Mr. Kayser - Urging Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority to Invest More in Active Transportation Planning and Funding (Res-100-13/14)  (Noticed May 20, 2014)

Whereas, The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority (Metro) is currently working on a draft short range transportation plan (SRTP) that will guide $88 billion dollars of transportation investments in Los Angeles County over the next ten years;

Whereas, The modes of transportation used by pedestrians, scooters, skateboarders, rollerbladers, runners and cyclists fall into a category referred to as Active Transportation;

Whereas, Almost one hundred percent of the Los Angeles Unified School District’s (LAUSD) 650,000 students make daily use of Active Transportation as a means of getting around their communities and to and from school;

Whereas, Due to drastic budget cuts, the Los Angeles Unified School District closed bus routes and eliminate services to many children while impoverished students in the San Francisco Unified School District continue to enjoy entirely free transportation on Bay Area Rapid Transit;

Whereas, A student’s level of mobility affects the academic, athletic and artistic choices available within LAUSD, be they Pilot schools, Magnet schools, transfers, schools in Zones of Choice, Options Schools, Adult Education programs, Occupational Centers, etc.;

Whereas, The Student Integration Office (magnet schools) was forced by budget cuts to eliminate free transportation for students in elementary schools under two miles and under five miles for middle and high school students;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District actively encourages bicycle use by students and employees and recently celebrated Bike-to-School Day on May 7th, 2014;

Whereas, Currently the short range transportation plan (SRTP) <http://save/routespartnership.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=88edf25ae92304f5d305736c&id=64d83d9e9b&e=c8c174d168> does not provide a clear Active Transportation Finance Strategy and based on analysis of spending levels in other regions and current cost estimates for active transportation projects, agencies in Los Angeles County will need to spend approximately $440 million dollars per year to implement their plans for bicycle, pedestrian, Safe Routes to School and First-Last Mile connections to transit over the next forty-five (45) years;

Whereas, The SRTP proposes to spend a mere $500 million of the entire ten-year $88.2 billion plan on Active Transportation, or approximately 0.6 percent;
Whereas, Nineteen percent of all trips in Los Angeles County use Active Transportation modes though only 0.6 percent of the budget is dedicated to proving services to support Active Transportation; whereas, Thirty-nine (39) percent of all roadway fatalities in Los Angeles County are those using Active Transportation; and

Whereas, The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority is seeking input on its STRP through June 18, 2014; now, therefore, be it finally

Resolved, That on behalf of the approximately 600,000 non-driving children in the Los Angeles Unified School District and the many employees who commute to serve them, the Governing Board of Los Angeles Unified School District urges the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority to invest more resources in Active Transportation planning and funding and to increase support for Safe Routes to School programs.