

Supplemental Communications (2)

(Received after 12 pm April 4
– 12 pm April 5)

From: Alexander Newkirk <acnewkirk@lbl.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:16 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Alex Newkirk
Council District 3

From: Pablo Diaz Gutierrez <ihaveajob@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:16 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

I write to urge strong support for the environmentally superior **12 stories option** for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Regards,

Pablo Diaz-Gutierrez, a district 3 homeowner who wants to see his kids grow up in a walkable neighborhood.

From: Grayson Peters <graysonapeters@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:16 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Grayson Peters
District 7

From: Aviv Nitsan <aviv@berkeley.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:16 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Aviv Nitsan
1410 Grant St. - D5

From: R. JAY WALLACE <rjw@berkeley.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:18 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Richard Wallace
2512 Hill Court, North Berkeley, 94708

From: Vanessa Böhm <boehmvanessa@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:19 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Boehm
Northside Neighborhood - District 6

From: Lawrence Gurley <nora1338@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:23 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Larry Gurley
District 2
San Pablo Park Neighborhood
Former Planning Commissioner, City of Berkeley

From: Milo Trauss <milotrauss@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 12:29 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

The City of Berkeley MUST get the most of this opportunity!!! I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART. Please, approve this option and resist the pull from people who want to maintain the status quo of insufficient housing, following outdated planning principles from last century.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

My wife and I are about to have our first baby next week and every new apartment that gets built is a tangible difference enhancing our chances of staying in the area.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations. Thank you for your leadership. Change is not always easy, it takes courage. And you possess this courage!

Sincerely,
Milo Trauss

From: Oren Cheyette <ocheyette@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 1:08 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Please support maximizing *all* housing at the BART stations

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for maximizing total potential housing at the BART stations at this week's meeting.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a rare opportunity to put housing at what are currently large expanses of asphalt. We should not handcuff ourselves by needlessly limiting the potential of those sites. As found in the EIR, raising the zoning limit to 12 stories would give the greatest reduction in environmental impacts of the plans considered.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Oren Cheyette
D5, North Berkeley

From: Matthew Solomon <matthew.solomon1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 1:13 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART. I've previously expressed a similar opinion, and want to reshare comments I shared on this topic about six months ago:

I'm a renter, currently living in Emeryville, who is unable to buy a single-family home in the area but would love to be able to build a family and community in Berkeley in the future. I love these neighborhoods and want to see them grow and include more people!

The most sustainable and environmentally-friendly option is to fully maximize the number of people that are able to live directly on top of BART. This is especially true since these sites will not require any displacement of current tenants. This is a great opportunity to start to meet Berkeley's RHNA requirements, create beautiful open spaces, and increase the number of people regularly taking BART (reducing the need for car ownership and lowering cost of living). As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,
Matthew Solomon

From: Karen Anderson <kja616@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 1:19 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

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Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

[Your Name Here]

[Optional - Your City Council District/Neighborhood]

From: Josh Cohen <joshlcohen724@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 1:38 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: Please say YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission:

My name is Josh Cohen, and I live in North Berkeley and I want more neighbors. I'm lucky enough to have found missing middle housing in a duplex.

Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Thank you for your consideration

Josh

From: Cindy Shamban <cshamban@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 2:06 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Subject: Fwd: Ashby and North Berkeley BART housing

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see below for my comments on the agenda items concerning the housing slated for both the North Berkeley and Ashby BART stations.

Thanks,
Cindy Shamban

----- Original Message -----

From: Cindy Shamban <cshamban@comcast.net>
To: "apearson@cityofberkeley.info" <apearson@cityofberkeley.info>, "council@cityofberkeley.info" <council@cityofberkeley.info>, "mayor@cityofberkeley.info" <mayor@cityofberkeley.info>
Date: 04/04/2022 8:26 AM
Subject: Ashby and North Berkeley BART housing

To Whom It may concern:

I am writing as a resident of District 4 in regards to my concern about the housing developments being planned for both the North Berkeley and Ashby BART parking lots.

The results of building these new housing complexes will be with the City for a very long time. It is important to get the planning and building of this much needed housing right. The buildings must be done in a way that gets the support of the surrounding neighborhoods. What is built will have huge impacts for the residents of Berkeley whether or not they live in immediate neighborhoods.

