

## **Supplemental Communications (3)**

(The following are communications received after 4pm on **September 1.**)

## Communication

---

**From:** Andrew Beahrs <apbeahrs@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 7:48 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** North Berkeley BART housing now

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 Commissioners:

As a Berkeley homeowner I understand the desire for convenient parking at the North Berkeley and Ashby stations, which I have taken advantage of on many occasions (Ashby was my local station for a decade, and North Berkeley is now). That said, I *\*strongly\** support immediately moving ahead with construction of transit-friendly housing at both stations. While my preference is for affordable units, I would also love to see more market-rate units that might play a small but real role in filling the deep need for more housing of all kinds in our region. I welcome the prospect of new, diverse neighbors renting apartments on the sites.

As a community, we regularly issue statements of support in favor of respecting the value of Black lives and adapting and/or mitigating to climate change. We speak loudly of our openness to accepting refugee communities, and decry the state of homelessness in our town, region, and state. All these words are entirely empty without a willingness to build transit-friendly housing. THIS is what we need to do; THIS is the place to do it; THIS is the time to do so.

Please move forward with the construction of dense (and thus environmentally- and human-friendly) housing on the swiftest possible timeline. We need more housing NOW.

Sincerely,

Andy Beahrs

Berkeley, 94707

## Communication

---

**From:** Bhima Sheridan <bhima.sheridan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 9:05 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners:

I am writing as a Berkeley resident to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay,
- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- A right to return for displaced residents,
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits
- Consideration for the future of the flea market

Please keep this process moving. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,  
Bhima Sheridan  
1811 Fairview St

## Communication

---

**From:** Paul <paulbickmore@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:52 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners:

Act quickly to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

Support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay,
- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- A right to return for displaced residents,
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits

Krep this process moving. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,

Paul Bickmore

## Communication

---

**From:** Toni Casal <tonic59@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 7:44 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Zoning for North Berkeley Bart Build

**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.

The required minimum in height should be the maximum. This N Berk BART development was miscategorized from Day One. It is not a commercial or business zone but a family oriented low-rise neighborhood. The building should be in character with the neighborhood.

Four or five stories of low income housing developed by a not for profit developer would be welcome. We have plenty of market rate apartments for the well off.

Let's make places for line cooks, gardeners, teachers, nannies, etc, etc. Make the housing integrated, green and affordable. Let's represent Berkeley well. The neighbors are behind that concept. Let's get it done, the right way.

Toni Casal

## Communication

---

**From:** Josh Cohen <joshlcohen724@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:47 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** More housing 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.

Hello Secretary Pearson,

My name is Josh Cohen, and my wife and I rent in North Berkeley. We strongly advocate for housing to be built at the North Berkeley BART station, as well as at Ashby station. We love living in North Berkeley, and we would love to have more neighbors, especially in such a sustainable and transit-oriented area as that at the North Berkeley station.

It has been stated that development may encourage a more "transient" population, but the reason a population in such a lovely area as North Berkeley would be transient in the first place is the lack of housing and the cost of the housing that is available. Please consider allowing building on this property of 8 stories, as well as encouraging as many units as possible so we have more neighbors and a more welcoming community.

Josh

## Communication

---

**From:** Daniel Fahey <dfahey1968@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 7:42 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Zoning 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.

Hi,

I live on the 1700 block of Virginia St. I have lived in Berkeley for about 20 of the last 30 years.

I am writing about the proposal for housing at North Berkeley BART. I oppose tall buildings for that site. Please zone the current minimum heights to be the maximum heights. Anything higher than six stories or so will likely have significant negative impacts on existing residents in the area, like me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dan Fahey

--

Sent from my mobile phone

## Communication

---

**From:** aryn faur <brasaverse@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:47 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners: I am writing as a Berkeley resident to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units. I support: - Building as much housing as possible without delay, - A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible, - A right to return for displaced residents, - Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents, - Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits Please keep this process moving. We need housing NOW! Sincerely, [YOUR NAME HERE]



## Communication

---

**From:** Wil Gilbreath <wtgilbreath@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 10:29 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Bart Development

**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,

I am writing in support of maximizing density and minimizing parking at all Bart station developments in Berkeley.  
(Specifically North Berkeley)

Given the ecological crisis and housing crisis we face we must act boldly to minimize VMT and sustainably house people.

This station land is a critical piece of moving in that direction.

