Special Event Street Closures
Barricade Guidelines

Introduction

In order to be in compliance with regulations and to ensure participant safety, proper barricading must be in place to close streets to traffic. It is the responsibility of the street closure permit holder to ensure that:

- The current standards as stated in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for temporary street closure(s), with appropriate signage and barricades, are followed. (See https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd)
- Businesses and/or neighbors affected by the street closure(s) are notified.
- All closure locations are monitored by a qualified adult (details below).
- The traffic control devices have required lights and reflective material.

Standard requirements from the MUTCD for proper street closures include combinations of patterns using the following devices:

- Standard barricades – "Type 3" barricades (see below) are preferred, particularly for larger streets, and should be used wherever possible outside of emergency access lanes; Type 1 barricades (see below) are acceptable for use on low volume streets in residential areas, and may be acceptable for daytime use on larger streets in conjunction with other material
- Orange cones and/or delineator poles (see below)
- Proper signage

Because each closure location is unique, specifics will vary. (Some few locations may require professional design and installation.) The information provided here regarding signage and type of barricades is offered as a guide only. The MUTCD standards must be met in all circumstances.

If you have questions about any aspect of these guidelines, please contact the SFMTA Special Events team at SpecialEvents@sfmta.com

For full block closures on typical larger streets:

- Barricades –Type 3, or Type 1 if approved by SFMTA – shall be placed behind the crosswalk and to either side of the emergency access lane spaced no more than 8–10 feet apart. There should be one barricade on either side of the emergency access lane, space no more than one foot from the edge of the lane.
- A "Road Closed" sign shall be placed on the barricade to the right, facing oncoming traffic.
- A line of tall cones or delineator posts shall be placed in front of the crosswalk across the entire width of the street, spaced approximately 4 feet apart.

- The permittee will be responsible for setting up and removing the barricades and cones and for monitoring the setup throughout the closure period to ensure everything remains in place.

For partial closures on typical streets:

Closures that do not cover the whole length of the block require a modified barricade arrangement to allow traffic on the portion of the block left open. Typically, these closures will be at one end of the block, with local access maintained via the other end.

- The above requirements for typical street closures would apply to the end of the partially closed block with the activation space and to the line of barricades separating the activation space from the remainder of the block where local access is being allowed.
- On the open end of the block used for local access, a barricade or stand with a reflective "Road Closed to Thru Traffic" sign should be positioned at the entrance of the block against the curb on the right hand side of the street when facing the entrance to the block.
- We expect the applicant to set up and remove the barricades and cones appropriately and to monitor the setup to ensure everything remains in place. This includes any barricades or signage on the end of the block opposite the activation area.

For alley closures:

This applies to closures that are activating one end of a narrow alleyway, while maintaining local access on the remainder of the alley

At the activated end…

- Barricades shall be placed behind the crosswalk and outside of any emergency access lane spaced 8–10 feet apart. Most alleys will be too narrow for Type 3 barricades to be practical or justified; Type 1 would be acceptable.
- A line of tall cones or delineator posts shall be placed in front of the crosswalk across the entire width of the street, spaced approximately 4 feet apart.
- "Road Closed" sign placed on the barricade to the right, facing oncoming traffic.

On the remainder of the block…

- Midblock on the alley we would expect additional Type 1 barricades to separate the activated space from the remainder of the block being used for local access.
- On the end of the alley used for access the applicant should place Type 1 barricade(s) and reflective cones. Residents will need to move the cones to enter the street.
- On the end of the alley used for access, a "Road Closed to Thru Traffic" sign shall be placed on one of the barricades.
- If vehicles exiting the alley are traveling opposite the normal direction of traffic, the applicant shall place a "Stop" sign on one of the barricades facing the alley traffic.

For all locations…

- The permittee will be responsible for setting up and removing the barricades and cones appropriately and for monitoring the setup throughout the closure to ensure everything remains in place. This includes those cones and barricades on the end of the alley opposite the activation area.

