

Serra Mesa Planning Group

A Recognized San Diego City Planning Group - Serving the Citizens of Serra Mesa

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May 21, 2026

Dr. Adela de la Torre
President
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Dr
San Diego, CA 92182

Dear President De la Torre,

On May 21, 2026, the Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) passed a motion to request that SDSU Mission Valley West provide parking at the Stadium trolley station. During community presentations from 2018-2020, SDSU repeatedly assured the community that trolley parking would be available.

The September 19, 2019, SMPG response letter to the EIR asked the question about the availability of a park and ride facility. Here's the excerpt ([FEIR](#), Comment 03-10, p. 102 of 438):

“Park and Ride Facility for Stadium Trolley Stop – Serra Mesa residents access the park and ride facility via personal vehicles (no bus service available).

- Will a park and ride facility be available to the general public?*
- Will there be a charge for parking at the facility? If Yes, what will be the impacts of charging on trolley usage?”*

SDSU's response ([FEIR](#), 03-10, p. 521 of 986):

“The comment asks about the availability of a park and ride facility for the Stadium Trolley Station. As to whether a park and ride facility will be available to the general public, yes, trolley riders will be able to drive their vehicles to the site and park prior to boarding the trains. The precise number of parking spaces available to transit users has not yet been determined. As demand dictates and in coordination with the trolley operator, Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), the appropriate number of spaces will be determined and provided as necessary.

As to whether there will be a charge for parking at the trolley facility, the details of parking costs for transit users have not yet been determined. As demand dictates and in coordination with the MTS, the appropriate cost will be determined and provided as necessary. The current use of the SDCCU Stadium parking lot is very low (i.e., fewer than 50 vehicles per day), and any costs associated with parking for transit patrons is expected to have a negligible effect on transit ridership.”

Furthermore, this excerpt from [Mission Valley Campus Master Plan EIR](#) (p. 2-23) states:

“The proposed project site would be served by the MTS Green Line and Stadium Trolley Station, as well as the Fenton Parkway and Mission San Diego stops. The current station trolley plaza would remain in place with minor upgrades and refinements as part of the proposed project and would be located north of the proposed River Park area and south of the proposed residential uses and campus/office uses.”

There was free parking available at the trolley station prior to SDSU's purchase of the property.
Removing the free parking is not a minor refinement.

SDSU made a commitment to the community that remains unfulfilled since the reopening of the trolley station in 2022.

Prior to SDSU stadium ownership, residents used their vehicles to access the Stadium Station because bus service from Serra Mesa to the Stadium Station was not available and the steep hillside (>10% grade) presented a walking challenge for most people. Often people using the trolley would carpool (especially for special events/celebrations), park at the Stadium Station, and travel downtown. The need for parking remains.

The SMPG would appreciate a response by June 5, 2026, and requests a meeting with you soon. We are hoping that SDSU will be a good neighbor and provide parking at the trolley station. Providing parking at the Stadium Station will promote more trolley usage, a goal for the City.

Chris Rosemond
Chair, Serra Mesa Planning Group