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Building Industry Association, Orange County Applauds City of Anaheim's Approval of Economic Stimulus Plan

Irvine, CA., April 23, 2008 - The Building Industry Association of Southern California, Orange County Chapter (BIA/OC) applauded Mayor Curt Pringle and the Anaheim City Council for their unanimous decision to enact a comprehensive economic stimulus package which includes numerous actions aimed at recovery in the local housing market.

Kristine Thalman, CEO of the BIA/OC said, "Given the tremendous amount of progress that the City of Anaheim has been able to accomplish over the last several years, many of the largest private investors in the city are residential and commercial developers. The economic well-being of the city is directly related to the fiscal health of its business community. It's for this reason that we consider the BIA/OC and our members to be key stakeholders in the City of Anaheim and its economic health. BIA/OC is proud to partner with progressive city leaders that understand the broader economic picture to find common sense solutions to some of the pressures that our industry is facing."

Of equal importance, is the timing of the change, because of the downturn new construction in the City of Anaheim has slowed considerably. The impact of the downturn has had broad economic consequences affecting everything from the furniture industry to the auto industry, and countless local small businesses. Highlights of the package include: deferral of impact fee payment, increased amounts for city assisted first-time home buyer assistance, incentives for green building practices, the development of affordable housing units and the authorization of a directional sign program designed to direct potential residents to new home developments.

Mayor Curt Pringle has championed this proposal to set an example to other cities that has been the most comprehensive approved stimulus package regionally and perhaps statewide. Mayor Curt Pringle remarked, "This economic stimulus plan is going to allow Anaheim to get moving, to create many new neighborhoods and continue with the redevelopment of the Platinum Triangle." The BIA/OC applauded the leadership of Mayor Curt Pringle and his staff for leading this effort in Anaheim to act on the economic stimulus package.

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The Orange County Chapter of the Building Industry Association of Southern California (BIA/OC) is a non-profit trade association representing more than 1,000 companies employing over 117,000 people affiliated with the home building industry. The BIA/OC mission is to promote proactive participation in the development of economic and community issues in Orange County. The BIA/OC is affiliated with the California BIA and the National Association of Home Builders.

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Orange County

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