



For Immediate Release

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CELSOC Applauds Governor's Call for Increased Use of Public Private Partnerships

Sacramento, Calif., (January 8, 2008) – The Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California (CELSOC) today applauded Governor Schwarzenegger's call for the use of more public-private partnerships (PPPs) to maximize California's ability to finance and complete infrastructure projects, while maintaining public oversight and control.

The projected costs of meeting California's infrastructure needs will exceed \$500 billion over the next two decades, according to the California Department of Finance. Existing revenue models and current project delivery methods simply cannot meet all of California's needs.

“Successful partnerships bring together private expertise and financing on one side, and public agency authority on the other. They coordinate shared public and private sector responsibilities, and provide checks and balances that maintain public oversight, keep costs under control and complete projects as quickly as possible while maintaining high quality levels,” said Paul Meyer, Executive Director of CELSOC.

With the governor's proposal, CELSOC stands ready to partner with elected officials and state and local resources to help California rebuild and maintain its infrastructure systems quickly, efficiently, and cost effectively. We simply cannot go another 30 years without investing in our transit systems, bridges, schools, water treatment and sewage plants, courthouses, and levees to raise them up to the highest standards. Failure to invest in California's infrastructure today will jeopardize our quality of life, environment, and position in the national and global economies.

CELSOC is currently sponsoring AB 1261 (Caballero – D, Salinas), a bill that would clarify the rules for local agencies to use public-private partnerships to build local infrastructure.

For more information on public private partnerships, including examples and impact numbers, please visit <http://www.celsoc.org/news.asp?nid=99>

CELSOC is a 52-year-old, statewide association representing 1,200 private consulting engineering and land surveying firms that average 20 employees each. CELSOC is dedicated to enhancing the consulting engineering and land surveying professions, protecting the general public and promoting the use of the private sector in the growth and development of our state. Our members provide services for all phases of planning, designing and constructing projects. For more information, visit www.celsoc.org.

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