



December 12, 2016

Mr. Gary Gallegos  
Executive Director  
San Diego Association of Governments  
401 B Street, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Gallegos:

As you know, the American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) is the not-for-profit research arm of the trucking industry. ATRI is working aggressively on research related to the impact of autonomous technologies on the trucking industry. In addition, I was one of two Independent Observers for the recent 125-mile Autonomous Truck trip (level 4) conducted by OTTO on I-25 in Colorado.

I am writing to express my support for the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to designate the San Diego region as an Automated Vehicle Proving Grounds Pilot location, with a particular emphasis on autonomous trucks.

The San Diego region provides an important proving ground in the form of two closed facilities: the Interstate 15 Express Lanes and the South Bay Expressway, for automated vehicle (AV) testing at the corridor level. Furthermore, San Diego is a major freight hub and offers critical mass in wireless innovation, academic research institutes, and cyber security advancements that bring expertise and talent to ensure the success of the federal proving ground concept.

SANDAG has demonstrated commitment and leadership in advancing AV deployment through the Regional Transportation Plan (San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan) which allocates significant resources to vehicle technology roadway components to support AVs.

It is clear to both ATRI and the trucking industry that Automated Vehicles will advance efficiency and safety across all modes and greatly improve personal and commercial mobility; this is particularly true for trucking. ATRI is committed to supporting the USDOT, SANDAG, and Caltrans to accelerate the safe deployment of automated vehicles and transform transportation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Murray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Vice President