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**MCCA SELECTS FRAMINGHAM-BASED ENGINEERING FIRM TO CONDUCT
FEASIBILITY STUDY ON BOSTON COMMON GARAGE**
Study Will Determine Possibility of Garage Expansion

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) today announced a consulting team led by Tetra Tech Rizzo, a full service consulting engineering firm based in Framingham, Mass., has been selected to help determine the feasibility of expanding the MCCA-owned Boston Common Garage. The Tetra Tech Rizzo Team includes DESMAN Associates, Browne, Richardson & Rowe and PAL. Requests for proposals were issued November 2007.

“Tetra Tech Rizzo has assembled a team of experts that will provide a rigorous market and site analysis informing us whether or not expansion of the garage is feasible,” said James E. Rooney, Executive Director of the MCCA. “We have tremendous respect for the Boston Common and will challenge our consulting team to review and research all the questions that should be answered before we take this idea to a next step.”

Browne, Richardson & Rowe is well versed with the Boston Common as they were previously retained by the Boston Parks Department and Friends of the Boston Public Garden to perform a study of Boston Public Garden and Boston Common Capital Improvements Projects that identifies capital enhancements needed to bring the two parks to world-class standards. The MCCA hopes to be able to leverage the previous study recommendations especially those that might be accomplished in a joint planning effort.

The feasibility study will involve a comprehensive analysis of the Boston Common Garage performance to-date, an assessment of existing and future market conditions and factors that would impact any proposed underground expansion of the Garage including current supply and demand for parking facilities, land use, traffic and environmental issues and historical site impacts. If an expansion program is deemed feasible or recommended, an appropriate public review and legislative approval process would follow. Results of the feasibility analysis are expected in about one year.

“We are privileged to have been selected and are excited to partner once again with the MCCA. We recognize this project as a great opportunity, unique to Boston. As such, we will endeavor to balance the practicalities of the expansion project while being ever mindful of the Nation’s Oldest Park.” said Ed Ionata, Tetra Tech Rizzo Project Manager.

Tetra Tech Rizzo (www.tetratechrizzo.com) is a leading provider of civil engineering, surveying, land planning and landscape architecture, transportation planning and design, environmental assessment, remediation, and compliance services, natural resources evaluation and permitting services across New England. Headquartered in Framingham, Massachusetts, clients are supported with additional offices in Braintree Massachusetts, Manchester, New Hampshire and Hartford, Connecticut. Tetra Tech Rizzo is a division of Tetra Tech (

www.tetratech.com), a leading provider of consulting engineering and technical services, based in Pasadena, California. Tetra Tech is a publicly traded company, with more than 8,500 associates in over 350 offices worldwide. Engineering News Record ranks Tetra Tech the 8th largest design firm.

The MCCA requested proposals from firms or teams with the capacity to provide a plan and analysis of existing land which comprises the Boston Common garage and land with the Boston Common contiguous to the Boston Common Garage, demonstrate if and when additional an expansion is indicated by market conditions and when such expansion is necessary, define measures used to demonstrate the need for and financial impact of facility expansion, and to analyze traffic, environmental and neighborhood considerations.

Owned and operated by the MCCA, the Boston Common Garage is the ideal parking choice for leisure and business trips into Boston. The spacious, state-of-the-art parking facility is located beneath Boston Common and provides clean, well-lit parking for 1,300 vehicles at an affordable price. It is central to many of Boston's top attractions, including the State House, Beacon Hill, Back Bay, the Theater District, and the shops of Downtown Crossing and Newbury Street.

The entrance to the Boston Common Garage is located on Charles Street, directly across from the Public Gardens. Handicap-accessible elevators are available at the four pedestrian kiosks within the Boston Common at the corner of Charles and Beacon Streets.

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. In fiscal year 2007, the MCCA hosted at the BCEC and the Hynes 305 events with over 1.6 million attendees that generated nearly 1.1 million hotel room nights and \$890 million in economic impact for Greater Boston.

Large upcoming events at the BCEC include the American Society of Microbiology General Meeting, drawing over 12,000 attendees from 6/02 thru 6/05; the National Association of Letter Carriers Annual Convention, drawing over 11,000 attendees from 7/20 thru 7/25; and this fall's Natural Products Expo, drawing over 20,000 attendees from 10/16 thru 10/18.

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