May 1, 2018

Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0051

Subject: Assembly Bill 3119 (Gonzalez Fletcher) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez Fletcher:

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to express our support for Assemblymember Gonzalez Fletcher’s bill to create a special committee to create a mobility and sustainability plan for the San Diego International Airport.

The San Diego International Airport is a key transportation hub, and it is vital to our local economy. Even though it is located conveniently in the urban core, it is an island in terms of non-car transportation access. The 992 is the only bus line that serves the airport. The route is inconvenient and requires a transfer for most people not travelling from Downtown San Diego. The shuttle from the nearest trolley station is equally inconvenient, requiring both a transfer and a long, uncovered walk.

We envision the International Airport mobility and sustainability plans to identify realistic solutions to the airport’s insufficient transit access. This must include:

- Coordinating with SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD to ensure that transit usefully connects to the airport.
- Identifying and planning for new transportation projects, even if they may require future funding from new sources like a new ballot measure.
- Exploring whether petitions to Congress or federal agencies are necessary to allow for transportation funds to be spent beyond the Airport’s footprint.
- Funding commitments to ensure that plans are ultimately implemented.
- Embracing new technologies and shared mobility as part of the solution.
- Ensuring that improvements will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

1 Especially considering that the Metropolitan Transit System does not provide bus transfers at free or reduced prices. Circulate San Diego, Letter: Bus Transfers in the Development of the Regional Fare Study Packages, March 7, 2018, available at http://www.circulatesd.org/letter_bus_transfers_in_the_development_of_the_regional_fare_study_packages.
• Plan for transit solutions that work for both passengers and the airport workforce. New transit to the airport must not result in a transit connection that is so expensive that employees cannot use it regularly, as occurred with the San Francisco airport BART connection.²

It’s time for all the stakeholders — the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, the Port of San Diego, SANDAG, MTS, NCTD, and the City and County of San Diego to work together to craft a viable solution to facilitating multimodal access to and from the airport. Therefore, we fully support AB 3119.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Colin Parent
Executive Director and General Counsel

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