Self-Help for the Elderly
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Providing strength, hope and empowerment to seniors since 1966

January 18, 2023

Mr. Douglas Ito, Director
Consumer Protection & Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION CRUISE ADVICE LETTER 002

Dear Director Ito:

On behalf of Self-Help for the Elderly, I am reaching out to share our support for Cruise's application to serve the entire city of San Francisco at any time. Cruise has made it a priority to understand and address transportation challenges facing seniors. We applaud their efforts to increase accessible, clean, and affordable transportation options that will significantly benefit the communities we represent.

Since 1966, Self-Help for the Elderly has promoted independence, well-being, and dignity for older adults in the San Francisco Bay Area. As a multicultural and multilingual organization, we empower older adults from all backgrounds to live longer, healthier, and more purposeful lives. Over 90 percent of our clients are from low-income and minority communities.

According to the Administration for Community Living, approximately 40 percent of Americans over 65 experience trouble with mobility. Many older adults experience changes as they age that impact their ability to drive safely. As a result, they are often forced to rely on family members, caregivers, or public transportation for basic transportation. This is not only limiting and inconvenient but also contributes to a lack of independence and feelings of isolation and loneliness.

Cruise's self-driving technology has the potential to address these challenges and empower seniors to live more independently and safely. Vehicles such as the Cruise Origin will help to improve mobility for those who struggle to utilize current transportation options, making it easier for them to commute, run errands, see their families, and stay connected.

We are confident that Cruise's expanded service will provide local seniors with equitable access to more affordable and safe transportation options they need to lead dignified and vibrant lives. We urge the commission to approve TL-002 to allow Cruise to provide 24/7 service to the entire city.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anni Chung, President and CEO

cc: Alice Reynolds, President, CPUC
Cliff Rechtschaffen, Commissioner, CPUC
Genevieve Shiroma, Commissioner, CPUC
Darcie Houck, Commissioner, CPUC
John Reynolds, Commissioner, CPUC
Christine Hironaka, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Governor's Office
Mark Tollefson, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Governor's Office