



**THE
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN
COMPANY**

**FELIX CIAMPA
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

October 28, 2011

Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Re: Support for the Century Boulevard Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project

The Madison Square Garden Company submits this letter of support for the City of Inglewood's Tiger III Discretionary Grant application to secure funding for the development of the Century Boulevard Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project. The Madison Square Garden Company has entered into a purchase agreement (subject to certain conditions) to acquire the legendary Forum located in the heart of Inglewood, California, just a short distance from Century Boulevard, a major arterial thoroughfare in Los Angeles County that traverses through both the cities of Los Angeles and Inglewood. The former home of the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers, the WNBA's LA Sparks and the NHL's LA Kings, the Forum enjoys a long legacy as a world-class concert and entertainment venue that is unsurpassed in all of Southern California. Working in conjunction with the City of Inglewood, we hope to be able to re-establish this landmark and source of civic pride as a world-class entertainment venue and community resource that will help transform the City of Inglewood into a regional entertainment destination once again. As we embark upon our proposed revitalization of the Forum we encourage your alliance with the City of Inglewood on their Century Boulevard Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project.

It is our understanding that the Century Boulevard Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project seeks to improve the 100-foot-wide three mile right of way of the Boulevard in Inglewood from Van Ness Avenue on the east to La Cienega Boulevard on the west. We understand that the project includes roadway, pedestrian, transit and streetscape improvements to Century Boulevard that will create jobs and stimulate near-term economic activity, two top priorities for the Obama Administration.

Since the development of Village at Century (a 16-acre commercial retail center) in 2003, Century Boulevard has become a hot bed for large-scale development opportunities in Los Angeles County. An improved Century Boulevard will be the primary street that residents, shoppers and visitors will use to access the Hollywood Park Tomorrow Project, a 236-acre, mix-use development that lies just to the south of the Forum. We understand that this \$2 billion development is scheduled to break ground next year and is expected to create 19,000 construction and permanent jobs. Century Boulevard also serves as one of the primary streets for residents and visitors seeking to access the Forum. Our proposed renovation and revitalization of the Forum would generate hundreds of full-time construction and permanent jobs and will result in long-term economic benefits for the City of Inglewood. The Century Boulevard reconstruction project provides a unique opportunity to showcase a regional infrastructure project that illustrates the nexus between transportation projects and economic competitiveness.

It is our understanding that the Century Boulevard Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project will have the added benefit of improving the condition of the existing transportation facilities and systems, which will minimize their life cycle costs. Additionally, we understand that the project makes this major arterial thoroughfare more sustainable by promoting non-motorized transportation activities by creating bicycle lanes and pedestrian linkages, promoting the use of public transit by creating exclusive bus lanes, and increasing the efficiency of a major regional transportation corridor through effective signal synchronization.

For all of the foregoing reasons The Madison Square Garden Company supports the City of Inglewood's Century Boulevard Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project and urges the U.S. Department of Transportation to award Tiger III funding to this worthy project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Felix Ciampa".