

Jessica Lynch

From: Joan Cadden <jcadden@ucdavis.edu>
Sent: Saturday, June 19, 2021 3:32 PM
To: Jessica Lynch
Subject: Housing Element

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To the Davis City Council:

Davis has more than a legal obligation to provide affordable and, especially, low cost housing for those who work with and for us. We have an ethical obligation. In considering the Housing Element of City policy, we should do more than grudgingly squeeze in the minimum number of state-required units. Rather, we should rebuild Davis physically to achieve the inclusivity we so often say we believe in morally.

The Council should pursue multiple avenues to achieve this end:

1. Modify zoning to permit greater density.
2. Amend Measure D to make exceptions for low-cost and affordable housing practical.
3. Make a commitment to the Housing Trust Fund, including public revenue streams.

Those of us who live in areas of single-family homes may find our neighborhoods changed and allocating public funds for housing may require budget cuts in other areas. But the current configuration of our neighborhoods is neither practical nor just. In our debates about development, we express our opposition to sprawl and our concern about carbon emissions. But people who work in Davis are increasingly finding houses elsewhere, including in formerly agricultural areas, and driving many miles to get here. And, as a city with a giant publicly funded institution at our heart, might we not have a special obligation to welcome Californians of all income levels to live among us?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Joan Cadden
1027 Columbia Place
Davis, CA 95616