



City Council

Teresa Gerringer, Mayor
Carl Anduri, Vice Mayor
Susan Candell, Council Member
Gina Dawson, Council Member
Wei-Tai Kwok, Council Member

April 12, 2022

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 6350
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2097 (Friedman): Parking Requirements
City of Lafayette – Notice of Opposition**

Dear Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry:

On behalf of the City of Lafayette, I write in opposition to AB 2097 (Friedman), which would prohibit local governments from imposing or enforcing minimum parking requirements on commercial or residential developments located within a one-half mile walking distance of public transit.

While we see that the bill is intended to reduce car dependence, we believe that its provisions could work to allow developers to dictate minimum parking requirements based on faulty definitions of what constitutes public transit and would negatively impact the goals of the State's Density Bonus Law (DBL). The definition of "public transit" the measure uses to define areas wherein minimum parking requirements would be forgone includes entire bus corridors that do not feature major transit stops. Restricting minimum parking requirements in areas within a one-half mile of loosely defined forms of transit will not guarantee that residents or visitors will have access to ample parking or will utilize public transportation as an alternative.

Moreover, AB 2097 could negatively impact the purpose of the State's Density Bonus Law, which often allows for concessions to reduce parking requirements to be afforded to developers constructing affordable housing units. Eliminating parking requirements diminishes an important tool the State and municipalities have in incentivizing developers to produce below-market units for low- and moderate-income residents.

Establishing minimum parking requirements is a carefully considered process within a larger undertaking local governments do when designing the layout of their jurisdictions. Establishing a "one-size-fits-all" approach to address something as varying as parking

needs does not take into account community needs or local input. This bill would shift discretionary power from local governments to public transit agencies and developers, who are not held accountable by local voters.

For these reasons, the City of Lafayette opposes AB 2097.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Teresa Gerring", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Teresa Gerring
Mayor
City of Lafayette

cc: Senator Steve Glazer
Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan