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Clermont apartments OK'd despite homeowner protests


By Kelly Brewington | Sentinel Staff Writer

Posted September 27, 2001

CLERMONT -- Angry homeowners filed out of a City Council meeting in a huff, some shouting, "Wait until next election," in a display of frustration over the approval of a 300-unit apartment complex next door.

Tensions were high Tuesday night as scores of Skyridge Valley residents spoke out against the apartment complex about 100 feet from their subdivision.

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While residents lamented that they didn't want the project in their back yards, developer Daryl Carter, with Maury Carter and Associates, noted that the project had received approval two years ago.

The permit expired earlier this month, and Carter need extension. He said the apartment c planned for north of Oakley Seaver South Lake Hospital, was on the b before Skyridge Valley was built.

classrooms and increased water use in a time of drought.

She added that the project would worsen traffic. Not only would the project decrease pro the neighborhood, but it also would have an impact beyond the 12 lots adjoining the prop

"Will these become low-income rentals?" she said. "How many more apartments do we want this to become the projects of Clermont?"

She argued that the developer had not presented a detailed plan for the apartment comm

"Please, Mr. Carter, don't insult us," she said. "We hear your deception loud and clear."

Carter said no attempt had been made to deceive the homeowners. The project is an ide location and wouldn't hurt property values or the community as a whole, he said.

"The area is properly zoned, and it is supported by staff," he said. "It is not unusual to see projects next to multifamily projects in a master-planned community."



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Mayor Hal Turville said that although he voted in favor of the project two years ago, Clermont are more crowded and its roads more clogged.

"To put 300 residents where 75 would fit is only adding to the burden," he said.

After the council handed down the 3-2 decision, both Piccio and Carter left the meeting fr

"I am very disappointed," Piccio said. "I feel very unfortunate. The children are going to s planning."

Carter said the homeowners' assumptions were unfair.

"This project is the culmination of 10 years of planning," he said. "Back then, everyone ca to plan the hospital, the training center, the community. We've been here many years bel community even moved in."

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