

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the formally adopted vision, mission and values statements for the Foothill-De Anza District and for both colleges include numerous references to student equity, inclusiveness, student empowerment and the capacity for democratic participation;

WHEREAS repeated public testimony at FHDA Board of Trustee meetings has made clear that students and employees are dealing with affordable housing issues that have reached crisis level proportions that are significantly impacting students abilities to be successful and that such impacts are disproportionately impacting already vulnerable students of color;

WHEREAS [De Anza Basic Needs Student Survey](#) expressed 16% of survey respondents experience homelessness, while 54% of students experience housing insecurity;

WHEREAS both Foothill and De Anza Student governments have consistently expressed support for affordable housing and adopted the following resolution after the passage of the Measure G Bond measure calling for: “the creation of College and District level shared governance committees using best practices for constituent engagement, with appropriate staff and consultant expertise and advice, to recommend best practices to construct and deliver affordable student and employee housing as rapidly as possible” and further called for “such committees to include and incorporate meaningful input from and engagement with housing-insecure and homeless students and employees in the development of FHDA plans for affordable student and employee housing”

(<https://www.deanza.edu/dasb/agendasminutes/2019-2020/2020-06-10-attachment/FHDA-Affordable-Housing-Resolution.pdf> and <https://foothill.edu/gov/revenue-and-resources/2020-21/oct9/Resolution%20on%20Affordable%20Housing.pdf>);

WHEREAS [Student Senate for California Community Colleges included housing insecurity in the 2020-2021 Legislative Priorities](#), highlighting 61% of California Community Colleges students experience housing insecurity while 16% are completely homeless. The pandemic has caused 70% of students to lose their income making it more difficult for students to secure housing stability;

WHEREAS [BP 5300](#) states “The Board is committed to assuring student equity in all of the District’s educational programs and college services. Acknowledging that community college students, especially our underserved and underrepresented students, face many barriers to success, the district is committed to providing appropriate and effective interventions, such as diverse pedagogical strategies; affordable educational materials, including open source textbooks and online resources at no cost to students; support services targeting specific student needs; and other strategies, all of which shall be defined in each college’s Student Equity Plan.

The chancellor shall assure that each college establishes and implements a student equity plan that meets the Title 5 standards established to improve student equity by expanding opportunities for success, including course completion, campus life participation, and the attainment of every student's educational goals”;

WHEREAS [AP 5300](#) states “The District has a Student Equity Plan for each college. The plans are filed as required with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office following approval by the Board of Trustees.

1. The development of each college's Student Equity Plan shall include:
 - a. The active involvement of participatory governance groups.
 - b. Involvement by appropriate people from the community who can articulate the perspective and concerns of historically underrepresented groups.
 - c. Campus-based research as to the extent of student equity.

2. Each college's Student Equity Plan shall address:
 - a. Institutional barriers to equity.
 - b. Goals for access, retention, degree and certificate completion, English as a Second Language (ESL) and basic skills completion, and transfer for each historically underrepresented group.
 - c. Activities most likely to be effective to attain the goals, including coordination of existing student equity related programs.
 - d. Sources of funds for the activities in the plan.
 - e. A schedule and process for evaluation of progress toward the goals.
 - f. An executive summary that describes the groups for whom goals have been set, the goals, the initiatives that the District will undertake to achieve the goals, the resources budgeted for that purpose, and the District officer or employee who can be contacted for further information.

WHEREAS The student equity plans shall be developed, maintained, and updated by the college entity determined by each college. The plans shall be coordinated under the supervision of the Vice President of Instruction and Vice President of Student Services. The college President shall be responsible for approving, holding accountable, and receiving updates on the implementation of the equity plan”;

WHEREAS [Foothill's Equity Strategic Plan](#) recognizes the need for housing as identified by the district basic needs survey: “In its early stages of the plan’s development, students identified the need for academic resources and social support in particular. Issues of transportation and housing rose to the top as major student concerns and they spoke at length about their desire for space and community.” And Issues 2-4 recognize access to affordable housing as an equity issue and the need for shared governance. “Inherent in the cost of attendance is the increasing expense of living in the Bay Area. In 2018, the median home price in the Bay Area was \$996,000

and \$1.2 million in Santa Clara County. The Bay Area continues to be the most expensive housing market in the United States";

WHEREAS [De Anza's Student Equity Plan](#) indicates "the college continues to explore opportunities to assist students with food, housing and transportation insecurity issues" (page 9);

WHEREAS the FHDA Measure G Bond Measure specifically cited the need to address issues of student homelessness and housing insecurity;

