

Label: UB50005 Date introduced: March 3, 2014 Author(s): President Cedric Bandoh Sponsor(s): Sen. Charles Haston, Sen. Sunil Motwani, Sen. Guillermo Lopez. Sen. Shadi Rafeedie Committee: Administration and Finance Draft: Final

Cullen Boulevard Redevelopment

Whereas, in July 2012, the Student Government Association established an initiative to engage the City of Houston regarding a plan for extensive repairs to Cullen Boulevard, and

Whereas, Cullen Boulevard, a major thoroughfare and entrance into the University of Houston, is in dire need of repair, and

Whereas, Cullen Boulevard, from the U.S. 45 (Gulf Freeway) feeder road to Brays Bayou has multiple and extensive cracking, potholes, asphalt decay, unleveled surfaces, and

Whereas, Cullen Boulevard is a heavily traveled street that serves the daily transportation needs of students, faculty, staff, alumni, officials, and visitors, and

Whereas, Cullen Boulevard has not been placed on the City of Houston's "Rebuild Houston – Worst First" list for priority of repairs, and

Whereas, the University of Houston System Board of Regents has engaged in discussions with city officials regarding short and long term plans for the status of Cullen Boulevard after hearing the concerns of students and the university community, and

Therefore be it resolved be the 50th Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

That the Student Government Association submit the following official recommendation to the University of Houston System Board of Regents on how to proceed with the discussion with the City of Houston as it pertains to Cullen Boulevard:

- 1. Close off vehicular traffic (in both directions) on Cullen Boulevard after Entrance #14 and before Cougar Place Drive (Entrance #11 and #13) (*closure denoted in black on attached map*).
- 2. This closed off portion of the street would become under the ownership of the University of Houston

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- 3. Redevelop the closed portion into a green space multi-use plaza suited for pedestrian traffic
- 4. Wheeler Ave. to Cougar Place Drive would be reconstructed for vehicular traffic
- 5. Holman Street to Entrance #14 would be reconstructed for vehicular traffic

Benefits of a redeveloped multi-use plaza:

- 1. The plaza would be used as a student tailgating site
- 2. The plaza would serve as a nice connection between the campus core and the new football stadium, as well as a connection to "Cougar Walk" (adjacent to the stadium parking garage and north side of the football stadium)
- 3. The plaza would enhance student life by providing another outdoor programming space on the west side of campus for student organizations, outside artists, among other things
- 4. The plaza could be rented to external groups and organizations for programming

The closure would still maintain vehicular access into the Entrance #14 loop for shuttle bus and other traffic, as well as, vehicular traffic into Cougar Place Drive for the Cougar Place Residence Hall, the A.D. Bruce Religion Center, and the Cougar Woods Dining Hall.

Sebastian Agudelo / Speaker of the Senate University of Houston

Cedric Bandoh Student Body President University of Houston



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