

Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC) Resolution Against the Passing of Measure S in The City of Los Angeles' Upcoming Consolidated and Municipal Special Elections on March 7, 2017

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WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles will be holding a municipal election on March 7, 2017, and Measure S will be placed on the ballot;

WHEREAS, Measure S proposes creating a moratorium on general plan amendments for buildings in the city of Los Angeles which will virtually eliminate new housing development in the city¹,

WHEREAS, Measure S may lead to greater sprawl, limiting the development of more compact communities and therefore limiting the use of public transit, cycling and walking; and

WHEREAS, this initiative may lead to more reliance on the automobile, leading to more pollution, carbon emissions, and traffic in an already congested city; and

WHEREAS, in reducing the ability of developers to begin new housing construction projects, Measure S may severely limit the building of new affordable housing projects, which will reduce the overall supply of housing in the City; and

WHEREAS, by preventing affordable housing from being built, Measure S is likely to increase homelessness in Los Angeles² and further contribute to gentrification³; and

WHEREAS, an independent economic analysis has reported that Measure S could cost Los Angeles 12,000 jobs, \$640 million in wages, and \$2 billion in overall lost economic output⁴; and

WHEREAS, by limiting available housing, Los Angeles' high rents and housing costs will continue to increase, forcing citizens to find housing outside of the city, which in turn may create more congestion and traffic; and

WHEREAS, Measure S will specifically limit construction of new properties over three stories tall in the Westwood North Village area, reducing overall supply of housing and driving costs up⁵; and

¹ <http://2preservela.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/NII.pdf>

² <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-santa-monica-development-20160513-snap-story.html>

³ <http://www.laweekly.com/news/why-building-new-apartments-is-good-for-la-6981422>

⁴ http://www.goestoofar.com/text/MeasureS_EconPolicyReport.pdf

WHEREAS, with instruction from Governor Jerry Brown and University of California President Janet Napolitano, UCLA must increase its intake of admitted students over the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years⁶; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for availability for additional housing in Westwood that is convenient and accommodates an increasing student population; and

WHEREAS, with limited space already, Westwood cannot afford to halt construction of additional apartments and complexes; and

WHEREAS, the No on Measure S campaign has the endorsement of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party, and the Republican Party of Los Angeles County⁷,

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association (USAC) supports making off campus housing more easily accessible and affordable in the Westwood area, which may be limited given that Measure S passes,

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the USAC is against the passage of Measure S in Los Angeles County's Municipal and Special Elections on March 7, 2017 and encourages students and community members to vote No.

⁵ Measure S will prohibit General Amendments to the North Westwood Village specific zoning plan as well as the Westwood Village plan, as cited:

<http://planning.lacity.org/complan/specplan/pdf/NWWDVIL.PDF>

⁶<https://edsources.org/2015/uc-commits-to-increase-in-state-student-enrollment-tuition-freeze-through-2016-17/90926>

⁷ <http://www.goestoofar.com/coalition>