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426 First Street
Davis, CA 95616

October 27, 2008

Maria Ogrydziak
Maria Ogrydziak Architecture
241 B Street
Davis, CA 95616

RE: 233 B Street Project

Dear Maria,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the design for your proposed townhouse project at 233 B Street. I understand that it will be considered by the City Council and would like to offer some comments on what I see as the design significance of the project and its impact on Central Park and the larger B Street corridor.

When I began master-planning the expanded Central Park in the mid 1980s, I envisioned that the blocks surrounding the park would eventually become three and four story mixed-use buildings. This would have several benefits for the crown jewel of Davis' park system. New living and work units would add eyes on the park increasing sense of safety and security for park users. It would also serve to animate and enliven park use on non Farmers Market days.

I find your project at 233 B Street to meet this goal very well. I also like the innovative aspects of the design including the green roof components. I think yours will be an important demonstration project to encourage other developers on B Street and elsewhere in the city to integrate green technologies in their buildings. It is exactly the kind of new project needed in central Davis.

Davis' standing as a sustainable community is based on its willingness to try new things as evidenced by Village Homes, its greenway system and model energy ordinance. I expect that your project will advance current design and development practice in similar ways. I hope you will receive the necessary approvals and be able to complete this exciting project.

Sincerely,

Mark Francis