


**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: Planning Division

FROM: Jason Crawford, Director of Community Development

DATE: March 6, 2024

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S POLICY: ASSEMBLY BILL 2097



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Assembly Bill 2097 (AB 2097) is a new California law that went into effect on January 1, 2023, adding Section 65863.2 to the Government Code. AB 2097 states that a local jurisdiction generally may not impose any automobile parking requirement on a project within one-half mile of a major public transit stop. It may, however, impose minimum automobile parking requirements when failing to impose such requirements on the development would have a substantially negative impact on (a) the City's ability to meet its share of RHNA for low and very low-income households; (b) the City's ability to meet special housing needs for the elderly or persons with disabilities; or (c) existing residential or commercial parking within one-half mile of the project site (Government Code Section 65863.2(b)).

The Santa Clarita Municipal Code (SCMC) establishes minimum parking standards for all allowable uses within each zone. To ensure that waiving the minimum parking standards in a development would not substantially negatively impact existing residential or commercial parking within one-half mile of a project, any project requesting to utilize the provisions of AB 2097 must provide a parking demand study for the proposed project.

The parking demand study must demonstrate that there is not a negative impact and identify the amount of on-site parking required to prevent a negative impact, as defined by Government Code Section 65863.2(b). The parking demand study is a requirement of the City's entitlement submittal checklists, and a project application will not be deemed complete until a satisfactory parking demand study is submitted to and approved by the Director of Community Development.

The requirement for a parking demand study will not apply to any project providing sufficient parking as required by the SCMC or any applicable corridor or specific plan.