

Los Angeles Unified School District

Office of Environmental Health and Safety

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Superintendent of Schools

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September 28, 2006

Mr. Varoujan Jinbachian
California Public Utilities Commission
Rail Crossing Engineering Section
320 West 4th Street – Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013
vsj@cpuc.ca.gov

Re: Exposition Light-Rail Transit Project Near LAUSD Schools

Dear Mr. Jinbachian,

Issues raised by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) related to the health and safety of school occupants at schools located near the subject rail line have not been adequately addressed by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). Five LAUSD schools are located less than 100 feet from the proposed rail line:

- Dorsey High School 50 feet
- Foshay Learning Center 60 feet
- Theodore T. Alexander Jr. Science Center 50 feet
- Adams Middle School 60 feet
- Central LA Area Middle School #4 70 feet

Concerns related to the close proximity of the schools to the proposed light rail are as follows:

- **Pedestrian Safety.** The proposed light rail crosses existing and proposed routes to schools. Mitigation must be provided to eliminate all rail-pedestrian conflicts along routes to school.
- **Noise and Vibration.** To ensure a quality learning environment, interior and exterior noise levels must maintain acoustical standards not exceeding American National Standards Institute (ANSI S12.60-2002) and criteria established by the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS). Also, ground-borne vibration levels must not exceed ANSI and Federal Transit Administration standards.
- **Train Derailment.** Mitigation must be provided to ensure hazards related to train derailment are eliminated.
- **Air Emissions.** Increased traffic and vehicles idling near the school sites, as well as increased dust generated from the light rail will have an adverse effect on the health of school occupants. The increased emissions must be mitigated to pre-project levels.

Our organization serves to protect the health and safety of students, teachers, and staff, and to minimize disruption of the learning environment. We therefore oppose this project and urge you to deny its approval in the current form.

Respectfully,



Glenn Striegler – PG
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LAUSD Office of Environmental Health and Safety
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