July 11, 2019

The Honorable Paul Krekorian Chair, Ad Hoc on Comprehensive Job Creation Plan Cmte. City of Los Angeles 200 N. Spring St., Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Los Angeles City Council Motion 19-0078 - Support

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

The undersigned organization and companies would like to express their strong support for Los Angeles City Council motion 19-0078 – analyzing the feasibility of creating a regional procurement portal focused on small, minority, and disadvantaged businesses across Los Angeles.

The greater Los Angeles area is experiencing a historic amount of investment in public infrastructure projects, such as Measure M (>\$140 billion), Measure HHH (\$1.2 billion), and the LAX Modernization Program (~4\$ billion). It is also amidst a boom in the number of major sporting and entertainment events in the pipeline, including the 2022 Super Bowl, 2023 US Open Golf Championship, 2026 World Cup, and more.

Our local communities have expressed their support for these projects and events through their votes, their voices, and their wallets. It is now incumbent upon our public and private leaders to ensure that the benefits of these major investments are felt throughout every community in Los Angeles, and one of the most impactful ways we can do this is to open up procurement opportunities for LA's small, minority, and disadvantaged businesses.

Developing a regional procurement platform will create business-to-business opportunities, spur economic development, and create equity in the benefits reaped from major investments and events. It will do so by:

- Taking advantage of high-profile events to create a clearinghouse of procurement opportunities and small businesses databases for buyers and suppliers alike to take advantage of;
- Simplifying and streamlining the process for small businesses to find procurement opportunities;
- And, strengthening accountability measures for prime contractors through detailed tracking of spend and subcontractors.

This is a successful and proven model that has worked elsewhere, including in the United Kingdom for the 2012 London Olympics where their regional procurement platform, CompeteFor, experienced over 200,000 businesses registering, with more than 75% of the contracts having been awarded to small and medium businesses. Los Angeles should now replicate this model to take advantage of the momentum and unprecedented investment in our region. We thank you for considering our input and welcome discussing with your team.

Best,

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Nadine Watt

Nadine Watt Chair Los Angeles Business Council

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Brad Cox Chair LABC Institute

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/Sharon Coleman President National Association of Minority Contractors Southern California

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Priscilla Chavez Vice President National Association of Women in Construction – LA

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CC: The Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles The Honorable Herb J. Wesson, Jr., Council President, City of Los Angeles The Honorable Nury Martinez, Council President Pro Tempore, City of Los Angeles The Honorable Bob Blumenfield, Councilmember, City of Los Angeles The Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Councilmember, City of Los Angeles