Post-Pandemic Slow Streets

SFMTA Board of Directors
August 3, 2021
Overview

Slow Streets Program Update

Evaluation & Recommendations for Post-Pandemic Slow Streets

Outline of Design Process for Post-Pandemic Slow Streets

Board Action: Reauthorize four Slow Streets for post-pandemic design
Slow Streets Timeline

April 2020
State of Emergency & Muni Reductions

April – July 2020
Slow Streets Phases 1, 2, & 3

April 2021
Slow Streets Phase 4

August 2021
Recommend Initial Post-Pandemic Slow Streets
Slow Streets Program Update

- Maintained network of 31 *Slow Streets*
- Collected *pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle counts* on all implemented Slow Streets & parallel streets
- Surveyed San Franciscans living within ¼ mile of a Slow Street and *analyzed 15,000 responses*
- Currently installing new, *more durable materials* to replace barricades on Slow Streets citywide
Criteria for Extended Slow Streets

- Low-volume residential street
- Community support for continuation
- Neighborhood organization as steward
- Consistency with other planning efforts
- Data showing minimal disruption to network
**Implement Temporary Slow Street**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, install temporary Slow Streets using traffic diverters and signage to create space that is more conducive to better physically distanced essential travel by non-motorized travel, safer travel by walking and biking, exercise, and connection to the outside.

**Evaluate Temporary Slow Street**

Deploy user surveys and collect traffic data to assess the performance of Slow Streets, identify operational issues, and determine the community’s perceptions and attitudes toward the facility and its future.

**Identify Post-Pandemic Slow Street**

Based on the evaluation of Slow Streets and analysis of various criteria for post-pandemic feasibility, recommend corridors to create a network of Slow Streets that last beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

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**Slow Streets**

**Post-Pandemic Network Development Process**

**STEP 1**

Implement Temporary Slow Street

**STEP 2**

Evaluate Temporary Slow Street

**STEP 3**

Identify Post-Pandemic Slow Street

**STEP 4**

Start Community Planning and Design

Conduct a community outreach and engagement process on potential additional treatment options and design post-pandemic Slow Street.

**STEP 5**

Install Post-Pandemic Slow Street

Complete the public hearing process and implement post-pandemic Slow Street design treatments.

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**Feasible**

- Proceed to extend the Slow Street beyond the COVID-19 pandemic

**Not Feasible**

- Temporary Slow Street removed upon the end of the Mayor’s Emergency Health Order

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**Sanchez Street**

**Shotwell Street**

**Step 4b - Design**

Draft the design for the post-pandemic Slow Street, continue community outreach activities, and review the design through the SFMTA’s Transportation Staff Advisory Committee (TASC) process and refine if-needed.

**Step 4a - Outreach**

Engage with residents and stakeholders on additional treatments beyond traffic diverters and signage to improve safety for all users of the street and further enhance the Slow Street.

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**ENJOY SLOW STREET!**
# Initial Corridors Selected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-Volume Residential Street Classification</th>
<th>Support for Permanence (Residents on Street, Total)</th>
<th>Community Organization Support</th>
<th>Consistency with Plans</th>
<th>Minimal Traffic Impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golden Gate Ave</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Street</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanchez St</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shotwell St</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Original Slow Streets Tool

Type III
Barricades &
Signs
Post-Pandemic Slow Streets Toolkit

Delineators & Signs

Pavement Markings

Signs

Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Turn Restrictions

Traffic Calming Treatments
Slow Streets Corridor Design Process

Month 1
- Outreach to identify community needs, issues, opportunities, and tools

Month 2
- Staff develop design & revisions based on community feedback

Month 3
- Finalize Slow Street design through SFMTA Engineering Public Hearing

Month 4 +
- Install tools on Slow Street and adjust as needed

LISTEN
- Outreach to identify community needs, issues, opportunities, and tools

DESIGN
- Staff develop design & revisions based on community feedback

REVIEW
- Finalize Slow Street design through SFMTA Engineering Public Hearing

IMPLEMENT & EVALUATE
- Install tools on Slow Street and adjust as needed
Design Results on Two Corridors

• Staff led **simultaneous community outreach processes** on two corridors with the same toolkit, the same staff, at the same time (March – July 2021)

• **Sanchez Slow Street** is well-utilized and filled with people walking and biking, especially on weekends
  • Key Issue: quality of life impacts related to increased use
  • Design includes crosswalks & wayfinding signs, but no changes to traffic operations

• **Shotwell Slow Street** doesn’t feel safe to people walking in the roadway
  • Key Issue: too much vehicle traffic on very narrow street → poor perception of user safety in the roadway
  • Design includes vehicle turn restrictions to reduce through vehicle traffic on Shotwell

• **Future Slow Streets** could look very different from one another, depending on what we hear from their surrounding communities in outreach processes
## Review Process for Post-Pandemic Slow Streets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Community Outreach Process</th>
<th>Extended Authorization</th>
<th>Design Review &amp; Approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golden Gate Avenue</td>
<td>September – November 2021</td>
<td>August 2021</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Street</td>
<td>September – November 2021</td>
<td>August 2021</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**Today’s Board Action**
http://sfmta.com/slowstreets

http://sfmta.com/postpandemicslowstreets