Resolution: 02110315

Author(s): Austin Dunn, Co-Director of University Affairs (Undergraduate Student Government); Maariyah Patel, Co-Director of University Affairs (Undergraduate Student Government); Alex Leavitt, USC Annenberg PhD Student & President of the USC Bicycle Coalition; Cathy Ji, USC Undergraduate Student & Undergraduate Representative of the USC Bicycle Coalition

Sponsoring Senator(s): Darian Nourian, Eric Duberry, Jacob Ellenhorn, Sabrina Enriquez

Date: November 3rd, 2015

RE: Request for a Bicycle Coordinator Position within Administration

WHEREAS, the University of Southern California’s mission is the “cultivation and enrichment of the human mind and spirit”¹ and students are encouraged to embrace alternate forms of transportation for their own health, spirit, and well-being;

WHEREAS, a majority of USC students (80%) self-identify as bicyclists², and 75% of undergraduate students and 50% of graduate students have ridden a bike one or more times on campus³, totaling over 20,000 bicycle riders at USC (not including faculty or staff);

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are between 6,000 and 9,000 bicycles on campus during any given weekday⁴;

WHEREAS, the USC student body has continually brought up issues of safety and inadequate bicycle infrastructure on campus to the administration⁵⁶;

WHEREAS, the neighborhoods on and surrounding USC’s campus have exhibited the highest numbers of cyclist injuries in the past decade⁷;

¹ USC Policies and Core Documents - Role and Mission of USC, http://about.usc.edu/policies/
² USC Bans Bicycles on Bike Lane, More Restrictions to Come, https://ladotbikeblog.wordpress.com/2010/09/15/usc-bans-bicycles-on-bike-lane-more-restrictions-to-come/
³ USC Bicycle Master Plan (Summer 2012), https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B4tIAQtBfOxIUMU1Z0xXNEVtrM8/edit?pli=1 p. 9
⁴ USC Bicycle Master Plan (Summer 2012), https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B4tIAQtBfOxIUMU1Z0xXNEVtrM8/edit?pli=1 p. 10
⁵ Bike policy changes exaggerate problem, http://dailytrojan.com/2012/08/30/bike-policy-changes-exaggerate-problem/
⁷ Why Does USC Have So Many Dangerous Intersections?, http://collision.jackpine.me/blog/2015/09/01/dangerous-intersections-of-usc/
WHEREAS, the USC campus is viewed as an insecure neighborhood for commuter bicyclists due to the high rate of bicycle crime and theft;  

WHEREAS, between 40% and 60% of the student body have reported being hit by bicycles on campus;  

WHEREAS, the university currently does not provide educational materials about bike safety or security to students at orientation or at any other point in their educational tenure at USC;  

WHEREAS, Chief John Thomas of the USC Department of Public Safety (DPS) has stated that part of its mission is to “address quality of life issues” and has voiced support about DPS’s interest in supporting bicycle initiatives;  

WHEREAS, David Donovan, the Associate Director of USC Transportation believes this is an essential position for the Transportation Department to pursue as it currently does not fall within anyone’s domain;  

WHEREAS, according to the USC Sustainability Office, in 2010, the University of Southern California Campus Planning Committee of the Board of Trustees approved six resolutions to further strengthen the University’s commitment to sustainability, including “that the university maintain active incentive programs to encourage faculty, staff, students, and visitors to use transportation modes other than the single passenger automobile”;  

WHEREAS, the Undergraduate Student Government aim to represent the voice of the student body and relay their concerns to senior administration to institute change;  

WHEREAS, the University of Southern California has an opportunity to be a leader among its peer private and public research universities, and increase safety and security of students, faculty, and staff on campus, and help promote a healthy, sustainable campus, therefore be it  

---

8 A campus full of steal-able bikes at USC may be a sign of bigger problems, http://bikinginla.com/2012/03/28/a-campus-full-of-steel-able-bikes-at-usc-may-be-a-sign-of-bigger-problems/  
9 USC Bicycle Master Plan (Summer 2012), https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B4JACfDxIUMU1Z0xXNEVilRm8/edit?pli=1 p. 14  
10 USC Department of Public Safety - Welcome from Chief John Thomas, http://adminopsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/welcome-chief-john-thomas  
11 USC Sustainability - Campus Sustainability Resolutions, http://green.usc.edu/content/campus-sustainability-resolutions  
BE IT RESOLVED, that USC will dedicate university funding and establish a Bicycle Coordinator position\(^{13}\) within the USC administration to improve bicycle infrastructure and safety on campus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a portion of said funding will be allocated to the inclusion of a bicycle safety program for undergraduate and graduate students during orientation, starting in the Fall 2016 semester;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to President C.L. Max Nikias, Provost, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Michael Quick, Senior Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer Robert Abeles, Senior Vice President of University Advancement Albert Checcio, Vice Provost for Student Affairs Ainsley Carry, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs Gene Bickers, and USG President Rini Sampath by Secretary Amy Perez within 2 weeks of being passed by the Undergraduate Student Government Senate.

\[\text{Signature}\]

President 2015 - 2016

\[\text{Signature}\]

Luis Canton, Witness

\(^{13}\) As recommended in the Bicycle Master Plan