



Housing  
Transportation  
Community Spaces

**To:** Knoxville Knox County Planning

**From:** Drew Harper

**Date:** 08.09.2023

**Subject:** 8-D-23-0A

I am writing to support this proposed amendment on behalf of Yes! Knoxville. Specific to this proposed amendment, I would like to highlight some benefits of reducing mandatory parking minimums. The following is not an exhaustive list of benefits that this proposed amendment would bring:

**Better Land Use Efficiency:** Parking mandates consume valuable urban land that could be better utilized for housing, green spaces, community facilities, and other essential urban infrastructure. By reducing parking requirements, we can unlock opportunities for more homes and more efficient land use, promoting vibrant, mixed-use neighborhoods that support economic growth.

**Promoting Active Public Spaces:** Less emphasis on parking allows for the creation of more engaging public spaces, encouraging pedestrian-friendly environments, outdoor seating, and community gathering areas. This approach fosters a sense of place, social interaction, and a stronger local identity.

**Shift Towards Sustainable Transportation:** Modern urban areas are embracing more sustainable modes of transportation, such as walking, cycling, public transit, and ridesharing. Reducing parking requirements encourages the use of these alternatives, decreasing carbon emissions and easing traffic congestion, thus contributing to environmental preservation and improved air quality.

And lastly, a reminder that approving this proposal will in no way prevent builders from building exactly the same amount of parking as previously required. It will simply allow for more choice as we make progress toward becoming a healthier, more sustainable city.

Saying Yes,

**Drew Harper**

Yes! Knoxville - Advocate

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