



California Partnership for the
San Joaquin Valley

A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED 2020 PROJECT TO EXPAND ACCESS TO UC-ELIGIBLE STUDENTS IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, AND THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA, AS WELL AS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY.

WHEREAS the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley ("Partnership") was established by Executive Order S-22-06 to focus attention on one of the most vital, yet challenged regions of the state and implement changes that would improve the economic well-being of the Valley and the quality of life of its residents; and

WHEREAS the growing population of the San Joaquin Valley requires a prosperous economy, a quality environment, and social equity. Part of achieving these goals is to grow a diversified, globally competitive economy supported by a highly skilled workforce through higher education opportunities within the San Joaquin Valley while implementing creative and collaborative solutions to region-wide infrastructure challenges; and

WHEREAS UC Merced opened Sept. 5, 2005, as the newest campus of the University of California system and the first American research university of the 21st century, significantly expanding access to the UC system for students throughout the state, with a special mission to increase college-going rates among students in the San Joaquin Valley, while serving as a major base of advanced research, a model of sustainable design and construction, and a stimulus to economic growth and diversification throughout the region, providing a significant economic boost to our community, creating thousands of construction jobs and nearly 800 permanent jobs on campus, with UC benefits and wages; and

WHEREAS UC Merced is facing growing demand from students to attend the campus, leading the UC system in each of the following measures: 97% of its undergraduates come from California, a majority come from low-income families that receive federal Pell grants, and most are the first in their families to attend a four-year institution; and

WHEREAS UC Merced "2020 Project" is a comprehensive, master-planned development that will provide the critically needed facilities and infrastructure to support a campus enrollment of 10,000 students. It employs a delivery strategy that combines all elements of capital development into an integrated approach, enabling the university to seek economies of scale, to price the lifecycle cost of the facilities and transfer risk. In scale, scope, and intent, the "2020 Project" represents the most significant initiative for the Merced campus since its founding, and an opportunity to demonstrate the functional and financial benefits of an alternative delivery strategy.



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley strongly supports the “2020 Project” to expand access to a UC-quality education in the San Joaquin Valley and throughout California, as well as to promote economic development in the Valley;

- a) Enable UC Merced to continue to deliver on its promise to serve the Valley and meet growing demand from UC-eligible students with the goal of expanding access in the San Joaquin Valley and throughout California; and
- b) Provide sufficient facilities to accommodate 10,000 students by the end of the decade, a critical number that will allow the campus to achieve a sustainable financial approach; and
- c) Create a community of scholars that integrates students, faculty and staff, meeting multiple needs and creating synergy within a mixed-use, living-learning environment while supporting new approaches to multi-disciplinary learning and research; and
- d) Make most effective use of available land from both a logistical and cost perspective, driven by the goal of doubling the size of academic program space, creating approximately 1 million assignable square feet in new teaching, research and residential facilities on a university-owned site adjacent to the existing campus; and
- e) Serve as an ambitious initiative to expand a modern research university cost-effectively and rapidly using an innovative and highly efficient approach to delivery that makes the most prudent use of public dollars and takes advantage of private-sector efficiencies; and
- f) Introduce an innovative approach known as “Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Maintain” (DBFOM), based on the recommendations of the Urban Land Institute, allowing the university to maintain ownership of the site and buildings throughout the project, while a private-sector partner designs, builds, finances, operates and maintains the buildings for the long-term life of the contract;
- g) Maintain its commitment to serving as a model of sustainable development for the world in California’s fastest-growing region, consistent with UC Merced’s goal of achieving zero net energy, zero landfill waste and zero net greenhouse gas emissions (“Triple Net Zero”) status.
- h) Deliver significant economic-development benefits to the San Joaquin Valley – and to the state of California – estimated at nearly \$1.9 billion in the Valley, and almost \$2.4 billion statewide, including the creation of hundreds of new permanent positions across our campus along with more than an estimated 10,000 construction jobs in the Valley and 12,600 construction jobs statewide.

PASSED APPROVED and ADOPTED THIS 20th day of March 2015, by the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.