CALTRAIN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Caltrain Bicycle Advisory Committee

FROM: Lori Low Government Affairs & Community Relations Officer

SUBJECT: SAN MATEO MICROMOBILITY LETTER

The attached letter has been submitted by Caltrain BAC Vice Chair Cliff Bargar for the Committee's consideration and approval.

DRAFT

March 21, 2019

Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee 1250 San Carlos Ave. San Carlos, CA 94070

Re: City of San Mateo Proposed Ban on Shared Electric Scooters and Bicycle Plan Update

Dear Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee,

The Caltrain Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), a committee of Caltrain riders representing the interests of passengers who access the train by bicycle, supports a pilot program for (and opposes a ban on) electric shared scooters in the City of San Mateo as one of a growing number of carbon-free or low-carbon last-mile connections helping people access public transportation. People riding electric scooters share many of the same safety concerns as those riding bikes; rather than eliminating this one mode of transportation, the focus should be on improving safety for all vulnerable road users and mitigating scooters' other impacts, such as by providing storage for scooters, bicycles, and other mobility devices (both shared and personal) that doesn't occupy sidewalk space.

As city staff and residents are also actively working on a "Bicycle Master Plan Update," the BAC urges San Mateo to continue to improve bike connections to and from the city's three train stations. The Caltrain Modernization program will enable Caltrain to greatly increase its capacity; projections suggest that ridership could quadruple by 2040. To accommodate this level of ridership we need to enable people to reach Caltrain without relying on cars by providing more opportunities to safely and enjoyably walk, bike, scoot, use other active modes of transportation, and connect to local transit.

Sincerely,

The Caltrain Bicycle Advisory Committee

Cc: City of San Mateo Sustainability and Infrastructure Committee (<u>SandICommission@cityofsanmateo.org</u>), City of San Mateo Staff Sue-Ellen Atkinson (<u>seatkinson@cityofsanmateo.org</u>), San Mateo City Council