Required access into the closure area for emergency and official paratransit vehicles shall be maintained at all times by providing an emergency access lane at least 14 feet wide running directly through the entire length of the closure.

- Certain locations may be granted a limited, defined exemption.
- Unless otherwise specified, a qualified adult shall be available for removal of barricades and cones and providing access as needed for emergency or official paratransit vehicles.
- Intersections that have a fire hydrant located on a corner shall have the barricade devices placed so that the hydrant is not obstructed.

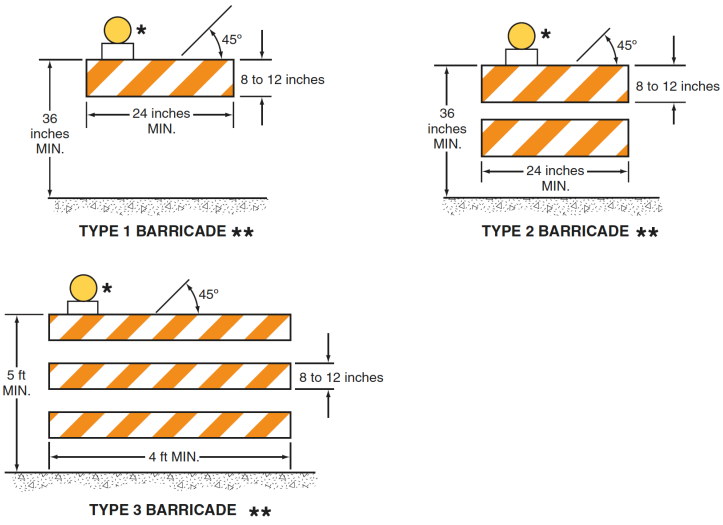
These are general guidelines. If you receive specific instructions on barricades and signage and/or monitors for your location, please refer to those.

Standard Barricades

Type 1, (Type 2,) and/or Type 3 Barricades
Approximately 4-8 required per street in conjunction with cones.

Barricades shall be:

- The primary device used to close or restrict all or a portion of a right-of-way.
- Placed so that there is no gap large enough for a vehicle to pass through.
- A minimum of 24" in width and 36" in height for Type 1 and Type 2 Barricades.
- A minimum of 48" in width and 60" in height for Type 3 Barricades.



* Warning lights (optional)
** Rail stripe widths shall be 6 inches, except that 4-inch wide stripes may be used if rail lengths are less than 36 inches. The sides of barricades facing traffic shall have retroreflective rail faces.

Note: Longitudinal barricades (aka "crowd control" barricades) are *not* approved for closing streets but may be used to set boundary areas for people or in addition to standard barricades for extra safety. They may *not* be placed so as to obstruction any portion of the emergency access lane without prior approval from SFMTA Special Events. These barricades may be required to provide additional safety where crowded closures border on busy streets, especially if young children will be present.

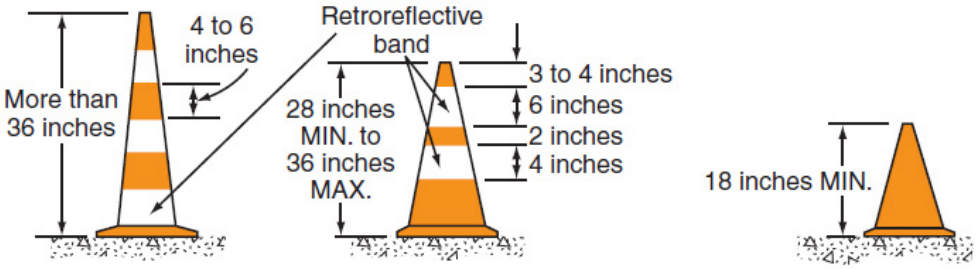


Cones and Delineator Posts

To be used in conjunction with barricades.

