

Barbee Chapel Road Apartments

Design Discussion: 4-21-22 (*meeting with development team*)

Submitted by Brian Peterson, AIA, Urban Designer, Town of Chapel Hill

The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the proposed concept plan for a multifamily apartment community. Comments and suggestions would not be able to be incorporated into the current drawings, soon to be submitted, but would be addressed in the next design iteration.

1. The site layout is very parking lot focused. Consider a more street oriented approach for circulation and parking.
2. Use the buildings to more positively form urban spaces. Consider organizing the buildings around a central green space, plaza, or other focal element.
3. Work for better integration with the proposed Hillmont neighborhood next door. Consider extending the street they are proposing, into the Barbee Chapel site, to become a kind of “Main Street” focal element, eventually connecting to Barbee Chapel Road. Provide pedestrian connections (trails, sidewalks) that lead to and can tie in with the natural green spaces and proposed trails on the Hillmont property.
4. Consider creating a gateway space or feature at the neighborhood entrance along Barbee Chapel Road.
5. Consider providing some townhouse units to the mix.
6. The proposed architectural image character is promising, with the farmhouse/traditional blending with some contemporary themes, however, this might be more difficult to pull off on the larger buildings.