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May 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for NCTD's Low or No Emission Vehicle Program Discretionary Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to promote excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I write to express our support for North County Transit District's (NCTD) discretionary grant application to the Low or No Emission Vehicle program for funding to advance NCTD's transition to zero emission bus operations. NCTD is requesting funding for the purchase and installation of solar-powered electric bus charging infrastructure and the necessary facility improvements to support clean transit operations.

NCTD offers reliable and affordable transportation services to the residents of northern San Diego County, providing nearly 6.5 million trips annually on their BREEZE bus fleet. NCTD is advancing a phased transition to fleet-wide operations of zero emission buses. This funding request directly supports regional and statewide plans to reduce harmful emissions in the transportation sector, increase transit ridership, and improve community health. The requested federal funding would leverage planned private sector funding from the San Diego Gas and Electric Company for the design and construction of NCTD's charging infrastructure.

For this and other reasons, I support the funding of NCTD's project for zero emission bus charging infrastructure and supporting facilities improvements. This project aligns well with Low or No Emission Vehicle Program objectives of reducing harmful carbon and particulate emissions and overall energy consumption.

Sincerely,

Maya Rosas
Director of Policy
Circulate San Diego

CC: Katie Persons, NCTD Transit Planner – Strategic Planning