THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 30, 2012

**White House Highlights Transportation Innovators as “Champions of Change”**

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“Today’s Champions are leaders in developing and implementing innovative transportation initiatives,” said Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. “They are making a difference every day in their local communities and across the country by improving America’s transportation infrastructure and helping their friends and neighbors get where they need to go.”

The Champions of Change program was created as a part of President Obama’s Winning the Future initiative. Each week, a different sector is highlighted and groups of Champions, ranging from educators to entrepreneurs to community leaders, are recognized for the work they are doing to serve and strengthen their communities.

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**Ellen Voie**

Ellen Voie founded the Women In Trucking Association in March of 2007 and currently serves as President/CEO. Women In Trucking was formed to promote the employment of women in the trucking industry, remove obstacles that might keep them from succeeding, and to celebrate the successes of its members. Ellen’s career in the trucking industry began in 1980 when she earned her diploma in Traffic & Transportation Management. She also holds a Master’s Degree in Communication from the University of Wisconsin. In 2008 she obtained her commercial driver’s license.

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**Jason Roberts**

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**Beverly Scott**

Beverly Scott is CEO of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) – the ninth largest public transit system in the United States. A 30-year public transportation veteran, she is a past Chair of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and nationally recognized for her extraordinary leadership and advocacy in advancing increased investment in quality public transportation choices – and the workforce responsible for making it all happen. During the height of the economic downturn, Scott and her volunteer team painted red X’s on MARTA buses and trains to help the general public, State and regional leaders understand the devastating impact that 25-30% transit service cuts would have on the region’s economy, employers, and – most directly on people’s daily lives – the thousands of daily transit riders without other options. It helped and resulted in a historic demonstration of support from the Atlanta Regional Commission – comprised of elected officials and policymakers across the greater Atlanta region.

**Dan Richard**

Dan Richard of Piedmont, California serves as Chair of the California High-Speed Rail Authority. Richard has been a principal of Dan Richard Advisors since 2010. He was managing partner and co-founder of Heritage Oak Capital Partners, an infrastructure finance firm, from 2007 to 2009 and was senior vice president of public policy and governmental relations at Pacific Gas and Electric Company from 1997 to 2006. Richard was an elected member of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District from 1992 to 2004, where he served twice as President of the Board. Richard was a principal at Morse, Richard, Weisenmiller & Associates from 1986 to 1996, a firm serving the independent power industry and project finance lending community. He was Vice President of Independent Power Corporation from 1983 to 1986. Richard served as Governor Brown’s deputy legal affairs secretary from 1982 to 1983 and deputy assistant for science and technology from 1978 to 1979. He was advisor to the chairman of the California Energy Commission from 1978 to 1982. Richard received his Juris Doctor degree from McGeorge School of Law.

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**Beverly Scott** is CEO of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) – the ninth largest public transit system in the United States. A 30-year public transportation veteran, she is a past Chair of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and nationally recognized for her extraordinary leadership and advocacy in advancing increased investment in quality public transportation choices – and the workforce responsible for making it all happen. During the height of the economic downturn, Scott and her volunteer team painted red X’s on MARTA buses and trains to help the general public, State and regional leaders understand the devastating impact that 25-30% transit service cuts would have on the region’s economy, employers, and – most directly on people’s daily lives – the thousands of daily transit riders without other options. It helped and resulted in a historic demonstration of support from the Atlanta Regional Commission – comprised of elected officials and policymakers across the greater Atlanta region.

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CA IMPACT:

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 30, 2012

**White House Highlights Dan Richard as a Transportation Innovator “Champion of Change”**

WASHINGTON, DC – On Tuesday, July 31st, the White House will honor leaders who have devoted their time and efforts to helping their communities reach new heights through transportation innovation. Transportation Innovators are individuals or organizations who have provided exemplary leadership in the growth and expansion of the transportation industry at the local, state or regional level.

“Today’s Champions are leaders in developing and implementing innovative transportation initiatives,” said Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. “They are making a difference every day in their local communities and across the country by improving America’s transportation infrastructure and helping their friends and neighbors get where they need to go.”

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**Dan Richard** of Piedmont, California serves as Chair of the California High-Speed Rail Authority. Richard has been a principal of Dan Richard Advisors since 2010. He was managing partner and co-founder of Heritage Oak Capital Partners, an infrastructure finance firm, from 2007 to 2009 and was senior vice president of public policy and governmental relations at Pacific Gas and Electric Company from 1997 to 2006. Richard was an elected member of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District from 1992 to 2004, where he served twice as President of the Board. Richard was a principal at Morse, Richard, Weisenmiller & Associates from 1986 to 1996, a firm serving the independent power industry and project finance lending community. He was Vice President of Independent Power Corporation from 1983 to 1986. Richard served as Governor Brown’s deputy legal affairs secretary from 1982 to 1983 and deputy assistant for science and technology from 1978 to 1979. He was advisor to the chairman of the California Energy Commission from 1978 to 1982. Richard received his Juris Doctor degree from McGeorge School of Law.

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