Cal Poly-Capstone Student Housing Proposal: FAQs

Will the new housing complex be apartments or traditional residence hall-style units?
A: The facility will have one-, two-, and four bedroom apartments—each with full kitchen facilities. The complex will also offer "apartment style" amenities such as a swimming pool, on-site parking and 12,000 square feet of "support" areas such as a deli-market.

When would construction begin?
A: The plan is to begin construction in late 2003 or early 2004.

When would the apartments be ready?
A: The developer hopes to have some apartments ready as early as fall 2005. All are projected to be completed and occupied by fall 2006. A parking garage proposed as part of the project could be ready as early as the 2004-2005 academic year.

Who will get to live in the new student housing project?
A: Cal Poly students. However, if there is space available, students from Cuesta College could be housed there.

How many parking places will be added as part of the Capstone project?
A: Approximately 2,000 parking spaces will be included in the project in a mix of structured and surface parking.

What will it cost to rent the apartments?
A: Rent is projected to be competitive with the other apartment-style units on and off campus.

What environmental impacts would the student housing project have on Cal Poly lands?
A: The location of the proposed project is consistent with the university's master plan, and has already been identified in the master plan approved by California State University trustees as a site for future student housing. As part of the proposed student housing project, existing agricultural facilities and operations will move farther away from the Poly Canyon watershed.

How will the University use the newly acquired agriculture land in Edna Valley?
A: The land will be used by the College of Agriculture as a supplemental resource for some equestrian programs and Horticulture and Crop Science Department programs. The land will remain in agricultural use, providing Cal Poly students and faculty the opportunity to work and learn in a mature premium wine-grape vineyard. The Edna Ranch vineyards would be the third and newest Cal Poly vineyard.

Will Cal Poly hold classes on the Edna Ranch land?
A: Cal Poly students in crop science and viticulture classes may attend some class sessions on the property, most likely in the vineyards. The equestrian facility will be used by a limited number of Cal Poly students under university supervision. Cal Poly students have been actively involved in cattle management programs...
Will Cal Poly activities generate more traffic in the Edna Ranch area?
A: The use of the Edna Ranch facilities by students would be limited. The agricultural land on the main Cal Poly campus is the primary focus for the university's agricultural programs, operations and classes. A small number of students, supervised by faculty, can be expected to periodically visit the Edna Ranch facilities.

Who is Capstone?
A: Capstone Development Corporation is a developer and operator of student housing on and near campuses across the United States. Capstone West, the division of Capstone that presented this proposal, is headquartered in San Diego. Capstone will take on the risk in developing and building the complex housing and parking.

Why does Cal Poly want to partner with Capstone to build student housing?
A: This project includes the transfer of more than 1,200 acres of replacement agricultural land to the university, allowing Cal Poly's College of Agriculture to enhance both its Horticulture and Crop Science programs and equestrian offerings. The project also allows Cal Poly to establish standards for construction and furnishings for the student housing complex, and to monitor and approve (or change) the progress and quality of the student housing complex, while protecting Cal Poly from development and construction risks and costs. The per-bed and per-square-foot cost of the student housing project proposed by Capstone is less than the per-bed and per-square-foot cost of the new 800-bed complex financed by state university dormitory revenue.

How does Cal Poly's on-campus student housing compare to student housing at the other 22 universities in the California State University System?
A: If the Capstone proposal is approved, Cal Poly will have 6,280 beds by 2006 - more than twice as much on-campus student housing as any university in the CSU system.

Cal Poly and San Diego State University currently offer the largest amount of on-campus housing in the CSU system. At the projected fall 2003 opening of the 800-bed student housing project currently under construction, Cal Poly will have a total of 3,583 beds and San Diego State University will have 3,600 beds. However, the San Diego State number will drop to 3000 in 2004.

San Jose State University is the second largest provider of on-campus student housing with 1,800 beds. SJSU is expected to add housing accommodating up to 3,600 beds on campus in coming years.

CSU Monterey Bay currently has 2,050 campus student housing beds, and will increase that number to 2,818 during the next three years.

CSU Long Beach currently has 1,962 on-campus student housing beds.

I have a question about the project that's not on this list. How do I submit my question?
A: Click here to submit a question.
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