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June 11, 2018

Senator Scott Wiener
State Capitol
Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95817-4900

Subject: Senate Bill 828 (Wiener) - Support

Dear Senator Scott Wiener:

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 Senate Bill 828 to require city and county governments to properly plan for housing needs as set forth by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in their Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Determination.

On June 8, 2018, the SANDAG Board of Directors voted to accept HCD's RHNA Determination without adjustments¹, following advocacy by Circulate San Diego, housing advocates, and business leaders. A month prior, SANDAG had voted to negotiate a lower determination. Committing to the RHNA Determination without adjustments is the first step for local governments to take action to combat the housing crisis. This vote put San Diego on the forefront of combating the growing housing crisis throughout the region and state.

We see SB 828 as instrumental in streamlining the process to provide relief to the housing crisis in the San Diego region. Going forward, Circulate would like to express its commitment to legislative action that supports efforts to encourage the efficient creation of new housing elements, and processes that streamline approval for affordable housing.

It is time for state and local governments to take action to combat the housing crisis caused by the underproduction of housing limits set forth in the past. Therefore, we fully support SB 828.

Sincerely,

Colin Parent
Executive Director and General Counsel

¹ SANDAG Board of Directors Voting Results, Item 2: RHNA Determination (June 8, 2018), available at http://www.sandag.org/uploads/meetingid/meetingid_4786_23995.pdf.