After listening to several presentations by BART and consultants, I do not have confidence that they understand the concerns of not only the residents in the impacted areas, but for the impacts on all of Berkeley and BART users. Their presentations are superficial. Their responses to questions were often inadequate and evasive.

The BART parking lots are public lands paid for by the residents of Berkeley, Oakland, Albany, El Cerrito and others through property tax and sales tax for many years. As there is a severe housing crisis, it is critical that a significant number of both low income and affordable housing are built. Most of the building in Berkeley are for market rate apartments!

To guarantee that the housing being built reflects the nature of the neighborhoods, it is important that the housing is 4 stories only. To use density bonus to build higher buildings is a violation of community trust and are totally out of synch with the nature of the surrounding areas.

As there are many empty commercial spaces in Berkeley especially along University Avenue, it is an imperative that the ground floors be used for apartments and community services.

There should be 10 ft. minimum setbacks at the ground level on all of the streets surrounding each project. Establish 15 ft. minimum setbacks above 2 stories and 20 ft. setbacks above 3 stories.

The time is NOW to change the Joint Vision and Priorities (JVP) document to better reflect the concerns, partially enumerated above, of the existing neighborhoods. They should reflect the immediate needs of low income and affordable income housing.

Sincerely,
Cindy Shamban

From: Becca Freed <beccafreed@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 2:12 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Kesarwani, Rashi
Subject: YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission:

I live very near the North Berkeley BART station, and I want more neighbors. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Thank you for your consideration,

Becca Freed
North Berkeley resident since 1993

From: Adam Berman <aberman32@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission:

I work in North Berkeley - I am the President of Urban Adamah - and I want more neighbors. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Thank you for your consideration

Adam Berman
President,
Urban Adamah

From: Carla Woodworth <carla@tennypress.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 2:51 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Subject: Comments on the Joint Vision and Priorities (JVP) Document concerning housing on BART land

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

BY EMAIL:

April 4, 2022

Alene Pearson, Principal Planner
Secretary to Planning Commission
Land Use Planning Division
City of Berkeley
1947 Center Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

Subject: Zoning Ordinance, Joint Vision Document and EIR for BART Station Development

Dear Ms. Pearson,

Scarce public land must be used for 100% affordable (not market-rate) housing. The plans for the two parcels of land, one at Ashby BART station and the other at North Berkeley BART should be amended to reflect the community's desire for *green* affordable housing. The projects being considered should be no taller than three or four stories tall. Why? The production of cement, which is required for taller buildings accounts for **8% of global greenhouse gas emissions**. Cement is a key component of concrete. Tall buildings also use much more energy per square foot (to pump water, operate elevators to higher floors) than construction or shorter structures. Taller buildings also create more shadowing issues for the surrounding neighborhood impacting Berkeley neighbors who have already invested in roof top solar. There is nothing green about high rise buildings.

A commercial ground floor is also unnecessary at these sites. While the idea of housing over retail was once the urban ideal (Jane Jacobs), with the recent dramatic changes in retail (changes due to delivery services such as Amazon), the first floor of these developments would be much better used for housing. In recent years in Berkeley, we have seen new market rate housing provide space on the ground floor for expensive private gym spaces (e.g. Equinox on Shattuck Avenue). I don't think anyone can point to a gym shortage in the Bay Area. A quick drive through our commercial corridors reveals plenty of empty retail space on University Avenue and other areas, including close to the Ashby BART station. Instead, precious public land should be used for housing people who cannot afford market rate rentals.

Project setbacks at the ground level should be set a minimum of ten feet. This is essential for trees and landscaping (remember these projects will remove existing trees). A 10+ foot setback is also needed for bicyclists, bus transit riders, families with strollers as well as the disabled with wheelchairs.

To ensure that the buildings blend into the surrounding neighborhood, please establish a 15 foot minimum step-back above two floors and 20 feet step-backs above three floors.

These projects should be developed by a non-profit housing developer and not by a private market-rate housing developer. The maximum density should be set at 75 units per acre. If the City decides on the 150 units per acre plan, massive ten story buildings could result. This height and mass would be wildly out-of-scale for Berkeley neighborhoods—and would probably discourage a non-profit affordable housing developer from undertaking the project.

Please work to stop displacement and the continued gentrification of Berkeley. Build 100% affordable, green housing at the BART stations, well designed so that it complements the surrounding neighborhoods while providing much needed affordable housing for the community.

