TOM ALLEN, Academic Affairs  
WENDY HUNTER BARKER, C/CPC Administrative Representative  
SCOTT BARTON, Preuss School Principal  
NIGEL CALCUTT, CCCE Faculty Representative, Co-Chair  
DON CHADWICK, Student Affairs  
BRIAN d’AUTREMONT, Transportation Services  
BOONE HELLMANN, Facilities Design and Construction  
DESIREE LAWN, Real Estate  
STANLEY OPELLA, C/CPC Faculty Representative  
NAOMI ORESKES, Sixth College Provost  
SHAWN SHEFFIELD, Health Sciences  
BRAD WERDICK, Physical Planning, Co-Chair  
TBD, Staff Association  
TBD, Associated Student Representative  
TBD, Graduate Student Representative  

SUBJECT: Mid-Coast Light Rail Transit (LRT) Work Group

August 6, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

I would sincerely appreciate your service on a campus group that will work closely with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and technical consultants to bring Light Rail Transit (LRT) to our West and East campuses. Meetings will be held August 2010 through December 2011 and will focus on development of alignment and station designs during the preparation of federal and state environmental documents. Our campus group will ensure that all impacts of the LRT are identified, communicated back to SANDAG and addressed through the project design, with all costs being borne by the project.

On July 23, 2010, the Final Comparative Evaluation of Alternatives Report was presented to the SANDAG Board of Directors. The Board reconfirmed the previously adopted Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA), to include a station on West Campus at Pepper Canyon, and a station on East Campus within walking distance of Preuss School and the UCSD Health System. There are three possible alignments of the LRT between the West and East stations and the work group will review these in detail and advise SANDAG accordingly.
Variations of at-grade, cut-and-cover and aerial structures should be studied to determine the best solution for the campus to minimize pedestrian and vehicular circulation issues, maximize safety and security, while balancing campus aesthetic considerations and integration of the station location and design into the campus fabric. It is critical that these issues be considered, studied and resolved early in this design and preliminary engineering process. Previous efforts of this work group included a detailed list of issues, which will be valuable during this more specific design stage. Key findings will be presented to the Open Space Committee, Campus/Community Planning Committee and the Design Review Board, with final recommendations advanced to the Chancellor through these committees.

An overview will be presented at the first work group meeting in August, to ensure a common understanding of the project prior to meetings with SANDAG that will be scheduled twice per month.

Bringing Light Rail Transit to the campus opens up a new era for UC San Diego. It will lessen the burden on street traffic and parking needs; it will improve our air quality; it will open up a significant portion of the county and connect us to our sister institutions of higher education; it will connect us to our international border. This clearly is a significant endeavor, both in terms of your effort as well as the benefits the campus will garner for generations. Please accept my gratitude as you begin this work.

Best regards,

Marye Anne Fox
Chancellor

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