Associated Students of the University of California, Merced

Resolution #9

Resolution in Support of the Future Cycling Paths to Campus

Introduced By: Phil Coba, ASUCM Senator At Large

<u>Authored By:</u> Phil Coba, ASUCM Senator At Large Sagir Kadiwala, Local Affairs Liaison

Associated Students of the University of California, Merced **Resolution #9- Resolution in Support of the Future Cycling Paths to Campus**

Background: In the recent years, biking has become a popular means of transportation for UC Merced students. With the strategic placement of UC Merced a student can cycle from the campus to Downtown Merced in less than 10 miles one way. While the distance might not be far, students face the issue of not having safe bike paths throughout not only the city of Merced, but also onto our campus. According to the bike map published by the City of Merced—located in appendix A—Bellevue Rd (from G St to Lake Rd) is currently considered to have a bike path. Numerous students have complained about the safety of this road and the lack of basic safety measures such as lights and a clean road. Our campus encourages students to ride their bikes to and from school by offering incentives to students who ride their bikes to school. The City of Merced is currently meeting with cyclists in an effort to listen to the concerns of the public.

<u>Purpose:</u> To improve Biking Paths and Conditions around the City of Merced and County of Merced.

- 1. <u>Whereas:</u> Cycling is picking up within the UC Merced community and student seek safer bike paths; and
- 2. <u>Whereas:</u> The Bike Paths within the city and County of Merced do not leave enough room for cyclists on the current bike paths; and
- 3. <u>Whereas:</u> Bellevue Rd (from G St to Lake Rd), one of the main roads to campus is considered by the city of Merced to have a bike path; and
- 4. <u>Whereas:</u> This bike path puts students and cyclists at risk of injury and death by oncoming traffic; and
- 5. <u>Whereas:</u> Numerous student have complained about a lack of safety when riding their bikes on this road; and
- 6. <u>Whereas:</u> Bellevue Rd. (from G St to Lake Rd) is known for its thick fog and heavy traffic; and
- 7. <u>Whereas:</u> Our University Rec and Athletics provided incentives such as free locker rentals for riding a bike to campus for a whole month; and
- 8. <u>Whereas:</u> According to the City of Merced as of 2012 the number of reported bike related collisions was 216. These include fatal crashes, hit-and-runs, and injuries.

Be it Resolved: That the Associated Students of the University of California Merced urge the City of Merced to look at bettering the bike paths in the city specifically Bellevue Rd.

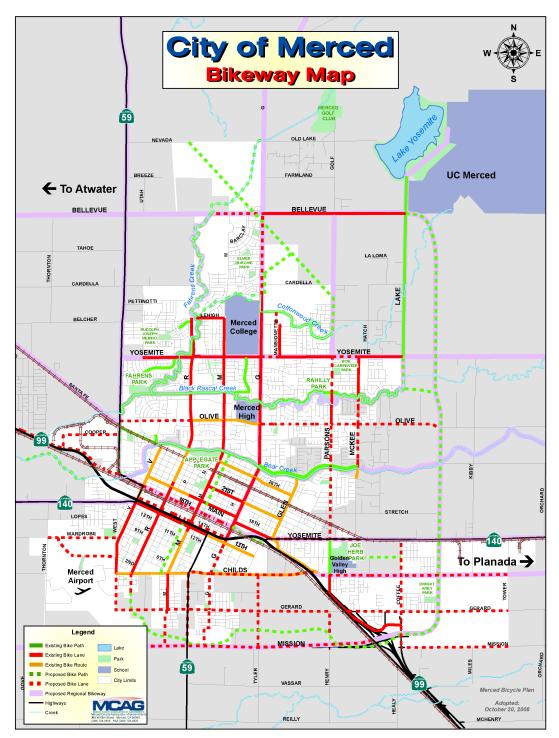
Be it Further Resolved: That UC Merced take into consideration the future of the cycling community when expanding the university.

Be it Further Resolved: That the Associated Students of the University of California Merced encourage the City of Merced to expand on their "Share the Road" campaigns and offer "Share the Road" trainings to city officials, taxi drivers and delivery drivers.

Be it Further Resolved: That the University work in collaboration with the city and county to improve the cycling conditions on and around the campus.

Be it Finally Resolved: That the Associated Students of the University of California Merced strongly urge the City of Merced apply for the Safe Routes to School Projects grant.

Appendix A:



Appendix B: Link to the City of Merced cycling report: https://www.cityofmerced.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=13320

Associated Students of the University of California, Merced Resolution #9- Resolution in Support of the Future Cycling Paths to Campus

Date Introduced: 2/18/15	<u>Submi</u>	<u>tted Senate Committee(s):</u>
Date Settled: 2/25/15 Veto Expires:		Budget and Finance Student Advocacy Student Activities Academic Affairs Other
Comments/Recommendations:		
Senate Action: Approved		Not Approved
Senate Chair Authorization Zachary Mordo, Interna Vie	Presid	Date: 2/28/15
President Action: Approved	>	Not Approved
President's Signature: Ivan Flores, President	L	Date: 03/02/15