Sincerely,

Carla Woodworth
2335 Parker Street #2
Berkeley, CA 94704
Land line: (510) 849-3048
Email: carla@tennypress.com

From: Andrew Fox <ajfox61@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 3:00 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Subject: Fwd: Please Vote for More Housing in Berkeley

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi there - I'm forwarding this note for transmission to the Planning Commission, at the instruction of Ms. Pearson's autoreply.

Thanks,
Andrew

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Andrew Fox** <ajfox61@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 4, 2022 at 2:56 PM
Subject: Please Vote for More Housing in Berkeley
To: <apearson@cityofberkeley.info>
Cc: <council@cityofberkeley.info>

Dear Planning Commission,

I'm a resident of Berkeley writing to express my concern over recent reports that your commission is planning to impose a seven-story height restriction on future housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations. I trust you're aware that the environmental impact report found that a 12-story height allowance would be more appropriate for these sites, which already seems too low in my opinion. I live a short walk from the Ashby BART station, and I feel certain that our neighborhood would only be strengthened by building tall, dense, abundant housing for all income levels. More housing is critical to solving Berkeley's affordability crisis, and the upcoming developments at these BART stations are a critical, once-in-a-generation opportunity to meaningfully address this pressing issue.

I respectfully urge the Planning Commission to vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at the North Berkeley and Ashby BART stations.

Sincerely,
Andrew Fox

From: Bhima Sheridan <bhima.sheridan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 3:18 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Bhima Sheridan
1811 Fairview St, Berkeley, CA 94703

From: Alan Tobey <atobey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 3:48 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the *environmentally superior 12 stories* option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,
Alan Tobey
Westbrae

From: Jeannette MacMillan <macmillanjeannette@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 4:01 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission:

I live in North Berkeley half a block from the BART station and I want more neighbors. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Thank you for your consideration

Jeannette

From: Yoni Mayeri <yoniphoto@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 4:17 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: 7 stories at BART good with me with ADDED PARKING!

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge you to stick with your plan to allow seven stories at the BART stations. I do however urge you to add Parking to all projects being built in Berkeley. Despite the idea that people will take public transportation, mini won't. This will add an undue burden to anyone who owns a vehicle that's trying to do business or enjoy entertainment in downtown Berkeley and all the neighborhoods where development is happening. Please add Parking to development projects so that people who own vehicles can put them somewhere When they reach their destination. Th this will aid in sustaining the level of business that exist currently in downtown and neighborhoods with commercial spaces. Without parking you'll lose a lot of customers, and possibly discourage friends from visiting if there's nowhere for them to park when they arrive!

Not everyone can take public transportation. Many people carry equipment to and from where they need to go to, often the public transportation does not allow them to reach the destination via public bus or Bart.

Finally, I wanna comment that public transportation stops running before people are ready to go home. This creates a problem for anyone who wants to use BART or buses, and be out late at night. They have no way to return to their homes if the BART stop running.

Sincerely,

Yoni Mayeri

Property owner: Haste Street / Milvia, (Downtown) and Shattuck /Rose, (formerly known as The Gourmet Ghetto)

Business Owner: Downtown Berkeley

Instructor: UC Berkeley

From: Gary Miguel <garymm@garymm.org>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 5:03 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support 12 stories at BART!

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Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to support the 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Gary Miguel
District 3

From: Jordan Harrison <jordanjeanine@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 5:09 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

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Dear Planning Commission, I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART. Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers. Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,
Jordan Harrison
Addison St At Curtis
--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Ben Domingue <ben.domingue@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 5:30 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission:

I live in North Berkeley and I want more neighbors. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Thank you for your consideration,

Ben Domingue
1928 Monterey Ave

From: Jia Yang <lijiayangsg@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 7:06 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Having lived in Berkeley myself and being a renter, I've been seeing the effects of rising rental prices on everyone and it's making budget super tight for a lot of people. I also really appreciate the cycling lanes, and having more housing near the station is really something of a dream come true, too - if I were nearer the BART I would save so much time, and I want more people to experience that.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Thanks and have a great week!

