
May 19, 2026

Caltrans
Division of Local Assistance
Attn: Office of State Programs
1120 N Street, MS 1
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: 8th Street Class I Gap Closure Project

Dear Active Transportation Program Selection Committee:

On behalf of Circulate Planning & Policy, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to support the City of National City's ATP Cycle 8 application for the 8th Street Gap Closure Project. This project will close a critical gap between the existing Class I bicycle facilities on Harbor Drive and 8th Street by constructing a separated two-way bicycle path from the 8th Street and I-5 on/off ramp intersection to the 8th Street Transit Center driveway.

This project is vital to the community as it strengthens connectivity between key destinations, including National City's downtown, the 8th Street Transit Center, Southwestern Community College, Integrity Charter School, healthcare facilities, and the Naval Base. By linking these major activity centers, the project will provide safer and more convenient options for bicyclists and pedestrians, encouraging active transportation choices to access everyday destinations. The increased connectivity will not only enhance safety by reducing conflicts with vehicles but also create a more cohesive and accessible transportation network for users of all ages and abilities. Additionally, closing this connectivity gap to the 8th Street Transit Center will support increased transit ridership across the region, contributing to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and broader sustainability goals as well as reduced transportation costs for the community.

Circulate is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to making our neighborhoods more vibrant and sustainable through better land use planning and the advancement of transportation initiatives that support increased multimodal options and transportation choice. Through our planning activities, educational events, trainings, advocacy, and work with local, county, regional, and transit partners, Circulate is working to reclaim our streets through improved streetscape design, accessible pedestrian corridors, more bike lanes, better transit routes, and traffic calming measures.

This project provides an essential gap closure along the 8th Street Class I Bikeway facility and will increase connectivity and community health through walking, bicycling, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. For these reasons, Circulate encourages you to approve National City's grant application.

Sincerely,

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

Carlisle Dockery
Director of Planning and Community Engagement
planning@circulatesd.org