Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

Tom Nolan, *Chairman*Malcolm Heinicke, *Director*Joél Ramos, *Director* 

Cheryl Brinkman, Vice-Chairman Jerry Lee, *Director* Cristina Rubke, *Director* 

Edward D. Reiskin, Director of Transportation

**December 12, 2013** 

Ms. Linda Bailey National Association of City Transportation Officials 55 Water Street, Floor 9 New York, NY 10041

## Dear Ms. Bailey:

The National Association of City Transportation Officials' (NACTO) *Urban Street Design Guide* represents a vision for world-class city street design that meets the goals of our city leaders and the desires of our communities. As transportation directors, we find ourselves today in the midst of unprecedented change, as the demands placed upon our streets and the desires of our citizens have set in motion a new paradigm for and perception of the street itself. Pressures from public health to climate change to mobile technology are together reshaping and redefining our profession, while at the same time opening opportunities for innovation that were inconceivable only a decade ago.

At a time when cities are striving to react to these trends, the *Urban Street Design Guide* offers a concrete vision for improving the safety and livability of our streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and transit users. City streets demand a unique approach unmet by conventional design guidelines. The guidance, vision, and flexibility articulated in the *Urban Street Design Guide* instigate a new and important direction for cities. We see the Guide as an indispensable tool in planning modern city streets, especially as we work toward a common vision with our partners at all levels of government.

The challenge for San Francisco's streets to safely accommodate current and future residents, workers and visitors within limited space requires a unique approach. The *Urban Street Design Guide* is consistent with the goals outlined in San Francisco's *Better Streets Plan* and *Pedestrian Strategy*, part of the City's broader effort to make San Francisco the most walkable city in North America.

As the Transportation Director for the City and County of San Francisco, I fully endorse the NACTO *Urban Street Design Guide* as an integral and effective tool for designing streets and public spaces.

Sincerely,

**Edward D. Reiskin Director of Transportation** 

## SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## RESOLUTION No. 14-020

WHEREAS, San Francisco is a member city of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), which enables the SFMTA to work cooperatively by sharing and learning from the best practices on urban transportation issues with 17 other major U.S. cities; and,

WHEREAS, The SFMTA has demonstrated its commitment as a member city through multiple roles, including helping to develop the recently released NACTO *Urban Street Design Guide* (2013); and,

WHEREAS, The SFMTA 2013-2018 Strategic Plan aims to support San Francisco with excellent transportation choices, and create a safer transportation experience for everyone by making transit, walking, bicycling, taxi, rideshare, and carshare the preferred means of travel; and,

WHEREAS, The challenge for San Francisco's streets to safely accommodate current and future residents, workers and visitors within limited space requires a unique approach; and,

WHEREAS, The NACTO *Urban Street Design Guide* provides a progressive and growing toolkit to create safer, more multi-modal streets through low cost, adaptable, people-oriented active and economically vibrant street design; and,

WHEREAS, The SFMTA, under the authority granted by the Planning Department, has determined that the adoption of the NACTO *Urban Street Design Guide* is not a "project" for purposes of environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15060(c)(2); and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the environmental review determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors, and this approval is the Approval Action as defined by San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 31; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors adopts the National Association of City Transportation Officials *Urban Street Design Guide* for use as an additional reference in transportation planning and design projects and programs in San Francisco.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of January 21, 2014.

Secretary to the Board of Directors San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency