

Asheville City Council August 23, 2022 Email Comments

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8/20/2022 1:01:00 AM

Text

City council members,
Please consider, if indeed Laurel Street Residential purchases the property at 319 Biltmore for affordable housing, ensuring there is adequate green space in the development. Families, especially young children, are negatively affected by growing up in a "concrete jungle." Grass, trees and greenery have a calming effect on adults and children alike and improves mental health. Plus large amounts of nonpermeable surfaces create runoff and potential drainage issues while grass and plant roots absorb rainwater and counteract pollutants.
It's admirable to provide needed housing, but our decisions today, regarding how they are built, will affect generations of Asheville residents in many ways.
Thank you for reading this and for your service to our community.
Cherie Morris

8/22/2022 3:43:00 PM

Hello City Council,

My name is Andrew Paul, and I live on State St. in East West Asheville.

I just wanted to send a note of approval for the 319 Biltmore Ave. project as well as the South Slope Vision Plan.

As the co-founder of Asheville For All <<https://ashevilleforall.org/>>, I believe we need all sorts and sizes of new housing for all kinds of Ashevilleans—of all income levels and family sizes—to get out of our housing under-supply crisis.

Both the 319 Biltmore Ave project and the South Slope Vision Plan are a means to add more housing units, thus potentially increasing vacancy rates, which we know are at a record low and are the prime factor behind displacement, housing insecurity, and homelessness.

But it also strikes that these two projects both reflect a vision that's about more than housing abundance. They incorporate some of the best and most forward thinking ideas in land use, and I really appreciate this focus on central location, street interaction, proximity to jobs, transit, amenities, and infrastructure, and mixed use design.

(Such characteristics are good for Asheville's people, and I understand they're also good for the budget—the city can increase its tax base without sprawling out and needing more costly infrastructure.)

Thanks,