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Office of Governor Ron DeSantis State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Governor Ron DeSantis:

Last week I met with officials from Elon Musk's Boring Co. project in Las Vegas to better understand how to bring tunnel technology to Florida. There is no doubt that Florida is the next home for this technology because we firmly believe in free market solutions to big problems. We had the right strategy during the pandemic, and we are seeing the benefits of that strategy. In just one year, the free state of Florida welcomed new residents and stood with our small businesses. While New York and California saw major losses after forcing their residents into lockdown and their businesses to board up for over a year, we welcomed them and will continue to do so. The Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) projects that we will add 845 residents daily until 2025. Under your leadership, our state has continued to see business growth because of our winning formula that couples low taxes and a freedom-based mentality. Businesses moving here means more jobs for Floridians and it all comes down to leadership, which we have in spades.

We are the next state for a tunnel project, that is clear. With your leadership and the leadership of Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis, our city is the best city to bring it to first. We have worked tirelessly to create economic conditions that align with our state including keeping property taxes lower than most of Florida's big cities, building an \$11 billion marine industry and investing in transportation like our #3 ranked airport.

But, we also have unique challenges. This growth comes with massive traffic challenges that cannot be fixed by traditional solutions. Building more bridges will congest our approximately 165 miles of intercoastal waterways, frustrate our marine industry and our commuters. While increasing commuter rail options are a good thing, piling on top of current infrastructure doesn't make long-term sense. Tunneling is that cost effective and cutting-edge solution.

Fort Lauderdale is a pro-business and pro-resident city that firmly believes in doing things differently. I urge you to seriously consider working with the City of Fort Lauderdale to bring tunnel technology to Florida. My office stands ready to help your team answer any questions and to share information we have gathered during this discovery process. I look forward to working with you to make Florida the next stop for tunnelling technology.

Sincerely,

Vice Mayor Heather Moraitis