



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 11, 2007

CONTACT:

Elishema Fishman, 310.552.4173

**LOS ANGELES BUSINESS COUNCIL LEADS HISTORIC EFFORT TO MAKE
LOS ANGELES A GLOBAL LEADER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

***Los Angeles Business Council Issues Call to Action to Create Economic Incentives and a Planning
Process that Makes Green Business Good Business***

WHAT: LABC's 2007 Sustainability Summit – ***Capitalizing on Green Business: Incentives, Opportunities and Solutions*** – At its inaugural Sustainability Summit, the LABC will issue a Call to Action for the city of L.A. to implement planning and development reforms that will encourage the private sector to adopt green building standards. The LABC will challenge the city in front of a broad-based coalition of nonprofit organizations, environmental advocates and community and civic leaders who are dedicated to greening L.A.

In its Sustainability Call to Action the LABC will recommend, among other things: creating a City Sustainability Team with the needed authority and accountability; providing incentives to encourage sustainable building practices; supporting specific federal and state legislation which provide tax credits for energy efficient buildings; and establishing City Sustainability Awards to recognize and encourage outstanding green projects and practices.

Mayor Villaraigosa will give the keynote address at the Summit and announce the city's action plan for sustainable development.

WHEN: **Wednesday, July 18, 2007**

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Sustainability Summit

12:30 p.m. – Keynote address by Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – *Electeds & Business Leaders Available for Interviews*

WHERE: **La Kretz Hall, UCLA Institute of the Environment**

Map and directions available at www.labusinesscouncil.org

WHO:

Los Angeles **Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa**

Los Angeles City Council President **Eric Garcetti**

California State Assemblywoman **Fiona Ma**

Los Angeles City Planning Director **S. Gail Goldberg**

LADWP Board of Commissioners President **H. David Nahai**

Interface Inc. Chairman and Founder **Ray Anderson**

Chairwoman of the California Air Resources Board **Mary Nichols**

First Vice President of Operations, Arden Realty, Inc. **Scott Lyle**

Vice President of Development, Forest City Development **Katherine Aguilar Perez**

Los Angeles Business Council President **Mary Leslie**

Over 400 Business, Environmental and Community Leaders

WHY:

- Business advantages: There are strategic advantages and financial benefits for businesses and cities that commit to sustainability.
- Environmental necessity: Public and private buildings have significant impacts on the environment; they account for 70 percent of energy consumption in America.
- Economic reality: Even small changes can have a tremendous impact on energy usage. If every U.S. household replaced one incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb, the country would save \$600 million in energy bills.

For more information on the Los Angeles Business Council or to download the 2007 Sustainability Summit event program or LABC's 2007 Sustainability Call to Action, visit <http://www.labusinesscouncil.org>.