

## Downie, Chelsea

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**From:** Judy Ritchie <jaritchie@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2012 9:33 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Statement of Support for Santa Barbara Student Housing Coop's proposed "Thomas Merton House"

**Importance:** High

*Dear Board of Supervisors,*

*I am writing to you as past president of the University Religious Conference, the organization who sold its property to the Santa Barbara Student Housing Coop last year, to request that you vote in favor of Staff's recommendation to deny the appeal on the Thomas Merton House project at 777 Camino Pescadero. I strongly believe that this project will be a valuable and positive addition to our community as the Santa Barbara Student Housing Co-operative has shown over the last 35 years. We believe the parking arrangements they have made with UCSB are more than satisfactory for the community. Please deny this appeal so this project can move forward.*

*I have observed the Coop's good faith efforts over the last year to comply with all conditions, and sincerely believe that the purpose of the Thomas Merton House will greatly benefit the UCSB and Isla Vista Communities beyond simply housing, but in developing peaceful alternatives among students relating to world peace.*

*Please deny the appeal so that this important work may proceed.*

*Respectfully,*

*Judy Ritchie*