



Small Housing
1639 West 2nd Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V6J 1H3

September 20, 2024

Re: Letter of Support for Strong Towns Nanaimo on Abolition of Parking Minimums.

On behalf of Small Housing, I am writing to express our strong support for Strong Towns Nanaimo in their efforts to advocate for the abolition of parking minimums in the city. As seen in cities like Edmonton, Saskatoon, and Spokane, eliminating parking minimums can unlock new opportunities for more liveable and attainable housing and a wider diversity of housing options for those looking to call Nanaimo home.

Parking requirements limit the feasibility of Small-Scale, Multi-Unit Homes by reducing available space for liveable areas. The result of this is unnecessarily inflated housing costs. By providing flexibility around parking, the city allows both industry and homebuyers to make their own decisions on the tradeoffs between parking, living space, and affordability.

While eliminating parking minimums does not preclude the inclusion of on-site parking, it enables developers and homebuyers to prioritise livability over rigid regulations. As Nanaimo considers this important step, it will be essential to evaluate local transit, street parking, and access to nearby services to ensure residents have the resources they need.

We encourage Council to review our [September 2023 Gentle Density Network webinar](#), where Small Housing assembled a group of parking and transportation reform champions to explore what parking reform and gentle density could look like in communities like Nanaimo.

We stand with Strong Towns Nanaimo in this initiative and look forward to the positive impact it will have on housing in our community.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Winer".

Daniel Winer, Executive Lead