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NEW YORK
BUILDING
CONGRESS

April 15, 2010

Honorable Christine Quinn
Speaker, New York City Council
250 Broadway
Suite 1856
New York, New York 10007

Dear Speaker Quinn:

I am writing to urge the City Council to provide critical capital funds to support the creation of the planned new addition to the Fashion Institute of Technology's (FIT) C Building, to be known as the C Squared or C² Building.

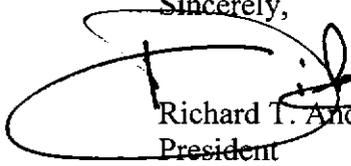
The new C² Building would be a signature, LEED-certified, ten-story addition to an existing but increasingly outdated facility on West 28th Street. In fact, the addition would be the first new academic building constructed in nearly thirty years on the Chelsea campus. Given the importance of the fashion industry to your district and the entire City, the C² Building will allow for the school's expansion and improved operations, permitting FIT to remain a leading training ground for the industry's workforce. This project will provide an equally important boost to the building industry when we need it most by providing hundreds of construction jobs.

FIT has already secured \$74 million, half of the \$148 million required for the project, in the New York State FY 2009 Adopted Budget. However, because FIT is a community college in the State University of New York system, any state dollars appropriated through the SUNY capital plan must be matched by the local sponsor. This project will therefore not be able to move forward without the City's matching funds.

This is an important opportunity for the City to strategically leverage State funds to invest in recovery and growth. We will be helping New York's fashion industry secure its leadership role, thus strengthening the foundation for a diversified City economy. We will also be putting the building industry to work, maintaining important jobs and generating new economic activity.

We urge the Council to support our fashion and building industries by leveraging State and City funds to make a critical investment in the City's economic future.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Anderson
President

Best regards

cc: Charles Meara
Iris Weinshall
Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez