

About the Compact Development Team

The Bay Area is growing. We need to accommodate new growth in a way that protects open space while creating walkable communities. To do that, we need more compact development.

Saying Yes to Good Development

Greenbelt Alliance actively encourages developments that revitalize communities and provide affordable housing in the Bay Area.

Greenbelt Alliance's Compact Development Team endorses residential, mixed-use, and commercial developments that are pedestrian-oriented, are near transit, use land

efficiently, and provide housing for a variety of income levels.

What Compact Development Achieves

Provides an Alternative to Sprawl

Development: There are ample opportunities within our cities to provide for new growth. Promoting infill projects also helps revitalize our older cities, making them more desirable places to live.

Creates More Transportation Choices: Putting

homes within walking distance of train stations and bus stops makes it easy to take transit and reduces traffic congestion.

Fosters Complete Neighborhoods: Mixing land uses—like homes, stores, and offices—enables people to shop, commute to work, and run errands without having to use a car.

Expands Housing Options: Providing homes that are affordable to people of all income levels enables workers to live close to jobs and relieves pressure to build on open space. Offering a mix of housing types—like townhouses, apartments, and condominiums—results in more options for people looking for places to live.

Encourages Better Design: Designing development with pedestrians in mind helps to create safe and walkable communities.

Minimizes the Cost of City Services: Including higher densities in new developments takes advantage of existing services and infrastructure.

Stand Up for Livable Communities

If you are a developer who would like to submit a project for review by the Compact Development Team, or a smart growth enthusiast who would like to volunteer on the team, call (415) 543-6771 for more information.

You can also learn more about the Compact Development Team, including the guidelines we use to review projects, at www.greenbelt.org.

“On this project, like several in the past, we owe our success to support from Greenbelt Alliance.”

Tom Kuhn, Project Manager,

Burbank Housing



Greenbelt Alliance's Compact Development Team endorsed San Francisco's 1 Church Street in 1999.

Protecting Open Space and Promoting Livable Communities