BOARD OF LOS ANGELES CONVENTION AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONERS

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ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR

October 2, 2014

LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CONVENTION AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

> ROBERT R. "BUD" OVROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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The Honorable Eric Garcetti Mayor, City of Los Angeles

The Honorable Herb Wesson President, City Council

The Honorable Curren Price Chair, Economic Development Committee

## RE: LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER EXPANSION AND FUTURIZATION PROJECT

Dear Mayor Garcetti and Council Members Wesson and Price:

As the Commission which has the direct management responsibility for the Los Angeles Convention Center, our Board of Commissioners, at its meeting on October 1, 2014, reviewed Mr. Beckerman's letter, dated September 29, 2014, addressed to you regarding the modernization of the Convention Center.

We wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Beckerman's assessment that the collaborative relationship between the City and AEG over the last 15 years has created "a modern, invigorated, healthy, and diverse downtown." Indeed, nothing better embodies the revitalization of downtown than LA Live, and the incredible leadership and commitment of Mr. Anschutz in bringing it to fruition.

In the spirit of continuing to advance that common vision, our Board voted to **support** the proposed **six month extension** of the Agreement between the City and AEG, with the following recommendations:

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- The Board of the Los Angeles Department of Convention and Tourism Development (CTD) should be specifically included in the plan development and review process.
- AEG should provide a more detailed schedule for the six months, with critical milestones delineated, such as completion of the Economic Impact Report (EIR), financing plan, hotel needs assessment, legal mechanism for implementation, completion of conceptual design plan(s), plan for addressing EIR revisions, and the determination regarding an NFL team. The \$150,000 AEG offered to help the City pay for this evaluation might need to be increased.
- AEG should work with the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) and the CTD Department very early in the six month extension period to determine a path going forward on the design alternatives and required program criteria. The goal should be to put the City Council and the CTD Board in a position to be able to clearly evaluate the operational, economic, and financing benefits and challenges of the different possible design alternatives prior to having to make a final decision on how to proceed.
- AEG should work with the CTD Department to clearly and empirically demonstrate the advantages and disadvantages of different possible locations for a future hotel development, so the City Council and the CTD Board can ultimately make an objective decision on what is best for the City.
- AEG should provide monthly progress reports to the Economic Development Committee and the CTD Board. Such milestone reviews should allow for timely course corrections.

We look forward to working with AEG over the next six months to finally realize a major revitalization of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Sincerely,

Joh/Vein Rresident CTD Board of Commissioners

cc: The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council CTD Board of Commissioners Kelli Bernard, Deputy Mayor Miguel Santana, City Administrative Officer Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst Bud Ovrom, CTD Executive Director