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January 24, 2018

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SUBJECT: Support for The Future of Mobility: Ride-Hailing Data Collection and Analysis

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the application for the SB1 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant prepared by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) in partnership with the Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG), Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) for The Future of Mobility: Ride-Hailing Data Collection and Analysis.

We appreciate that SANDAG, SCAG, and MTC 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 in certain circumstances. Circulate San Diego supports this multi-agency FMRP project to assemble demographic and travel data for both TNC users and non-users. This research would help transportation planners and the public to understand the impacts of TNCs. This effort will fill a crucial gap in the data necessary to plan for the growth of these services in our respective regions.

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 and California writ large. Should you have any questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Colin Parent".

Colin Parent
Executive Director and General Counsel
Circulate San Diego