

Naperville Senior Task Force recommends Avenida Senior Housing Development

Summary: Naperville needs more senior housing and Avenida fills a void for middle-income seniors.

1. Naperville's senior population is expected to reach 20,000 residents in the next 5 years. Many in this growing segment want to downsize from the homes where they raised their families and move into smaller, more affordable housing that is better suited to their needs as they age.
2. Middle-income seniors face a profound dilemma in Naperville today: they have too much money to qualify for limited subsidized housing and correspondingly can't afford prevailing high-end independent living. By moving into Avenida, housing stock will become available to the many young families desirous of Naperville's top-tier schools and national reputation, who can better afford the tax base while contributing to our community.
3. Avenida provides a perfect transition, from the isolation of living in a too-large home, to a community environment that sustains the independence so devastating for seniors to lose.
4. Middle-income seniors want to remain close to friends and family while continuing their support of Naperville businesses, services, and amenities. The Avenida community shuttle service will likely be limited to Naperville businesses.
5. Senior activities do not conflict with rush-hour traffic patterns and fill the void for businesses while working residents are away.
6. Naperville does not currently have the living option that Avenida will provide. Such diversification expands the vision of "live here – retire here"; keeping in mind that senior housing has a positive financial impact on the school district.
7. Many seniors have spouses that require full time nursing care. They need to live independently and be near their spouse. Avenida provides this place.
8. Many adult children want to move their mother or father to Naperville so they can be near family but still live independently. Avenida provides a solution.

Avenida addresses these summary issues:

- Located close to services and amenities, and an integral part of the vibrant downtown community
- Near groceries and pharmacies on Ogden Avenue, a short ride to numerous medical facilities
- Provides shuttle bus transportation for seniors who can't or don't want to drive
- Provides an on-site gathering place to socialize and share catered meals, on occasion
- Provides a full-time program director to plan social and cultural activities

Link to Avenida website regarding Naperville development proposal: AvenidaSeniorsNaperville.com