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Date : March 23, 2019

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To : Jennifer K. Clark, AICP, Director

DARM - DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
CITY OF FRESNO

Subject : Appeal to the Barstow/ Grantland apartments

I've been a residence of the Grantland and Barstow area for 12 years. It has been a quiet, nice neighborhood. With an apartment complex being built just a block down from me will create more noise, traffic, and an eye soar for the community. The area can barely sustain the current children to attend the nearby elementary school in the area, let alone be able to accommodate any future children in this large development of a 172 complex unit.

To have an apartment build in the neighborhood will also lead to a drop in property value. My concerns is section 8 will move in. Due to the apartments being built so close to my block, those residence will walk through my neighborhood because we have ton of pretty shaded landscape sidewalks. Apartments will create an eye soar in an area no matter how nice the developer will design it.

Our streets are not equip to sustain the added traffic with the addition of 172 units. Especially when there is already tons of traffic trying to get to Herndon or Shaw. Not to mention, having to deal with the train on top of all this.

More noise will occur due to the residence walking through my neighborhood to utilize the park; and more traffic driving by.

All in all, my concerns are noise, decrease in property value, crime, limited to school availability, traffic, and an eye soar to a beautiful area. The homes in this area average \$400,000 and higher, will drop now to this new complex. None of my neighbors are thrilled about this development.

Sincerely,



Maryann Sanchez

RECEIVED

To: Jennifer K. Clark, Director

Development and Resource Management Dept.

2600 Fresno Street

Fresno, CA 93721-3604

APR 05 2019

DARM - DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
CITY OF FRESNO

From: Xia Yeng Vu

5526 N. La Ventan Ave

Fresno, CA 93723

Regarding: Appealing application C-15-165, Assessor's Parcel No. 505-060-08

As a concerned home owner half a block away, and as a visionary for the beautification of Fresno City, I appeal the idea of building the 172 unit apartment complex next to our high value and quiet neighborhood. I am estimating that the 172 units will house over 500 tenants, over 50 dogs and cats, over 200 cars, and maybe 10 semitrucks parked in the fields nearby. Barstow street is already in bad condition, and the massive extra cars rolling on it will break it up even more. There is a narrow canal crossing on Barstow that will be more dangerous for many cars rushing and passing each other, so are they going to widen the canal crossing?

Fresno is not a beautiful city compared to other bigger cities in Sacramento area where they have a lot of parks and trails in their new developments. Even Clovis has a couple scenic trails and parks. This northwest corner of Fresno has no nice parks and trails. The only place people can go walking safely from the streets is along the canal. But it has been a chronic problem of many people dumping trash along the canal, and careless pet owners taking their dogs for long walks and crapping all along the canal road without picking up after their dogs crap. All the crap stinks up the canal trail and it's no longer carefree to walk because you are frequently looking down to avoid stepping on crap and taking it home on your shoes. With more people walking their dogs, it is going to be even more stinky and disgusting, and more trash dumped along and in the canal.

Are the builders going to build an adjacent park for the tenants and community to relax in? Are they going to build a separate dog park to contain all the dog crap instead of allowing to crap all along the canal and the fields? Is the City of Fresno going to continue to be an ugly city, or are you going to build more parks and trails? Are you going to beautify the canal roads or parallel trail for your citizens to enjoy, walk, relax, exercise? Are you going to set up dog crap collection stations and crap bags along the canal trail and signs for people to pick up after their dogs? There are also a lot of stray cats, unlicensed cats, that come crap in my yard and vegetable garden, stinking up my yard, and sometimes I accidentally step on cat crap and spread it around my yard. It's disgusting and unhealthy for my vegetable garden that the cats crap in.

There are motorcycle speeders and speeding drivers who have been using Barstow to get their adrenaline rush, purposely revving up their loud engines and speeding through Barstow. Is the City willing to put in speed bumps all along Barstow?

This community here already have a lot of truckers who park their semitrucks wherever they can near their residential homes. They also parked their semitrucks in the fields next to Barstow and Grantland. Ask the police of this area, and they will confirm it. There was even a big RV trailer parked there for a while. People also dump trash there. This huge apartment complex is surely going to bring in more truckers and more semitrucks into the our high value, quiet neighborhood. What are you going to do about that?

This community already has a lot of homeless population living in the fields and south of Shaw. They come up to our quality homes and vehicles and commit thefts, burglaries, and mischief continually. We all know that apartment dwellers bring and invite more crime into the area. Also, every summer there are man-made fires in these fields caused during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July season. And with 500 more tenants, you are going to have more fires started in the fields and endangering adjacent homes and telephone poles. Is the city going to add more police staffing in this community to reverse the homeless population invasion and the crime rates?

If you allow these buildings to build next to our high priced homes, you will cause our homes to lose value. Do you remember a decade ago when a lot of Fresno home owners abandoned and foreclosed their high priced houses when the property value dropped? Did that local recession affect the Fresno economy? Do you want to repeat that?

I request that you deny the building of this huge apartment complex and future apartment complexes in this area of the city. But if you are going to entertain their big money making idea, then require them fix all these concerns and add more beautification requirements by adding a nature trail alongside the canal road.

I personally really do enjoy the long peaceful walks and exercise along the 2-3 mile long canal and big open fields. I don't have to worry about crossing traffic or getting run over accidentally on the side of the road, but I am distracted by the all the dog crap and trash that are scattered along the canal roads. When I don't have to watch out for dog crap, then I am able to look up and enjoy the beautiful sky, the distant mountains, the colorful sunset. And all the colorful heavenly beauties are replicated beautifully reflected on the wide serene canal river that runs East and West. And there are the two canal dams that roar awesomely and then gradually quiet down to peaceful rippling/bubbling of waters. It is an incredible oasis in dirty Fresno- very inspirational and spiritual. I have prayed many prayers there and listened/sung many songs along that long trail. It is very healthy and therapeutic.

As for Fresno City's image/impression, imagine all the travelers, commuters, drivers on Interstate-99 suddenly looking West and seeing this long beautiful trail along this wide canal, beginning at the side of I-99 and going beyond the range of sight, and seeing many people, young and old, men, women, children, families, walking, running, riding bikes, socializing, and smiling as far as the eye can see. And yes, there are responsible pet owners walking and running with their dogs on leashes having a great time exercising and letting of stress. That would be a great positive refreshing image for Fresno City and her citizens.

I request that you come walk and experience all this potential a couple of times before you ruin it forever for everyone. Please protect it, preserve it, beautify it into an attractive icon for Fresno, to improve Fresno's dirty image. It is the only last huge stretch of land left in the City of Fresno. Zone it for the betterment of many Fresno generations. If you don't do this, this long stretch of canal will become like all the other slum and crime-filled canals of Fresno, inviting more homeless villages and drugs and drug dealers and stray dogs and cats, and dead bodies.

Sincerely,



Xia Yeng Vu

Concerned home owner and Visionary.