

Introduced to the Senate Floor on June 4, 2020.



ASUCD SENATE RESOLUTION #26

Authored by: KRUEGER

Co-authored by: Bhadury, Gibson, Pasturel, Placencio, Wong

Introduced by: Environmental Policy and Planning Commission

Recommended by: Environmental Policy and Planning Commission.

Do Pass as Amended, on June 1, 2020, 9-0-0 Yes: Bhadury, Faessel, Fraley, Landesman, Pano, Placencio, Pasturel, Ottman, Webre.

An ASUCD Senate Resolution to supports the Davis Innovation and Sustainability Campus.

WHEREAS, support for an innovative and sustainable campus spans over three decades. On April 29, 2020, the Economic and Planning System, Inc. reviewed the financial viability of the campus and reported the Davis area stands to gain at least 5.4 million in annual revenue;¹ and,

WHEREAS, Yolo County broadband infrastructure stands to benefit from the successful implementation of DISC. Yolo County received a "D-" grade from the Valley Vision 2020 Six County Broadband Infrastructure Report Card.² DISC expects to use high speed broadband infrastructure to support the companies it brings in. Yolo County stands to receive the spillover benefits of strengthened wireline company relations which can catalyze the construction of broadband infrastructure for the entire community; and,

WHEREAS, UC Davis can help its students access world-class agricultural, medical, & clean technology jobs following graduation. 42% of UC Davis graduates secure full-time jobs one year after graduation.³ Constructing a worldwide technology capital within close proximity to campus presents students with the advantage of securing a job in an environment they have become accustomed to already. DISC

¹ <https://www.cityofdavis.org/Home/Components/News/News/6996/2985?backlist=%2f>;
<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/05/arc-plans-for-most-affordable-housing-to-be-on-sight/>

² <http://www.valleyvision.org/wp-content/uploads/Broadband-Report-Card-2020-1.pdf>

³ UC Davis Student Profile (University of California, Davis, 2019) 4
<https://www.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/uc-davis-student-profile.pdf>

will also open many new internship opportunities which students can translate into post-graduation employment; and,

WHEREAS, the aesthetic impact of the DISC project would be greater in comparison to the No Project (No Build) alternative, the Reduced Site Size Alternative, Reduced Project Alternative, and OffSite Alternative;⁴ and,

WHEREAS, the EIR found little significance prior to mitigation regarding substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista; and,

WHEREAS, the DISC would create at least 150 units of affordable housing and a total of 850 residential units in an area where 18% of students experience housing insecurity and there is a 1% vacancy rate;⁵⁶ and,

WHEREAS, in 2014, 69.1% of Davis residents commuted outside of the area for work and the DISC would provide local jobs and housing opportunities;⁷⁸ and,

WHEREAS, the project managers have planned the necessary precautions to mitigate the environmental impact. All impacts on special-status plant and animal species are considered less than significant, or will be less than significant with mitigation.⁹ The 2019 Biological Survey for DISC concludes that "Mitigation measures for biological resources in the Project Environmental Impact Report [...] remain adequate for the proposed [DISC] development."¹⁰ and,

WHEREAS, DISC's solar panels will have minimal impact on wildlife. Sycamore Environmental Consultants, hired to review the environmental consequences of the building project, conducted a literature review and determined the likelihood of wildlife, particularly avian species, are unlikely to collide with solar panels;¹¹ and,

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<http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/CityCouncil/Documents/PDF/CDD/Aggie%20Research%20Campus/20200427%20SEIR%20NOA/Aggie%20Research%20Campus%20Draft%20Subsequent%20EIR.pdf>

⁵ https://ucdavisgsa.files.wordpress.com/2019/06/saper_shais-finalreport.pdf

⁶ <https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/05/guest-commentary-housing-demand-is-still-high-and-university-commons-would-provide-relief-in-a-superb-location/>

⁷ <https://www.cityofdavis.org/home/showdocument?id=7985>

⁸ <https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/05/arc-plans-for-most-affordable-housing-to-be-on-sight/>

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<http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/CityCouncil/Documents/PDF/CDD/Aggie%20Research%20Campus/20200427%20SEIR%20NOA/Aggie%20Research%20Campus%20Draft%20Subsequent%20EIR.pdf>
http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/CityCouncil/Documents/PDF/CDD/Aggie%20Research%20Campus/20200427%20SEIR%20NOA/2019_ARC_BioUpdateLtr.pdf

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http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/CityCouncil/Documents/PDF/CDD/Aggie%20Research%20Campus/20200427%20SEIR%20NOA/2019_ARC_BioUpdateLtr.pdf

