



March 14, 2018

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 2923 Support – BART: Transit-Oriented Development Zoning Standards

Dear Assemblymember David Chiu:

On behalf of the Council of Infill Builders, a statewide organization of real estate professionals committed to improving California through infill development, I write to express support for Assembly Bill 2923, which will require the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) district to establish strong transit-oriented development (TOD) zoning standards on BART-owned land and require local zoning for these BART-owned lands to be consistent with the standards.

Public transit ridership has been decreasing across the country and in the San Francisco Bay Area. More development on lands adjacent to major transit stops like BART would help boost ridership by allowing more residents to live and work within a convenient walk of transit. At the same time, more housing in general would help address the state's current severe housing shortage.

Yet too many BART-owned parcels remain un- or under-developed, for myriad reasons. AB 2923 would help remedy this problem by allowing BART to refine its existing TOD standards for these parcels for more efficient use. Local governments would then have to adopt the standards in their zoning code.

AB 2923 could potentially facilitate deployment of hundreds of new homes – both market-rate and affordable – precisely where they are needed most, near major rail transit. The result will be more affordable homes, greater transit usage, less regional driving miles, reduced air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, improved public health, and new construction jobs.

The members of the Council of Infill Builders thank you for this effort to boost infill housing and are pleased to support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meea Kang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Meea Kang
Council of Infill Builders