

November 12, 2009

Nathaniel Wilson, Campus Architect
California State University Northridge
CSUN Facilities Planning Design and Construction
18111 Nordhoff Street,
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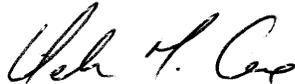
Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Institute for Sustainability, I would like to express my support of the proposed Transit Center design presented at the Transportation Working Group Meeting on October 7, 2009. The establishment of a Transit Center at the CSU Northridge campus will be a strong motivator for increased use of public transport by students and employees in commuting to campus. This will provide a number of benefits to the community at large, including improved air quality, reduced carbon emissions, and reduced vehicle traffic and congestion around the campus and on local roads. The use of MTA buses will also provide a less expensive way for employees and students to get to campus, and help public transport to be incorporated into their everyday lives.

The location, landscaping and use of existing infrastructure in the conceptual design have been well received by the campus community. There have been opportunities provided for input and discussion regarding the design of the facility, the installation of amenities and ways to improve ridership. The campus plans to provide bicycle lockers to encourage intermodal use of buses, and shaded waiting areas with appropriate ticketing and refreshment provision.

This project will be a catalyst to further increase awareness of healthy and sustainable transport options amongst members of the CSUN community and will support the widespread use of public transportation, effectively reducing the use of single occupancy vehicles to and from campus, and help to reduce air pollution and CSUN's carbon footprint.

Sincerely,



Helen M. Cox
Director, Institute for Sustainability
Associate Professor, Department of Geography

Cc: Richard Hunt, Mike Brewer and Carol Silver, Metro San Fernando Valley Sector