NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO Branch #5689. P.O. Box 1236 Carrboro, N.C. 27510



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Dear Mayor Hemminger and Members of the Chapel Hill Town Council,

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP is here today in solidarity with the residents of Lakeview, who face eviction and likely displacement from Chapel Hill due to the construction of the Hanover Apartments. We are asking that the Town Council search for ways to help this community so that they are not displaced from Chapel Hill.

There are approximately 120 people who live in Lakeview, including 60 children. They are our neighbors and members of our community and it is shameful that all of them be forced out of our community and their children out of our schools. While there is a need for more housing in Chapel Hill, that housing should not come at the expense of existing residents and especially not at the expense of the most vulnerable members of our community. We should strive to be a community that is inclusive of people of all socio-economic backgrounds and ethnicities. While the proposed apartments would have units reserved for people earning 80% and 65% of the area's median income, those apartments would still be unaffordable for the current residents of Lakeview.

We are requesting that the town develop a plan to help current residents secure new housing within Chapel Hill. If the town needs additional time to come up with a plan, then the rezoning should be put on hold until such a plan is developed.

Any plan should achieve the following:

- 1. Ensure new housing within the Chapel Hill/Carrboro School District for any displaced residents that is affordable for those residents.
- 2. Be developed with input from affected residents, which implies that outreach will be done within their community and interpreters provided.
- 3. Any plan enacted will not require that residents disclose their immigration status to receive assistance.

Possible solutions could include providing land for mobile homes on town or county-owned property and providing stipends for displaced residents to move their mobile homes and/or purchase new mobile homes if their existing mobile homes cannot be moved. This could be funded with a combination of Town, County, and developer funds.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP looks forward to working with the Town Council on crafting solutions to this problem.

Sincerely,

Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP