November 2, 2018

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall,
San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Support for eliminating minimum parking requirements citywide

Honorable Supervisors,

TransForm is a nonprofit with 20 years of experience building healthy, vibrant and safe neighborhoods in the greater Bay Area and throughout California. We promote walkable communities with excellent transportation choices to connect people of all incomes to opportunity, keep California affordable and help solve our climate crisis.

From skyrocketing housing costs to climate change to clogged, dangerous streets, there is no single solution to the confluence of crises we are facing. Yet there are some urban design factors that clearly contribute to all of these problems. One of the clearest and most egregious is the requirement for minimum parking, especially in housing developments. Eliminating minimum parking requirements citywide is a change that needs to happen.

The need to change this policy became even more evident after an analysis covered by Streetsblog that showed that 88% of the new households added between 2008-2012 were car-free households. That lopsided amount was before the profusion of transportation choices that has made it even easier to live in San Francisco without owning a private automobile.

In a City that prides itself on finding solutions rather than relying on tired and antiquated zoning codes it is finally time to eliminate parking requirements citywide. We applaud you for considering this smart approach to a more affordable, lower-traffic, lower-emission city.

Sincerely,

Stuart Cohen
Executive Director