

February 28, 2005

John Barnes
Director of Campus Planning
Physical Planning and Construction
University of California, Santa Cruz
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

RE: NOP for University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) Long-Range
Development Plan

Dear Mr. Barnes:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the UCSC Long-Range Development Plan (LRDP). As you know, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Santa Cruz County. The *2001 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)* acknowledges several of the transportation goals and policies included in the NOP for the LRDP including increased mobility by providing an improved and integrated multi-modal transportation system. The *2001 RTP* also supports all forms of transportation demand management strategies for school and work trips. SCCRTC staff would like to thank UCSC for their commitment the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Programs in the past and as part of the LRDP update.

Please accept the following additional comments on the NOP from the SCCRTC staff for your consideration:

1. We recommend that a traffic analysis be carried out as part of the environmental review process. The traffic analysis should include existing traffic, existing plus project, existing plus cumulative, and cumulative plus project analysis at all local and regionally significant intersections and roadways. Intersections analyzed should include Bay/Mission Street, Highway 1/Mission Street/Chestnut Street, and Highway 1/River Street/Highway 9. We also recommend analyses of impacts the project will have on Bay Street, High Street, and Empire Grade north of the existing West Entrance. Level of Service (LOS) calculations for the later intersections should be included to show

compliance with City of Santa Cruz Beach/South of Laurel Area Plan consistent with *2001 RTP* goals and policies 2.4.3.

2. We support the inclusion of transit and circulation improvements in the project vicinity. We request that transit service and shuttle service on proposed new roads be discussed in the LRDP Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).
3. Please discuss in the DEIR the continuation and expansion of TDM programs as they relate to projected increases in students, faculty and staff. Please include transit, carpool, vanpool and bicycle shuttle programs. Program expansion should also include improved mechanisms for reaching the entire UCSC commuter population. SCCRTC operates several types of TDM programs, including the Commute Solutions Rideshare Program, and would like to consult with UCSC on expanding your existing programs.
4. The *2001 RTP* supports coordination of the non-motorized traveler in all planning and project development activities and supports bicycle lanes on all roads unless a more direct path can be provided. We suggest that UCSC include bicycle lanes on all collector roads on the UCSC campus.
5. Lastly, we would like to request that clear maps of the 2005 UCSC LRDP circulation improvements highlighting new roads called out in the NOP be included in the DEIR. In addition, please provide a map which distinguishes potential locations as called out in the NOP for parking improvements and identifies the Parking Facilities Overlay Area.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide input as to the scope and content of the Environmental Impact Report for this project. We look forward to receiving a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Report when it is available for review. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Grace Blakeslee of my staff at (831) 460-3219.

Sincerely,

Pat Dellin
Acting Executive Director

cc: SCCRTC

