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NEW YORK
BUILDING
CONGRESS

October 4, 2010

The Honorable Chris Christie
Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Christie:

I am writing to share the concern of the New York Building Congress about the future of the Access to the Region's Core project (ARC), which is currently undergoing a financial review by your office.

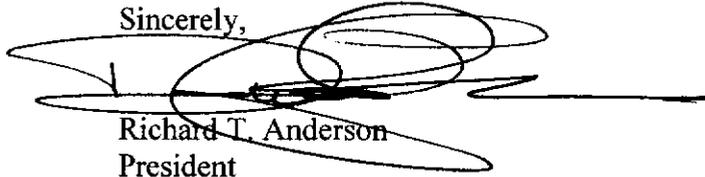
Increasing transit capacity across the Hudson River between Midtown Manhattan and New Jersey is critical to alleviating growing congestion, advancing the economic competitiveness of the region and contributing to the region's recovery from the current economic downturn.

As has been well documented, the northeast rail system is simply unable to meet existing demand and will not support future capacity essential for the region's continued prosperity. Today, a single, century-old tunnel connects New York, New Jersey, Washington and Boston under the Hudson River. Continued exclusive reliance on this constrained infrastructure, which is already at capacity with 23 peak-hour trains into Penn Station each weekday morning, jeopardizes reliability and security of the transportation system. The problem will only get worse as the region's population and economy grow and the number of people using the trans-Hudson commuter rail system increases.

We appreciate that current fiscal hardships facing New Jersey, New York and the nation demand government be accountable for every public dollar spent. However, the construction of the ARC tunnel, which is already underway, is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity whose significant up-front costs are small in comparison to the long term benefits to our economy.

We ask that you take full consideration of ARC's importance to regional growth, property values, economic development and congestion mitigation while you review specific project costs. New Jersey's continued commitment to this truly historic project is vital.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Anderson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the line.

Richard T. Anderson
President

RTA/ah