October 13, 2017

Kim Kawada
Interim Executive Director
San Diego Association of Governments
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

SUBJECT: Support for The Future of Mobility: Data Collection and Analysis to inform Long Range Transportation Planning

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to support SANDAG’s application for the SB1 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant.

The grant application will be prepared by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in partnership with SANDAG, the Southern California Association of Government’s (SCAG) and the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (CTA) for a project titled “The Future of Mobility: Data Collection and Analysis to inform Long Range Transportation Planning.” We appreciate that MTC, SANDAG, and SCAG have been collaborating on a Future Mobility Research Project (FMRP) as leaders in researching emerging transportation technology as this is an area of great interest for Circulate San Diego.

Transportation Network Companies (TNC) such as Uber and Lyft present great opportunities to improve mobility for local residents. TNCs have the potential to provide first/last mile access to transit stations and to reduce household vehicle ownership resulting in more multi-modal travel choices and reduced vehicle miles traveled (VMT). However, recent studies also indicate that due to travel time between trips, TNCs may lead to potential increases in VMT and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Circulate San Diego supports this multi-agency FMRP project to assemble demographic and travel data for both TNC users and non-users.

We understand that the project partners have individually received and administered numerous Caltrans grants in the past, and we look forward to seeing this project’s full implementation and the benefits that it will provide to the residents of San Diego.

Sincerely,

Colin Parent, Interim Executive Director