DC'S [MIS] EDUCATION ON HOUSING POLICY

Below are 6 major myths promoted by the city about housing and development.

1. Housing affordability should be measured by the Area Median Income (AMI), which includes 6 out of the 10 richest counties in the United States. The AMI in Washington, D.C. is over $109,000.

2. New luxury developments = mixed income communities and de-concentrated poverty because 8% of sq. footage has to be set aside as "affordable" at up to 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), which is over $109,000.

3. Increased density = more vibrant communities (more density means more concrete, less grass/open space).

4. The city has "limited resources" to deal with affordable housing crisis, homelessness, joblessness, etc.

5. Demolition and privatization of public housing will solve the affordable housing crisis.

6. All development is good; D.C. zoning commission passes everything.

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION ON HOUSING POLICY

Below are 6 major points that expose city myths about housing and development.

1. Luxury developments exacerbate the housing crisis. They knock down existing affordable housing. They destabilize land values and raise rents. They are not affordable to people making less than 30-80% of Area Median Income which is over $109,000.

2. Housing affordability should be based on a reasonable percentage of one's income.

3. It is important for people to have public spaces to meet, relax and build community. It is important for children to have recreation spaces. Nature is key to health and wellness.

4. The city constantly gives away public resources to private entities that are not accountable to the people.

5. The private market exacerbates affordable housing crisis under capitalism, because developers want to maximize profits. For example, at Barry Farm, they are eliminating public housing, giving away public land, and have no relocation plan for current residents.

6. Development that displaces and breaks up families and communities destroys the health, safety and welfare of D.C. residents. For example, Brookland Manor.

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