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L.A. AREA CHAMBER JOINS GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER TO PUSH “LIVE WITHIN OUR MEANS” ACT

Board Chair Chris Martin joins governor in Sherman Oaks at morning rush hour to highlight need for protecting Prop. 42 transportation dollars

LOS ANGELES – Against a backdrop of snarled traffic along the southbound 405, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Christopher C. Martin joined Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger today to urge voters to pass Proposition 76, the Live Within Our Means Act, on the Nov. 8 ballot.

“Prop. 76 will allow the governor to do what any CEO or family would do when expenditures begin to exceed revenues—make cuts to balance our checkbooks,” said Martin, CEO, AC Martin Partners. “Unfortunately, lawmakers, until this year, have been using Prop. 42 transportation funds as their piggy bank to balance the budget, with no intent of paying them back. We are supporting Prop. 76 so that Prop. 42 monies will be restored. Prop. 76 will help keep our economy out of gridlock.”

“The only way we can protect our transportation funding is through Proposition 76,” said Schwarzenegger. "Proposition 76 is not only saying that we have to live within our means, and that we have to balance the budget. It does not only say we have to pay down the debt; it also says that we cannot raid special funds. We can not ever raid transportation funds again.”

Investing in our transportation infrastructure continues to be a top priority of the L.A. Area Chamber. The Chamber has lobbied state lawmakers to balance the budget and curtail spending on new programs that take money away from transportation, and the Chamber is a founding member of Mobility 21, a coalition for transportation advocacy in Los Angeles County.

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, with more than 1,450 members, represents the interests of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information visit www.lachamber.org.