KAREN BASS
MAYOR

October 21, 2026

Dr. Julio Frenk
Chancellor, UCLA
Box 951405, 2147 Murphy Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405

RE: Proposed Closures of UCLA Early Childhood Education Centers

Dear Chancellor Frenk,

I very much appreciated spending time with you at the UCLA Volunteer Day in partnership with the City's Shine LA and the Governor's Office Climate Action Day. It was a great collaboration.

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the proposed closure of the beloved UCLA Early Childhood Education Centers (ECEC). The ECEC are highly respected for their excellent and accessible early education and childcare for the children of UCLA faculty, staff, students, and community. Closing the centers will eliminate an invaluable resource that cannot be replicated elsewhere and will negatively impact UCLA and the broader Los Angeles. It will not only impact the livelihoods of over 80 Teamsters workers, but will also make it more difficult for parents – especially single mothers of young children, many of whom are women of color – to maintain access to the childcare necessary for them to learn and do their jobs.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) proposed changes to the Head Start Programs will be detrimental to the quality and potential size of childcare services that currently serve 8,710 Los Angeles children and their families. As the largest provider of childcare in our city faces the impending negative effects of this change, the work of other providers, like UCLA, will be vital to help mitigate these losses.

The UCLA Early Childhood Education Centers are not only an asset to your faculty, staff, and students, but to the community and city at large. I hope you will take a deeper look at what might allow them to continue to serve our community into the future. In many ways, these centers foster that very future.

Sincerely,

KAREN BASS
Mayor