

# Traffic

## calming

### PROGRAM

## INNER SUNSET TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY  
PLANNING DIVISION

## INNER SUNSET TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT UPDATE

### Community Meeting

September 27, 2006  
7:00 PM  
7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Presbyterian Church  
1329 – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue

### IN THIS ISSUE...

- Community Meeting Summaries
- Community Working Group Meetings
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### RESIDENTS DISCUSS INNER SUNSET TRAFFIC ISSUES

We've come a long way since our first community meeting in October 2005. At that initial meeting, residents met to share their views on traffic in the Inner Sunset with staff from the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA). The area discussed is bounded by Lincoln Way to the north, 9th Avenue to the west, Lawton Street to the south and 4th Avenue to the east.

Prominent concerns include:

- Speeding
- Cut-through traffic
- Loud and fast commuter traffic from UCSF
- Disruptive vehicles turning left from 7th Avenue
- Commercial area U-Turns
- Vehicles turning left onto westbound Lincoln Way
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety
- The pedestrian crossing at 5th Avenue and Lincoln Way

MTA staff compiled data to look into these concerns, including speed data that confirmed speeding on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues. This data was used to identify the areas where improvements were needed most.

### WORKING GROUP WORKS OUT DETAILS OF PLAN

A Community Working Group (CWG) was convened by MTA staff to serve as the liaison between the City and the community. Comprised of residents of the Inner Sunset neighborhood, the CWG has representatives from each street between 4th and 9th Avenue. Members of this group include Ann Morris (4<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Jeanine Alexander (5<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Susan Maerki (6<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Choi Eng Grosso (7<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Paul Green (7<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Renee Curran (8<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Sandra Meyer (9<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and Craig Dawson (Inner Sunset Merchants' Association). Some are also members of a larger neighborhood groups. The community working group has been meeting – they have met five times in the last few months - to discuss specific neighborhood concerns and potential solutions.

At the time of this newsletter, the working group is helping finalize the Traffic Calming Plan, including phasing and budget. Ann Morris (661-8191) is also working with Friends of the Urban Forest to organize a tree planting. Please contact her if you are interested in more information.

## PLAN PRESENTED AT SECOND COMMUNITY MEETING

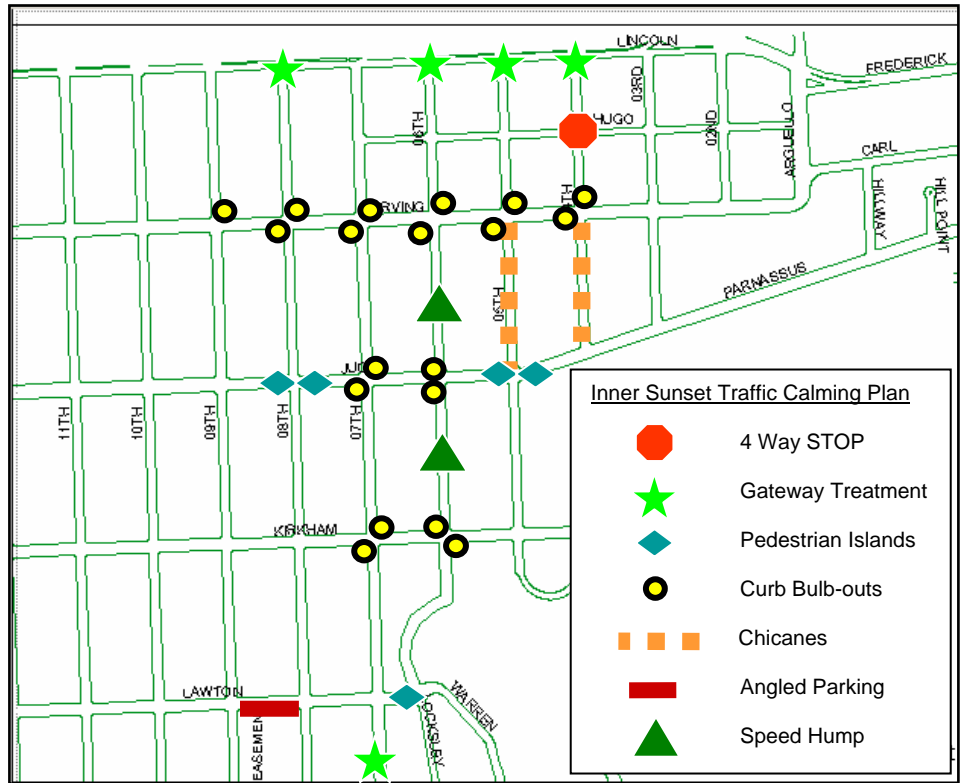
The second community meeting was held on May 9, 2006. At the meeting, MTA staff presented findings from the working group's meetings. Chicanes, curb bulbouts, speed humps, 90 degree parking, and gateway treatments were some of the traffic calming mechanisms explored. Explanations of these devices as well as more detailed information about this project can be found online at [www.livablestreets.org](http://www.livablestreets.org) under "Current Projects: Inner Sunset."

