

Associated Students, Inc.  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo

Resolution #25-07

RESOLUTION OPPOSING NON-AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ALL  
AREAS OF WEST CAMPUS

- WHEREAS: The ASI Board of Directors serves as the official voice of students at California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), San Luis Obispo, and
- WHEREAS: The mission of the California State University (CSU) System is “to prepare significant numbers of educated, responsible people to contribute to California’s schools, economy, culture, and future,<sup>1</sup>” and
- WHEREAS: Cal Poly’s academic mission “fosters teaching, scholarship, and service in a Learn by Doing environment in which students, staff, and faculty are partners in discovery,<sup>2</sup>” which requires preserving the integrity of educational facilities and making land use decisions that protect such facilities into the future as stated in the Cal Poly Master Plan: “This new development calls for a rebalancing of how the university supports its agricultural lands while maintaining Cal Poly’s commitment to Learn by Doing... being very strategic about which teaching and applied research facilities and fields need to be closest to the Academic Core for regular student and faculty access,<sup>3</sup>” and
- WHEREAS: The West Campus contains prime agricultural lands that are vital to Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing mission, with some of the University’s richest agricultural soils along Stenner Creek and lower Brizzolara Creek, as identified in the Cal Poly Campus Master Plan,<sup>4</sup> and
- WHEREAS: These agricultural lands on West Campus, comprising approximately 808 acres of row crops, orchards/vineyards, silage production<sup>5</sup>, irrigated pasture, and non-irrigated pasture as catalogued in the Campus Master Plan, serve as living laboratories for students across multiple disciplines and provide essential experiential learning opportunities consistent with Cal Poly’s educational mission,<sup>6</sup> and
- WHEREAS: The West Campus houses critical educational facilities and outdoor laboratories including the J and G Lau Meat Processing Center, the Cal Poly Poultry Center, the Beef Cattle Evaluation Center, the Cal

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1 Mission of the CSU - <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/about-the-csu/Pages/mission.aspx>

2 Our Mission - <https://president.calpoly.edu/welcome-cal-poly>

3 Cal Poly Master Plan - <https://masterplan.calpoly.edu/docs/cal-poly-campus-master-plan-2019-06-27.pdf> p.2-54

4 Cal Poly Master Plan - <https://masterplan.calpoly.edu/docs/cal-poly-campus-master-plan-2019-06-27.pdf> p.2-51, Table T2.5: Agricultural Lands in Acres (2015)

5 Cal Poly Master Plan - <https://masterplan.calpoly.edu/docs/cal-poly-campus-master-plan-2019-06-27.pdf> p.2-51, Table T2.5: Agricultural Lands in Acres (2015)

6 About Us - <https://cafes.calpoly.edu/about-us>

Poly Dairy, and more,<sup>7</sup> all of which provide irreplaceable hands-on learning experiences for students, and

WHEREAS: These agricultural teaching facilities necessarily involve operational activities including livestock management, processing, and production that generate sounds, odors, and conditions inherent to agricultural operations that would create unavoidable conflicts with any form of non-agricultural development in their vicinity, as evidenced by the Campus Master Plan's detailed account of intensive agricultural operations including "the J and G Lau Family Meat Processing Center, Beef Cattle Evaluation Center, Compost Production Unit... and manure management, lagoon water application and management,"<sup>8</sup> and

WHEREAS: The first Guiding Principle of the Cal Poly Master Plan states that, "Cal Poly's land and resource uses should advance the University's academic mission,<sup>9</sup>" and non-agricultural development within West Campus would potentially compromise rather than advance the University's mission, and

WHEREAS: The fifth Guiding Principle of the Cal Poly Master Plan states that "Cal Poly's scenic setting – a campus surrounded by open spaces– should be preserved. Its open lands and the surrounding natural environment are highly valued and should be considered in campus planning efforts,<sup>10</sup>" and West Campus contributes to these scenic characteristics, and

WHEREAS: The ASI Board of Directors previously demonstrated its commitment to preserving Cal Poly's agricultural lands through Resolution #18-10 "Resolution to Preserve Cal Poly's Agricultural Land,<sup>11</sup>" which established a precedent for protecting agricultural teaching spaces from development that could compromise their educational value, and

THEREFORE  
BE IT  
RESOLVED:

As the official voice of Cal Poly Students, the ASI Board of Directors opposes any non-agricultural related development throughout the West Campus lands to preserve the integrity of essential agricultural teaching facilities, protect prime agricultural soils, and maintain the educational functionality of these irreplaceable learning environments, and

FURTHERMORE  
BE IT  
RESOLVED:

The University should prioritize the preservation of all West Campus agricultural lands and open spaces for their intended educational purposes and investigate alternative locations for any

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<sup>7</sup> Facilities and Centers - [https://animalscience.calpoly.edu/FacilitiesCenters/Facilities\\_Centers](https://animalscience.calpoly.edu/FacilitiesCenters/Facilities_Centers)

<sup>8</sup> Cal Poly Master Plan - <https://masterplan.calpoly.edu/docs/cal-poly-campus-master-plan-2019-06-27.pdf> p.2-52

<sup>9</sup> Cal Poly Master Plan - <https://masterplan.calpoly.edu/docs/cal-poly-campus-master-plan-2019-06-27.pdf> p.4-2, Table 4.1: Master Plan Principles

<sup>10</sup> Cal Poly Master Plan - <https://masterplan.calpoly.edu/docs/cal-poly-campus-master-plan-2019-06-27.pdf> p.4-2, Table 4.1: Master Plan Principles

<sup>11</sup> Resolution 18-10: Preserve Cal Poly's Agricultural Land - <https://www.asi.calpoly.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/18->

[18-Resolution\\_to\\_Preserve\\_Cal\\_Polys\\_Agricultural\\_Land\\_BODappr528739.pdf](https://www.asi.calpoly.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/18-Resolution_to_Preserve_Cal_Polys_Agricultural_Land_BODappr528739.pdf)

proposed development to maintain the integrity of Cal Poly's agricultural teaching mission and ensure these essential learning environments remain uncompromised for future generations of students, and

FURTHERMORE  
BE IT

RESOLVED: The ASI Board of Directors believes that alternative locations exist on campus that would better serve non-agricultural development needs without creating operational conflicts with existing agricultural teaching facilities, and

FURTHERMORE  
BE IT

RESOLVED: This resolution be sent to Jeffrey D. Armstrong, University President; Jeremy James, Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences; Allison Baird-James, Senior Vice President, Administration and Finance; Cody VanDorn, CEO of Cal Poly Partners; and the CSU Board of Trustees.

Certified as the true and correct copy, in witness thereof, I have set my hand and Seal of the San Luis Obispo Cal Poly Associated Students, Inc. this 30th day of May 2025.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors at San Luis Obispo Cal Poly Associated Students, Inc. this 28th day of May 2025.

Attest:

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ASI Secretary

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Signed:

ASI Chair of the Board

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Signed:

ASI President

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