North Mesa Community Meeting  
9126 Community Room  
August 23, 2017 4:00pm

Staff Attended: Robert Frazier, Malia Mahi, Michael Salas

Priority process:
Housing explained that the relocation process starts with students updating their application information via the housing website. Bob Frazier further shared that applications from all North Mesa residents will be identified as priority placement and will make offers based upon preferences and need dates reflected in each application. Housing stressed that need dates farther out may impact a student’s ability to receive an offer for your 1st preference based upon limited inventory.

North Mesa being demolished for new construction:
Bob Frazier discussed the project review process; how it is a multi-layered process which culminates in a 3 step UC Regents approval process. The Nuevo East project received preliminary approval in July 2017 and a notice was sent to North Mesa residents the first week of August. In response to an inquiry of “why weren’t we notified earlier”, housing stated that the process takes time and it is not constructive to communicate project approval if it is premature or inaccurate.

Specifics and guarantees regarding the upcoming new project:
Housing discussed the design process and that it takes months to develop the design and architecture of buildings/units/overall site plans; and that the design team is just now at the beginning of all that. Thus, there are no specifics details and guarantees can’t be made as this is an evolutionary process from start to finish. Bob Frazier shared that both he and Malia Mahi are on the Building Advisory Committees (BACs) and they can be the voice of North Mesa residents while keeping them apprised of the progress.

Rent credits/reductions:
A few ideas were exchanged regarding some ways that the differential in rent, if relocating to a higher rent space/apartment in Housing, could be handled if approved. The resident attendees suggest the reallocation of funds use to pay the commercial moving company could be directed to the residents; that students could organize as a community, via email, to help move one another, and/or housing should just extend current rental rates out for another 12-months. Bob shared that these were all ideas that would need to be raised to leadership, but that he can be the advocate for the residents and that he would deliver this message. No promises or guarantees were made, but keeping the dialogue open now and during future community meetings is the goal.

Lease Extensions after relocating from North Mesa:
Discussion continued around the concept of extending the current rental rates into the future. Housing shared that this would be considered by leadership and are hopeful to have some additional information by the next meeting. No specifics as to length of extension was discussed and how it should be applied. Bob did share that availability of space throughout communities is a major factor in how, if approved, this concept could be applied. Again he shared, the goal of these community meeting are to maintain open communications with residents and to keep the dialogue moving forward.

New Project amenities:
Various members of the resident group shared that they, implying families, are not interested in amenities such as a fitness center, pool, pub, etc., Bob commented that current Mesa Nueva resident and other Mesa Community feedback indicates that many students do enjoy to have these amenities available. Housing notified the group that the fitness center and pool are available for use by all residents of the Mesa community. Malia Mahi explained that a resident’s access card just needs to be programmed so if you are interested, contact the Mesa Nueva office at: 858-246-2222 or email at mesanueva@ucsd.edu. Bob stressed to the group, that through our commitment of open communications,
Housing invites residents to submit suggestions and ideas regarding future community amenities that you would like considered or not at all.

Playground and Open Grassy Areas:
The group inquired what was to be done about the loss of the North Mesa playground. Bob shared that the design team is looking into the relocation of the playground; specific size, equipment, actual play area, running space and grassy area measurements have not yet been finalized. A question was asked, Will it be “like-for-like”? It is unclear at this time, but it is being investigated as a possibility. Mesa Nueva will soon open a new playground, with other features that are geared towards more tactile processes than traditional play areas. Regarding the relocation of the North Mesa playground, a walk-through with the designers was scheduled last week and hopefully more information will be shared at our next meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for September 20, 2017 5:00pm