Cones/delineator posts shall be:

- Placed in front of the crosswalk across the entire width of the street, spaced approximately 4 foot apart
- Secondary and complementary devices to barricades for street/road closures.
- Predominantly orange with a 6"-wide retroreflective white band located 3" to 4" from the top of the cone with an additional 4"-wide retroreflective white band located approximately 2" below the top band.
- Made of a material that can be struck without damage to an impacting vehicle.
- Not less than 28" in height (18" in low-speed, low traffic volume and full daylight situations) and have reflective material



CONES

Signage

Used in conjunction with barricades and cones.

Signs shall be:

- Used to inform drivers of a street/road closure ahead – "Road Closed."

- Placed out of the pedestrian right-of-way but visible to drivers.
- Affixed to a barricade or stand that does not block the sidewalk.

When Type 1 or Type 3 barricades are used, one facing oncoming traffic should have an MUTCD-compliant "Road Closed" sign affixed to it.



In higher traffic areas, signage giving advance notice of the road closure may also be required. This should be placed outside of traffic and not on a sidewalk, typically in the parking lane area.

Barricade Monitoring

Street closures should be monitored ***at all times***. Locations with local access needs may require dedicated staffing for barricade lines. In other locations, monitoring can be assigned to roaming staff provided the barricades are checked regularly to ensure they remain set up correctly and staff can respond rapidly if needed to remove cones or barricades for emergency or paratransit vehicles, or to clear pedestrians from the emergency access lane.

Please provide your monitors with this general information to help them understand barricade requirements and their role/responsibility. They can also be a good resource to share general information about the event with the public – so providing them with material on the event, flyers or handouts, and making sure they are fully briefed is advised.

Unless otherwise specified, monitors are required and are key to keeping events safe and ensuring emergency and paratransit access is maintained. The key responsibilities of the monitors are to (1) check all barricade deployments regularly to ensure they remain set up correctly, and (2) respond rapidly if needed to remove cones or barricades for emergency or paratransit vehicles, or to clear pedestrians from the emergency access lane.

Monitors should be…

- Eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- Physically capable of rapidly moving the barricades to allow access for emergency and paratransit vehicles.
- Equipped with identifying clothing. If the event will take place during times with limited daylight, reflective vests and flashlights should be provided.

- Equipped with a whistle or air horn to assist with clearing emergency lane.
- Provided with a copy of and required to read this sheet.
- Monitors should have picture ID while assisting.

Responsibilities

- Road closure barricades be ***monitored at all times.***
- The number of monitors will be determined by SFMTA based upon the size and traffic flow of the specific intersection/area. Typically, at least one (1) adult monitor is required at each barricade/road closure. For closures that do not require local access, monitoring by roving staff may be acceptable.
- Monitors must be prepared to move barricades out of the way for emergency or paratransit vehicle access throughout the event.
- Monitors will inform drivers of alternative routes, as needed.
- Monitors will NOT provide access to any vehicles without express permission from SFMTA or SFPD staff. Exception: emergency vehicles and official paratransit vehicles. Private vehicles cannot be allowed in to park on the street, only to access off-street parking by prior arrangement.
- Paratransit vehicles and vehicles with pre-approved local access must always be escorted through the closure area at a walking pace by event staff.
- ***Monitors shall not alter the barricade pattern*** without approval from SFMTA or SFPD personnel. The event coordinator/permittee is responsible for placing barricades, cones, and/or other approved items that comply with the conditions of use and requirements for street closure.

Sources for Barricade Material

The event sponsor is responsible for arranging for barricades through a private vendor or San Francisco Public Works. If you want to use Public Works, contact dpw-eventrequest@sfdpw.org

Local companies that rent barricades, signage and other material, and if needed can provide setup or staffing or develop traffic management plans, include:

Trical/TC Rentals https://tricalrentals.com/
BATS https://batstrafficsolutions.com/
TMI https://www.trafficmanagement.com/locations/bay-area/san-francisco/
CMC https://cmctraffic.com/

Barricades should be delivered as close to the event time as possible and must be picked up as soon as possible once the event has ended.