

American Planning Association California Chapter

Creating Great Communities

August 31, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California 1021 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2097 (Friedman) Signature Request

Dear Governor Newsom:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) respectfully requests that you sign AB 2097, which would eliminate minimum automobile parking requirements for both residential and commercial developments that are located within a ½ mile of public transit, as defined.

APA California is a non-profit organization made up of practicing planners, citizens and public officials committed to advancing the practice of local, regional, and statewide planning throughout urban, suburban, and rural California. Our organization is supportive of efforts that encourage developing walkable communities, enhancing high-quality transit options, and reducing reliance on private automobiles. With these goals in mind, our organization is also supportive of encouraging housing development, particularly reducing barriers to affordable housing production. We continue to be hopeful that the cost savings from reduced parking requirements will be realized in more affordable homes being built and believe AB 2097 takes substantial step forward in creating more walkable communities and providing another tool to address the state's housing needs and climate crisis, at a time when both are more acute than ever.

We appreciate your dedication to addressing our state's continued housing and climate crisis and respectfully request your signature on AB 2097. If you have any questions please contact Lauren De Valencia, APA California's lobbyist, at <u>lauren@stefangeorge.com</u>.

Sincerely,

Eric Phillips Vice President Policy and Legislation APA California