## DRAFT TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN

A draft of the traffic calming plan for the Inner Sunset was developed by the City with the Community Working Group. The proposed changes are shown on the map.

A four-way STOP control on Hugo Street and 4th Avenue will address pedestrian safety. Angled parking is planned for Lawton Street between 8th and 9th Avenues. Angled parking creates a visually and physically narrower roadway, which has been shown to reduce speeding. There may also be an opportunity to gain a few parking spaces.

Gateway treatments are also envisioned at entrances to the neighborhood. Gateways can come in the form of a median island with a tree, bulbouts to create a necking down of the entry point or other amenities like columns. They have been found effective in giving drivers a visual cue to the changing street environment and of the need to drive slower in residential



neighborhoods. These are proposed to be installed along Lincoln Way on 4th Avenue, 5th Avenue, 6th Avenue, and 8th Avenue. A pedestrian refuge island with possible landscaping is envisioned on 7th Avenue and Moraga Street.

Chicanes shift parking from side to side in order to narrow the street and force drivers to maneuver around a non-linear roadway. 90 degree parking will remain in the middle of the block, with parallel parking on both sides at each end of the block. Frontages with parking will maintain parking in front, but some spaces near intersections will be converted to parallel parking at the current locations. Chicanes would be installed on 4th and 5th Avenue, each between Parnassus Street and Irving Street.

Pedestrian islands are planned for Judah Street at 8th Avenue, Warren Drive at Locksley Avenue, and Judah Street at 5th Avenue. These allow pedestrians

to cross one direction at a time. They slow down turning vehicles. They can also add to the aesthetics of the neighborhood if landscaped.

Corner bulb-outs are proposed for 4th and 5th Avenues at Irving, 6th and 7th Avenues at Irving, Judah and Kirkham Streets, 8th Avenue at Irving Street and 9th Avenue at Irving Street. Bulb-

▼ A pedestrian refuge island shortens the crossing distance



▲ A curb bulbout increases ped safety

outs are similar to pedestrian refuge islands in that they tighten turns, increase pedestrian visibility and shorten the distance a pedestrian must walk to cross the street.

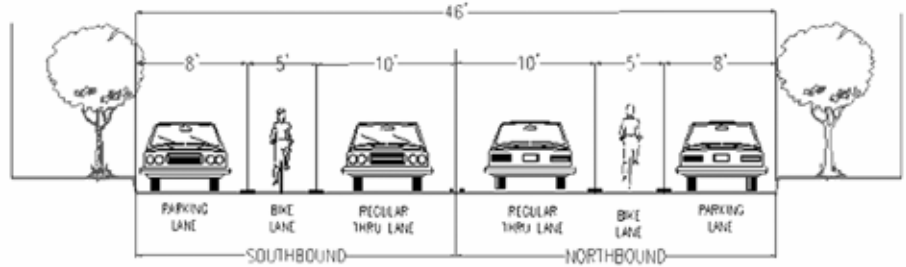
The CWG discussed these ideas and worked to create a staging and prioritization plan to ensure the needs of the larger community are addressed first.

## SEVENTH AVENUE

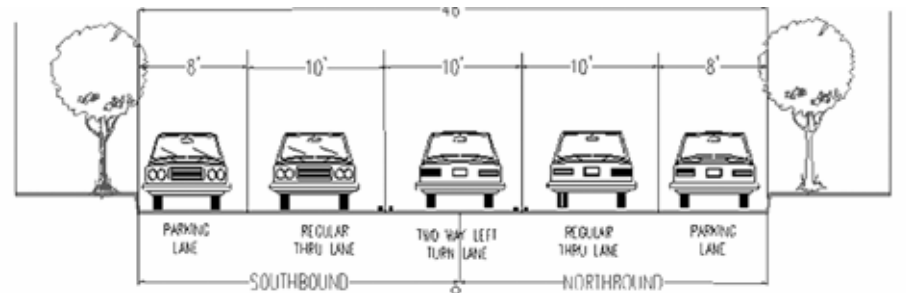
Many neighborhood traffic concerns relate to left turning vehicles blocking northbound traffic flow on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. We saw an opportunity to improve the northbound direction by re-striping the southbound direction, which is fed by one left turn lane on Lincoln Way, widens to two lanes for most of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then merges again to one lane after Lawton Street.

