

TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD) POLICY

ADOPTED 12/11/2019

The key elements of the TOD policy include:

- a) Establishment of corridor-level thresholds to quantify appropriate minimum levels of development around transit stations along new corridors;
- b) Development of local station area plans, in conjunction with local communities, that address future land use changes, station access needs, circulation improvements, pedestrian-friendly design, and other key features in a transit-oriented development.

Corridor-Level Thresholds

The corridor-level housing thresholds are as follows:

- 2,750 housing units for bus rapid transit stations;
- 2,200 housing units for commuter rail.
- Meeting the corridor level thresholds requires that within a half mile of all stations, a combination of existing land uses and planned land uses meets or exceeds the overall corridor threshold for housing;
- To be counted toward the threshold, planned land uses must be adopted through general plans, and the appropriate implementation processes must be put in place, such as zoning codes prior to completion of station final design. Ideally, planned land uses will be formally adopted through a specific plan (or equivalent), zoning codes and general plan amendments along with an accompanying programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as part of the overall station area planning process. Minimum densities will be used in the calculations to assess achievement of the thresholds.
- An existing end station is included as part of the transit corridor for the purposes of calculating the corridor thresholds; optional stations will not be included in calculating the corridor thresholds.
- New below-market housing units will receive a 50 percent bonus toward meeting the
 corridor threshold (i.e. one planned below-market housing unit counts for 1.5 housing
 units for the purposes of meeting the corridor threshold. Below market for the
 purposes of this policy is affordable to 60% of area median income for rental units
 and 100% of area median income for owner-occupied units).

Station Area Plans

At a minimum, station area plans will define both the land use plan for the area as well as the policies—zoning, design standards, parking policies, etc.—for implementation. The plans shall at a minimum include the following elements:

- Current and proposed land use by type of use and density within the half-mile radius, with a clear identification of the number of existing and planned housing units and jobs;
- Station access and circulation plans for motorized, nonmotorized and transit
 access. The station area plan should clearly identify any barriers for pedestrian,
 bicycle and wheelchair access to the station from surrounding neighborhoods
 (e.g., freeways, railroad tracks, arterials with inadequate pedestrian crossings),
 and should propose strategies that will remove these barriers and maximize the
 number of residents and employees that can access the station by these means.
 The station area and transit village public spaces shall be made accessible to
 persons with disabilities.
- Estimates of transit riders walking from the half mile station area to the transit station to use transit;
- Transit village design policies and standards, including mixed use developments and pedestrian-scaled block size, to promote the livability and walkability of the station area;
- TOD-oriented parking demand and parking requirements for station area land uses, including consideration of pricing and provisions for shared parking;
- Implementation plan for the station area plan, including local policies required for development per the plan, market demand for the proposed development, potential phasing of development and demand analysis for proposed development.