Thanks,

Wil Gilbreath

## Communication

---

**From:** Ben Gould <ben@bengould.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:09 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners:

I'm writing to you as a Berkeley resident to ask for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay,
- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- A right to return for displaced residents,
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for all South Berkeley Residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits

Please keep this process moving. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,

Ben Gould

## Communication

---

**From:** Donna Graves <donnagraves01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:51 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

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 Commissioners:<BR><BR>I am writing as a Berkeley resident to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.<BR><BR>I support:<BR>- Building as much housing as possible without delay,<BR>- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,<BR>- A right to return for displaced residents,<BR>- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,<BR>- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits<BR><BR>Please keep this process moving.

Donna graves  
Sent from my iPhone

## Communication

---

**From:** Igor Serebryany <igor47@moomers.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 8:11 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** berkeley housing near BART  
**Attachments:** signature.asc

hi, this note is in support of building the maximal amount of housing possible in berkeley, especially near BART or other public transit corridors but also everywhere. housing is a basic human right, and it's just too darn expensive in california. the only way to fix it is by building more housing -- and building it near transit helps to meet our climate goals, too.

couldn't make the public comment meeting, but consider me a strong YIMBY who is PAYING ATTENTION!

thanks,  
--igor

## Communication

---

**From:** Valerie Knepper <vknepper57@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:55 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene; Harrison, Kate  
**Subject:** Build housing at North Berkeley and Ashby BART stations without delay

**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 Commissioners:

I am writing as a Berkeley resident to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay ,A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- Minimizing car parking for the development, and provide support for alternative access modes (great pedestrain access, transit passes, bicycle security, etc)
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits
- Connection to the greenway in north Berkeley.

Please keep this process moving as quickly as possible. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,  
Valerie Knepper

## Communication

---

**From:** Ryan Lester <01rplester@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 5:05 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Support - Maximize housing at Berkeley 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.

City of Berkeley,

It is my strong desire that the City of Berkeley approves the maximum amount of housing possible for the land surrounding Berkeley's BART stations.

If the city does not maximize housing at these locations, people will still come to live in the city, just rents will be higher, more people will be car dependent and more people will live in higher wildfire risk zones.

This type of project, on a MAJOR transit line is exactly where we should be maximizing housing.

This project will help mitigate GHG emissions and open Berkeley up as a more welcoming city.

Any efforts to reduce allowable housing at these sites should be viewed skeptically and hard questions should be asked to the critics of the Berkeley BART housing projects as to why the environmental, racial, and affordability impacts will be better off if we build less here... since they'll rely on arguments about shadows and neighborhood character and other specious arguments.

Respectfully,

Ryan Lester

--

Ryan Lester  
[01RPLester@gmail.com](mailto:01RPLester@gmail.com)

## Communication

---

**From:** Atticus Liu <atticusacl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:36 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** 100% Support for New BART Station 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.

Hello,

I'm Atticus, an East Bay resident of two years. I'm writing to express my full support for building new housing at Berkeley's BART stations. In fact, I encourage the highest density possible to be built.

The Bay Area faces a severe housing shortage, and building dense apartments along transit corridors (such as BART stations) is an excellent way of allowing people like me (I'm 25 years old) to live in beautiful communities like Berkeley in a less expensive way.

Thanks for reading my email. I appreciate it.

Regards,  
Atticus Liu

## Communication

---

**From:** Liza Lutzker <liza.lutzker@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 5:16 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build safe streets and housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners:

I am writing as a Berkeley resident and Ashby BART neighbor to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay,
- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- A right to return for displaced residents,
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits

Please keep this process moving. We need housing and safe, walkable streets NOW!

Sincerely,  
Liza Lutzker



## Communication

---

**From:** Joseph Mente <joseph.mente.impact@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:51 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Public comment for Planning Commission meeting on Sept 1, 2021

**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.

Public comment for Item 9 of the planning commission meeting for September 1st, 2021

I'm a homeowner in Berkeley, and I LOVE that Berkeley is planning on building substantially more housing near BART. I rented apartments for 15 years and more than once I was forced to move out of a perfectly happy living situation due to massive rent increases. We *need* to build more housing, and the *best* place to build it is near BART stops. The *only* way to make housing more affordable for everyone is to *build more of it*; at all income levels. Mixed income housing in particular helps keep our community vibrant, rather than segregating wealthy and less fortunate residents from each other. Higher density helps fight climate change, especially if folks don't need a car to live their lives because they can take transit. Please support this project.

