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There's no need and no money for affordable housing idea

On Tuesday, the Sarasota County commissioners need to make a responsible decision and reject the proposed Palmer Place affordable housing project.

Why?

The Community Housing Trust of Sarasota County defines "affordable housing" to be in the \$150,000 to \$250,000 range. Currently, in Sarasota County, there are more than 1,000 properties for sale in this price range, with more coming. A project the size of Palmer Place (1,488 units total) equates to a new school. There is no school either planned or budgeted and the nearby Tatum Ridge Elementary already is using portables.

Palmer Boulevard east of Debrecen Road is in terrible shape and will need substantial expenditures to elevate it to the service level required by the traffic generated by 1,488 homes.

This project is a decent idea but there is neither a need for it nor the money available at this time. Sarasota County has greater needs.

Ted Hadjian

Sarasota
