January 24, 2023

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

RE: Response Letter Bay Area Council to Cruise Advice Letter 0002

Dear Director Ito,

On behalf of the Bay Area Council, representing over 300 major employers across the Bay Area, I am writing in support of Cruise's permit application to expand its existing commercial ride-hailing services to operate all day throughout the City of San Francisco. After over two years of successful commercial operations in a limited area of San Francisco during limited hours, now is the time to expand the benefits of Cruise's all-electric, self-driving vehicles to residents and businesses across the entire city.

Cruise was the first autonomous vehicle company to operate a commercial driverless ride-hailing service in any major U.S. city, and has driven over 700,000 driverless miles without causing a single injury or accident. Autonomous ride-hailing services hold promise of dramatically improving mobility options for California residents, particularly for seniors or physically disabled populations. Cruise's commercial vehicle service also connects San Francisco businesses to new customers by shuttling customers to storefronts or delivering goods to consumers' doorsteps.

Cruise is also on the leading edge of California's quest to decarbonize the transportation industry – which accounts for over half of all greenhouse gas emissions in the state – by offering access to fully electric vehicles to a wider population. The approval of wide-scale commercial use of Cruise's all-electric autonomous vehicles will provide a safe and equitable mobility option that will help people and goods move more efficiently around San Francisco.

For these reasons, we are proud to support Cruise and respectfully request that you approve its application to expand its services in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Emily Loper
Vice President of Public Policy
Bay Area Council