

January 12, 2017

Texas Central Partners, LLC 1601 Elm Street, Suite 4343 Dallas, Texas 75201

RE: Support for Texas Central Partner's High-Speed Rail Project Connecting North Texas and Houston and Their Commitment to Supplier Diversity

The Women's Business Council – Southwest is dedicated to increasing mutually beneficial procurement opportunities between certified women-owned businesses, corporations, businesses, government entities, institutions, and other organizations. With more than 1,000 Women Business Enterprise (WBE) Members in the southwest region, WBCS is in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of providing national certification to women-owned businesses.

As a member-based organization that promotes and supports supplier diversity, we recognize large-scale development projects that are also committed to having a supplier diversity program, specifically working with WBEs. We realize that the Texas Central Railway project, connecting Dallas to Houston with a high-speed rail, will create over 40,000 jobs over the four-year peak construction period, plus 1,000 permanent highly skilled jobs to support the railroad's operations when it is in full service. We believe that with Texas Central Partners commitment to WBEs and supplier diversity, this project is in the best interest of our members and the Texas economy.

As this project progresses and Texas Central Partners develops their strategy for engaging the WBE community locally and across Texas, we look forward to supporting them in their mission.

Sincerely,

Debbie Hurst President

Women's Business Council - Southwest

Debbie Hurst