

May 16, 2023

Members of the LA City Planning Commission
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street, Suite 525
Los Angeles, CA 90012
RE: CPC-2023-135-CU-DRB-SPP-MSP
SUBJECT: Letter in support of EF International Language Campus

Dear Honorable Planning Commissioners:

I have served on the board of William Carey International University for many years. We were the previous owners of EF's Pasadena Academy site. The Board decided EF was the right organization to acquire the property, and they proved us right throughout every step of the process. I have not met a more professional staff at every level of the process. That included those who they chose to do the work for them. It was clear at the official "opening" of their Pasadena campus, that everyone involved was whole-heartedly engaged in creating what is now in operation there.

At the time of the sale and the launch of school there, my stake in the site was two-fold. While I am a board member of the seller, and I also lived across the street from the campus. EF treated me not just as a seller, but as a neighbor. They invited me and my neighbors to coffee meetings, listened to our feedback, and incorporated our ideas. Out of all the improvements they made to the site, I am particularly proud that they took such great care to invest in the very challenging work to preserve and enhance the historic buildings on the campus. It took a significant investment and technical expertise to do this, and EF was the right partner to make it happen.

I am very confident that EF will provide the same level of care with their plans at the Bel Air campus. There is every reason to believe that their past actions in Pasadena are indicative of how they operate where they do business, and that includes the former AJU campus.

Sincerely,

Greg H. Parsons, PhD
WCIU Board Secretary

Cc: Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, City Council District 5
Katie Knudsen, City of Los Angeles Planning Division