



September 1, 2021

To: Nancy.whitaker@indy.gov

Subject: HbD Letter of Support – TOD Amendments

Good morning, Nancy,

I am writing with another note of support for the TOD ordinance on the agenda for today's MDC meeting. Please share with commissioners. Thank you! Enjoy the day.

Kim

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to indicate Health by Design's unwavering support for the general ordinance language approved by the CityCounty Council on Monday, August 9, 2021.

Health by Design would first like to acknowledge the diligent work, expertise, and coordination of city agencies and external partners in developing these standards to support transit-oriented development in Marion County. While we recognize that changes of this magnitude take substantial time, we continue to advocate for form-based zoning approaches that maximize the positive externalities provided by our public investment in bus rapid transit while minimizing opportunities for variances that can erode the intent of these standards.

We believe the language in Proposal No. 178, 2021—as written—represents a crucial step in realizing a more accessible, walkable, healthy, affordable, and sustainable Indianapolis. Citywide and neighborhood-level support for transit-oriented development has grown to be a priority in recent years, referenced in numerous city plans adopted by this body and the City-County Council, including:

- Red Line Transit-Oriented Development Strategic Plan (2015);
- Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Plan (2016)
- Indianapolis/Marion County Pedestrian Plan (2016);
- Blue Line Transit-Oriented Development Strategic Plan (2018);
- Marion County Land Use Plan Pattern Book (2019); and
- Thrive Indianapolis (2019), the city's first sustainability plan.

We are grateful for the opportunity to have provided input throughout the process and we appreciate the time City of Indianapolis staff offered in answering questions and discussing our input and concerns. We look forward to continuing our work with the city and community partners in enhancing the built environment to support healthy, active living for all Indianapolis residents. Thank you for your time and service to our community!

Sincerely,

Kim Irwin

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