THE GOZO BUSINESS CHAMBER

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# Stqarrija: Reazzjoni għal preżentazzjoni ta' Mozzjoni Parlamentari dwar il-Mina bejn Għawdex u Malta

Il-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Għawdex tilqa' b'sodisfazzjon il-mozzjoni dwar il-proġett tal-mina li ġiet ippreżentata fil-Parlament it-Tlieta 9 ta' April 2019 mil-Ministru għat-Transport, l-Infrastruttura u l-Proġetti Kapitali, l-Onor. Ian Borg, u l-Ministru għal Għawdex, l-Onor. Justyne Caruana.

Il-Kamra tinnota bi pjaċir kif il-mozzjoni tagħraf li dan il-proġett kien inkluż fil-manifest elettorali taż-żewġ partiti, u b'hekk hemm mandat ċar biex dan il-proġett jitwettaq filwaqt li jiġu mħarsa r-regoli kollha tal-ippjanar u l-ambjent kemm ta' Malta kif ukoll tal-Unjoni Ewropeja.

Dan huwa proġett li ilu propost u sar ħidma fuqu għal diversi snin b'impenn sħiħ minn kull partit li kien fil-Gvern f'dak il-perijodu, u bi studji li dejjem urew biċ-ċar li mina taħt il-baħar hija l-aħjar opzjoni bħala konnessjoni permanenti bejn iż-żewġ gżejjer. Il-Kamra tinnota b'sodisfazzjon li kif dejjem sar s'issa se jkomplu jsiru l-istudji neċessarji meħtieġa biex dan il-proġett jitkompla.

Il-Kamra taqbel ukoll li dan il-proġett għandu jitwettaq bl-iktar mod sostenibbli possibli u li jkun parti minn strateġija sħiħa li tkompli ssaħħaħ l-iżvilupp soċjo-ekonomiku ta' Għawdex u jtejjeb il-kwalita' tal-ħajja tar-residenti Għawdxin.

Għalhekk il-Kamra tħeġġeġ lil Gvern kif ukoll l-Opposizzjoni biex isostnu l-wegħdiet tagħhhom u jkomplu b'impenn it-tħejjijiet kollha meħtieġa biex dan il-proġett jitwettaq. Dan il-proġett mhux se jibbenefika biss lil Għawdxin imma lill-poplu kollu li se jgawdi mill-iżvilupp pożittiv li dan il-proġett se jġib miegħu.

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# Press Release: Reaction to the presentation of the Parliamentary Motion about the Gozo-Malta Tunnel

The Gozo Business Chamber welcomes with satisfaction the motion on the tunnel project that was presented in Parliament on Tuesday 9th April by the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects, Hon. Ian Borg, and the Minister for Gozo, the Hon. Justyne Caruana.

The Chamber welcomes the fact that the parliamentary motion recognizes that this project was included in the electoral manifesto of both parties, and therefore there is a clear mandate that this project is implemented while at the same time safeguarding all Maltese and EU planning and environmental rules.

This is a project that has been proposed and on which work has been ongoing for several years with the full support of every party that was in government during that period, and with studies that have always clearly shown that the subsea tunnel is the best option as a permanent link between the two islands. The Chamber notes with satisfaction that as has been happening up to this point the necessary studies will be undertaken so that this project can move forward.

The Chamber also agrees that this project is to be conducted in the most sustainable manner possible, and that this should be part of an overall strategy that will continue to enhance Gozo's socio-economic development and improve the quality of life of Gozitan residents.

Consequently the Chamber urges the Government and the Opposition to sustain their promises and continue with commitment the necessary preparations so that the project is implemented. This project will not only benefit Gozitans but all the population, as everyone stands to gain from the positive developments that this project will bring with it.