Council Resolution CR-04

WHEREAS Transportation Services (herein after referred to as TS) at UC San Diego is an auxiliary service which functions independently of student fees and instead receives the majority of its funding from parking permits and citations;

WHEREAS most transportation users do not pay directly for access to mass transit programs because the service is currently free to bus users and is subsidized by individuals that pay for parking permits;

WHEREAS TS relies upon revenue from parking to operate, and parking rates have not been increased since 2007;

WHEREAS since 2006 TS has negotiated with the Metropolitan Transit System (herein after referred to as MTS) to provide limited regional transportation (herein after referred to as the “bus zone”) for any member of the UCSD community, for which TS is charged $1.16 per ride;

WHEREAS the total cost to TS for said bus zone is approximately $3 million annually;

WHEREAS the cost of the bus zone has contributed to the growth of the annual TS deficit to $2.2 million;

WHEREAS the current funding model for mass transit programs at UCSD is unsustainable and may face cuts to services if alternative funding sources are not introduced within the next fiscal year, including but not limited out-of-pocket fees for service, cuts to commuter shuttles, and increases in parking rates of approximately 10-15%;

WHEREAS more than 60% of over 2600 respondents participating in an undergraduate-led survey are in favor of creating a student fee to support transportation services for students;

WHEREAS 72% of participants in the Winter 2013 Graduate Transportation Survey are in favor of creating a student fee to support transportation services for students;
WHEREAS 70% of participants in the Fall 2013 Graduate Transportation survey are in favor of creating a student fee to support transportation services for students;

WHEREAS it is the recommendation of both the GSA and AS Presidents, and the GSA EVP Internal, that such a referendum be voted on no later than Winter Quarter 2014;

BE IT RESOLVED that the GSAUCSD calls for the GSA President, the GSA EVP Internal, and the GSA representative to the Transportation Policy Committee to author language for a student fee referendum for transportation, in collaboration with the Associated Students and in communication with the necessary administrative entities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GSAUCSD calls for the above-mentioned parties to also author a charter for a Student Transportation Advisory Committee (herein after referred to as STAC) to serve as the body of student oversight and control over any fees that the student population may contribute towards transportation services as a result of the passage of said referendum;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the GSAUCSD reserves the right to edit and approve the final language of the fee referendum and the STAC charter before either are submitted to the student body for a vote as per the GSAUCSD constitution.

Voted & Passed in GSA Council meeting 4: 11/18/2013 (Y/N/A – 37/2/1)
Certified: Rahul S. Kapadia, 11/25/2013