

DISPELLING MYTHS ABOUT PEOPLE'S PARK

"If UC wants to build housing, they have to build on the park"

UC Berkeley owns 750+ acres of land, where all kinds of housing could be built! This includes the chancellor's mansion, former site of Tollman Hall, and Clark Kerr Campus. They could fund the second largest provider of housing, the Berkeley Student Coop (which supports People's Park), to build more apartments. Instead, they are trying to destroy a vital community resource.

UC Berkeley has been dramatically increasing the enrollment of out-of-state and non-local, middle- and upper-class, students for decades. This has inflated demand for housing across the area. They should focus on serving local students.

"The park is a dangerous place used by drug addicts and criminals"

People's Park is an important center of community and mutual aid for many people, who are majority poor and unhoused. High "crime" rates are manufactured by UCPD's hyper-surveillance of the park and the criminalization of poverty.

"Since there will be affordable housing, this isn't displacement"

UC has promised to build affordable units, but to evict a dynamic community center in the process. The net effect will be the displacement of a majority poor and Black population, to be replaced with wealthier students.