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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# 'AHEAD OF THE CURB': SMART CITY CONVENING IN SEATTLE

*Ten cities meet in Seattle this week to collaborate, learn and advance curb digitization technology*

**SEATTLE, WA** – Representatives from some of the largest metro areas in the country are meeting in Seattle this week to share lessons from their city's pilot programs related to curb digitization technology. The Open Mobility Foundation welcomed transportation, mobility and technology staff from Seattle, Los Angeles, San Jose, San Francisco, Portland, Miami-Dade County, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Buffalo and Boston for the 30+ person convening. The first gathering of its kind, the OMF's [SMART Curb Collaborative](#) is a group of cities that each received [USDOT SMART Grant](#) funding related to curb digitization projects that utilize the [Curb Data Specification](#) (CDS).

**"We are grateful to be a member of the OMF SMART Curb Collaborative and thrilled to host this first in-person convening. We are excited to engage with our peers on how to apply modern technology in concert with the Curb Data Specification to help us more effectively manage some of the most in-demand real estate in our city – the curb lane – to meet our highest priority needs like urban goods delivery."** Mike Estey, Manager of Curbside Management, Seattle Department of Transportation

The Open Mobility Foundation believes in the opportunity for cities to better understand and manage their curb space using technology like sensors and cameras and tools to help them dynamically manage curb regulations. This convening marks a milestone for the organization and for the field of curb digitization, “**We first released the Curb Data Specification almost two years ago to help cities respond to the exploding demand for curb space through dynamic curb management to drive community outcomes such as safety, efficiency and emissions reductions. We now have these ten projects in some of the largest cities across the country all piloting the use of CDS. As we learn together we will evolve CDS and make this open, accessible resource one that any city around the world can use and improve**” says Open Mobility Foundation Executive Director Andrew Glass Hastings.

CDS —“Curb Data Specification”—is a digital tool that helps cities and companies pilot and scale dynamic curb zones that optimize commercial loading activities. CDS provides a mechanism for cities to express curb regulations, measure activity, and develop policies that create more accessible, useful curbs. At its core, CDS is a set of APIs which allow cities to digitally represent their curb space and communicate with curb users in different ways:

- **Curbs API:** A standard way for cities to digitally publish curb locations and regulations, which can be shared with the public and with companies using curb space.
- **Events API:** A standard way to transmit real-time and historic commercial events happening at the curb to cities. Event data can be derived from company data feeds, sensors, check-ins, and other city data sources.
- **Metrics API:** Track curb usage session details and define common calculation methodologies to measure historic dwell time, occupancy, usage and other aggregated statistics.

During their time in Seattle, member cities will share updates on each of their respective pilots, participate in facilitated peer learning activities, learn from experts at the **Urban Freight Lab** at the University of Washington, **Cityfi** and the **UrbanismNext Center** at the University of Oregon,

and tour Seattle's downtown area to see highlights of the city's advanced mobility and transportation infrastructure and services.

*The Open Mobility Foundation is a nonprofit that develops open source tools for cities to manage mobility. Founded in 2019, the Open Mobility Foundation brings together public and private sector stakeholders to understand issues surrounding emerging mobility and create digital tools like the Mobility Data Specification (MDS), which is now used in more than 120 cities around the world. The Open Mobility Foundation is led by cities and has the support of more than 50 members representing a diverse group of public agencies, technology companies, and mobility service providers.*

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*To learn more about the Curb Data Specification, please visit:  
<https://www.openmobilityfoundation.org/about-cds/>*