## Communication

---

**From:** Gary Miguel <garymm@garymm.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:11 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Housing at Ashby BART 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.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing as a resident of South Berkeley to ask for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support building as much housing as possible without delay,

Please keep this process moving. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,  
Gary

## Communication

---

**From:** Elizabeth Bugarin <ebugarin@bayareametro.gov> on behalf of Matt Maloney <mmaloney@bayareametro.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:33 PM  
**Subject:** Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Appeals – Public Hearing Notice  
**Attachments:** ABAG 2023-2031 RHNA Appeals Hearing Schedule.pdf

**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.

On May 20, 2021, the ABAG Executive Board approved the [Final Regional Housing Needs Allocation \(RHNA\) Methodology and Draft Allocations](#). Approval of the Final RHNA Methodology followed the [finding in April 2021](#) by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) that the Draft RHNA Methodology furthered the RHNA objectives.

Release of the Draft RHNA Allocations initiated the final phase of the RHNA process. Local jurisdictions and HCD had until July 9, 2021 to submit an appeal to ABAG requesting a change to any Bay Area jurisdiction's allocation. Key dates in the appeals process include:

- May 25, 2021: official release of Draft RHNA Allocations.
- July 9, 2021: deadline for jurisdictions or HCD to submit an appeal of a jurisdiction's Draft Allocation.
- August 30, 2021: deadline for comments on appeals submitted.
- September and October: ABAG conducts public hearing to consider appeals and comments received. ***A copy of the hearing schedule is attached.***

ABAG received 28 appeals from Bay Area jurisdictions by the July 9th deadline. In addition, a number of jurisdictions sent ABAG comment letters about RHNA, in lieu of submitting an appeal. ABAG also received nearly 450 comments on jurisdiction appeals.

Visit the [Appeals Process page](#) on ABAG's website for more details, including:

- Appeals submitted.
- Comments on appeals.
- Schedule for the public hearing to consider appeals.

Matt Maloney  
Director, Regional Planning  
[mmaloney@bayareametro.gov](mailto:mmaloney@bayareametro.gov) | 415-778-5220

Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Association of Bay Area Governments  
Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

## REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION



### ABAG 2023-2031 RHNA Appeals Hearing Schedule

For more information about the appeals process, visit <https://abag.ca.gov/our-work/housing/rhna-regional-housing-needs-allocation/2023-2031-rhna-appeals-process>.

<b>RHNA Appeals Day 1</b>	<b>Friday, September 24</b>	<b>9:00 to 5:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appeal #1: ALA - Alameda</li><li>• Appeal #2: ALA - Dublin</li><li>• Appeal #3: ALA - Pleasanton</li><li>• <i>Lunch Break</i></li><li>• Appeal #4: CC - Clayton</li><li>• Appeal #5: CC - Danville</li><li>• Appeal #6: CC - Lafayette</li><li>• Appeal #7: CC - Pleasant Hill</li></ul>		
<b>RHNA Appeals Day 2</b>	<b>Wednesday, September 29</b>	<b>9:00 to 1:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appeal #8: CC - San Ramon</li><li>• Appeal #9: CC - Unincorporated Contra Costa County</li><li>• Appeal #10: MRN - Belvedere</li><li>• Appeal #11: MRN - Corte Madera</li></ul>		
<b>RHNA Appeals Day 3</b>	<b>Friday, October 8</b>	<b>2:00 to 5:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appeal #12: MRN - Fairfax</li><li>• Appeal #13: MRN - Larkspur</li><li>• Appeal #14: MRN - Mill Valley</li></ul>		
<b>RHNA Appeals Day 4</b>	<b>Friday, October 15</b>	<b>1:00 to 5:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appeal #15: MRN - Ross</li><li>• Appeal #16: MRN - San Anselmo</li><li>• Appeal #17: MRN - Sausalito</li><li>• Appeal #18: MRN - Tiburon</li></ul>		
<b>RHNA Appeals Day 5</b>	<b>Friday, October 22</b>	<b>9:00 to 5:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appeal #19: MRN - Unincorporated Marin County</li><li>• Appeal #20: SCL - Los Altos</li><li>• Appeal #21: SCL - Los Altos Hills</li><li>• <i>Lunch Break</i></li><li>• Appeal #22: SCL - Monte Sereno</li><li>• Appeal #23: SCL - Palo Alto</li><li>• Appeal #24: SCL - Saratoga</li><li>• Appeal #25: SCL - Unincorporated Santa Clara County</li></ul>		
<b>RHNA Appeals Day 6</b>	<b>Friday, October 29</b>	<b>9:00 to 5:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appeals #26 &amp; #27: SON - Unincorporated Sonoma County</li><li>• Appeal #28: SON - Windsor</li><li>• Appeals Carried Over from Prior Hearing Days</li><li>• Final Deliberations</li></ul>		

## Communication

---

**From:** Pablo Diaz Gutierrez <ihaveajob@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 7:21 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners:

I am writing as a Berkeley resident to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay,
- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- A right to return for displaced residents,
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits

Please keep this process moving. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME HERE]

—

Pablo Diaz-Gutierrez  
Appfluence Inc

## Communication

---

**From:** Peggy Scott <plscott@stanfordalumni.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 7:30 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Building Housing 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.

