



SFMTA

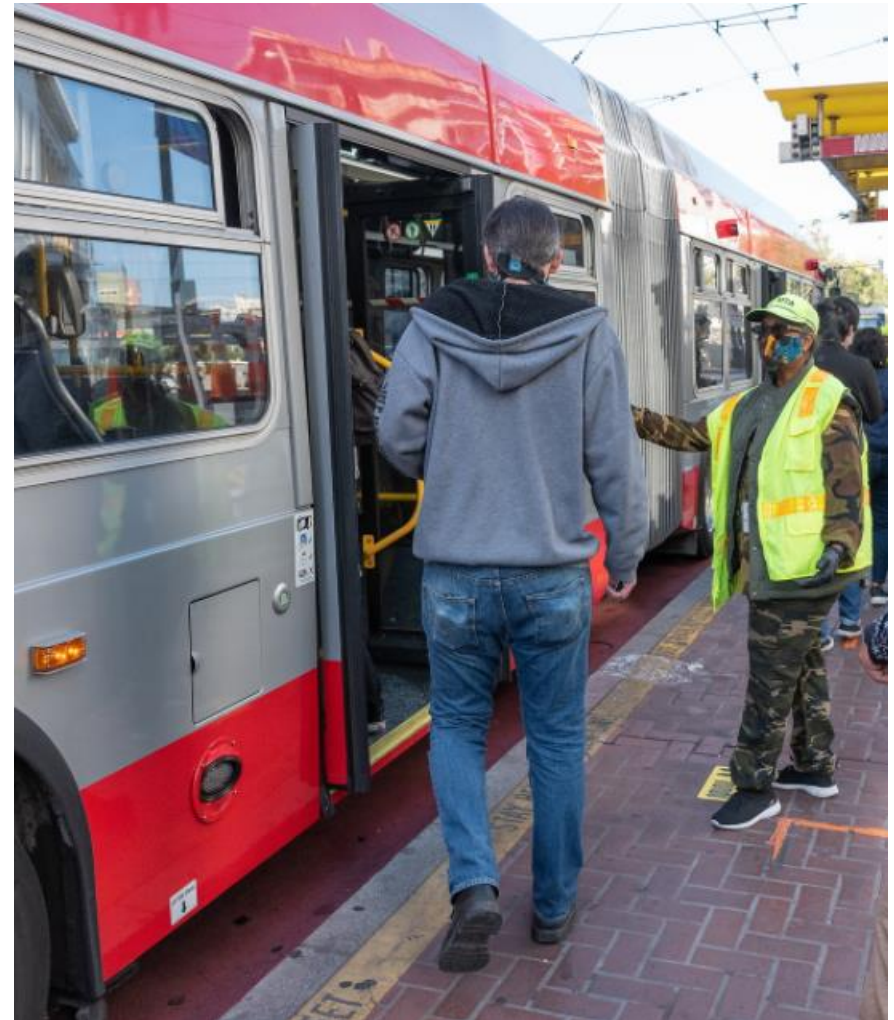
19 Polk Transit Lanes 7th & 8th Streets

Community Office Hours

August 25, 2021

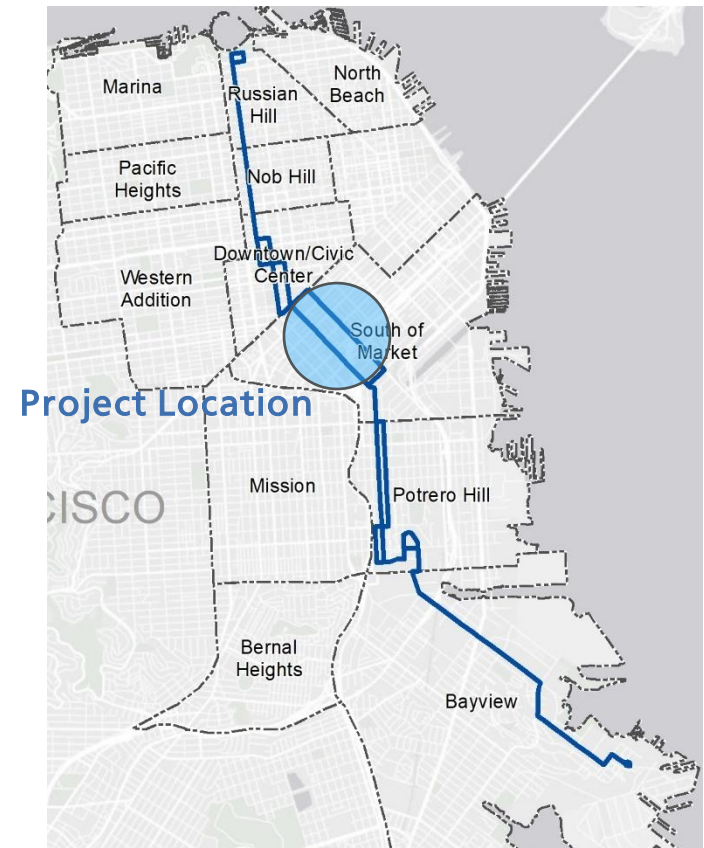
Project Goals

- Keep 19 Polk buses moving and reduce crowding by reducing delays
- Focus on locations where delays occur frequently
- Provide more frequent service with same number of vehicles, mitigating capacity restrictions
- Depending on the effectiveness of the transit lanes, propose making the lanes permanent



Before Temporary Transit Lanes

- Buses on the 19 Polk ran on 7th/8th **without dedicated lanes**
- Buses operated in **lanes shared with auto traffic**, causing buses to get delayed in traffic, including in SoMa leading to/from freeway ramps
- Delays can lead to less reliable arrival times across entire route



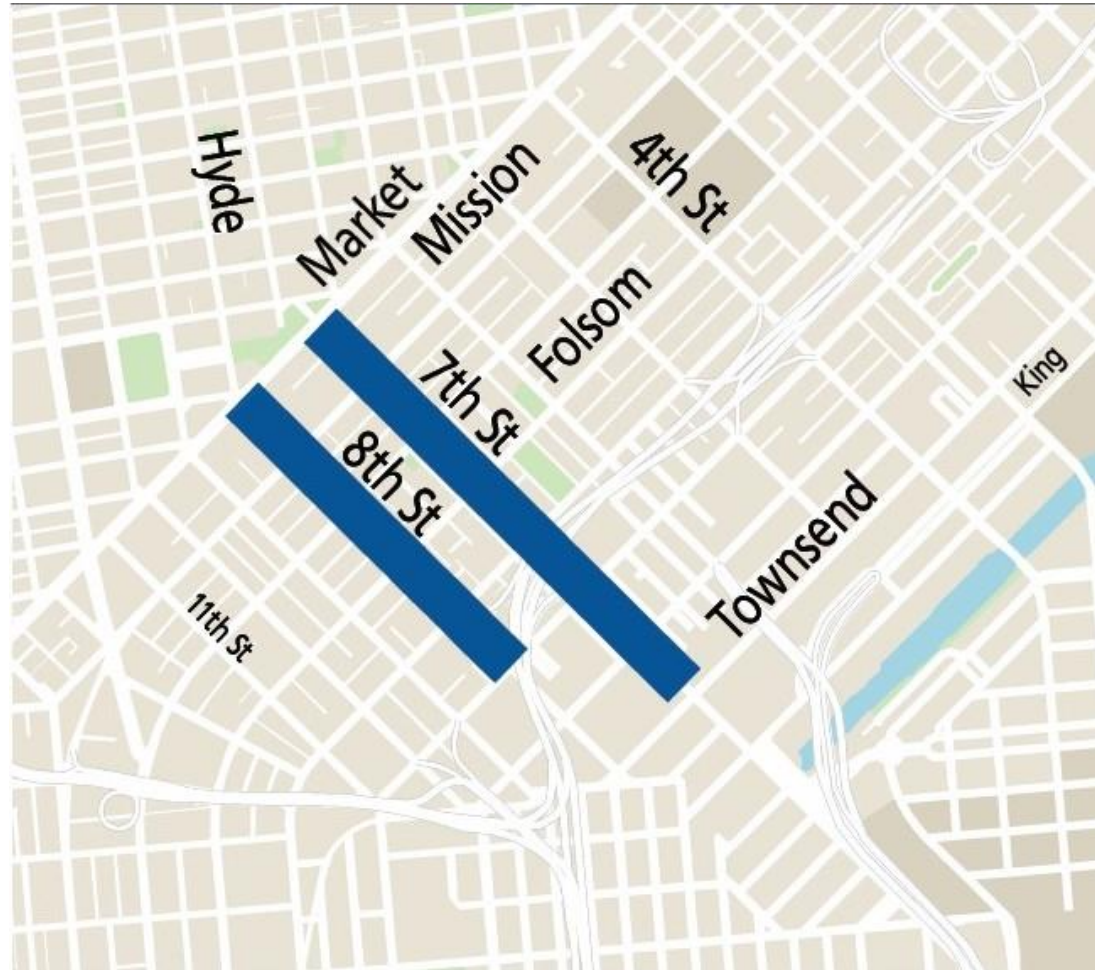
Current Temporary Project

