



NorCal Spinal Cord Injury Foundation  
696 North Santa Cruz Ave.  
Los Gatos, CA 95030  
(408) 458-9863  
e-mail: [info@norcalsci.org](mailto:info@norcalsci.org)  
<https://norcalsci.org>  
A 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation EIN 82-2423561

Steven Cliff  
Administrator  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
West Building  
Washington, DC 20590

Aug 16, 2022

Dear Administrator Cliff:

I'm writing on behalf of NorCal Spinal Cord Injury Foundation (NorCal SCI) to support General Motors' petition, Docket No. NHTSA-2022-006, to build and put the Cruise Origin into commercial service. Our organization is committed to helping those affected by or living with a spinal cord injury or disorder in Northern California thrive and live productively. We ask that you please approve the petition so that our communities can experience the positive benefits of this technology.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that at least one in four American adults are living with a disability and about 57 million wheelchair users. In many communities, being able to pursue employment or live independently rests on the ability to drive, which is often a barrier for those living with a disability.

However, self-driving vehicles, like General Motors' Cruise Origin, will help to improve mobility by creating new transportation options for Americans who cannot not drive or own cars and will support the development of the wheelchair accessible Origin model. For people with disabilities and some senior citizens, autonomous vehicles can create a greater sense of safety and independence by making it easier to pursue employment and commute, run errands, or connect with a friend or loved one.

Beyond providing additional mobility options, self-driving cars can also have a significant role in saving lives by preventing human-caused accidents. Currently more than 100 lives are lost in vehicle accidents each day, with many of these caused by human error. Self-driving vehicles like the Origin address this challenge and provide a safe transportation alternative.

On behalf of NorCal SCI, I respectfully ask that NHTSA grant approval for the Cruise Origin so that we can accelerate the development and deployment of new transportation options that will benefit so many.

Thank you,  
Nick Struthers  
Co-Founder, NorCal SCI