



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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May 21, 2019

Dr. Ryan Cornner
Vice Chancellor
Educational Programs and Institutional Effectiveness
Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD)
770 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90017

Re: Proposed LACCD Pilot Program for Fee-based Transit Pass Program

Dear Dr. Cornner,

Thank you for your proposal to Metro Commute Services Staff regarding implementing a district-wide fee-based transit pass program for LACCD schools. We agree that helping more students gain access to transportation options will continue to have positive impacts on attendance and graduation rates. In addition, we are aware that the students at eight of the nine LACCD Colleges passed a student referendum to pay \$13 per semester for Fall and Spring and \$8 per semester for Summer and Winter to help offset the cost of a transportation program available to all students taking classes for credit.

According to the data you presented, 29% of students would ride transit if this low-cost pass was available to them on their campus. There are currently four (4) LACCD campuses participating in Metro's existing U-Pass Program and the current participants are riding approximately 10 times per week at \$0.75 per boarding for a cost of \$7.50 per student per week. Based on our staff's calculations, if 29% of LACCD's credit students were participating in the U-Pass Program, the total cost would be \$13,988,643 (see spreadsheet attached). However, the amount collected from the student transportation fees listed above would only cover \$3,878,789, creating a deficit to Metro of over \$10 million if no additional funding was provided. This is above and beyond the \$1.00-per-boarding revenue loss that Metro already incurs on all U-Pass boardings. Unfortunately, this is not sustainable to Metro. In addition, waiving any additional costs beyond the student fees collected would also create a substantial inequity with all other U-Pass schools in Los Angeles County, many of which are already paying subsidies to reduce the cost of the U-Pass Program for their students.

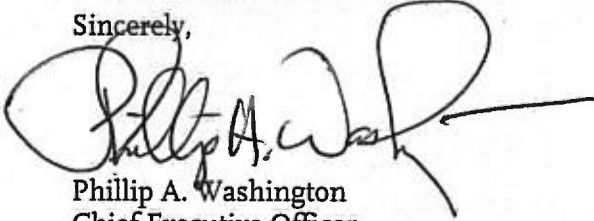
Although, we cannot create a separate pilot program for LACCD, we are happy to help the district implement a fee-based program to help offset the cost to students, while maintaining all of the other guidelines of the U-Pass Program, including paying for all actual boardings.

Based on the LACCD data provided, Metro staff estimates that the fees collected would cover participation for approximately 8% of the students on each campus. Of the current U-Pass participating schools, Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTTC) is already at 8.6% participation of credit students, so it may not be a good candidate for this payment model. However, Los Angeles Mission College (LAMC) currently only has 15 students or 0.18% participation, which leaves the most room for growth before the college would need to pay for additional boardings, and Los Angeles City College (LACC) has a 2.7% participation rate. Metro would recommend choosing one of these schools to help keep costs affordable to the district. In addition, our staff are committed to continuing to work with you to find additional external funding sources for this program.

We believe that our continued collaboration will lead to additional mobility options for LACCD students and more opportunities for external funding sources that may help to further offset the cost of these programs and continue to improve the quality of life in for students in Los Angeles County.

If you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip A. Washington". The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer

cc: The Honorable Sheila Kuehl, Chair, Metro Board of Directors

All Schools	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Total
Credit	34,876	123,921	49,714	122,392	330,903
Noncredit Adjustment	1,808	6,620	2,683	6,589	17,700
High School Adjustment	750	6,523	3,156	7,407	17,836
Total	37,434	137,064	55,553	136,388	366,439
LACCD Fee Suggestion	\$ 8.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 13.00	
Estimated collection based on LACCD Fees	279,008	1,610,973	397,712	1,591,096	\$ 3,878,789.00

ESTIMATED COLLECTION					
	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Total
Credit estimated collection	\$ 279,008.00	\$ 1,610,973.00	\$ 397,712.00	\$ 1,591,096.00	\$ 3,878,789.00
Number of weeks per term	5	20	12	26	
Avg. weekly boardings Cost (10 weekly boardings x .75 charge)		\$ 7.50			
High School Weekly Cost		\$ 5.60			

ESTIMATED U-PASS COST FOR CREDIT						8.04%
	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Total	
Credit Participants (at 8.04% of total credit students)	2804	9,963	3,997	9,840	26,605	
Estimated U-Pass cost per term	\$ 105,151.14	\$ 1,494,487.26	\$ 359,730.50	\$ 1,918,861.78	\$ 3,878,230.68	
Estimated collection from Credit	\$ 279,008.00	\$ 1,610,973.00	\$ 397,712.00	\$ 1,591,096.00	\$ 3,878,789.00	
Variance	\$ 173,856.86	\$ 116,485.74	\$ 37,981.50	\$ (327,765.78)	\$ 558.32	

Breakeven

ESTIMATED U-PASS COST FOR CREDIT						29.00%
	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Total	
Credit Participants (at 29% of total credit students)	10114	35937	14417	35494	95,962	
Estimated U-Pass cost per term	\$ 379,276.50	\$ 5,390,563.50	\$ 1,297,535.40	\$ 6,921,267.60	\$ 13,988,643.00	
Estimated collection from Credit	\$ 279,008.00	\$ 1,610,973.00	\$ 397,712.00	\$ 1,591,096.00	\$ 3,878,789.00	
Variance	\$ (100,268.50)	\$ (3,779,590.50)	\$ (899,823.40)	\$ (5,330,171.60)	\$ (10,109,854.00)	

ESTIMATED U-PASS COST FOR HIGH SCHOOL/NON CREDIT					
	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Total
Noncredit	145	532	216	530	1,423
High School	60	524	254	596	1,434
Estimated Semester Cost Non Credit based on (\$7.50)	\$ 5,451.12	\$ 79,837.20	\$ 19,414.19	\$ 103,302.34	\$ 208,004.85
Estimated Semester Cost High School based on (\$5.60)	\$ 1,688.40	\$ 58,738.31	\$ 17,051.49	\$ 86,708.12	\$ 164,186.32

ACTUAL U-PASS PARTICIPATION % COMPARED TO ENROLLMENT DATA					
	Winter 2018	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Total
U-Pass - LA TradeTech	0	551	113	996	1660
Percent of Credit-Only Enrollment	0%	4%	2%	8.6%	5%
U-Pass - LA Pierce	0	77	35	144	256
Percent of Credit-Only Enrollment	0%	0.44%	0.45%	0.80%	0.53%
U-Pass - LA Mission	0	3	5	15	23
Percent of Credit-Only Enrollment	0%	0.03%	0.19%	0.18%	0.10%
U-Pass - LA City	0	173	15	386	574
Percent of Credit-Only Enrollment	0%	1.14%	0.26%	2.77%	1.48%

Total U-Pass Participation for 2018: 2513
 Percentage of total LACCD Enrollment: 0.69%
 Percentage of Total Enrollment at Participating U-Pass Schools: 1.6%
 Percentage of Credit Enrollment at Participating U-Pass Schools: 1.8%