

Student Housing Crisis in Auburn, AL

By: Sandra Elliott Johnson

Auburn University students continue to be affected by the increase in housing prices both on and off campus.

Affordable housing for students in Auburn has become more and more difficult to find as the years go on. The average cost for student housing on campus is \$1,028 per month. The average cost for student housing off campus is \$962 per month.

There are some other aspects to consider when living off campus. Students will most likely have to furnish their off campus house, as well as pay for utilities that can end up raising the overall cost. It ultimately comes down to the students preference of what they value and how much they are willing to spend.

Some aspects that have to be considered when searching for housing are price, location, amenities and condition. Harper Woods, Auburn University student, said, "I think there are affordable housing options for all budgets, you're just going to have to sacrifice location, walking distance to campus, or how new your appliances are. You are going to get what you pay for."

Each year students are seeing an increase in their monthly rent. Bryce Turberville, Auburn University student, is living in the same house for her junior and senior year. She was told that

her rent will increase next year. She said, “I already thought that rent was expensive and then I was told it was going up again. It was sort of shocking.”

A representative of The Boulevard, Olivia Laborde, said, “I think housing continues to increase because of the increase of students that Auburn is getting. Housing complexes are just trying to compete with each other and not lose money.”

Woods is concerned about future students facing the problem of having limited housing. “I think eventually Auburn is going to accept too many students and there won’t be any affordable options for them to live, especially on campus. Even since I have been here, the Hill was torn down and part of the Village is under construction.”

Affordable housing for students is becoming harder and harder to come by, and it is only worsening as Auburn’s population grows.



Sources:

Harper Woods | harperwoods1313@gmail.com | November 16 1pm via Zoom

Bryce Turberville | bht0008@auburn.edu | November 26 4pm via Zoom

Olivia Laborde | orl0004@auburn.edu | November 26 5pm via Zoom