



THE RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER  
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Terra Curtis, Director  
Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3214

May 21, 2026

Dear Director Curtis,

The Richmond Neighborhood Center has served the San Francisco community since 1980, reaching more than 3,000 people every week through afterschool programs, food pantries, and senior services. We know our community's transportation challenges intimately, because we see their consequences every day, in the seniors who miss appointments, the families who can't reach services, and the children and youth who are unable to access enrichment programs taking place throughout the city.

Waymo has been a valuable partner to this community. We have seen firsthand how expanded autonomous vehicle access changes possibilities for people who have historically had the fewest options. We, among many other organizations, supported Waymo's January 2026 application to expand passenger service in California and offer rides in Ojai vehicles. As we shared earlier this year, we believe Waymo has built a technology that is safe, accessible and enjoyable for riders of all ages.

For the populations we serve, reliable and affordable transportation is often the difference between accessing a program and missing it entirely. Autonomous vehicles have the potential to close that gap in ways that existing options have not, particularly for older adults and families without regular access to a car. Waymo has continued to demonstrate that potential in the cities where it operates, like San Francisco.

We are grateful for the attention Commission Staff has given to this application and for the additional detail Waymo has supplied throughout the process. We ask the Commission to finalize its review and approve Waymo's advice letter in the name of safer and more accessible transportation throughout California communities.

Sincerely,

Michelle Cusano  
Executive Director, The Richmond Neighborhood Center