

BALTIMORE'S TRANSIT FUTURE

March 5, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
Maryland House of Delegates

Re: Support for HB 0038 – Baltimore City, Off-Street Parking Requirements Near Mass Transit Stations

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) and the Greater Washington Partnership (the Partnership), co-leads of the Baltimore's Transit Future coalition, we write to express our support for House Bill 0038, which would remove minimum parking requirements for development within ¼ mile of transit stations.

Transit-oriented development (TOD) makes the best use of infrastructure assets by concentrating development around frequent, high-capacity transportation options like the Metro Subway, Light Rail, the proposed Red Line, and the proposed North-South priority corridor. By removing parking minimums for development around transit stations, Baltimore can enable more TOD, which is a cost-effective strategy that bolsters transit ridership and improves access to jobs, health care, education, and other opportunities.¹

Catalyzing equitable development at transit and rail stations is one of the six strategic priorities of the Baltimore Transit Future coalition.² HB0038 would more fully unlock the potential of Baltimore's current and future transit assets, helping to supercharge inclusive economic growth and further the long-term vibrancy, vitality, and competitiveness of the region's economy.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB0038. Thank you for your consideration and shared commitment to reducing barriers to opportunity by prioritizing strategic investments and policies to create a more competitive transit network and region.

Nick Henninger-Ayoub, Director of Policy & Research, Greater Baltimore Committee
T.J. Maloney, Vice President, Policy & External Affairs, Greater Washington Partnership

¹ See [Promoting Opportunity through Equitable Transit-Oriented Development](#) (CNU, May 2015).

² See [Baltimore's Transit Future: The Gameplan for a Modern Transit System](#) (BTF, 2022)

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About the Baltimore's Transit Future Campaign

The [Greater Baltimore Committee](#) and [Greater Washington Partnership](#) launched the Baltimore's Transit Future campaign to call attention to the urgent business imperative and need for the Greater Baltimore region to create a world-class public transit system that helps create shared economic prosperity and catalyzes inclusive growth. Since June 2022, more than 70 business, civic, and non-profit organizations, including many of the largest employers in the State, have joined the campaign encouraging regional focus on six priorities:

1. Addressing the transit system's repair backlog and operator shortage;
2. Establishing frequent, reliable transit service to regional job centers;
3. Supporting regional coordination, decision making, and funding;
4. Implementing a 10-year rapid transit expansion program;
5. Prioritizing regional rail investment; and
6. Catalyzing equitable development at transit and rail stations.

The time for action is now. The residents and businesses of Maryland's largest city and surrounding suburbs deserve a world-class transit system. These six strategic priorities will set the course for a more equitable transportation system, making the Baltimore region a more attractive place to live, work, play, and build a business