November 3, 2015

Edward D. Reiskin, President
Linda Bailey, Executive Director
National Association of City Transportation Officials
120 Park Avenue, 14th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Reiskin and Ms. Bailey,

On behalf of the Congress for the New Urbanism’s 2,400 members, we are pleased to endorse NACTO’s Urban Street Design Guide. After a technical review by our member-led Project for Transportation Reform, we believe that the NACTO Urban Street Design Guide is an outstanding tool consistent with our goals of building safer, more pedestrian-friendly streets, and that it serves as an excellent complement to our own Designing Walkable Urban Walkable Thoroughfares manual.

NACTO’s Urban Street Design Guide offers a concrete vision for improving the safety and livability of our streets for all people who walk, bike, drive, wheelchair roll, or use transit. Our organizations agree that urban streets demand a unique approach unmet by conventional design guidelines. The Urban Street Design Guide will prove a valuable tool in planning great streets, especially as we work toward a common vision with our partners at all levels of government.

Engaging with traffic engineers and state departments of transportation is an essential step in building great cities, towns, and neighborhoods. Street design is just as important a tool for placemaking and livability as compact, mixed-use development patterns, and great streets provide a number of public and economic benefits in their own right.

As the leading national organization promoting walkable, mixed-use neighborhood development, healthier communities, and sustainable urbanism, the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) has worked for more than twenty years to place pedestrians back at the center of the public realm. In our work, CNU has a long tradition of close collaboration with partner agencies and organizations, including HUD, the U.S. EPA, the FHWA, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and, of course, NACTO.

The Congress of the New Urbanism is proud to endorse the NACTO Urban Street Design Guide for use by our members, public agencies, community planners, and transportation engineers as an integral and effective resource for street design and placemaking.

Lynn Richards
President and CEO
Congress for the New Urbanism

Doug Farr
President, Board of Directors
Congress for the New Urbanism