

POLICE DEPARTMENT
PO Box 30001 / MSC 3187
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
PHONE: (575) 646-3311
FAX: (575) 646-6346
E-MAIL: police@nmsu.edu



April 20, 2022

Gerald Hoehne
Director, Capital Projects Division
New Mexico Higher Education Department
2044 Galisteo Street, Suite 4
Santa Fe, NM 87505-2100

Dear Mr. Hoehne,

I would like to take this opportunity to support the request for the demolition of the New Mexico State University (NMSU) Cole Village. This housing complex is approximately 170,800 square feet in size and contains approximately 200 separate two-story apartment units. This housing complex has been vacant for several years. Since the complex has been vacant, the NMSU Police Department has had a high number of calls for service for criminal damage, trespassing, graffiti, theft, vagrancy, etc. Officers respond to or observe suspicious activity in the Cole Village area five to six times weekly. There have also been a large number of wanted subjects located in the area.

The condition of the buildings continues to deteriorate; causing hazardous conditions for Police Department personnel who are responding to calls, for persons who are lawfully passing through the complex, for Facilities personnel who are attempting to board up windows or otherwise secure the facility, or for those individuals/juveniles who are trespassing inside the complex. The deteriorating condition also makes it difficult to appropriately secure the units in order to prevent unlawful entry. The vacant complex continues to provide a prime area for serious criminal activity and threatens the safety and wellbeing of our community.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of the demolition request.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Bowen".

Andrew Bowen
Interim Chief of Police
New Mexico State University Police Dept.