We are proposing to stripe 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue as shown above. From Lawton Street to Judah Street, the plan is to remove a southbound lane and install bicycle lanes in both directions. This would be designated as part of the official bike route network and would fill in the gap in the present bicycle network.

From Judah Street to Lincoln Way, one of the southbound lanes would be converted into a two-way left turn lane. This improves the flow around northbound left-turning vehicles in the vicinity of the more commercial portion of the neighborhood. Though not an official bike route, shared bicycle lane markings would be striped on these two blocks for cyclists who choose to ride along this portion of



LANE CONFIGURATION – LAWTON STREET TO JUDAH STREET



LANE CONFIGURATION – JUDAH STREET TO LINCOLN WAY

7<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

To make up for lost capacity in the southbound direction, the amount of green signal time for 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be increased for the busiest times of day. Some parking removal is proposed for 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Kirkham to improve flow around turning vehicles at that intersection. These changes will leave one northbound and one southbound lane. Pedestrian count down signals are also proposed for 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## COMMUNITY MEETING

There is a community meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, September 27, 2006 at 7:00 PM**. The meeting will take place at the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Presbyterian Church at 1329 – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. We will discuss the plan in more detail and allow time for questions and discussion. All are welcome to attend.

**HOW DO I BECOME INVOLVED?**

**SPEAK** at Public Hearings  
**VOTE** on the proposals  
 If you are a fronting property owner, you will be mailed a ballot.  
**VISIT** our website at [www.livablestreets.org](http://www.livablestreets.org)  
 and learn more!

This project was made possible in part by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority through a grant of Proposition K Local Transportation Sales Tax funds.

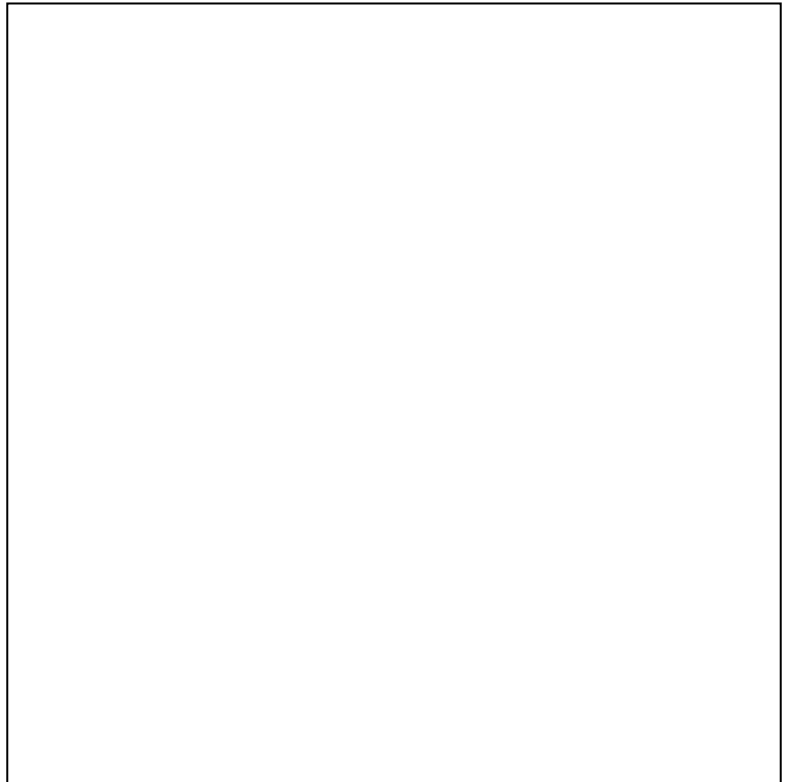


# INNER SUNSET TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT

## MTA | Municipal Transportation Agency

City and County of San Francisco  
Municipal Transportation Agency  
Planning Division  
Traffic Calming Project  
One South Van Ness Avenue, Seventh Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Si Usted quiere información sobre el Proyecto de Calmar Tráfico, favor llamar a Sam Fielding a (415)701-4482.



### Community Meeting

Wednesday, September 27, 2006 - 7:00 PM - 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Presbyterian Church - 1329 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue