

The California Agenda Public Policy Lecture Series

“California’s Infrastructure and the Future of the Golden State”

Ms. Sunne Wright McPeak, California Secretary Business, Transportation and Housing

June 21, 2006

California Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, Ms. Sunne Wright McPeak delivered a talk on "California's Infrastructure and the Future of the Golden State," called attention to the growing needs of an increasing population and economy. Citing the "golden age of building" under the watch of visionary leaders Goodwin Knight, Pat and Jerry Brown, the Secretary highlighted our current opportunity to invest in the California of tomorrow. If we are going to have a world class economy in the future, she added, we need a world class infrastructure. Future generations will benefit from our foresight, she argued, much like we have from past infrastructure investments. She concluded by stating that the current gubernatorial administration has reduced the economic deficit, seen a growth in jobs, a reduction in unemployment, has overhauled workers compensation, and increased the state's revenue under its "reform and rebuild" plan. Over the past five years, voters have approved 60 bond measures, which the Secretary sees as an indication that the public is willing to invest in the future. We must “push the envelope of greatness for the California dream”, she argued, “this is our time to do it right and do it well.”