Cohousing: Neighborhoods for People



Peter Lazar February 12, 2020



What is Cohousing?

Cohousing is a neighborhood with:

- Clustered homes
- 100% pedestrian-oriented
- Open space
- Shared amenities
 - a club house
 - playground
 - community gardens
 - other (e.g. pool)

Cohousing residents:

- Make decisions via a Condo Association or HOA
- Share activities which may include cooking, dining, child care, gardening, and governance of the community.





What is Cohousing?





Cohousing creates a village where people can more easily interact.



Cohousing puts people in front, not cars!



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Sunward Cohousing
Photo: Mc on avon, GNU Free Documentation License



Cohousing moves parking to the exterior

Exterior parking...



... keeps the interior safe from traffic.



Cohousing balances Community & Privacy





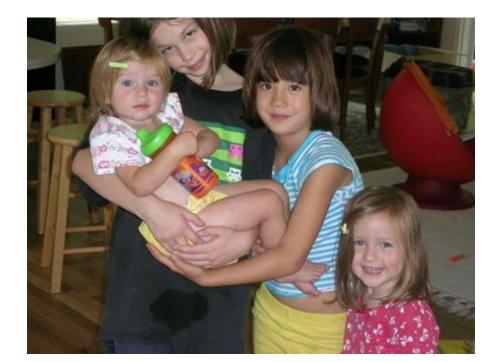
Privacy is an integral part of cohousing.



Community



It is the kind of village that really does raise children.









People spontaneously socialize in cohousing.







Cohousers naturally find social and interest groups within their community.













The club house (Common House) is the center of the community.









Common guest rooms are well-used and allow personal homes to be smaller.



More fun, Less stuff



Sharing resources, Sharing time



Other cities with cohousing

- > 11 within 5 miles of Boulder, CO
- 6 around Raleigh Durham
- clusters around the country
 - > SFO, SEA, BOS...
- > 50 in 2005, 165 today



Harrisonburg is an ideal market for cohousing

- College town
- Compatible with Harrisonburg Vision and Goals
 - "Neighborhoods that are
 - quiet,
 - safe,
 - beautiful,
 - walkable,
 - > enhance social interaction, and
 - offer a balanced range of housing choices."



Cohousing advantages to Harrisonburg

- Provide an attractive housing model in Harrisonburg
- Help families live happy and healthy lives
 - Roseta, PA
 - Wall Street article about centarians and where they live



Emerson Commons, Crozet VA























