

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

James L. Welch Hall (WH) 450

PHONE: (310) 243-3301 **FAX:** (310) 243-3858



October 17, 2019

Honorable Lula Davis-Holmes City of Carson, City Council 701 E. Carson Street Carson, CA 90745

Dear Councilwoman Davis-Holmes,

Thank you for your leadership in coordinating last week's meeting between the city and the university. I believe the meeting was highly productive in helping to crystalize the scope and purpose of the master plan, clarify issues of concern as well as many areas of agreement, between the city and university. As we have identified, by working together, the Dominguez Hills campus and city have the potential to achieve great things that can be unprecedented, including collaborative projects that will benefit our community. This is a very special time for the city and university as we are both evolving for the betterment of our community, and I look forward to continuing shared dialogue.

As discussed in the meeting, California State University, Dominguez Hills has absolutely zero interest in and will not be bringing trucking or any form of logistics or warehousing to our campus. To be absolutely clear, the Campus Master Plan addressed in the final EIR does not include or contemplate the construction of any trucking/logistical facilities as part of the project, nor will CSUDH construct or have constructed any trucking/logistical facilities on its campus. Our goal is to develop opportunities for students and residents to learn from emerging industries through research, innovation workforce development and internship opportunities. As an educational entity, our focal point is to prepare the citizens of our region to increase their social mobility through innovation, critical thinking and analysis, the pursuit of knowledge, and the creation of valuable skills that can be used as transferable assets in various domains of workforce engagement.

I have also asked my team to work with city staff on the traffic issues discussed in the meeting. Our proposed MOU indicates the university's intention to address the traffic impacts that arise as a result of the Master Plan. As you know, the university proposed a fair share contribution in the amount of \$3.8 M, a full 90% of the estimated costs of the impacts. We understand that the city may not wish to assume responsibility for the work on some or all these impacts. Considering this preference, we are willing to discuss alternative ways of completing the traffic

Honorable Lula Davis-Holmes October 17, 2019 Page 2

mitigation projects, subject to the execution of appropriate right of way agreements. I will be asking for ongoing updates on the discussion and meetings to make sure that our campus is continuing progress with the city.

Finally, and most importantly, an active collaborative taskforce between the City of Carson and CSU Dominguez Hills should be established as soon as feasible to begin meeting quarterly in 2020. We propose that the taskforce be co-chaired between the City of Carson City Manager and the Vice President of Administration and Finance and that each organization have up to five professional staff members on the taskforce. Additionally, there could be one resident appointed by the City of Carson and one student appointed by CSUDH.

The taskforce would be expected to discuss and implement mutually benefiting projects, programs and initiatives for the enhancement, enrichment and betterment of the Carson community and university. This collaboration will be a partnership that focuses on mutual interests, towards growth and prosperity, while also identifying positive outcomes to issues that may arise.

We trust that with the understanding there will be no logistics facilities, we will pursue mutually beneficial partnerships, and will work in good faith to resolve traffic-related concerns, and continue to forge an enduring working relationship in lieu of litigation.

Thank you, again.

Sincerely

Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.

President

cc: Sharon L. Sanders, City Manager, City of Carson

Sunny Soltani, City Attorney, City of Carson

Albert Robles, Mayor, City of Carson

Cedric L. Hicks, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Carson

Jawane Hilton, City Council, City of Carson

Jim Dear, City Council, City of Carson

Ron Coley, Interim Vice President, Administration and Finance, CSUDH

Jay Bond, University Planning Consultant, CSUDH

John Walsh, University Counsel, CSU

David Gamboa, Associate Vice President, External Relations, CSUDH