



Circulate San Diego
1111 6th Avenue, Suite 402
San Diego, CA 92101
Tel: 619-544-9255
Fax: 619-531-9255
www.circulatesd.org

June 11, 2018

Assemblymember David Chiu
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0017

Assemblymember Timothy Grayson
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0014

Subject: Assembly Bill 2923 (Chiu and Grayson) - Support

Dear Assemblymember David Chiu and Timothy Grayson:

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to express our support for Assemblymembers Chiu and Grayson's bill to require the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Board to establish transit-oriented development (TOD) standards for BART-owned land within a half-mile of stations (primarily surface parking lots).

Many regions in California, including in San Diego, see a severe challenge to affordability because of insufficient construction of affordable housing. Creating requirements for affordable housing through TOD guidelines will help alleviate the continuing housing crisis seen throughout the state. AB 2923 would provide tools to ensure that all underutilized sites around BART stations will be built out to their greatest potential in the future, addressing how the region can best accommodate growth. This bill is an important step toward ensuring that key transit-oriented sites are developed to their full potential.

Circulate is currently working on measures to encourage the efficient use of Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) lands in San Diego. We recently published a report outlining recommendations for MTS land utilization for TOD that incorporates affordable housing requirements.¹ In this report we push for MTS to adopt many of the same reforms that AB 2923 requires for BART. The first step in combating the housing crisis is reform that streamlines housing development.

It is time for every transit agency to address the affordable housing crisis we face. Therefore, we fully support AB 2923.

¹ Circulate San Diego, Real Opportunity (April 2018), available at <http://www.circulatesd.org/realopportunity>.

We thank you for your commitment to affordable housing programs and streamlining efforts for TOD.

Sincerely,



Colin Parent
Executive Director and General Counsel