

February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Chancellor Judy Miner  
FHDA Board of Trustees  
Chancellor's Advisory Council

The Affordable Housing Task Force was created to provide transparency and full participation by all stakeholders as the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, and Chancellor's Advisory Council make decisions about providing affordable housing to the students, staff and faculty of Foothill-De Anza. The Task Force is composed of students, staff, faculty and an administrative liaison, representing the Foothill and De Anza campuses and Central Services. The Task Force has been meeting twice per month to support these efforts.

Given the link between student engagement and success, we recommend that the district examine the feasibility of on-campus affordable housing on both campuses. When considering off-campus sites, we unanimously recommend that the district use the following criteria in selecting a site. We find that these criteria apply equally whether considering housing for students, staff, faculty, or a mix of groups.

### **Distance to Campus**

In developing this criterion, we recognize that our constituents who qualify for affordable housing may not own reliable transportation. We recognize that travel time is a serious opportunity cost. For students, travel time could have been time spent studying or earning money to support the cost of college. For faculty, travel time could have been time spent supporting students or contributing to their college. For all groups, travel time is time away from family and from mental health breaks.

We also recognize that classes are offered early, starting at 7:30AM, late, ending at 10:30PM, and on weekends.

**Criterion:** There should be a transit stop within a five-minute well-lit walk from the housing facility. Between the hours of 7:30 AM and 10:30 PM Monday through Friday, and 7:30 AM – 3PM Saturday, a complete trip to either campus including transfers should take no more than thirty minutes. Alternatively, a site could be 15-30 minutes by bike if a bike loan program is available and accommodations are made for those who cannot ride a bicycle. If there are two sites intended to serve constituents from each campus separately, then this criterion may apply to each campus separately.

### **Distance to Food**

Residents should have access to a good selection of fresh, healthful, and affordable food. It is difficult to bring food home on public transportation. The USDA defines medium walkability to fresh food as one mile away at a maximum.

**Criterion:** There should be a full-service supermarket that accepts EBT within a one mile walk of the housing facility, with a safe and well-lit walking path.

## **Safety**

In order for potential residents to consider district affordable housing, they must feel safe.

**Criterion:** The streets and sidewalks near the housing facility should be well-lit and well-maintained. Long-term, safe, and free parking should be available to residents.

## **Health Care**

**Criterion:** There should be a hospital or urgent care facility within a thirty-minute bus ride from the housing facility.

## **Child Care**

We recognize that residents from all three groups may have young children. In order to focus effectively on work or study, they must be confident that their children are safe and thriving.

**Criterion:** There should be an affordable pre-K facility within two miles of the housing facility.

## **Green Space**

Backed with scientific evidence, the United Nations finds that “reducing socioeconomic disparities in the availability of urban green spaces can help to reduce inequalities in health related to income, minority status, disability and other socioeconomic and demographic factors.”

**Criterion:** There should ideally be green space within the boundaries of the housing facility, or a public open space within one mile of the housing facility.

In Unanimity,

Foothill – De Anza Affordable Housing Task Force:

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