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February 6, 2009

To Whom it may Concern:

Though I am writing you on behalf of the Homebuilders Association, the issue during these economic times is really much more about the full range of jobs for New Mexicans. Our region needs the type of well planned, properly capitalized infrastructure that TIDDs provide to attract international investment to our state.

Three years ago you passed what I believe is the nation's first Tax Increment Finance law designed specifically around economic development and jobs. And while much has been said about TIDDs utility for urban redevelopment, the simple fact of the matter is that the two do not create a 'this' OR 'that' situation. We can and should support smart growth TIDDs in both scenarios, as long as they benefit taxpayers.

With Westland-SunCal TIDDs proposal, you have a chance to not only bring thousands of new jobs to the state and add a net benefit to the general fund. You also have a chance to enable the type of master planned growth that adds quality of life to our community, protects scarce resources, incorporates parks, school and open space, and mitigates traffic problems.

I strongly urge you to support the TIDDs for the Westland property. These TIDDs will bring economic development and thousands of jobs. With the current business climate, TIDDs are all the more timely for New Mexico's future.

Sincerely,

Katherine Martinez
Director of Government Affairs

Home Builders Association of Central New Mexico

Builders of the American Dream

Affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders since 1947

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