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March 11, 2015

Subject: Support for Proposed Rail Project by Texas Central High-Speed
Railway, LLC

To Whom It May Concern:

The North Houston Association focuses on regional challenges, endeavoring to bring about a higher quality of life for residents and businesses and to enhance economic development. Mobility, air and water quality, and development are but a few areas for which the Association identifies, advocates, and supports projects and initiatives.

In addressing the need for improved mobility regionally, the Association creates a Strategic Mobility Plan (SMP) periodically. Inside the 2013 SMP, a map is provided depicting the Association's priority projects. Also included in the SMP is discussion addressing multiple strategies to implement, such as Alternative Commuting solutions and Regional Traffic Flow Improvements. The Association understands that mobility contributes to economic prosperity, growth and an improved quality of life. As such, the Association's SMP delineated High-Speed Rail from Houston to Dallas as a Key Project (No. 20 on the map).

The North Houston Association supports the High-Speed Rail project for both Mobility and Economic Development, as specified by the following comments:

Mobility

High-speed rail will reduce congestion on already strained infrastructure, reducing carbon emissions.

- The project will provide an alternative to additional taxpayer-funded construction along I-45 or other routes under consideration.
- By 2035 traffic congestion in Dallas and Houston is expected to double. The railway will connect Dallas and Houston in under 90 minutes and be grade separated, thereby ensuring that there are no intersections with roadways or rail tracks. Cars, trucks, 18-wheelers and motorcycles crowd I-45 between Houston and Dallas, with travel times often approaching and sometimes exceeding 5 hours depending on road and weather conditions. The result is a more pleasant and productive experience for business and leisure travelers alike. For those who continue to drive, more passengers on the train mean fewer people on the highway.

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- High-speed rail provides to people a safe, clean and convenient alternative to driving or flying. Passengers will be able to travel between Dallas and Houston in about 90 minutes, which will help ease traffic and congestion on I-45.

Economic Impact

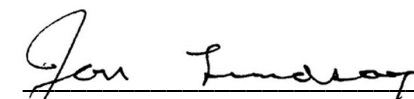
- The Dallas – Houston corridor is ideal for high-speed rail because it connects the 4th and 5th largest metropolitan areas in the country, and at a distance (240 miles) that makes rail travel faster than auto and competitive with air.
- High-speed rail connecting Houston and Dallas will aid in economic growth now and into the future for Texas. The construction and ongoing operation and maintenance of a rail system between Houston and Dallas will infuse money into local and state economies. It will also create quality jobs associated with constructing and running the high-speed rail.
- Transit-oriented developments along the train stops will add to those communities' economy.
- Decisions related to potential routes, schedules, fares, station locations and services offered, among others, will be based on market demand and will be made by the system's eventual operator.
- A strong emphasis is placed on using existing rights of way as much as possible—potentially including interstates, freight rail corridors, and power and utility corridors—to minimize landowner impacts.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide support for this important proposed project.

Regards,



Alex Sutton
Chairman of the Board



Jon Lindsay
President