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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For additional information, please contact:

Randy Merrill, AIA; 513-759-3237; rmerrill@mcgillsmithpunshon.com

AIA Cincinnati Architects Recommends “NO” on Issue 48

CINCINNATI, Ohio (9/19/2011). At their September meeting, the **Cincinnati Chapter of the American Institute of Architects Board of Directors (AIA Cincinnati)** voted to recommend a “NO” vote on Issue 48, the “Anti-Passenger Rail Charter Amendment”.

The Board believes that confusing language of the initiative and the focus on the streetcar cloud the real purpose of the issue, which is a change in the fundamental way in which the City governs. It does our fair City a disservice to rely on a Charter amendment to remove the responsibilities for making complicated economic and regional decisions from elected officials that we hold accountable. If the Issue were to pass, it would handcuff our officials from being able to participate in any rail project for 10 years. This would further isolate the city within a region that is trying to cooperate and work together.

AIA Cincinnati recognizes the undeniable benefits brought forth by well designed rail projects that create dynamic urban environments in other cities. By making our lives easier, reducing congestion, reducing our dependency on cars and oil, and encouraging walkable urban districts; rail systems encourage healthier, sustainable communities.

AIA Cincinnati is the professional organization of Registered Architects who work to create, improve and sustain the communities where we live, work and play. We do this through high-quality design, which identifies and communicates your dreams for better homes, parks, offices, schools, museums and other private as well as public buildings. AIA Architects are the voice of the profession, who strive for excellence, while looking to the future.

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