August 5, 2016

Meghna Khanna
Deputy Project Manager
Metro One Gateway Plaza, M/S 99-13-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Draft Environmental Impact Report, Airport Metro Connector 96th Street Station

Dear Ms. Khanna,

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, which represents more than 1,650 businesses that collectively employ more than 650,000 people in the L.A. region, I am writing to express our strong support for the Metro Airport Metro Connector (AMC) 96th Street Transit Station Project. The proposed project is a vital transportation investment, which will serve as an essential transit “Gateway” to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

Situated in the second largest city in the U.S., LAX is undergoing its own efforts to transform accessibility to terminals, while creating a more seamless experience for travelers. The Chamber envisions the transit station to be a smaller version of Union Station, serving as the front door of the airport and a gateway to Los Angeles. The project should be multi-modal and utilize user-friendly technology and signage- details of utmost importance to serve both local Angelenos and visitors. Additionally, the ability to navigate the facility easily is critical to ensure the station and people mover are used to their capacity and is the preferred choice of travelers over entering the Central Terminal Area.

Metro’s AMC 96th Street Station project addresses a critical gap in the transportation system. The project will provide a reliable, fast, and convenient connection for passengers traveling between the LAX area and the regional transit systems. It will also integrate with existing and future transit connections and airport facilities, increase the share of transit trips to and from LAX with minimal impact to airport facilities and surrounding communities and help reduce air pollution.

Los Angeles is a world class city that deserves a world class airport. This station is one part of a larger plan of regional and national significance that will modernize our airport and provide access to public transit for the nearly 75 million passengers who travel through this airport every year and for the nearly 48,000 employees who work and live in the surrounding vicinity of the airport.

For these reasons, we support the Airport Metro Connector 96th Street Station Project.

Sincerely,

Gary Toebben
President & CEO