To the Planning Commission,

I am writing about the plans for Building Housing at North Berkeley BART.

Both Downtown BART and Ashby BART are commercial, urban zones. This is clear to the naked eye and also in the City's zoning of these areas.

North Berkeley BART is a low rise residential area. Normal design review would never ever allow 8 stories or even 6 stories in such a neighborhood. North Berkeley BART has, very close by, plenty of real estate along University Ave. on which to build affordable housing. But of course BART cannot make money off that. So let's agree this is all about money. BART wants money so they insist that a sovereign city overturn its own zoning in order for them to make money off their land. Stating the obvious is what we have been doing since the beginning of this process. Mammon. Greed.

What's new.

**What you can do is insist that BART not be allowed to ruin the character of the North Berkeley BART neighborhood.**

None of the supposed "perks" they keep pumping for ground floor commercial development matter at all - all that stuff is available close by - on University Ave.

So please defend the neighborhood. It isn't even my neighborhood, although I use that station (I am equidistant between N.B. and El Cerrito Plaza stations.) I also live one block from a commercial district - Solano Ave. I cannot park in front of my own house all day. The teachers from Thousand Oaks School fill our parking, and that's fine. I love that I can walk to my bank, my grocery store, my haircutter, and to the public library. I like urban living. But I also know the difference between a commercial and a residential area and BART doesn't care, so we need you to care on our behalf.

**Please zone the required minimums as the maximums and be done.**

Thank you,

Peggy Scott

Berkeley, 94707

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." Maya Angelou

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." -- Will Rogers

## Communication

---

**From:** marie phelps <marielouisehelps@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:46 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Letter in support of housing 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 members,

I am a long-time Berkeley resident writing in support of the construction of housing at Ashby and North Berkeley BART. I have lived in Berkeley since coming from San Francisco to go to UC Berkeley in 1986 and chose to stay and raise two children here, none of which would have been possible without affordable and convenient housing. I'm lucky to have found a long-term, rent-controlled home within a walking distance of Ashby BART, and I hope that we can allow other people to enjoy the beauty of our city and community by building apartments to house them. It's clear today, as the northern half of our state burns and the southern part of our country suffers from the effects of hurricanes intensified by climate change that we need drastic societal change, fast. Building housing instead of parking next to our transit is just the beginning, but it is an excellent first step and an opportunity for Berkeley to lead the fight against climate change.

Thank you for listening,  
Marie Louise Phelps  
Berkeley resident

## Communication

---

**From:** Nancy Rader <nraderhome@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 8:20 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** BART Housing Plan

**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 hope that you will approve the minimum number of units at the BART stations, but strive to make them all affordable and, ideally, with a path to ownership. Anything larger than the minimum 1200 units will be entirely out-of-character with the neighborhoods. I hope the design will be “neighborly” and not overly modern or industrial.

Thank you,

Nancy Rader  
1198 Keith Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94708



## Communication

---

**From:** Adam Rogers <jetjocko@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:55 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** More housing instead of BART parking lots

**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 Commissioners:

I'm a longtime Berkeley resident; North Berkeley BART is my closest station, a walk of less than 20 minutes. My house is in West Berkeley, the neighborhood where it's most clear that many of my fellow Berkeley residents live in mobile homes, or without a permanent structure at all, because of California's catastrophic housing policies.

I'm writing to ask that you build as much housing on the parking lots at North Berkeley and Asbhy BART as will fit on the sites. Anyone displaced by the new buildings—though I'm not sure how there'd be any—should have the right to return. Ideally, local businesses would also have space in both new developments, and the wide, freeway-fast streets around both stations will be narrowed and made safe for people walking and on bikes, since that's how most people get to BART anyway.

Please help fight the climate crisis, the housing crisis, and the traffic death crisis all at once, just by building lots of new homes for new neighbors. Don't let city policy be made by a few wealthy homeowners afraid of new people, who want to freeze Berkeley in amber laid down in 1980.

Thanks....

Adam Rogers  
814 Jones St.  
Berkeley, CA

## Communication

---

**From:** Aviv Schifrin <asmusic39@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 12:52 AM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Build housing at Ashby BART without delay

**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 Commissioners:

I am writing as a Berkeley resident to advocate for quick action to address our housing crisis by moving ahead with this opportunity to build transit-friendly housing at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations, including both market-rate and affordable units.

