



# Cornell University

David J. Skorton  
President

November 21, 2007

Mr. Rodney Orme  
Employee Chair  
University Assembly  
109 Day Hall  
CAMPUS

**Re: University Assembly Resolution 6**

Dear Rodney:

Thank you for your letter of October 25 enclosing Resolution 6 supporting university efforts and strategies to mitigate the transportation impacts of commuters as the university grows into the future. We are excited at the prospects of being a positive influence on reducing the use of fossil fuel and land dedicated to the operation of single-occupant vehicles. We believe our current transportation-focused Generic Environmental Impact Statement (t-GEIS) and Transportation Impact Mitigation Strategies (TIMS) efforts will serve the university community well in the years ahead.

I am able to accept paragraphs (1) and (3) as submitted. I much appreciate the statement of support embodied in paragraph (1). It is fitting and important for the Assembly to solicit feedback from the community and help guide the development and implementation of these initiatives, which I recognize will only be successful with the participation and support of the Assemblies and the entire campus community.

As stated on the University Assemblies charge, as presented on its website at <http://assembly.cornell.edu/TAC/About>, the Transportation Advisory Committee provides advice and a means for valuable community input on transportation issues. However, it does not have legislative authority over these issues. Therefore, I must request your reconsideration of paragraph 2. While the Assemblies input is vital and will continue to be sought as we progress, the decision to implement specific measures under the TIMS, and the attendant commitment of funding requires institutional level action and approval. The reservation of final decisional authority on these matters to the University Assembly would conflict with and erode the authority of the Trustees and the responsible university officers.

I continue to value the ongoing advice of the University Assembly in the deliberative process surrounding implementation of the TIMS, and appreciate your acknowledgement of the important roles that other University constituents must play in these very important deliberations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David J. Skorton".

David J. Skorton

cc:	Stephen T. Golding	Susan H. Murphy
	Margaret J. Beach	Charles Walcott
	Michael G. Kimberly	William E. Wendt