Sincerely,
Jia Yang
Berkeley Resident

From: Zach Franklin <zach@twcmih.org>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 9:01 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support for allowing up to 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge you to support the 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Simply put, restrictive zoning to protect the financial interests of existing homeowners put us in this mess, and directly led to the massive exodus of Black Berkeleyans over the last few decades. We have few opportunities to dig ourselves out of this hole, and when we have them we need to take them.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Zach Franklin
South Berkeley/District 3

From: Anirvan Chatterjee <anirvan@chatterjee.net>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 9:19 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: YES to more new neighbors at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, council members, and planning commission,

I'm a North Berkeley resident of 18 years, and would be happy to welcome more neighbors to my neighborhood.

Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations.

I recently visited the 12th story roof deck at the Residence Inn hotel downtown. It was a lovely view, and a reminder that height doesn't need to be scary. I believe we should offer BART a go-ahead to build as many stories of housing as will pencil out.

Thank you,

Anirvan Chatterjee

From: Karen Street <karenmistreet@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 9:39 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I live 0.6 miles from North Berkeley BART. I support the 12-story option because I know several people who find it hard to live in Berkeley, and more housing would help. I support it because adding a number of people locally who use public transportation may improve my own public transportation options. And I support it because IPCC lists “changes in urban form” as critical to reducing transport emissions.

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Karen Street
District 5

--

Best wishes,
Karen Street

Note new [email karenmistreet@gmail.com](mailto:karenmistreet@gmail.com)
Friends Energy Project <http://www.quaker.org/fep/>
blog <http://pathsoflight.us/musing/index.php>
<https://twitter.com/karenstreet>

From: Janet Byron <janetlesliebyron@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 10:17 PM
To: All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Covello, Zoe
Subject: YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission: I own a home near the North Berkeley BART and I want more neighbors. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home. The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many support.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit. Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations! Thank you for your consideration

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Sarah J. Bell <bell.sarah@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 11:58 PM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support at least 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I live in North Berkeley, I love BART, and I want more neighbors. I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories (or more!) option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of **at least** 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations. We're in the midst of housing and climate crises -- we need more homes at BART!

Sincerely,

Sarah Bell
District 1

From: Jessica Fain <jessicalynnfain@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 6:40 AM
To: All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Covello, Zoe
Subject: More homes and stories needed at Bart

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I live right by north Berkeley Bart at Francisco and California street and want to see as many housing units as possible built on the north Berkeley Bart parking lot. The same should be true at Ashby Bart so that we can begin to solve the utter crisis of housing plaguing our city

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Thank you,
Jessica Fain
94703

From: Barry Fike <barrytf@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 7:14 AM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Please go tall at BART!

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

Our community has such a wonderful opportunity to truly address the affordable housing crisis at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations. This will never come our way again.

Please support the 12 story option. As the EIR found, the 12-story option maximizes the number of new homes at ALL income levels while also creating beautiful open spaces and granting BART maximum development flexibility.

Thank you for your consideration,

Barry Fike
1723 Allston Way
Berkeley, CA 94703

District 4

From: Alex Brouwer <alextbrouwer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 7:23 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: In support of more homes and more stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

As a local Berkeley resident who lives one block from the Ashby BART, I would like to kindly share my opinion regarding the construction of more housing at both BART stations.

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for at least 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,
Alex Brouwer
2942 Harper St.

From: Andrea Horbinski <andrea.horbinski@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 5:51 PM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: YES to new neighbors ASAP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, councilmembers, and planning commission:

I live in North Berkeley and I want more neighbors. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home. I know from living in cities including Tokyo that denser neighborhoods make for livelier and safer neighborhoods--North Berkeley is already good, but adding as many new neighbors as envisioned under the current plan (or even more through increasing the height limit) will make it a truly great place to live and visit.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. In light of the current housing and climate crises, we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, even twenty stories would be fine with me.

Furthermore, I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit, and the wealthiest commuters who overwhelmingly (under)use the current parking spots according to survey data will have other options, including the downtown garage, if they really want to keep using their personal vehicles.

In summary, please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Sincerely,

Andrea Horbinski, PhD

From: Travis Close <travis.close@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:03 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More homes and more stories at North Berkeley BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Travis Close

From: Emily Lin <emily.lin392@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:17 AM
To: All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Covello, Zoe
Subject: Zone Bart for 14+ Stories

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Emily Lin

District 4

From: Justin McAdams <jsmcadams@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:24 AM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support the environmentally superior 12 stories at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to urge strong support for the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly. As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers.

Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.

