To the Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center (ISTRC)

Subject: Participation Report in the TRB 103rd Annual Meeting (TRBAM2024)

I am writing to provide a report on my experience and impressions of the TRB 103rd Annual Meeting (TRBAM2024), a significant event in the field of transportation research, which I attended with the support of the conference grant awarded by the Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center (ISTRC). The event, held in Washington, DC, USA, from January 7th to 11th, covered topics related to traffic flow theory, aviation ecosystem, optimization, control systems, advanced air mobility.

The TRBAM2024 proved to be an exceptionally enriching and intellectually excellent experience. The diverse presentations and discussions offered valuable insights into aviation and transportation advancements and challenges. Throughout the conference, I had the opportunity to attend invited sessions, lectern sessions, poster sessions, and plenary sessions. These interactions with prominent researchers, practitioners, and industry experts fostered an environment of knowledge exchange and collaboration.

At the conference, I was honored to present my research on *Exploring Energy Consumption for Low-Altitude Air City Transport Systems: A Traffic Flow and Control Perspective* alongside co-authors Assaf Granot and Prof. Jack Haddad. Additionally, I was selected to serve as the presiding officer and organizer of the lectern session on *The 2030 Aviation Ecosystem* (Invited Talks) by the Standing Committee on New Users of Shared Airspace (AV095), Transportation Research Board: U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. These contributions are beneficial for both aviation and transportation communities, along with being an outstanding achievement and honor for Technion and ISTRC.

The TRBAM2024 conference offered valuable insights and methods that directly support our research aligned with the ISTRC vision of achieving zero transportation externalities. The conference provided breakthrough knowledge in methodologies, theories, and policies for sustainable transportation, enabling us to develop and design strategies for aviation operations. Our research aims to create a resilient transportation system by integrating cutting-edge technologies and novel theories. Additionally, the conference discussions and networking led to new directions in developing our modular simulation software for air mobility, with a focus on sustainability. This research aims to provide another step toward realizing the vision of zero transportation externalities.

I highly recommend that other scholars contribute and present their research in the NASEM-TRB community and attend the TRBAM conferences. The knowledge transfer and mind-opening discussion in TRBAM, along with the leading connections, is a fundamental step toward impacting the mobility ecosystem and community.

In conclusion, I am immensely grateful to ISTRC for allowing me to participate in the TRBAM2024 conference. The insights gained from this event will undoubtedly contribute to my academic and research growth. I want to express my appreciation to ISTRC and the conference organizers and speakers who made this conference an enlightening experience.

Please contact me if you require any further information or clarifications.

Sincerely,

Yazan Safadi | PhD candidate, T-SMART, Technion | | Member, AV095 Committee, TRB | | <u>safadiyazan@gmail.com | Website | LinkedIn |</u>