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February 20, 2013

Honorable Senator Gregory W. Tarver District 39 Louisiana State Senate 1024 Pierre Avenue Shreveport, Louisiana 71103

Ref: Response to Your Letter Regarding the I-49 Inner City Connector Community Input Meetings Stage 1 Environmental Impact Statement (State Project No. H.003915)

Honorable Senator Tarver,

The Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) is in receipt of your letter dated January 10, 2013. We appreciate your input on this project and are in the process of contacting Representative Burrell's office and your office to schedule a meeting.

We delayed in scheduling the meeting in order to obtain input from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) relative to the disruption of the meetings and appropriate action that may be taken to avoid future disruptions. We have met with both agencies and have some concepts and suggestions to discuss with yourself and Representative Burrell.

Please be advised that Mr. Perry Franklin of Franklin Associates will be reaching out to you to get the requested meeting scheduled. Please also keep in mind that if we schedule the meeting in Baton Rouge, we are more likely to be able to get FHWA and DOTD to attend. Both agencies have tremendous insight into these processes, but are presently under travel restrictions and will be unlikely to attend a meeting in Shreveport.

We again thank you for your participation and look forward to meeting with you soon.

**Executive Director** 

Cc: Representative Roy Burrell Perry Franklin, Franklin Associates Robert Mahoney, FHWA Ms. Joyce Barkley-Hahn, DOTD