WHEREAS [De Anza Student Government contributed \\$19,000 to the Bond & Housing Campaign](#);

WHEREAS, notwithstanding Administrative intimations to the contrary, the recent 2021 District housing and facilities surveys received minimal or zero input from formal shared governance constituents in their design or implementation and included minimal questions that would inform the District regarding student and employee needs and or preferences regarding the location and characteristics of prospective housing developments (in fact student leadership was specifically denied access to actual questions being proposed and was never shown the survey document prior to its full release);

WHEREAS a number of studies demonstrate that students who live in college-assisted or college-funded housing leads to improved academic, learning and social outcomes. District and statewide goals for completion and degree/transfer/certificate achievement would be better met by providing housing for students as research indicates students complete their program of study faster and at a higher rate of completion for students who lived on campus (in particular for the first year of their college career) compared to students who did not. [Citation: "Division of Student Life." *Student Success and Housing Report*, studentlife.uoregon.edu/student-success-and-housing-report; Sonya Stinson. "Does On-Campus Housing Improve Completion Rates?" *AACC 21st Century Virtual Center*, 16 Mar. 2015, www.aacc21stcenturycenter.org/article/campus-housing-community-colleges-improve-completion-rates/.

WHEREAS, a core principle of democracy is that people should have influence over critical decisions that affect their lives and that such decisions will be more informed, accurate and effective when constituents are in fact involved in such decisions;

WHEREAS, at the public forum on affordable housing on Tuesday February 23, President Holmes announced at the outset of the forum that he was opposed to on-campus student housing but then later failed to provide any data or studies to support his assertion that on-campus housing options are more expensive than off-campus options, instead citing conversations he has had anecdotally with colleagues who may or may not be familiar with the Bay Area housing crisis profoundly affecting our vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS, at the public forum on affordable housing on Tuesday February 23, Chancellor Miner said that at this point the administration was currently engaging in the business decisions regarding affordable housing and would begin serious shared governance consultation only after business considerations had been determined- so as not to put into discussion options that simply were not feasible from a business perspective.

WHEREAS, at the public forum on affordable housing on Tuesday February 23, Chancellor Miner acknowledged that FHDA is a politically co-equal branch of government to the cities and as such is not subject to the zoning jurisdiction of the cities in which we are located.

WHEREAS, throughout the nation-- and in our own Bay Area region-- there is a long and tawdry history of exclusionary zoning practices that have had the effect of creating or exacerbating racially discriminatory housing patterns and deepening our region's housing crisis, and that are completely inconsistent with our District's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and the elimination of racism;

WHEREAS, at the public forum on affordable housing on Tuesday February 23, Chancellor Miner then acknowledged that *political* considerations are dictating the options under consideration regarding the construction of affordable housing-- but that such political considerations (and *not just business considerations*) are being made without the input of affected constituent groups-- students and employees in need of affordable housing.

WHEREAS, Title 5 § 53200 (b): Academic Senate means an organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters. In Sections 53200 (c), "Academic and professional matters" mean the following policy development and implementation matters, (5) Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success and (10) Processes for institutional planning and budget development.

RESOLVED that the campus leadership calls upon the FHDA, De Anza College and Foothill College administrations to HALT immediately any decision-making processes that may forestall, prejudice or eliminate possible substantive approaches to the construction and provision of affordable housing options (including so-called "business decisions") until such time as all affected constituent groups have been given an opportunity to engage in meaningful participation and consideration of such options;

RESOLVED, mindful that time is of the essence and that every delay in decision-making processes reduces the purchasing power of actual bond dollars and leaves vulnerable unhoused and under-housed students and employees at risk of further injury, the campus leadership calls for an expedited shared governance and task-force timeline for participation and

recommendations, with appropriate and adequate resources being provided to facilitate this outcome;

RESOLVED that campus leadership calls upon the Board of Trustees immediately to put together an inclusive district wide task force of all constituency groups to consider fully:

- all options for on-campus and off-campus housing, including consideration of political, financial, geographical, logistical and other factors shaping FHDA affordable housing initiatives;
- the full range of financing models
- the full range of affordable housing administration

RESOLVED that the goals of said task for would include, among other things, the goals of:

- maximizing the beneficial equity and success impacts of such housing, and
- maximizing the number of units of affordable housing (i.e., substantially below-market rate over a sustained period) for students and employees; and
- maximizing the district's ability to recruit and retain diverse faculty and staff.

RESOLVED that campus leadership calls upon the Board of Trustees to put together an inclusive district wide task force of all constituency groups to fully consider all options for on campus and off campus housing.