I tried to express that the engaged public is exhausted. We want this to be resolved, but I misspoke when I suggested the process should be sped up. Instead, we hope the council and staff can avoid a never-ending back-and-forth of proposals in which the applicant is simply trying to maximize their profit at the expense of healthy neighborhoods.

Sincerely, Erik Jules

Arcata, CA