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The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) is a national organization that promotes and advocates for the advancement of transportation officials and companies in the industry through public policy and education. More specifically, our mission is to ensure a level playing field and maximum participation in the transportation industry for minority individuals, businesses and communities of color through advocacy, information sharing, training, education and professional development.

COMTO has 39 chapters throughout the United States. Members include individuals, transportation agencies, academic institutions, industry nonprofits and Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs). From highways and roads to mass-transit systems; from subways to rail systems; and from port authorities to airports, COMTO members represent every facet of the transportation industry. They are the presidents and chief executive officers who determine the direction of major transportation systems and the mechanics and operators who ensure the safe passage of millions of transportation riders every day.

As an organization that promotes and supports everything transportation, we pay special attention to the advancement of transformative transportation technologies, including high-speed rail. The effort by the Texas Central Railway to implement the Dallas to Houston High-Speed Rail will transform how Texans look at transportation forever. This project will add to the already fast-growing, multimodal transportation network in Texas. By connecting Dallas to Houston, the high speed rail line will be connecting two of the largest metropolitan areas in the U.S., with a combined population of 12 million people.

The economic opportunities that this project will create for the state of Texas are tremendous. The kind of construction that will occur around the high-speed rail system will create jobs, spur development and grow the economy. In addition, transportation officials and businesses of all types stand to benefit from what is expected to be a five-year, \$10 billion dollar project. The fact that this is a privately-funded project is a win-win situation for both the public and the private sectors.

It is clear that high-speed rail will be good for the Texas transportation industry in many ways. For all of these benefits, the Dallas chapter of COMTO supports the Texas Central Railway and the Dallas to Houston High-Speed Rail project. We look forward to seeing high-speed rail become a reality in 2022.

Respectfully,



Robert Prince
Chairman, COMTO Nationals



Keith Britton
President, COMTO Dallas