



SB 5687/HB 1490, Prime Sponsors: Senator Chris Marr and Representative Sharon Nelson

Washington families want to live and work in affordable, walkable, bike-friendly communities connected by frequent, reliable transit. Transit Oriented Communities empowers cities and neighborhoods to increase livability, provides more transit options and gives families opportunities to save money and meet their needs.

Transit Oriented Communities will:

- **Create affordable Transit Oriented Development (TOD).** Affordable, livable, and walkable TOD around light rail and commuter rail stations in the state will create healthier and more livable communities with real transportation choices.
- **Add climate change considerations to local land-use planning.** Provide the tools and resources for cities and counties to plan greenhouse gas emissions reductions and adopt measures to increase walking, biking, and transit use.
- **Incorporate climate change in transportation plans for urban regions.** Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in our state. Fortunately, we have set state goals to reduce car trips or vehicle miles traveled. Urban planning regions will work with cities and counties to help meet the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction targets, resulting in reduced emissions and increased transportation choices.

THE BENEFITS

Save some green - cash in your pocket and a cleaner, greener planet

- The bill requires new housing to be set aside for affordable renting and ownership for working families
- Transit Oriented Communities increases neighborhood access to more transportation choices like walking, biking, buses or trains – protecting residents from spiking fuel prices.
- It protects our climate and environment by keeping cars off the road and harmful pollution out of our air and water.

Improve your quality of life - less time in your car; safer, more livable communities

- On average we spend one work week each year stuck in traffic. Transit Oriented Communities allow people to spend more time doing the things they want and less time in traffic getting to work or running errands.
- Sidewalks, bike paths and walkways created in Transit Oriented Communities make for safe neighborhoods and provide families with alternatives to driving.

Keep it local

- Cities and communities create design guidelines for current and future development in transit station areas. There is no cookie cutter approach.
- Each neighborhood and city will be able to choose their own way to meet the housing goals, using an appropriate mix of single-family, low-rise and mid-rise structures in a way that meets the community's character and values.