



COUNCIL on AGING

YOUR SOURCE AND VOICE ON SENIOR ISSUES

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The mission of Council on Aging is to transform Charlotte-Mecklenburg into a *senior-friendly** community through education and advocacy.

CURRENT EMERGING ISSUE STATUS REPORT

DATE: 11/20/2008

IDENTIFIED ISSUE: APPROPRIATE, AFFORDABLE, QUALITY HOUSING THAT ACCOMMODATES AGING IN PLACE.

The Council on Aging vision for housing is appropriate, affordable, quality housing that accommodates aging-in-place for older adults as they transition through different stages of the aging process. Currently, there is no comprehensive housing policy to accommodate aging in place.

CURRENT SITUATION:

- Crosland, a real estate development, management and design company, is implementing a 33-acre Transit-Oriented-Redevelopment near the Scaleybark Station on the South Corridor Light Rail line. The development is envisioned to contain a mix of complementary, well-integrated transit supportive land uses, transforming its site into a highly desirable, mixed-use transit village in this infill site.
- A design competition was held that invited architectural, engineering, planning and construction professionals to form teams to compete to provide the best in class sustainable ideas for the renewal of Crosland Centre to Crosland Greens. The results of this design competition can be viewed on the [Crosland website](#).
- Council on Aging believes that any large-scale housing development, such as that envisioned for Crosland Greens, should provide options for individuals across the entire spectrum of life and that those housing developments designed with “*senior-friendly*” features will attract older adults and will enhance the livability of any development.
- The existing site conditions include:
 - Approximately 33 acres in urban edge area at the intersection of South Blvd. and Scaleybark Road.
 - Land use is residential bordering commercial/industrial, with strip commercial development on South Blvd, and is comprised of 64 individual parcels.

- Notable current land uses include residential structures, 50 unit apartment complex, retail strip center, public library, flea market facility (now demolished), and an auto service garage circa 1960.
- The Scaleybark site, known in this design competition as Crosland Greens, is an ideal location for a variety of housing options appealing to boomers and aging adults, including those popularly known as “empty nesters.”

COUNCIL ON AGING EDUCATION/ADVOCACY EFFORTS:

- Council on Aging’s Housing Task Force has urged Crosland representatives to not only implement ideas that are “green,” economically viable, and innovative, but to include *senior-friendly* features that enhance livability for people of all ages.
- **Council on Aging Vision for *Housing*:** Appropriate, affordable, quality housing that accommodates aging-in-place for older adults as they transition through different stages of the aging process. Availability of various housing types that support differing levels of independence, including:
 - Single and multi-family homes;
 - Assisted living, shared housing, and group homes;
 - Nursing homes and continuing care retirement communities.

Other features to facilitate aging-in-place include:

- Choices among certified and affordable home modification contractors and maintenance services;
- Local housing agencies facilitating access to subsidized home services;
- Universal design incorporated into the planning; building and/or remodeling of homes;
- Tax relief for older homeowners.
- Council on Aging [Housing Task Force](#) meets twice a month and is currently developing goals, objectives and a work program.

RESOURCES/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- For more information on the Crosland Greens competition, please visit www.crosland.com/greencontest/.
- To read the Housing Task Force letter to Crosland representatives, click [here](#).
- To read the Housing Task Force “Opportunity to Incorporate *Senior-Friendly Design*” summary paper, click [here](#).
- To view a presentation by Richard Duncan, Executive Director, Housing Works – Universal Design Institute on Universal Home Design from Council On Aging’s **Annual Conference 2008**, “*It’s YOUR Future...Make sure it’s senior-friendly!*”, click [here](#).

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Write letters to your local elected officials and urge them to support efforts promoting affordable, appropriate and quality housing that allows people of all ages to age-in-place. Click [here](#) to learn about your district representatives.
- Learn more about features of affordable, appropriate and quality housing by scheduling a Council on Aging [Speaker's Bureau](#) program.
- [Donate](#) today to help ensure a *senior-friendly* tomorrow.

*A *senior-friendly* community allows aging adults to maintain independence, dignity and quality of life.