I support:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay,
- A viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible,
- A right to return for displaced residents,
- Affordable space for local businesses and non-profits to both help the local economy and make the area more walkable,
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for South Berkeley residents,
- Limiting Parking near the development to both maximize usable space and discourage car ownership,
- Improving the frequency of bus service and the safety of cycling to facilitate non-car modes of transportation.

Please keep this process moving. We need housing NOW!

Sincerely,  
Aviv Schifrin

## Communication

---

**From:** Becca Schonberg <becca.schonberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 8:06 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Maximize housing 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,

I am a West Berkeley homeowner and I am writing to urge you to maximize the number of housing units constructed near BART stations. I work as a legal aid attorney and I cannot overstate the scope of the housing crisis we are mired in. Every week we speak to so many people who are homeless, living in unsafe conditions, or at risk of losing their housing. Not only that, but we have seen countless friends and colleagues move away from the Bay Area because they cannot afford to live here. This crisis is one of the most serious issues facing our State today and every community has a responsibility to build the housing we so desperately need.

Furthermore, a significant chunk of CA's carbon emissions result from car travel. Building housing near transit is one of the best ways to create the density we need to decrease our reliance on cars. It is also how we can build walkable, sustainable, diverse, and beautiful neighborhoods.

Thanks,  
Becca Schonberg  
94710

## Communication

---

**From:** Sean Kennedy <sean@studiosk.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:53 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Cc:** All Council  
**Subject:** BART Housing-Planning Commission Item 9

**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 Commissioners:

I would like to express my support for:

- Building as much housing as possible without delay (at both the Ashby and North Berkeley sites). We need housing.
- Creating a viable development with as many affordable housing units as feasible, and a right to return for displaced residents. We need housing for all.
- Calming traffic and reducing the number of lanes on Adeline St. to ensure a safe environment for all South Berkeley Residents. We need housing for people.
- Ensuring a permanent home for the Flea Market that allows it to thrive. We need places for all people.
- Including affordable ground space for local businesses and non-profits. We need housing for all people.

Please keep this process moving. We are all the city and we need housing NOW!

Sincerely,

Sean Kennedy  
Berkeley resident  
Berkeley business owner

## Communication

---

**From:** David Mendelsohn <dwmendelsohn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 10:23 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** Planning Commission meeting

**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.

Thank you to the commission members and staff for an informative meeting. I truly appreciate the time and effort you put in.

I live a few blocks from Ashby BART and I'd like to reinforce what so many commenters advocated for:

- Maximize housing and density
- Minimize parking in order to have more room for housing (and amenities such as the Berkeley Flea Market)
- Road diets for surrounding streets (again, more room for amenities; also, increased safety and walkability)

Berkeley is suffering from an outrageously unaffordable housing situation. The solution is more housing.

Moreover, California and the world are experiencing a climate crisis. The more people who are able to live in walkable, environmentally friendly communities like Berkeley, the more progress we will make towards our climate goals.

Thanks again for your work on these issues.

Best,  
David Mendelsohn  
District 3

## Communications

---

**From:** Steve Sperber <sperberstein@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 10:08 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** North Berkeley BART Housing Project

**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 Commission Members:

My wife and I want housing at the North Berkeley BART station to be contextual, affordable, and green. Zone the site so that the minimums required by AB2923 are also the maximums, to ensure that the low-rise residential character of the neighborhood isn't shattered by out-of-scale, high rise towers. The current approach will result in a market-rate high-rise monolith that dominates the neighborhood, creates more congestion and does nothing to alleviate the cost of housing in the city. Please approve a design that fits the area.

To believe that those people renting these units will not have automobiles is naive. Their additional cars will be parked on our neighborhood streets further adding to the parking congestions for residents in the neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Stephen Sperber and Roberta Silverstein  
1516 Lincoln Street  
Berkeley

## Communication

---

**From:** Leslie Valas <vffam5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 8:45 PM  
**To:** Pearson, Alene  
**Subject:** No Berkeley Bart Development

**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 across the street from the North Berkeley Bart station. As you consider zoning for this property, I ask that you zone the required minimums as the maximum allowable height. A moderate development with 4 stories and stepped out design will keep the neighborhood contextual and will provide an integrated look. ANY HIGHER DEVELOPMENT is not in keeping with the scale and look of the existing neighborhood.

Leslie Valas  
1685 Short St. (a resident since 1982)  
Berkeley