University of California San Francisco



## **Campus Planning**

Lori Yamauchi Associate Vice Chancellor

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Tel: (415) 476-2911 Fax: (415) 476-9478 November 3, 2015

Tiffany Bohee, Executive Director Office of Community Investment & Infrastructure One South Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103

RE: Comments on Warriors' San Francisco Event Center Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report OCII Case No. ER 2014-919-97

Dear Ms. Bohee:

On behalf of the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and Chancellor Sam Hawgood, I wish to express UCSF's support for the proposed Golden State Warriors' Event Center project, the certification of the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report, and the Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (OCII) Commission's adoption of Findings and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and approval of the Design for Development Amendments, Major Phase application and Schematic Design.

Since the Warriors announced its intent to build a new Event Center/Arena complex at Mission Bay, UCSF has expressed its concerns about the impacts of the proposed Event Center on traffic and parking in the area, with particular focus on the effects on patient safety. We have reviewed and commented on multiple documents issued by the City on the Event Center project, as well as participated in numerous community meetings. UCSF representatives testified before the OCII Commission and before the Planning Commission, and submitted a letter with its comments on the Draft Subsequent EIR. We have reviewed the Responses to Comments and the Final SEIR, and concluded that the City's responses to our comments are generally satisfactory.

We appreciate the addition of a Local Hospital Access Plan to the Transportation Management Plan for the project, which will discourage event attendees arriving by car from using local streets within Mission Bay to get to parking facilities serving the Event Center. This plan will use signage and PCOs to direct event attendees to designated routes and away from streets in the Local Hospital Access Plan network.

We also appreciate the proposed off-site parking to the south of the event center for use by event attendees, namely the 19<sup>th</sup> Street lot on Port property at Pier 70 and the Western Pacific site near Pier 80. As the SEIR notes, this parking is intended to help to alleviate pre-event traffic impacts at intersections in and adjacent to the UCSF Medical Center at Mission Bay, particularly when there are large, overlapping events at the Event Center and at AT&T Park.

We wish to reiterate that UCSF is unable to make its off-street parking garages and lots available to event attendees arriving by car because UCSF needs this parking to meet demand from its staff, patients and visitors.

We also appreciate the proposed Mission Bay Transportation Improvement Fund, or Special Reserve Account, including the Designated Overlapping Event Reserve Account, to fund traffic management programs implemented by the City to serve the project. We also appreciate the proposed formation of an Advisory Committee, which would include UCSF, to advise the MTA and other city departments on improvement measures and City actions and expenditures needed to address traffic congestion associated with the Event Center.

We appreciate the refinements to the construction tower crane plan, which will place the tower cranes outside the UCSF helipad airspace, so that our emergency helicopters can access UCSF's medical helipad safely.

We appreciate the proposed Muni UCSF/Mission Bay Station variant which will replace the existing passenger platforms with a single platform which extends south of and away from the UCSF student housing. We support this variant, and recommend that the OCII Commission adopt it as part of the project approval.

We wish to point out a few areas where we believe the Final SEIR and the project could be strengthened:

- First, we request that the City make long-term commitments on providing the off-site parking at 19th Street and the Western Pacific sites to serve the Event Center.
- Second, we ask that the City, working with Caltrans, provide a solution to the traffic
  congestion at the Mariposa I-280 northbound off-ramp during pre-event peak periods.
   UCSF requested a mitigation measure to reconfigure the off-ramp lanes to better

segregate Event Center traffic from UCSF and other non-Event Center traffic. We believe that this is a feasible and effective measure.

- Third, we ask that in Mitigation Measure M-TR-9d, Event Center Exterior Lighting Plan, that the words "where feasible" be deleted. The Warriors have a large site to work with, and it seems reasonable that they could "avoid the use of light configurations similar to those associated with the UCSF helipad landing area, and locate primary outdoor lighted displays and television/lighted screens away from the project property line at 16th Street, South Street, or Third Street" without adding the qualifying "where feasible." This is important for the safety of patients, pilots, and persons in the vicinity.
- Finally, we ask that the City produce an explanation of how the wastewater treatment capacity at Mission Bay's Mariposa basin will be made adequate to serve all projected development at Mission Bay, and what the mitigation plan is and the solution is to this longstanding problem. Despite repeated requests from UCSF, the City has produced no information, nor identified a specific solution to this problem. This will affect all development parties at and around Mission Bay, including UCSF, both in wastewater service for existing facilities, as well as proposed new facilities.

In addition, we note that there is an error in the staff memorandum to the OCII Commission regarding certification of the Final Subsequent EIR for the Warriors Event Center and Mixed Use Development. On page 17, 4th paragraph of the memorandum, it states "The Project Sponsor and UCSF have signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") through which UCSF consents to the Gatehouse location." This is not true, as the MOU relates only to traffic conditions during the overlapping events, and not the Gatehouse location. This error should be corrected.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FEIR. UCSF is supportive of a successful Event Center project, and looks forward to providing further input and coordination as the project moves on to the implementation phase.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 476-8312.

Sincerely,

Lori Yamauchi, Associate Vice Chancellor

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