

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Karina Corbera

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**Council File No:** 24-0011-S4

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear LA Metro Board Members and LA City Council, I am writing to urge you to reject the development of the Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit Project ("The Gondola") at Dodger Stadium! This development was proposed by private billionaire Frank McCourt and if built would uproot Olvera Street, Chinatown, Solano Canyon, and Elysian Park. As a lifetime resident of the Elysian Park neighborhood, I vehemently oppose the Gondola because of the harm it would do to my community. First and foremost, I do not believe the LA ART Project is the most efficient mode of transportation for alleviating traffic congestion. If anything, I would argue that expanding a fleet of clean energy public transportation vehicles and railway service is a better alternative than the Gondola. Moreover, LA City Council has not conducted any traffic mitigation studies on Dodger Stadium since 1990. Therefore, I urge city council to conduct a new study and use more current data to consider all possible alternatives to LA ART and identify more efficient methods for relieving traffic congestion. It is imperative that any proposed infrastructure not only mitigate traffic, but also benefit local communities and prevent the displacement of local residents. Ultimately, my reasons for opposing the Gondola are the following: The Gondola Does Not Relieve Traffic A study by the UCLA Mobility Lab shows that it will only do so by <1%, and that the gondola by design diverts traffic from the stadium area to the Chinatown area. Gondolas are designed for moving a large amount of people over a long amount of time, not for a large amount of people in a 2 hour crunch before a major event. The Gondola Ruins the LA State Historic Park This project wants to put a boarding station on the State Park and remove 81 trees, including mature trees whose ecological value cannot be replicated by simply planting new ones. The cabins would fly just 26 ft over peoples' heads, cutting through airspace over the entire park. The Gondola Exacerbates Housing Crisis in Chinatown Chinatown is a service-poor region that does not have a full-service grocery store, a hospital, or even a laundromat. It is majority renter, majority Asian and Latinx, and the unhoused population around El Pueblo is at risk of being swept without services should this project see construction, exacerbating homelessness in Los Angeles. This neighborhood is rapidly gentrifying with a multitude of market-rate and luxury

developments coming down the pipeline, the gondola being a major one of them. No Tax Dollars for the \$500 Million Gondola There is still no funding plan for the project available to the public. There is no assurance that the gondola will not use taxpayer money to build this private project while the cost of it is now 4x the original estimate. Real Public Transit Now! LA Metro should focus on providing real solutions to our community, such as expanding the already existing Dodgers Express shuttle system (which could actually solve the traffic problem), adding more electric buses, better managing the bus lanes, and improving in-language accessibility to the bus system for monolingual Chinese, Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Spanish-speaking residents. Set the precedent that you will not allow private interest to play around in our neighborhoods, and when the time comes, vote against the LA ART gondola. Listen to the real needs of the community. We have been silenced for too long. Sincerely, Karina Corbera Los Angeles, 90012