March 21, 2014

Dear UC Davis graduate students, students with families, Orchard and Solano Park residents and other members of the community,

On March 13 and 15, Student Housing hosted a community meeting for graduate students and student families, to discuss the redevelopment of Orchard Park. At this meeting we shared information regarding this project which is currently available on the Student Housing web site:  [http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/capitalprojects/projects/orchard-park-redevelopment.asp](http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/capitalprojects/projects/orchard-park-redevelopment.asp) Note that additional information will be provided at this web site as it becomes available.

Comments at this meeting, and previous meetings and communications from current and past Orchard and Solano Park residents have clearly demonstrated the fondness held for these communities. We have been developing project plans to reconstruct these facilities in a manner that addresses physical deficiencies while maintaining the sense of community that our graduate students and students with families appreciate.

In recent conversations with community members, we have been exploring additional methods to balance the needs for more affordable housing with the need to replace deficient buildings. While these conversations have made progress towards this goal, it is clear that additional time will be required to ensure we are properly balancing these various needs. Therefore, we are pausing additional planning on the redevelopment of Orchard Park as we consider approaches that will enable us to gain a positive outcome.

As decisions are made regarding next steps regarding the status of the Orchard Park redevelopment, these will be shared broadly and the community will be engaged for feedback. Any ideas, comments or suggestions regarding Orchard or Solano Park, and the Orchard Park redevelopment plans as of this date should be directed to Student Housing at studenthousing@ucdavis.edu or 530.752.2033.

Sincerely,

Ramona P. Hernandez  
Director Business and Financial Services  
Student Housing