



Date: May 14, 2024

Peter Carter
Project Manager, Metro
One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-6
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: ASUCLA Endorsement of Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project Stop at UCLA

Dear Mr. Carter:

On behalf of the Associated Students UCLA (ASUCLA), we are writing to express our enthusiastic support for including a heavy rail stop at UCLA in the proposed Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project. As the representative body for UCLA students, ASUCLA recognizes the immense value that this transit stop would bring to our campus community and the greater Los Angeles area.

UCLA is a hub of academic excellence, innovation, and diversity, attracting students, faculty, and visitors from around the world. UCLA is also the third largest employer in L.A. County, with a daytime population of over 84,000 visitors. However, transportation accessibility has long been a challenge for our campus, leading visitors to often choose to drive to UCLA, impeding not only the daily lives of our students but also the university's ability to fulfill its mission effectively.

Adding a heavy rail stop at UCLA would provide numerous benefits to our community. It would enhance mobility options for students, faculty, and staff, reducing reliance on single-occupancy vehicles and easing traffic congestion in the surrounding area. With increased mobility options, visitors can avoid traveling to UCLA via the nearby 405 Freeway, which has some of the nation's most congested bottlenecks. This aligns with UCLA's commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship, as fewer cars on the road would result in decreased carbon emissions and improved air quality.

Moreover, improved transit access through a heavy rail line on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor would foster greater connectivity between UCLA and the broader Los Angeles region through the Metro D-line and buses along the Wilshire Corridor, increasing transit usage for a projected 88% of UCLA undergraduates. It would facilitate easier access to internships, job opportunities, cultural events, and healthcare services for our students, many of whom rely on public transportation as their primary mode of travel. The proposed Gateway Plaza stop, included in Metro Alternatives 3-6, is located immediately outside of ASUCLA's Ackerman Union, home to ASUCLA's numerous



dining and student-run enterprises. According to Metro's projections, heavy rail Alternatives 4-6 could connect an additional ~40,000 riders to these ASUCLA services.

The Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project represents a transformative opportunity to enhance transportation infrastructure in Los Angeles, and we believe that UCLA should be an integral part of this initiative. By investing in a heavy rail alternative, the Sepulveda Transit Corridor would prioritize sustainability, accessibility, and equity.

ASUCLA wholeheartedly endorses the inclusion of a heavy rail at UCLA in the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project and favors Alternatives 4-6. We urge decision-makers to consider the needs and interests of our campus community as they move forward with this crucial endeavor. Together, we can build a transportation system that serves the present, past, and future generations of UCLA students, faculty, and visitors. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with questions at bod@asucla.ucla.edu.

Sincerely,

Live Maluia

Live Maluia
Chair of the Board of Directors
Associated Students UCLA