Statement on Donald Trump Candidacy

We served as senior political appointees at the United States Departments of Transportation and Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency during the Presidency of George W. Bush. We are long-time Republicans who have served at the local and state, as well as federal, levels of government.

As Republicans, we are united in our opposition to the election of Donald Trump, our party's nominee to be President of the United States. None of us has ever before publicly opposed a Republican presidential nominee. We are proud of our party's tradition of tolerance, pragmatism, and civility. From Abraham Lincoln through Teddy Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan, the Republican Party has been a party of free men, free women, and free markets. Republican Presidents and, for that matter, Republican nominees for President, have been committed to seeking effective government and finding common purpose to address significant societal problems.

Donald Trump stands for none of these Republican principles and for none of these public values. From our experience in government and politics, we believe that his appeals to racial and religious differences, his unfounded charges and personal attacks against those with whom he disagrees, and his broad and repeated misuse of facts and data have damaged the future of our party and have undermined his ability to govern effectively, should he be elected.

Recently, a group of over fifty senior Republican national security and foreign policy experts and advisors has noted that these traits pose serious risks to the nation's safety, security, and prosperity, should Mr. Trump become Commander in Chief.

We believe that these characteristics pose no less a danger to the domestic peace and tranquility of America. We believe that he lacks the competence, experience, and temperament to lead our government and to propose, advocate for, and implement humane, effective, fair, and fiscally responsible policies and programs.

While Mr. Trump has discussed the relationship of strong, safe, and resilient infrastructure to economic growth and prosperity, and he has called for greatly increased infrastructure spending, he has not been clear about the sources of new or additional revenues to support such an investment beyond substantially expanded federal borrowing. Moreover, Mr. Trump's support for greater infrastructure investment is not sufficient to overcome our concerns about his capacity to govern fairly and effectively.

He threatens to renounce long-standing trade agreements with Mexico and China, which would also obviate key transportation agreements with those nations – agreements that have provided American businesses with access to key markets in a

global economy. American businesses depend on international border crossings and ports of entry to obtain raw materials and to ship finished products to both domestic and international destinations.

While we support reduced regulation and less government intervention, there is a judicious role for the government to play in areas where market forces have proven insufficient to afford adequate answers. It is not good government, and it does not serve the public, simply to call for eliminating regulation without regard to the circumstances, as Mr. Trump has done. As Republicans, we have designed and implemented careful and balanced governmental regulation that has brought us clean water and clean air, protection of the ozone layer, safety in transportation, and more efficient use of energy.

We believe in effective government, a society of hope and optimism balanced with realism, and a politics of civility and honesty. None of these values are present in Donald Trump's campaign.

As our foreign policy colleagues concluded in their statement, "As committed and loyal Republicans, we are unable to support a Party ticket with Mr. Trump at its head." We agree. What is true for our national security is also true for our most difficult domestic challenges.

Mary Peters, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 2006-2009

Christine Todd Whitman, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2001-2003

Linda Fisher, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2001-2003

David Garman, Assistant Secretary and Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy, 2001-2007

Kirk Van Tine, General Counsel and Acting Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 2001-2004

Jeffrey Runge, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2001-2005

Joseph Boardman, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, 2005-2008

Thomas Madison, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 2008-2009

Jessica Furey, Associate Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2001-2005

Emil Frankel, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 2002-2005

Kerry O'Hare, Deputy Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 2008-2009

Susan Mulvaney, Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2001-2005

Samuel Reid, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 2001-2004

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