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April 13, 2010

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Metro
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Support for Measure R "30/10" Initiative

Dear Metro Board Members:

With the historic passage of the MTA's Long Range Transportation Plan late last year, Los Angeles County is well-positioned to significantly reduce its debilitating traffic congestion. Now, we urge your support for the next crucial step: Accelerating the use of part of the Measure R tax revenue (\$14B of the \$40B) into a 10-year timeframe under the "30/10" Initiative.

Traffic congestion is one of our most significant business issues. It contributes to higher operational costs and employee dissatisfaction through lost productivity and reduced quality of life. The traffic congestion costs for the Los Angeles area have been estimated at \$9 billion or more. These costs have a very real, significant and ongoing negative impact on our firm's ability to operate and provide high-quality jobs in the region.

The acceleration of 12 major transit projects under the Initiative will dramatically stimulate the economy and generate over 120,000 new jobs. These jobs will support many local families, which Los Angeles County desperately needs as its unemployment rate hovers in the double digits.

Honorable Metro Board Members
April 13, 2010
Page 2

The amount of clean, efficient and modern public transit work generated by these projects also will create a showcase program for the reduction of both air pollution and greenhouse gases that cause climate change and health risks. These projects will remove an estimated 500,000 pounds of dirty emissions from the Los Angeles air basin and will produce significant public health benefits. Completing these projects in 10 years versus the current 30-year plan is vital for achieving a more sustainable and livable region.

With this much at stake, it is vital that we in Los Angeles County are united in support of the Initiative. Our local support will help maintain the Federal support already gained and is crucial to accelerate the necessary funding.

As in any advancement of this magnitude, additional details will need to be developed to ensure absolute equity in the administration of the Initiative. We are confident that the MTA will continue to act in the public's best interest by ensuring transparency in the development of these details, including the consideration of separate construction authorities to manage the 12 transit projects on time and on budget.

We urge you to support the "30/10" Initiative and look forward to working with you to ease traffic congestion, and bring quality jobs, environmental improvements, and sustainability to the Los Angeles region.

Very truly yours,

Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP



JOHN J. WELSH
MANAGING PARTNER

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