Achieving Affordable Transit-Oriented Development through FTA Projects and Programs

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Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

• Transportation plays a critical role in connecting Americans and communities to economic opportunity. Public transit can spur economic activity and improve neighborhoods.

• FTA supports TOD through the TOD Technical Assistance Initiative, Pilot Program for TOD Planning, and Capital Investment Grants Program.
Federal Transit Administration’s

TOD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE
TOD Technical Assistance

• FTA supports improved access to public transportation, economic opportunities, pathways to employment, and community revitalization.

• FTA provides resources and support for transit-oriented development activities and projects in local communities, with a focus on equity and economic development.
TOD Technical Assistance

• Three main strategic goals of the Initiative:
  – Economic Development
  – Equity and Quality of Life
  – Outreach, Education, and Facilitation
TOD Technical Assistance – Year 1

Source: Google Maps
TOD Technical Assistance - Year 1

• On-site Technical Assistance Accomplished:
  – Support for existing federally-funded projects:
    • FTA New Starts (Capital Investment Grants)
    • TIGER
  – Transit Corridor or Station-Based Planning
  – Community outreach and workshops
  – Market assessments
  – Project Readiness Assessment Tool
**Focus:** Attracting development to build a dense multi-use area, while maintaining current affordability.

- TAP identified priority sites/catalytic projects and real estate initiatives that would fully leverage transit investment.

- Recommendations address city’s lack of concerted strategies to preserve affordable housing and small businesses.
Federal Transit Administration’s

PILOT PROGRAM FOR TOD PLANNING
Pilot Program for TOD Planning

• Provides funding to local communities to support comprehensive planning for transit projects in the Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program
  – Corridor based

• Seeks planning efforts that include strategies to support housing affordability and address residential and commercial displacement that can sometimes occur when transit capital projects are implemented
Case Study

• VTA, Santa Clara, CA: $1,520,000
  – CIG project: BART Silicon Valley Phase II

• The TOD planning efforts include:
  – improving access to affordable housing,
  – defining multimodal access projects for station areas,
  – Schematics of TOD opportunity sites, and
  – Identifying innovative financing tools to assist in TOD implementation.
For More Information

• FTA’s TOD Technical Assistance Initiative
  – www.todresources.org

• FTA’s Pilot Program for TOD Planning
  – www.transit.dot.gov/TODPilot

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