February 1, 2017

Re: Endorsement of Texas High Speed Rail Connecting Houston and North Texas

The Greater Houston Women’s Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors are pleased to endorse the Texas high-speed train project that will connect Houston to North Texas in less than 90 minutes. The GHWCC Board represents approximately 1,000 member companies. The economic and environmental impact on business will be beneficial to our communities. The high speed train has the potential to lessen the number of vehicles on the highway and reduce our carbon footprint. The train will complement the state’s existing transportation networks without competing for the limited transportation dollars. We understand that this project will create 40,000 jobs over the four-year peak construction period, plus 1,000 permanent highly skilled jobs to support the railroad’s operations when it is in full service.

Texas is a state with one of the largest land masses in the United States, however, we are very connected by our municipal and regional economies. The need for a transportation solution like the high-speed rail between these two fast growing regions is vital. Estimates show automobile travel time between these economic hubs will increase to over 6.5 hours in the next 20 years.

This project should reduce the burden on our already crowded airways and highways. It is projected to generate a direct impact $36 billion to the Texas economy over the next 25 years. We support this project because it is good for Houston businesses and good for Texas.

Regards,

Suzan Deison
CEO/President/Founder