



June 14, 2021

Davis City Council
23 Russell Blvd
Davis, CA 95616

Dear Members of the City Council,

We are writing on behalf of the Davis College Democrats (and the large activist community we represent) to express our grievances with, and proposed reforms to, the 2021-2029 Housing Element Draft. The issue of housing is of particular concern to members of our organization, many of whom have experienced housing insecurity as students in this community. We are closely following the path of the Housing Element because we recognize the importance of having a plan in place that will meet the needs of students and the city at large for years to come.

The current iteration of the Housing Element fails to meet the needs of Davis and its residents. The plan ensures that the city will continue its trend of not providing enough new homes to achieve sustainable and healthy growth. This will further compound the difficulties many students and community members face with housing insecurity and homelessness at present.

Vitriolic anti-student rhetoric in past housing comments has spurred our organization to become a voice for housing advocacy in Davis. Housing is a human right for everyone, including students in this community. Therefore, we urge Davis City Council to, at a minimum, implement the following proposals into the 2021-29 Housing Element:

1. Streamline the by-right approval process to increase the likelihood of proposed housing projects being approved.
2. Legalize density increase for up to four units per lot in single-family residential areas.
3. Fully fund the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) to support existing affordable housing and subsidize new affordable projects.
4. Eliminate parking minimums to free up large swaths of land for infill development and promote sustainable transportation options.

We sincerely hope you will do everything you can to ensure that everyone in Davis is able to find a quality and affordable place to live. Thank you for your time.

Signed,

Michelle Andrews
DCD President

Jackson Mills
DCD Director of Political Affairs

Evan Semper
DCD Executive Director