



9 February 2024

Mayor Todd Gloria
202 C Street, 11th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Transportation and Climate Stakeholders Call for Funding for Continuous Rapid Transit Lanes to San Diego State University

Dear Mayor Gloria and San Diego City Councilmembers,

The undersigned coalition of organizations and stakeholders in San Diego have written this letter to request that you fund the Council President's FY25 budget proposal to make the rapid transit lanes permanent and extend them to SDSU.

First, rapid transit lanes will effectively increase transit reliability and on-time performance of the bus, namely for the 215 and 1 routes that service this corridor. The 215 route boasts some of the highest ridership of any bus route across San Diego, with 1,271,180 annual riders in fiscal year 2023 ([MTS](#)). Extending the bus lanes to San Diego State University *will* make the buses a more effective and competitive mode of transportation, improving the experience for current users while also attracting many more riders.

Higher transit ridership will bring the City closer to the mode shift targets in the Climate Action Plan, which requires a 10% transit mode share by 2030 and 15% by 2035 ([City of San Diego](#)). A continuous rapid transit lane would make El Cajon Boulevard a major east-west transit hub, uniting neighborhoods from Hillcrest to the College Area.

Second, the City of San Diego has set ambitious Vision Zero goals, which aim to eliminate all serious traffic-related injuries and fatalities by 2025. The El Cajon Boulevard corridor is a deadly place for pedestrians. Continuous bus-only lanes on the El Cajon Boulevard corridor will serve as road diets that



narrow street width and slow traffic, which, in conjunction with other improvements, can support Vision Zero goals.

Our budget process is perhaps the most powerful way to indicate our City's priorities. In the fiscal year 2025 budget, San Diego can clearly prioritize improving transit service, climate action, and Vision Zero by funding continuous rapid transit lanes to San Diego State University.

Sincerely,

Anar Salayev
Executive Director
BikeSD

Mike Rancourt
Transportation Team Co-Chair
San Diego 350

Chloé Lauer
Executive Director
San Diego County Bicycle
Coalition

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