THE BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE:
Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes and Yes on Props. 1A to 1E

It has been nearly four decades since California had the political leadership and foresight to make investing in the future of our state a priority. Gov. Pat Brown, unfettered by today’s political dynamics and term limits, spent hundreds of millions to build transportation and water systems, UC and CSU campuses, and other key ingredients of our state’s infrastructure.

Unfortunately, over the last 40 years, the good work of Gov. Brown has crumbled under neglect. California’s infrastructure is wasting away.

Fortunately, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Legislature have once again placed an investment in infrastructure at the top of our state’s priorities with Propositions 1A to 1E. We urge our members and readers to vote yes on Propositions 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E today.

It is a simple idea. It is a simple plan. Identify the key areas of needed investment, schedule them over a period of years, and fund them with long-term bonds that require no increase in taxes.

By supporting Propositions 1A to 1E, Californians will send a strong signal that good schools, excellent roads, clean water and safe levees are vital to improving our quality of life, rebuilding our economy, and laying the foundation for the next generation of Californians.

The One Plan to Rebuild California will positively affect every resident and business in our state:

- Proposition 1A closes a legal loophole and prevents gas taxes from being diverted from transportation projects.
- Proposition 1B provides $20 billion to expand and repair our most dangerous and congested highways, build public transit and reduce air pollution.
- Proposition 1C provides $3 billion for affordable housing for seniors, low-income families and the disabled, as well as short-term housing assistance, such as emergency shelters for battered women.
- Proposition 1D provides $10 billion to make public schools earthquake safe, relieve overcrowding, and build science and career training centers at colleges and high schools.
- Proposition 1E provides $4 billion to strengthen river levees and flood control to protect clean drinking water, prevent pollution and safeguard the state from devastating floods.

It is a plan that meets the needs of Californian’s across the state. It is a plan that makes financial sense. It is a plan with bipartisan support. It is a plan that deserves your vote.

Please join us in voting YES on Propositions 1A to 1E. Together, we can Rebuild California.

And that’s The Business Perspective.

Gary L. Toebben
President & CEO
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

The Business Perspective is a weekly opinion piece by Gary Toebben, President & CEO of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, produced with the input of Senior Policy Advisor Rusty Hammer.