



The Mulholland Educational Corridor Association serves to improve the collegial relations between the educational institutions located along Mulholland Drive, promote interaction with local neighborhoods and coordinate relationships with government entities serving our communities. Founded by Berkeley Hall School, Curtis School, Mirman School and Westland School, participation has grown to include American Jewish University, Bel Air Presbyterian Church, Skirball Cultural Center and the Stephen S. Wise Temple and Schools. Member institutions collaborate with local neighborhoods and the larger community for the betterment of all who dwell, attend school, worship and work along the Mulholland Corridor.

One such initiative our institutions collaborate on is reducing the number of car trips along Mulholland Drive. All MECA institutions are committed to the long-term reduction of traffic along the institutional corridor. These efforts include the staggering of school start times, coordination of student bus routes and extensive utilization of carpooling. Due to the I-405 construction project, we have redoubled our efforts, especially for this coming year with the recent lane reductions along the Mulholland Bridge. It is projected that more than 85% of the approximate 2,150 families we educate utilize car pooling or school bus routes on a daily basis.

### **Staggered Start Times:**

All schools begin classes at various times between 7:30am and 9:00am. In addition, all school dismissal times are also varied. These staggered start times pace school traffic along the corridor and prevent a “critical mass” of students commuting at one time.

### **Bus Routes:**

MECA schools utilize 13 different bus routes to help minimize school traffic along the Mulholland Corridor. The origination points for these routes include Pacific Palisades, West Los Angeles/Beverly Hills, Culver City, the Hancock Park area and Glendale. Since the cost per student can reach \$2,400, schools subsidize these routes to help families utilize this service. These routes are actively reviewed and adjusted annually in order to accommodate the most students possible. Each school surveys their community annually with the goal of creating new bus routes for the coming year. Schools also collaborate with each other to create shared routes in order to promote higher student participation.

## **Carpooling:**

All institutions actively encourage and promote the use carpooling among their communities. Each school annually sends to their community a list of students who live within shared zip codes and families are then to create their own carpools. Schools promote incentives for carpools whenever possible. These incentives include access to campus earlier than single student vehicles, use of parking on campus and/or preferred campus parking.

## **Additional Initiatives:**

In addition to staggered start times, bus transportation and carpooling, schools have implemented other methods to remove traffic from Mulholland Drive. These initiatives include:

- All schools do not conduct their drop-offs and pickups on Mulholland Drive, eliminating any standing traffic for this purpose.
- The Milken High School and Saperstein Middle School campuses lease the lot on Sepulveda to their south for the use of student carpool parking and all school bus transportation. No single occupancy vehicles are allowed to park in this lot. In addition, faculty and staff for these campuses must park in a off-site lot and ride a shuttle to campus, thus reducing additional traffic along Mulholland.
- Mirman School and Berkeley Hall School student share three bus routes in order to maximize ridership between the two schools. Also, one bus route is shared between Curtis School and Mirman School. Additional shared routes have been considered, but staggered start times would cause student commute times lasting up to 1½ hours.
- MECA and Metro meet quarterly to address traffic concerns along the corridor as they relate to the ongoing I-405 construction project.
- MECA has presented a proposal to Metro for the creation and subsidizing of a shuttle route for use by MECA students, faculty and staff. This shuttle could run continuously between the Encino Park and Ride near the Little League Baseball Fields and the schools between the hours of 7:00am and 9:30am. This proposal is currently under consideration.