



January 22, 2024

Assemblymember Chris Ward
California Assembly
San Diego District Office
2700 Adams Ave. Suite #102
San Diego, CA 92116

Dear Chris:

On behalf of our 1300 small business members, the Hillcrest Business Association would like to express its support for AB1635 and the redevelopment of the DMV property. The HBA has been an advocate for the redevelopment of this property for many years and believes that new housing on the property will be transformative for Hillcrest.

Building a mix of housing types that cater to a range of incomes is critical for the future of our neighborhood. AB1635's consideration for below market housing is reflective of the work many in the neighborhood have undertaken to ensure Hillcrest continues to provide housing options to a diverse range of people. A defining factor in the character of Hillcrest is being a place where a wide range of people can live.

The development of this property is also an opportunity to meet other needs of the community. For example, many envision an LGBTQ+ cultural campus at the street level that could house many of the LGBTQ+ serving organizations in the neighborhood. This would further strengthen Hillcrest's identity as the home of the LGBTQ+ community. Also, creating a development that augments the west side of the proposed Normal Street Promenade public space by adding a defined street wall or additional public space could be very beneficial.

Please reach out to me if you have questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Bedrosian". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Ryan Bedrosian, Board President
Hillcrest Business Association

Copy: Mayor Todd Gloria, Councilmember Stephen Whitburn