July 9, 2020

San Diego City Council
City Administration Building
202 “C” Street, 10th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Councilmembers,

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to support placing ‘Homes for San Diegans’ on the November ballot. This proposed $900 million affordable housing bond will enable the development of much-needed affordable housing units and will foster the goal of creating equitable housing policies in San Diego. While Circulate San Diego is providing initial support for the placement of the ballot measure, a formal endorsement decision from our Board of Directors will be decided at an upcoming date.

San Diego’s housing crisis has been made even more evident by COVID-19. San Diego’s shortage of affordable homes, combined with a global pandemic, has exacerbated inequities in housing and health. Our most vulnerable residents in San Diego are at risk of displacement from secure housing. The lack of affordable housing, and the implications of more individuals living unsheltered in the streets, impacts the health and quality of life for all residents in our city.

San Diego should take steps to implement permanent solutions to the housing crisis, as housing and homelessness have been major concerns of residents for years. Although our city leaders converted the San Diego Convention Center in April into a temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness, more strategies must be implemented that can produce permanent improvements to affordable housing. Homes for San Diegans will create 7,500 affordable homes in San Diego. The bond revenue will be leveraged with state and local funding, maximizing the impact of the bond and ensuring that San Diego receives its fair share of state funds.

Everyone benefits when San Diegans have access to safe and affordable homes. We support putting ‘Homes for San Diegans’ on the November ballot because of its equitable approach to housing policy, and anticipate a decision about an official endorsement from our Board of Directors soon.

Sincerely,

Maya Rosas
Director of Policy