Sincerely,

Justin McAdams
(District 1)

From: Jill Holloway <hollowayj88@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:28 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: I Support More Neighbors in Berkeley

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Mayor, Councilmembers, and Planning Commission:

I live in North Berkeley on Acton St and I support more neighbors living in Berkeley! Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations with increased height limits so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

We have a housing crisis in the Bay Area and especially in Berkeley. While I am so fortunate to live in this neighborhood of North Berkeley I cannot afford to buy a permanent home here and I've already had to negotiate my landlord down from an 11% rent increase after my first year lease ended. Please help make this neighborhood more affordable and accessible because I know what a wonderful place it is to live and would love to have lots of new neighbors.

The one thing I would improve in the zoning is the height. **I think we should go higher so more homes are available in this awesome neighborhood.** Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations with increased height limits!

Thank you for your consideration

Jill Holloway

From: Theo Posselt <tposselt.sf@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:32 AM
To: Covello, Zoe
Cc: All Council
Subject: Support for BART housing with the environmentally superior 12 stories option

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commission,

After having read the materials for tomorrow's Planning Commission meeting, I am writing in strong support of the overall zoning and Joint Vision plan, and also in support of a modification to the environmentally superior 12 stories option for the R-BMU zoning district (BART TOD zoning) at Ashby and North Berkeley BART.

As a Berkeley native and longtime resident I am very excited with the opportunity to prepare Berkeley for the future. Berkeley urgently needs more housing at all income levels close to transit to meet our shared housing and climate crises. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put that housing directly on top of BART. Berkeley must act boldly to maximize the number of new homes, create beautiful open spaces, and ensure as many people as possible can use BART regularly.

As the EIR found, the 12-story option achieves all of these best, granting BART maximum flexibility in developing these urban transit centers. **Please vote for an allowable height of 12 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations.**

Beyond that, I am extremely pleased with the other aspects of the Zoning and General Plan document and the Joint Vision and Priorities (JVP) document, and urge you to enact them without other modifications. Taken together these represent a compelling and positive vision for transforming the BART sites and addressing Berkeley's urgent needs. Some elements that are particularly compelling to me:

- The recognition in the JVP of the urgency of the matter, and the need to create the maximum amount of housing in the fastest viable time
- The mandate for deeply affordable housing, from 60% to 20% of Area Median Income
- The integration of the design into the community, with such items as the Ohlone Greenway connector for North Berkeley, the flea market support at Ashby, and the neighborhood-facing access at both sites
- The 'step down' to a maximum of 4 stories at the edges of the projects along residential streets, which represents a reasonable integration with existing legacy housing on those streets

Sincerely,

Theo Posselt
D6 resident
Steering committee member, Berkeley Neighbors for Housing and Climate Action (BNHCA)

From: Ranjit Bharvirkar <ranjit_rff@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:40 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More homes, and more stories, needed at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Ranjit Bharvirkar

From: Kyle Navis <knavis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:44 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: Please maximize housing over BART stations

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi there!

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, **please zone for at least 12 stories** over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Kyle

From: Matthew Wadlund <mwadlund@wdsplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 9:32 AM
To: Berkeley Mayor's Office; Covello, Zoe; All Council
Subject: More homes, and more stories, needed at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and City Council,

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Matthew Wadlund
[WADLUND+](#) Design Studio

From: Raymon Sutedjo-The <raymon.sutedjothe@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 9:50 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: Build more housing around BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To the planning commission,

The bay area is in a **housing crisis** and we need to build way more housing for people who live here.

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to correct past wrongs and build more housing around key transit hubs. More homes around Ashby & North Berkeley stations means that more people can go to work, school, and other places without driving. The environmental and equity benefits are clear and we **must not** squander this chance.

The extensive EIR for this project found that 12 stories is environmentally much preferable to 7, so to that end, these areas should be zoned for at least 12 stories. What we do now will have an impact on the next generation and there's absolutely no good reason to settle for less.

We're in a dire housing and climate crisis and we need to do everything we can to mitigate both. Let's build more housing around transit stations.

