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Gene Poveromo**ATTACHMENT 10**

From: Richard Surwit [surwi001@mc.duke.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 7:47 PM
To: bcalhoun@durhamhabitat.org
Cc: dschoworer@nc.rr.com; Gene Poveromo; slevy@orangehabitat.org
Subject: Re: Sunrise Coalition Presentation
Attachments: house1.jpg; house2.jpg

Mr. Calhoun,

I apologize if I misrepresented picture 1 as a Habitat property during my presentation to the CDC. I was given this information by Mr. Schworer and Ms. Cummings who were shown around the neighborhood by Mr. Larry Thomas, a long-time Habitat supporter and the donor of the land on which the house 2 was built on. It was their understanding that both houses were built by Habitat and that House no 2 (which was a Habitat house) was about 8 years old. Mr. Thomas did not give us any other history about the property.

We would be delighted to see an example of a community like the one proposed by HHOC for the Sunrise Road property. Specifically, we would like to see one with fifty or more units on four or five acres where there is a mixture of single and multiple family homes and where single family two story homes are built on 3,000 sq ft lots without driveways. We are familiar with traditional Habitat communities and would welcome such a development in our neighborhood. However, we remain quite skeptical about the sustainability of a high-density housing project with extensive common areas that require continuous maintenance. If you have built such a community, it would be very helpful to see it.

Yours sincerely,

Richard S. Surwit

Bob Calhoun

<bcalhoun@durhamhabitat.org>

10/13/2004 03:53 PM

Please respond to bcalhoun

To: dschoworer@nc.rr.com
 cc: surwi001@mc.duke.edu, gpoveromo@townofchapelhill.org,
 slevy@orangehabitat.org
 Subject: Sunrise Coalition Presentation

Mr. Schworer,

It has come to my attention that a presentation to the Community Design Commission by Dr. Surwit included slides identified as 6 year old homes built by Habitat for Humanity of Durham. This is not correct.

The house pictured as "house1" is not a Habitat product, nor am I familiar with its location or history. Habitat Durham built the home in slide "house2", not 6 but 18 years ago. Approximately 19 months ago, the Housing Authority of the City of Durham exercised eminent domain as an inclusion of the current Hope VI efforts requiring new roadway alignments. This home was purchased by HAD and the owner relocated with a new home to own. In the ensuing months, the house has been vacant and vandalized. HAD has little interest in preserving the building as it is slated for demolition due to the roadway alignment and high cost of moving the structure. If Dr. Surwit has presented an example for our communities, it is a testament to the

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value of owner occupied homes and neighborhoods. Twenty months ago 1003 Angier Avenue was a well maintained, cherished home.

Although I believe this was most likely the result of haste and poor research, a correction and apology to the Durham and Orange communities is in order. I would be pleased to speak with you further concerning this issue.

If you are truly interested in the current work of Habitat Durham, our 150th home is open for tours Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons as part of the Home Builders Association Parade of Homes.

Sincerely,

Bob Calhoun
Executive Director

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