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http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/CityCouncil/Documents/PDF/CDD/Aggie%20Research%20Campus/20200427%20SEIR%20NOA/ARC_ResponseToSmallwoodNOP_BirdImpactComments.pdf

WHEREAS, natural gas and renewable energy generated 56% of America's power in 2019 and is only expected to increase; California produces more renewable energy than any other state in the country;¹² and,

WHEREAS, the DISC would utilize the City of Davis's energy-efficient building standards to ensure LEED Gold equivalency. The project would maximize clean energy production onsite and consume 100 percent renewable energy;¹³ and,

WHEREAS in order to achieve 100 percent clean energy, the project would purchase power solely from local and renewable sources like Valley Clean Energy, mandate extensive use of photovoltaics on parking garages, abstain from using natural gas and instead make onsite residential units all-electric, include an electric vehicle charging unit in each residential unit, and achieve net zero energy for outdoor lighting;¹⁴ and,

WHEREAS, the Davis Chamber of Commerce supports building of the DISC, referencing the expected economic benefits of the development;¹⁵ and,

WHEREAS, the DISC is expected to create more than 6,000 new jobs, generating \$500 million in annual employee compensation and benefits;¹⁶ and,

WHEREAS, building the DISC will generate one-time fees of \$4.4 million for the Davis Joint Unified School District and \$113 million for the city of Davis,¹⁷ which currently faces an ongoing \$8 million infrastructure deficit;¹⁸ and,

WHEREAS, the city of Davis develops an average of 18 startups per year and retains only 23% of UC Davis students in the Sacramento region after graduation, compared to the University of Washington's average of 26 startups developed each year and 62% retention rate of graduated students in their area;¹⁹ and,

¹² <https://www.bcse.org/factbook/>

¹³

<http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/Default/Documents/PDF/CityCouncil/Natural-Resources-Commission/Agendas/20200514/6B.1%20Aggie%20Research%20Campus%20Sustainability%20Guiding%20Principles%20from%20project%20applicant%20NRC%205-14-2020.pdf>

¹⁴

<http://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/Default/Documents/PDF/CityCouncil/Natural-Resources-Commission/Agendas/20200514/6B.1%20Aggie%20Research%20Campus%20Sustainability%20Guiding%20Principles%20from%20project%20applicant%20NRC%205-14-2020.pdf>

¹⁵

<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/05/letter-davis-chamber-of-commerce-supports-the-aggie-research-campus/#>

¹⁶

<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/05/letter-davis-chamber-of-commerce-supports-the-aggie-research-campus/#>

¹⁷

<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/05/letter-davis-chamber-of-commerce-supports-the-aggie-research-campus/#>

¹⁸ <https://www.davisvanguard.org/2019/06/analysis-the-promise-of-economic-development-for-davis/>

¹⁹

<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/03/analysis-how-uc-davis-compares-to-other-universities-in-terms-of-startups/>

WHEREAS, by developing the DISC Davis can increase both the available infrastructure for startup development and increase the number of high-skilled jobs in the city of Davis, thereby reaping the economic benefits of retaining college graduates and attracting other highly-skilled labor to the area²⁰; and,

WHEREAS DISC will bring 1.5 million square feet of R&D, office, and laboratory space along with 884,000 square feet of "advanced manufacturing space"²¹ to the Davis area, which is currently an unattractive investment for large companies due to lack of lab and office space, and which may even lose investment from existing companies due to limited space for these companies to grow;²² and,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, ASUCD supports the development of the Davis Innovation and Sustainability Campus (DISC); and,

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, ASUCD supports all efforts to increase affordable housing, create jobs, help the local economy, and achieve greater environmental sustainability.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, copies of this resolution shall be sent to Davis City Council, Davis Planning Commission, The Davis Vanguard, Davis Enterprise, and The Aggie.

Finance: No

Appropriation: None

Vote: Majority

DO PASS, 11-0-1 BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE ASUCD SENATE ON JUNE 4, 2020. YES: BOUDAIE, DESHPANDE, ELIZALDE, FONG, GANDHOKE, IBARRA, MALIK, MARTINEZ, RANDOLPH, VELASCO, YOUNG. ABSTAIN: CARDUNY.



6/9/2020

Kyle Krueger
ASUCD President

Date

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<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2020/03/analysis-how-uc-davis-compares-to-other-universities-in-terms-of-startups/>

²¹ <https://www.davisisc.com/project-details>

²²

<https://www.davisvanguard.org/2019/08/analysis-the-story-of-davis-lack-of-jobs-for-ucd-grads-lack-of-space-for-commercial-projects/>