

BERKSHIRE TERRACE APARTMENTS

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

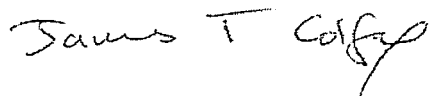
I urge you to deny the appeal on the Merton House project at 777 Camino Pescadero. As a longtime resident manager of a neighboring apartment complex, I cannot imagine a better neighbor. It is well known that the houses run by the Santa Barbara Student Housing Co-op in Isla Vista encourage responsibility and the development of home owner and community improvement skills in their members. By providing low cost housing, they make it possible for low income students to attend UCSB.

I believe that Merton House would provide community access to unique resources within the Isla Vista and UCSB communities. The Student Housing Co-op has initiated discussions with our neighbors to cooperate on improving a street shared by us all. Before the Student Housing Co-op initiated these discussions, we neighbors had very little contact between ourselves and no vehicle to address mutual problems.

I am not concerned about the parking arrangements at Merton House. Their onsite parking and their 30 year contract with UCSB would handle all the parking they would need well into the future. In the other Student Housing Co-op houses not all residents have cars and have found their parking adequate.

So, once again, I ask you to deny the appeal on Merton House. Merton House would be an asset to our neighborhood and to all of Isla Vista for those who would want to access their resources. I am looking forward to having Merton House as a neighbor.

Sincerely,



Jim Colfax