

## **Adequate and Reliable Funding**

Infrastructure is central to prosperity and global competitiveness. It is the foundation upon which Los Angeles and California have built one of the world's largest economies. Without proper investment in infrastructure our supply chain can be compromised. State-of-the-art transportation, telecommunications and energy networks form the connective tissue of our region. They are critical to moving workers, goods and ideas quickly and efficiently. They increase the quality of life by providing social opportunities and economic benefits such as increased access to markets and employment.

If increasing transportation costs create a competitive disadvantage relative to other areas, local business' ability to compete in the global market – and thus the region's economic growth – will suffer. Identifying and developing adequate and reliable revenue streams are the first step in addressing our increasing infrastructure needs and ensuring we have an efficient and dependable transportation network for the future.

Adequate funding for the County's transportation network would, at a minimum, allow us to maintain current levels of mobility for people and goods while accommodating future growth. It would also provide at least enough funding to maintain the network's state of good repair at an adequate level, ensuring safe and reliable travel.

Reliable funding would ensure we have a consistent and predictable financial base to plan, build and operate the County's transportation network. The farther away the funding decisions are made, the less reliable they are. The less we are willing to support ourselves, the weaker our case becomes when competing for scarce transportation dollars. A strong local commitment provides a critical foundation of reliable funding. It also provides significant leverage to secure additional funds, moving the region closer to adequate funding levels.