



LOS ANGELES UNION STATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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January 17, 2023, 3PM PST

Mr. Cory Zelmer
Deputy Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
1 Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-6
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Ref: Comments and Complaints against LAART, its Draft Environmental Report and DEIR meeting at Cathedral High School

Dear Mr. Zelmer,

I was present at the meeting hosted by you, and/or LA Metro, Frank McCourt, Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit, ClimateResolve, Cathedral High School and Does 1 to 10. I attended as the representative of the Los Angeles Union Station Historical Society (LAUSHS). Here are my recollections that in my opinion bring into question the legitimacy of the meeting:

- A) Although I arrived at Cathedral High School meeting venue at the beginning of the meeting, I was delayed by thirty minutes getting to the venue because there was no **Disabled Parking** in or around Cathedral High School. (This has since been confirmed by Cathedral High School staff.) Consequently, I was late because I am a **Disabled Person**, and since all normal street parking was occupied by residents and/or meeting participants, I was obliged to park on the sidewalk after driving about for nearly 30 minutes, in fear of not representing the views of the LAUSHS. Consequently, I waddled with cane in hand to the distance to the meeting. This, in our opinion, a reasonable person would conclude that Mr. Zelmer and/or other “hosts” do not care about providing reasonable accommodations for **Disabled Persons** and myself. Furthermore, it indicates to us Mr. Zelmer’s indifference to the **Disabled** and/or his **incompetence** in hosting same at the public meeting.
- B) When I finally entered the meeting, it had the appearance and sound of a **near riot**. I was told by bystanders that the spontaneous demonstration was because Mr. Zelmer and other hosts refused to take any questions of the 70 to 100 members of the local community in attendance. It is our opinion that a reasonable person might conclude that Mr. Zelmer is incompetent in representing Metro, and LAART in a public forum.
- C) Furthermore, the working press and Community representatives said that they were told to ask Brother John Montgomery, Principal of Cathedral High School for answers to their questions on LAART. Brother John is not to our knowledge a credentialed transit or environmental expert. (All known nonaligned experts and the Sierra Club are against the Gondola.) Brother John then extolled to them via nation-wide TV, the reasons he saw for building the Gondola, without mentioning the pertinent fact that his employer, Cathedral High School, gets significant funds from Frank McCourt, an apparent conflict of interest in our opinion.
- D) Therefore, the Los Angeles Union Station Historical Society has concluded that given all the above, the legal validity of the meeting was compromised and that a new meeting should be rescheduled with a live democratic

give-and-take on the issues, better crowd control and hosted by an uncompromised Metro meeting expert, not Mr. Zelmer who a reasonable person might conclude is compromised by an apparent conflict of interest in that he is a Metro employee in charge of investigating the Gondola project for the public weal whilst his salary is gifted to Metro by the Gondola's chief antagonist Frank McCourt.

Respectfully,

/s/

Thomas R. Savio
Executive Director,
Los Angeles Union Station Historical Society

Cc. Stephanie Wiggins, Metro CEO