Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure L

A community is enriched and made resilient by the diversity of its citizens. Regionally, Davis has been the least racially diverse city for many decades. Our population is also the “oldest” and the most “wealthy” in terms of income but the City has very limited affordable housing for working families.

West Davis Active Adult Community exacerbates ALL of these demographic imbalances in Davis. By limiting almost all home purchases in perpetuity to seniors, the project will continue to rob the City of the vitality of young families. Because almost all of the new homes will be classic sprawl on large lots, the resultant high prices will exclude purchase by working families and seniors of modest means.

Most worrisome, however, is the developer’s “Taking Care of Our Own - Davis-Based Buyers Program”. This exclusionary program requires 90% of West Davis Active Adult Community buyers to have a preexisting “relationship” with Davis by already living here, having a family member here, working here, or having attended Davis schools; among other criteria.

The developer justifies this discrimination by claiming they are only favoring seniors as allowed under current housing law. However, while laws do allow senior-only projects, they expressly prohibit exclusion of unaffiliated “outsiders” such as required by the “Davis-Based Buyers Program”.

West Davis Active Adult Community will clearly perpetuate the racial, age, and economic disparities in Davis and deny ownership opportunities to other racially diverse, younger, and less wealthy groups not currently well-represented in Davis.

Please embrace inclusivity and diversity and reject this discriminatory housing project.

Please vote No on Measure L

/S/
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