SR: 2021-2022:01 Resolution in Support of Silver Streak Pilot

Authored By: The Alternative Transport Committee and Mia Miller, ASI Attorney General.

Supported By: Guillermo Torres, ASI Officer of Sustainability and Transportation, Dr. John Lloyd, Dr. Richard Willson, Dr. Gwen Urey, Dr. Wen Chen, Dr. Kelly Huh, Dr. Jessie Vallejo, and the Student Sustainability Coalition.

WHEREAS, The Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) is the elected student representatives of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona);

WHEREAS, The 2021-2022 Action Plan of Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) identified Alternative Transportation as a key focus under Domain II to reduce Cal Poly Pomona's carbon footprint\(^1\) and the 2020-2021 Action Plan of ASI identified Transportation and the Divestment of Fossil-fuels as two key areas under Domain III requiring continued advocacy and support;\(^2\)

WHEREAS, Cal Poly Pomona is a major activity and employment center, located in the East San Gabriel Valley/Pomona Valley with limited transit services; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly Pomona's 2020 Climate Action Plan Update 1) established environmental sustainability as one of the University's core values, 2) inventoried commuting activities which represent thirty-seven percent (37%) of the campus’ greenhouse gas emissions sources, and 3) set a benchmark of increasing non-single occupant vehicle shares to campus to fifty percent (50%); and

WHEREAS, Providing sustainable transit is a basic needs initiative and helps students graduate in a timely manner and expanded transit services help students access campus, jobs, internships, and other opportunities; and

WHEREAS, According to the Hechinger Report, transportation can account for almost twenty percent (20%) of the cost of college for commuters, and there are ways in which transportation poses barriers for students, including fare costs and stops or stations being inaccessible to where they live or work;\(^3\) and
WHEREAS, Over sixty percent (60%) of Cal Poly Pomona students who commute to campus solely by car reported not taking the bus due to inconvenient bus schedules and the time it takes to use the bus; and

WHEREAS, The campus Alternative Transportation Committee has long advocated and supported various partnership initiatives between the University and Foothill Transit, including participation in the Class Pass Pilot Program, a Silver Streak connection, and the Bronco Mobility Hub; and

WHEREAS, The Class Pass Pilot Program, which was launched in Fall 2021, has been popular among students and enables free rides on all Foothill Transit local and Silver Streak buses at no cost to students; and

WHEREAS, Silver Streak is a rapid bus route between Montclair and Downtown Los Angeles operated by Foothill Transit along the Interstate 10 Freeway that provides fast, frequent, and reliable transit services, comparable to rail services, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, but currently does not stop at Cal Poly Pomona; and

WHEREAS, Based on preliminary ridership data from Foothill Transit, more than 1,450 Class Pass trips have been taken using Silver Streak by students since the inception of the Pilot Program through mid-January 2022, despite the fact that Silver Streak currently does not stop on campus; and

WHEREAS, According to ZIP Code data on home locations, a significant number of Cal Poly Pomona students, faculty, and staff live within a five-mile radius of the Silver Streak line; and

WHEREAS, The University is working with Foothill Transit to explore feasible Silver Streak stop locations near the Student Services Building as it creates a more efficient route to the main parts of campus, is close to student housing, and is optimal for bus operations; and

WHEREAS, Commuters to campus will benefit financially from having a Silver Streak stop location near campus as they will be able to make the shift from car transportation to using Cal Poly Pomona’s Class Pass; and

WHEREAS, Commuters to campus with late courses will feel safer transporting to and from campus if a Silver Streak stop location were closer to campus; therefore be it

RESOLVED, The ASI hereby supports the University and Foothill Transit piloting a Silver Streak stop as close to the campus core as possible by the Fall 2022 semester upon approval by the University and Foothill Transit Governing Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, The pickup and drop off location for Silver Streak buses should be on campus in a location that is safe and efficient for passenger boarding and alighting, allows for ease of bus turnaround, and minimizes the walking distance to the campus core; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution shall be widely distributed, including, but not limited to: University President, Dr. Soraya M. Coley and her cabinet; the University Division of Administrative Affairs; the University Division of Student Affairs; the University Division of Academic Affairs; the University Academic Senate; the University Staff Council; the University Alumni Association; the Associated Students, Incorporated; the Poly Post; the students of Cal Poly Pomona; and the Foothill Transit Governing Board.
1 2021-2022 ASI Action Plan

2 2020-2021 ASI Action Plan

3 https://hechingerreport.org/a-surprising-reason-keeping-students-from-finishing-college-a-lack-of-transportation/

4 Student Commuting Behavior at Cal Poly Pomona: Commute Modes, Preferences, and Motivators for Sustainable Transportation: Thesis by Hannah F. Brunelle (2017)

5 http://foothilltransit.org/line/silver-streak/

6 Presentation slides from the Alternative Transportation Committee meeting on February 1, 2022

7 ZIP Code data provided by the University's Institutional Research, Planning, and Analytics Department and Foothill Transit

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**Attachments**

Certification Form - Silver Streak.pdf

**Approval Signatures**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step Description</th>
<th>Approver</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Signed by ASI President</td>
<td>Prabhat Jammalamadaka</td>
<td>Apr 04, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signed by ASI Attorney General</td>
<td>Mia Miller</td>
<td>Mar 30, 2022</td>
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<td>The Individual(s) presents SB/SR to the ASI Board of Directors for Discussion and Action</td>
<td>Mia Miller</td>
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<td>The Individual(s) work with ASI Attorney General to create draft</td>
<td>Mia Miller</td>
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