

# TGIF 2022-2023 Mid-Point Review

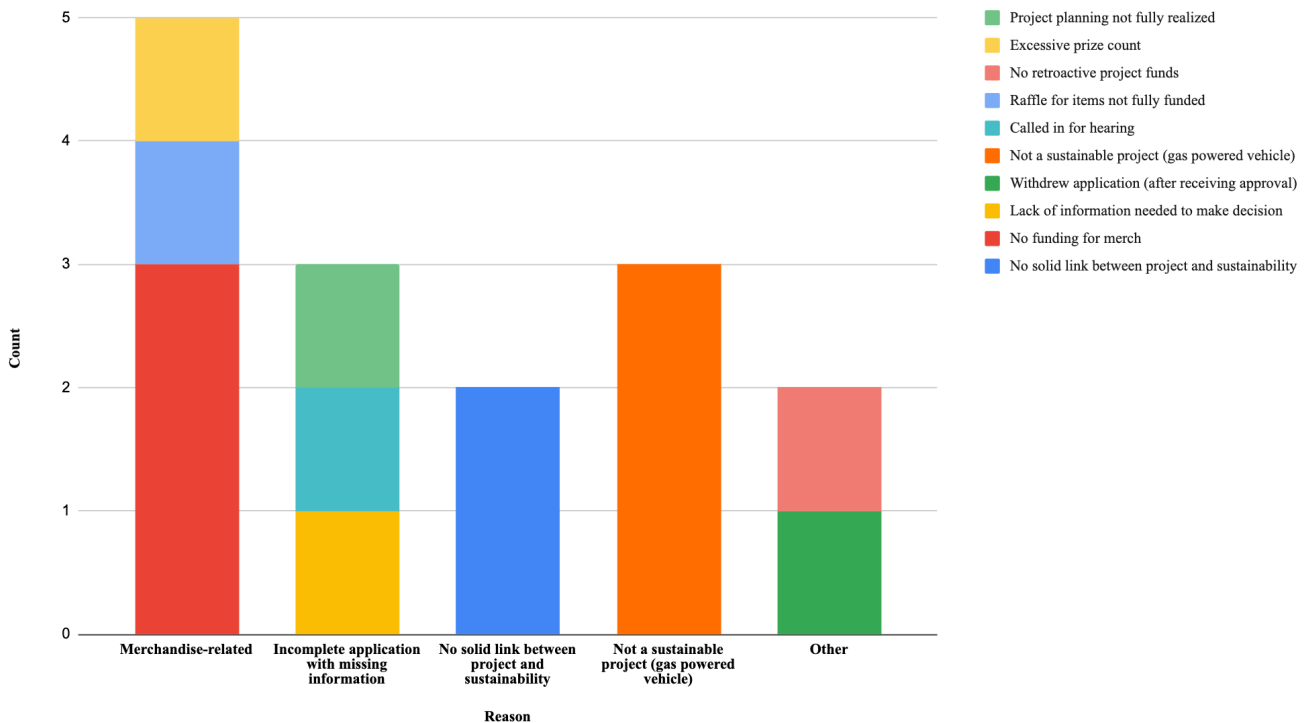
## Resources

### TGIF Labor Hours

[Link](#) to spreadsheets detailing the hours the TGIF Committee and Support Staff have logged thus far!

### Reasons Why Applications Did Not Receive Funding

Reasons for TGIF Applications Not Passing



### Project Spotlights: Fall 2022 Mini and Main Fund

#### *Project Feature– Mini Fund:*

An exemplar Mini Fund application TGIF received in the Fall 2022 application cycle was for Foods of Afro-Latin America, a project by Afro-Latinx Connection de UCLA. This student-run organization works to bridge the gap between Afrikan Diaspora and Latinx communities at

UCLA. Afro-Latinx Connection applied for TGIF funding to fairly compensate the guest speaker at their event and to cover food expenses for their Foods of Afro-Latin America series. The organization is hosting a vegan Haitian chef whose cuisine will educate event attendees on the history and existence of these culturally-significant dishes. In addition, the series will be touching on elements of sustainability, as these vegan foods have a minimal impact on the environment.

The organization's project aims to encourage students at UCLA to think about how their actions, even something as seemingly trivial as preparing and consuming food, can affect the environment in tangible ways. Afro-Latinx Connection understands that UCLA students have the power to take steps to benefit the environment in simple yet effective ways, such as reducing their carbon footprints and using fewer resources by consuming plant-based food alternatives. To measure the success of their event, Afro-Latinx Connection de UCLA will require event attendees to complete a Google Survey that will inquire about their experience. Specifically, attendees will be asked about what they learned about sustainability and how they can implement their learnings into the cuisines they prepare and consume at home or elsewhere.

The 2022-2023 TGIF Committee voted to fund this project because the applicants made clear connections to their project's sustainability impact at UCLA, and they proposed executable methods for evaluating the success of educating participants at their proposed event. In addition, spotlighting sustainability efforts through culturally-relevant cuisines is a unique and inventive way to promote sustainability on the UCLA campus and to connect UCLA students with plant-based chefs and restaurants in the area.

*Project Feature– Main Fund:*

An exemplar Main Fund application TGIF received in the Fall 2022 application cycle was for the Universal Transit Pass project from the USAC Facilities Commission (FAC). FAC's Transportation Equity and Access Committee requested funding from TGIF to relaunch its Universal Transit Pass Pilot Program in Winter 2023. This program was first launched in Spring 2022, and in Summer 2022, a select number of applicants to the program were selected to receive a free transit pass that provides unlimited rides on three LA County transit systems. This winter, FAC's goal is to relaunch the program and include more students in the applicant pool. In the short term, the program will incentivize students to reduce their environmental impacts from transportation and will encourage increased ridership of LA's public transit.

Public transit in LA remains inaccessible to many, with barriers to access including financial costs, time constraints, and lack of reliable service. The Universal Transit Pass Pilot Program will address sustainability in various ways, such as by promoting more

environmentally-conscious forms of transportation, reducing the carbon footprint of the UCLA student body (e.g., by reducing fossil fuel use and carbon emissions from personal vehicles), and improving accessibility and equity by lowering transportation costs for students. This program will generate little waste, as only reusable TAP cards are needed for students to have access to these transportation services.

FAC will assess the success of their program by measuring the use of passes through a mid-program or exit survey and/or usage data provided by UCLA Transportation. They will evaluate what proportion of participants use their passes and the frequency with which passes were used. FAC also plans to demonstrate how the passes impacted participants in beneficial ways, such as whether some students were able to save money commuting to campus or if the pass allowed participants to explore LA more. The success of the program will provide insights into students' use of and interest in public transit, and this data will inform advocacy efforts to provide transit passes for all undergraduates at UCLA.

The 2022-2023 TGIF Committee voted to fund this project because the applicants gave well-worded explanations of how their project would directly benefit the broader UCLA community and the various aspects of sustainability the project would impact. Not only does this project cover concerns related to the environment as well as social and economic equity, which are all criteria TGIF looks for in applications, but the Transportation Equity and Access Committee also provided insights into how the program will leave a lasting impact on the transportation habits of UCLA students now and in the future.