



July 25, 2006

Re: The University Corridor on Richmond Avenue

To all involved governmental and METRO officials:

I am the president of the Richmond Revitalization Group, an organization of area business owners, property owners, and homeowners who work together to improve the quality of life, and our area's perceived value, thereby increasing the value of property along Richmond Avenue, including the area from Loop 610 West to Hillcroft, and the Southwest Freeway to Westheimer. I am writing to you today to applaud METRO's efforts to place the University Corridor Light Rail System down Richmond Avenue. It is our organization's hope that METRO will connect the downtown light rail lines with the entire western side of our city, all the way out to Fort Bend County as soon as is humanly possible.

There are homes all along Richmond Avenue, from the Montrose area all the way out to the next county, with more homes being built every day. With the light rail system down Richmond Avenue, those who live in these homes will be able to step out their doors, walk to a nearby light rail station and be transported downtown to attend a show at a theater, a sporting event, to go to work or to the medical center - all without having to add their car to the traffic on Houston's streets. Once the light rail is in place from Hillcroft to the downtown line, a good 25% of the people living along Richmond will h□ everyone who lives on the west side of town and attends St. Thomas, Rice, Texas Southern or the UH will be able leave their cars home, freeing up not only the traffic on the streets, but also parking at the Universities!

We certainly enjoyed METRO's artists' conceptualizations for the rail to the east of here and look forward to seeing how your section from Post Oak to Hillcroft will look. We have envisioned an elevated Metro light rail train running down the center esplanade, connecting the Richmond Avenue Corridor to the Galleria itself, and running as far out as the Richmond/Rosenberg area, connecting it all to downtown and the medical center. We created this graphic of how we visualized the rail flying over Fountain View at Richmond Avenue in April, 2005.

Our organization and its members are here to support this project in any and every way possible. Please let us know if any of you need proof of our support for this project. We hope that you will hear our voices in addition to those who may be trying to stop this project. We are anxious to work with them and you to resolve the differences and get started on our path to Houston's wonderful future today!

Sincerely,

Trisha Keel