Thank you,
Raymon Sutedjo-The

From: Helena Chang <hchang@thecil.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 9:53 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More accessible homes, and more stories, needed at BART

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City of Berkeley planning commission,

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many accessible homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for at least 12 stories over these two BART stations and ensure they are all accessible living units. The Environmental Impact Report found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment. Furthermore, the Ed Roberts Campus (ERC) is right above the Ashby BART station, a hub for people with disabilities. Having accessible and disabled-focused housing units becomes imperative for the disability community to access resources at ERC and beyond, as public transit and paratransit are modes of transportation that fail to be truly accessible and low-cost for all of the disability community.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,
The Center for Independent Living Advocacy Team

--

Helena Chang ([she/her](#))

Advocacy Program Manager

The Center for Independent Living, Inc.
3075 Adeline St, Berkeley, CA 94703

[Know The Land](#): Berkeley is Ohlone/Chochenyo land

(510) 841-4776 x3103

www.thecil.org



[Image Description: The first image includes "TheCIL" logo in pink, purple, and black. The second image includes the "ADRC" logo in purple and yellow.]

From: JORDAN PHILLIP BURNS <jordanphillipburns@berkeley.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 10:26 AM
To: All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Covello, Zoe
Subject: Please allow 12-18 stories at Ashby and North Berkeley Bart stations (I would love to be able to live there!)

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment. In fact, with environmentally friendly mass timber having been approved for use in buildings up to 18 stories, the best thing we can do right now for the climate is to zone this land for 18 stories, with strict parking maximums, preferably with no parking at all except for handicap spaces.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Best,

Jordan Burns

From: Marjory Keenan <marjkeenan44@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 10:41 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More homes, and more stories, needed at BART Stations

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Marjory Keenan

From: Gill Pressman <gillpressman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 10:55 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: Please zone for at least 12 stories at BART stations!

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi City of Berkeley,

I am a new Berkeley resident and I love this community deeply and want more people to have the wonderful opportunity to live here!

I also care a lot about transit-oriented housing. I actually got hit by a car in Berkeley, on Shattuck street. Although I am fine, it was extremely terrifying. What if more people were able to take transit to access their housing, and we had fewer cars on the road, and fewer traffic accidents and death?

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over the Ashby and BART stations. We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible.

Thank you!

Gillian

--

Gillian Pressman
Pronouns: she/her/hers
(914) 874-4973
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gillianpressman/>

From: Taylor Hines <tayhines@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 11:00 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More homes, and more stories, needed at BART

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We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Taylor Hines

From: Ayushi Samaddar <ayushi_sen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 11:09 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More homes, and more stories, needed at BART

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We have a generational opportunity to decide how many stories of housing can be built directly on top of BART, and we must not squander the chance to build as many homes in these important transit hubs as possible. The environmental and equity benefits of building homes where people can live car-free near jobs, schooling, and other resources are difficult to overstate. Let's house as many people at Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as possible!

To that end, please zone for *at least* 12 stories over these two BART stations. The EIR found 12 stories to be environmentally preferable to 7 – and it's clear that the more housing we build at BART stops, the better it will be for the environment.

We're in both a housing crisis and a climate crisis. We need to house people where they can reduce their vehicle miles traveled, and we need to house as many people as possible. It's the equitable and sustainable thing to do.

Sincerely,

Ayushi

From: Ayushi Samaddar <ayushi_sen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 11:06 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: More housing in Berkeley

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, council members, and planning commission:

I live used to live Berkeley and I want more housing available to renters and prospective homeowners alike. Please approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations so we can move forward and make North Berkeley BART a place people can call home.

The only thing that could be improved in the zoning is height: I think we should go higher. Given the widespread suffering caused by our housing and climate crises we have a responsibility to house as many people as possible in transit-rich areas. Higher height limits also mean the building form can step down and be shorter at the edges, which is a preference many residents share. Eight, twelve, twenty stories are fine with me.

I support BART's plan to prescribe a maximum of 200 parking spots at North Berkeley BART. Parking spots take space away from housing and discourage alternative modes of transit.

Please speedily approve the zoning, JVP, and EIR for Berkeley's BART stations!

Thank you for your consideration,

Ayushi (in Emeryville)

From: Xander Boutelle <xander.boutelle@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 11:35 AM
To: Covello, Zoe; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office
Subject: Please zone for 12 stories over BART stations!

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I dream of a world where we can live without cars. Maybe rent one for the day every few months, for a Costco run or a visit to Santa Cruz. To do so we need more housing by key public transport stops. We should build a full 12 stories at the Ashby and North Berkeley stops - it's better for the environment, for housing prices, and for an increasingly carless world.

Please zone for 12 stories near the Ashby and North Berkeley stops!
All the best, Xander Boutelle