May 13, 2019

SMUD Board of Directors
6301 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95871
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support of University of California, Davis participation in the California Mobility Center

Dear Directors:

On behalf of the University of California, Davis (UC Davis), we are pleased to offer our utmost support of SMUD’s leadership in the development of the California Mobility Center ("the Center") initiative and its directives. The goals of the Center are in alignment with our mission to support research intended to make the world a better place to live and we look forward to participating in the success of this venture.

UC Davis’ Institute of Transportation Studies has long been at the forefront of research and development of electric vehicles. SMUD has been a partner in many successful projects and research studies. As a national leader in electric transportation research and development for more than 30 years and through our coordination and collaboration on this initiative, the Center will place Sacramento and California at the forefront of innovation in the new e-mobility frontier to commercialize advancements in electric technologies, autonomous transportation, battery storage, shared mobility, public transit, and new business and policy models.

Most importantly, the Center will have a focus on workforce development partnering with us and other universities and community colleges to train and connect workers to these new and exciting opportunities. Working with community partners, the Center will also provide opportunities to disadvantaged communities in the Sacramento region. Along with Aggie Square, the Center will define the Sacramento region as a robust, innovation ecosystem.

The California Mobility Center will foster innovation in the clean transportation sector and serve as a catalyst for carbon reduction and inclusive economic development. The Center looks to be a
resource to spark more innovation in the clean transportation sector and in the transformation of the electric vehicle market over the coming years.

Again, UC Davis fully supports SMUD’s efforts to establish the California Mobility Center in our community. We look forward to continuing to work together in making this a success!

Sincerely,

Prasant Mohapatra
Vice Chancellor for Research

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