Potrero Hill Traffic Calming Project



SFMTA

12 | 10 | 2008 | SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Meeting Tonight

- Review early stages of the project
- Discuss Community Working Group efforts
- Present and discuss Traffic Calming Project
- Next steps

Initial Community Contact







Kick Off Meeting

- Described Project Area and Goals
- Solicited comments regarding traffic conditions
- Requested volunteers for Community Working Groups







SFMTA Municipal Transportation Agency

Potrero Hill Traffic Calming Project Community Meeting to Kick Off Safety Project

Are you concerned about traffic safety and speed? The City's Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) wants to help make your streets safer and more livable, and we need your help to make it happen. Please come to our kick-off "traffic calming" meeting Thursday March 22 at 7pm at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House (953 De Haro Street).

Manito Velasco, manager of MTA's Traffic Calming Program, notes: "The meeting on the 22nd is our chance to connect with people on a grassroots level to see what the prevailing traffic issues are in the neighborhood. We need to know what concerns people about their streets." Velasco added, "After all, what better way to become informed about a community than through the people who live there?"

WHAT IS TRAFFIC CALMING"?

the impact of traffic on our

neighborhood livability by reducing



neighborhoods: cutthrough traffic, speeding, reckless driving, and excessive noise and traffic levels. Traffic calming is not about closing off streets or iust adding speed humps. It comes more in the form of subtle changes to the street lavout. educational efforts. and enforcement programs. All of which reinforce everyone's right to use their neighborhood streets safely and comfortably. Traffic calming attempts to make cars more compatible with bicyclists pedestrians and other vehicles. and it works to make streets more pleasant places to livewithout unduly restricting access.

When we refer to "traffic calming," we're talking about improving

The Project Area: US 101 to I-280 and north of Cesar Chavez to south of 16th Street

Si Usted quiere información sobre el Proyecto de Calmar Tráfico, favor flamar a Sam Fielding a 701-4482 如有任何關於交通静化的問題.請電: Celine Leung :701-4558

Project Areas

- North Potrero Hill north of 20th Street
- South Potrero Hill south of 20th Street



Muni Routes

- 10 Townsend
- 19 Polk
- 22 Fillmore
- 48 Quintara
- 53 Southern Heights



Traffic Calming

- Combination of self-enforcing physical measures to improve safety on the Streets
- Reduce speeding and cut though
- Improve pedestrian/bike safety and access
- Increase driver awareness
- Prevent shifting the problem
- Enhance aesthetics
- Maintain access
- Include education and enforcement efforts

Community Working Groups

- Residents applied to be a part of the group
- Attempt was made to get a diverse group from throughout the project area
- Working Group members should be thanked for their insight and dedication

Community Working Group Meeting #1

- Reviewed and discussed comments from surveys and first community-wide meeting
- Helped prioritize locations for speed and volume data collection

Community Working Group Meeting #2

- Reviewed speed and volume data
- Discuss traffic calming toolbox
- Discuss appropriate measures for locations





Various Considerations

- Speeds
- Pedestrian generators
- STOP sign patterns
- Collision history
- Visibility
- Street grades
- Transit Performance
- Nearby projects
- Truck Traffic
- Cut Through Traffic

STOP Signs

- Not a traffic calming device
- Citywide Proliferation of STOPs = High level of STOP sign running
- Vehicles try to make up for lost time in the middle of the block
- We will evaluate requests for STOP signs based on safety and Right of Way issues

STOP Signs vs. Traffic Calming



Community Working Group Meeting #3

- Met with both working groups in one meeting
- Reviewed and discussed Draft Traffic Calming Plan





- Gateway Treatment
- Bulb Out
- Island
-) Roadway Narrowing with Paint
- ⊥P Add Perpendicular Parking
- Speed Hump
- Midblock Island
 - Chicane

Gateway Treatments





- Narrows street at entrance
- Tightens and slows
 turns
- Forces driver's attention on street environment
- Feel of entry point



- Gateway Treatment
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Pedestrian Islands



- Simplifies crossings cross street one direction at a time
- Tightens roadway and slows turns
- Can include landscaping and/or stamped concrete







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Sidewalk Bulb Outs

- Shortens curb to curb crossing distance
- Increase pedestrian visibility
- Tightens and slows turns
- Parking removal sometimes needed
- Need to accommodate larger vehicles





Rhode Island at Southern Heights



Existing

Proposed Bulb Outs and Ped Islands



- Gateway Treatment
- Bulb Out
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Speed Humps

- Effective in slowing speeds
- Not used on hills
- Relatively
 inexpensive
- Not great looking, but "aesthetically neutral"



Andover Street near Newman Street



- Gateway Treatment
- Bulb Out
- Island
-) Roadway Narrowing with Paint
- ⊥P Add Perpendicular Parking
- Speed Hump
- Midblock Island
 - Chicane

Mid-Block Median Islands

- Reduces "wide-open" feel
- Able to build on hills
- Planting opportunity
- Reduced access to driveways
- Maintenance required



23rd Avenue between Fulton and Cabrillo

Mid-block Island / Chicane



Chicanes





- Lateral shift slows traffic
- Breaks up sight lines
- Parking affected
- Minimum lateral widths an issue



³⁰ Use of angled parking for chicane

Chicane Example

Alabama Street, Bernal Heights



before

after



- Gateway Treatment
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Perpendicular Parking

- Narrows street which slows traffic
- Opportunity to add parking



Parallel and Perpendicular Parking Effect on Street Width and Speeds







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Roadway Narrowing with Edgelines Narrowed Streets = Lower Speeds





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Vermont Street at 17th St

Current: Three Lanes, Low Traffic **Volumes**





Median



- Gateway Treatment
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Bus Bulbouts

- Same traffic calming and ped safety benefits of corner bulb outs, plus:
- Shorter dwell time for transit
- More space for shelter and other street furniture outside walking space
- More landscaping opportunities
- Does not necessarily require parking removal



Speed Radar Signs

- Increases motorists' awareness of speed
- Good for transitions from higher to lower speed limit
- Effect may wear off with time
- Questionable effectiveness on multilane roadways



Trees

Can narrow space and discourage speeding





Newly planted trees in Richmond District



Duboce Triangle

Richmond District

Water Management through Streetscape Design: Permeable Pavement, "Rain Gardens," Trench



Next Steps

- Finalize Project
- Coordinate with other projects
- Detailed Design
- Obtain Funding
- Legislate Changes
- Public hearings and/or voting process for some measures
- Implement Measures

Other Projects

- Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP): www.sftep.com
- Eastern Neighborhoods
- Better Streets Plan www.sfbetterstreets.org
- Potrero Hill Public
 Housing Project



Project Contacts

- Livable Streets/Traffic Calming Hotline: (415) 554-2398
- Website: www.sfmta.com/calming
- North Potrero Hill Project Manager:

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