February 19, 2016

Laurence B. Frank, President
Los Angeles Trade Technical College
400 West Washington Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Mr. Frank:

The Economic Roundtable is enthusiastically committed to participating in the South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone Collaborative. This includes participating in planning Promise Zone initiatives and carrying out a study of impacts of the minimum wage increase approved by the City of Los Angeles on South Los Angeles’ businesses and resident labor force.

We believe that objective and incisive information is crucial for informing good policy decisions. Effects of the higher minimum wage will be felt more strongly in South Los Angeles than in any other community. We are the only organization planning to study the effects felt in South Los Angeles from raising the wage floor.

The scope of the study will include:

- Longitudinal effects on workers
- Change in number of living wage jobs
- Displacement effects, e.g., apparel
- Opportunities for career paths
- Changes in places residents work
- Changes in industries providing jobs
- Changes in So LA industry structure
- Growth or decline of So LA industries
- Stimulus effect of wage increases
- Business start-up and closure rates
- Business cycle effects on jobs, wages
- Tech sector growth/opportunities
- Green business growth/opportunities
- Changes in mode of transportation
- Change in TOD-linked destinations
- Change in level of rent burden
- Change in level of overcrowding
- Effects on informal jobs and earnings

The Economic Roundtable is a nonprofit urban research organization with strong capabilities for carrying out this study, including extensive experience investigating labor market, transportation, housing, and industry growth issues. We estimate that the cost for this study will be $120,000.

We are ready to help in any way we can to provide objective and operationally relevant information to support the S.L.A.T.E. Promise Zone.

Sincerely,

Daniel Flaming, Ph.D.
President