Geary Rapid Project
Improving Geary for seniors and people with disabilities

The Geary Rapid Project aims to improve one of San Francisco’s busiest corridors with much needed safety improvements and more reliable bus service for the 38 Geary and 38R Geary Rapid’s 56,000 daily customers. Prior to the project’s final approval in August 2018, the Geary Rapid Project team consulted with seniors and people with disabilities regarding the project’s accessibility features, including meetings with the Mayor’s Office of Disability, the SFMTA Multimodal Accessibility Advisory Committee, Senior Disability Action, as well as presentations at several senior centers (SF Senior Center, Russian American Community Services, and Richmond Senior Center). Implementation of the project began in October 2018 and will continue through spring 2021.

Geary Rapid Project Accessibility Features

a) 34 new pedestrian bulbs, which help shorten crossing distances, slow turning vehicles and make pedestrians more visible to cars.

b) 11 new or extended bus bulbs, which are sidewalk extensions at bus stops that make it easier for buses to pull up right next to the curb and ease boarding and lift/ramp deployment.

c) Over 50 new ADA-compliant curb ramps (not including those in bulbs).

d) 9 intersections with median improvements to provide safer and more accessible pedestrian refuge areas to wait if needed.

e) 4 new crosswalks across Geary at Webster, Buchanan and Steiner.

f) Accessible pedestrian signals (the audible yellow boxes) and pedestrian countdown signals at signalized intersections.

g) All crosswalks will be timed in order to provide more time for people of all abilities to cross safely.

h) Seating provided at bus stops wherever feasible.

i) Additional pedestrian safety treatments such as advanced limit lines (stop bars to hold cars further from crosswalks), “daylighting” (to allow better visibility of crosswalks), and calming of the Geary Expressway.
Bus Stop Changes
On October 6, 2018, SFMTA implemented several bus stop changes as a part of the Geary Rapid Project as shown in the map below. One additional change, which is moving the inbound bus stop on O’Farrell at Larkin to the east side of the intersection, will occur at a later date.

SFMTA worked closely with accessibility stakeholders to vet these changes before they were approved by the SFMTA Board. Analysis of several factors – including distance to the next closest stops, the sidewalk slope, amenities at the existing stop and next closest stop, and nearby destinations and transfers – was conducted and shared with stakeholders to have an informed conversation before proceeding with any stop change.

Map shows bus stops that have changed and nearest alternative boarding locations. Stops that are not shown remain unchanged.

Blue Zone and Passenger Loading Zone Changes
a) A new passenger loading zone was created at the Western Addition Library.
b) A new blue zone was created at 1 Peter Yorke Way.
c) Improved shuttle and accessible loading at 2238 and 2350 Geary Boulevard for these Kaiser Permanente facilities. As part of construction, new curb ramps will be installed.
d) The passenger loading zone in front of the Hamilton Recreation Center will be shifted westward in order to make room for a transit-only lane. A new zone will be added at the corner on Steiner Street.
e) The passenger loading zone near Fillmore Street in front of the Kabuki Springs and Spa will be retained, but as a sidewalk cutout in order to make room for a transit-only lane.
f) The blue zones at Scott, Steiner, Webster, Laguna and Mason streets will be shifted slightly to make room for pedestrian bulbs with new accessible curb ramps. Notices directing customers to the new location nearby will be posted.

Contact
You can email or call us at GearyRapid@SFMTA.com or 415.646.2300. For more information about the Geary Rapid Project or to sign up for updates, visit www.SFMTA.com/GearyRapid