

Policy Brief

August 2020

UC SAN DIEGO CAMPUS EXPANSION

POSITION: The Chamber's Transportation & Land Development Committee voted to SUPPORT the removal of the deed restrictions on campus lands on July 21, 2020. The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT on this proposal on August 11, 2020. The Board voted to SUPPORT this proposal on September 24, 2020.

RATIONALE: Lifting the deed restrictions on land already owned by the university will generate a significant economic impact for the city and expand one of the region's flagship academic and research institutions.

STATUS: The San Diego City Council has since lifted restrictions on 43 acres of land where development will proceed.

SUMMARY

Over the next decade, UC San Diego plans to expand its La Jolla campus through public-private partnerships. The campus expansion will include an extended stay facility for patients undergoing treatment at the UCSD medical center, a conference center, housing for retired staff, a wellness center, a clinical research facility, and additional retail space. The land on which the university intends to build the campus extensions is currently deed restricted by the City of San Diego such that all uses developed on the land "serve a university purpose." While UC San Diego leadership believes the proposed construction is in line with the school's mission, developers are unable to secure a title policy for proposed construction with the deed restrictions in place.

UC San Diego is requesting that the city issue a quitclaim deed to remove the restrictions on the campus property in order to proceed with the campus expansion.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

UC San Diego commissioned an economic impact analysis which estimated that the proposed campus expansion will generate \$85 million in tax revenue to the city during the first 20 years and create more than 11,000 new jobs.

INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

The proposal will impact members of the UC San Diego community, developers and construction workers that will work on the project, and members of the region's workforce that will be employed within the new campus.

SUPPORTERS

- UNITE HERE
- UC San Diego Real Estate Advisory Council
- UC San Diego Foundation

OPPONENTS

None known

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

- For the last 60 years, UC San Diego has consistently been an important institution for the region, as a leader in global public research and medical science, as well as an economic engine.
- This proposal will help the region recover from the recession caused by COVID 19 because it create thousands of jobs and tens of millions of dollars in tax revenue for the city.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

 The university was given the land with the understanding that it will be used for academic purposes. The campus expansion plan is too liberal of an interpretation of and education use.