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Mr. Brent Lee, **President** | Dr. Angelo Farooq, **Vice President**

Mr. Dale Kinnear, **Clerk** | Mrs. Kathy Allavie, **Member**

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RUSD

**RIVERSIDE UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

January 31, 2022

Mr. David Lewis, Capital Projects Manager
Riverside-Downtown Station Improvements Project
Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Mr. Lewis:

The Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) Board of Education recognizes the need for an improved passenger train facility in Riverside, but the safety of our students is our most vital mission and obligation. As a Board, we must ensure that any potential negative impacts on the health and safety of our students be mitigated. This is inclusive of concerns about traffic, noise and pollution in the nearby area of district schools if the Metrolink Station project moves forward. In addition, building a 500+ space parking lot adjacent to a new elementary school raises serious safety concerns.

There is an existing school, Abraham Lincoln High School, at Victoria Avenue and 14th Street. In addition, the District is planning to develop an Eastside Neighborhood School at a site that is approximately 100 feet southeast of the Riverside-Downtown Station and is approximately 515 feet northwest of the Metrolink right-of-way. As Board Trustees, we must put ourselves in the shoes of the community, and of our families, who will be adversely affected by this project. The community has elected us to be their advocates.

It is important that members of the Riverside County Transportation Commission also understand that we are a community that must work together to advance the City of Riverside and we must not work in silos. In order to work as a team, the RUSD Board of Education is asking the RCTC to work together with us.

RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

3380 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501
951-788-7135

BUSINESS SERVICES

6050 Industrial Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504
951-352-6729

CENTRAL REGISTRATION CENTER

5700 Arlington Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504
951-352-1200

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Not only do we ask to be provided with updates throughout the process, but we also want you to consider the 800 young children who will attend their new long-awaited neighborhood school less than one block away from your project. We must work collaboratively as a community and a city for what is best for Riverside.

Sincerely,

Mr. Brent Lee
Board President

Dr. Angelo Farooq
Board Vice President

Mr. Dale Kinnear
Board Clerk

Mrs. Kathy Allavie
Board Member

Mr. Tom Hunt
Board Member

Copies to:

County of Riverside Transportation Commission Members in Districts 1-5 (Kevin Jeffries, Karen Spiegel, Chuck Washington, V. Manuel Perez, and Jeff Hewitt)

Mrs. Patricia Lock-Dawson, City of Riverside Mayor

Mr. Al Zelinka, City of Riverside Manager

City of Riverside Council Members

East Side Think Tank Chairperson, Ms. Mary Figueroa

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