

Powell Streetscape Project



SFMTA Board of Directors

March 3, 2020

Project Area

Two blocks of Powell Street, between Geary and Ellis streets





Previous Pilots

- Powell Promenade Parklets (2011)
 - Parklets replaced parking, consolidated loading activity mid-block
 - Very successful in expanding public space, but didn't widen sidewalks the full block
 - Are now well past their useful lives
- Powell Street Safety & Sidewalk Improvement Pilot (2015-2017)
 - Limited turns onto Powell to passenger and goods loading, taxis, and cable cars
 - <u>Achieved goals</u>: 65% reduction in traffic, 75% reduction in turns, 23% longer life for cable, no injury collisions during pilot
 - Permanently legislated in 2017





Public Engagement

- Stakeholder design workshops with key stakeholders and organizations
- Outdoor open house on Powell Street
- Online survey
- On-going briefings/meetings
 - Union Square Business Improvement District
 - Hotel Council and hotel representatives
 - Powell businesses and property owners
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Tenderloin Community Benefit District
 - Chinatown Community Development Center







Key Elements

- The project will widen
 Powell's sidewalks, which see some of the most foot traffic in the City.
- On the Vision Zero High Injury Network, the new
 pedestrian-focused layout
 will build upon existing restrictions that limit traffic.
- The new streetscape will include a variety of materials to create an **inviting and attractive environment**.



Key Elements

- The O'Farrell/Powell 38-Geary bus stop will move to the far-side of the intersection with a new bus bulb.
- Stop-and-go traffic places wear on the cable car. Less traffic lengthens the life of the cable, decreases operator stress, and increases passenger safety.
- At Powell & Geary, a new right-turn phase addresses conflicts between turning drivers and pedestrians.





Today's Legislation

These items build upon previously approved legislation and are needed to advance design of the project.

- 1. Finalizes the extents and locations of loading zones
- 2. Relocates a 38-Geary bus stop with a new bus bulb
- 3. Makes southbound Powell from O'Farrell to Ellis Muni + taxi only
 - The existing loading zone on this block face will be relocated around the corner on O'Farrell Street, serving the Herbert Hotel
- 4. Designates new transit-only lanes on Powell Street
 - Accommodating passenger and goods loading, where permitted



POWELL STREET DESIGN UPDATE





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Schedule

- Planning (incl. workshops) 2017
- Conceptual design + engineering 2018 2019
- Detailed design + engineering 2020 Early 2021
- Contractor bidding/award Mid/Late 2021
- Construction begins Jan 2022

