Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3214

RE: Support for Draft Resolution TL-19145

Dear Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division,

I am writing to express my continued support for Cruise's application to serve the entire city of San Francisco 24/7. I view the approval of Draft Resolution TL-19145 as a critical step to bringing a more accessible transportation future to life by expanding a sustainable, affordable, and safe transit option.

As a professor specializing in biomedical and industrial engineering, my work centers around improving human-technology interactions, designs, and delivery for individuals with disabilities. In my previous letter submitted during the December/January 2023 comment period for Advice Letter 002, I shared that inclusive transportation is of critical importance to me as a research scientist and power wheelchair user. I am grateful that the commissioners are once again voting on an important issue for myself and others living with disabilities, and urge them to pass Draft Resolution TL-19145.

Accessible and inclusive technology is often a retroactive accommodation versus an initial design consideration, which is why I appreciate that Cruise is developing a vehicle designed to be accessible from the start. I have dedicated my career to adapting AV technology to help establish accessibility standards for vehicles, and can vouch for the company's genuine focus on improving transportation accessibility. San Francisco is a difficult city for wheelchair users and poses unique transportation challenges for anyone with limited mobility. Cruise's ridehail service and self-driving technology will create new possibilities for our community to live safely and more independently.

Cruise demonstrates an active interest in addressing transportation and mobility challenges and is ensuring its services are as accessible as possible. I ask the commissioners to pass Draft Resolution TL-19145 and allow Cruise to provide 24/7 service. In doing so, we will increase access to equitable transportation for myself and others with disabilities and mobility challenges.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Brad Duerstock, Ph.D.

Cc: Douglas Ito, Director, Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division (douglas.ito@cpuc.ca.gov)
Service lists for R.12-12-011, R.19-02-012, and R.21-11-014