Implemented in stages from Fall 2020 to Summer 2021

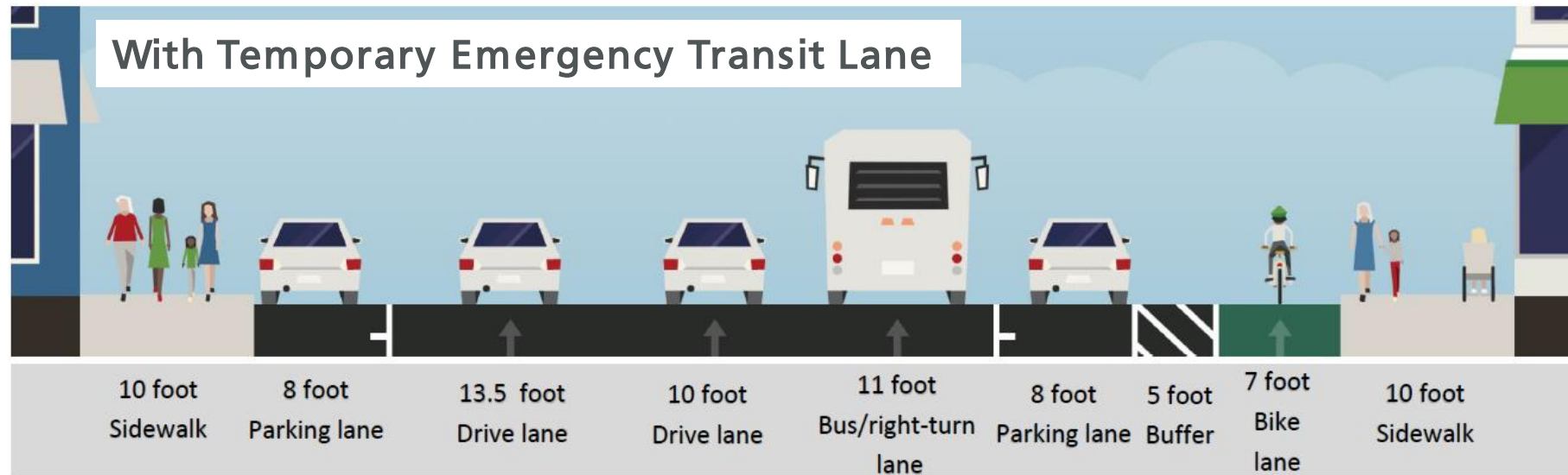
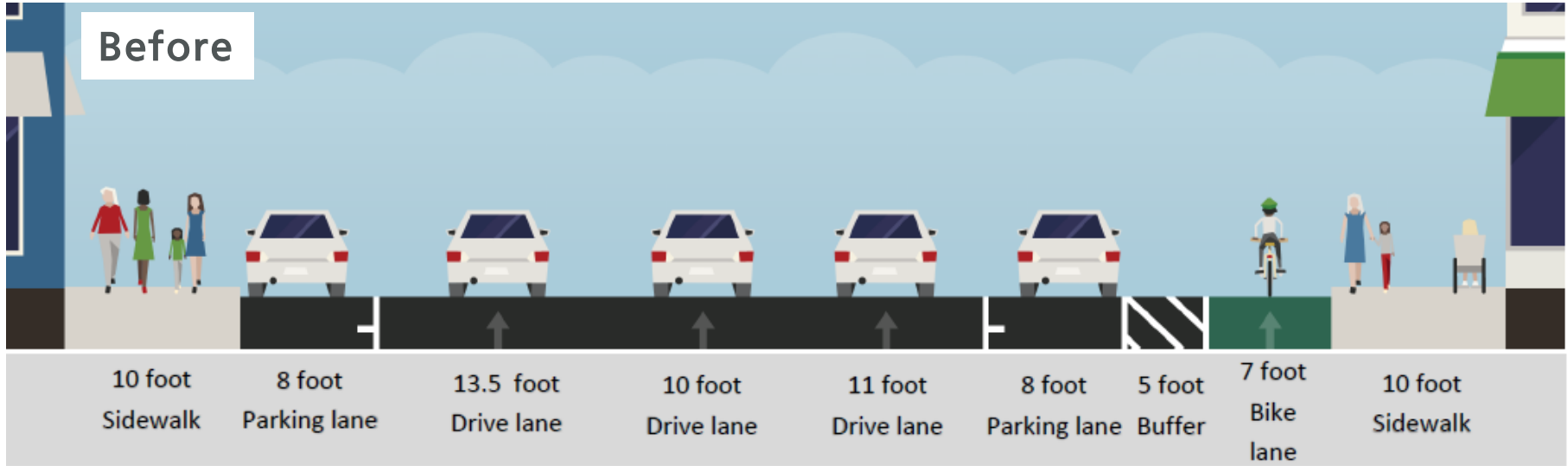
Converted one mixed traffic lane on 8th Street into a southbound transit lane, Market to Bryant

Converted one mixed traffic lane on 7th Street into a northbound transit lane, Townsend to Howard

Howard to Stevenson to be implemented at a later date



Current Temporary Project



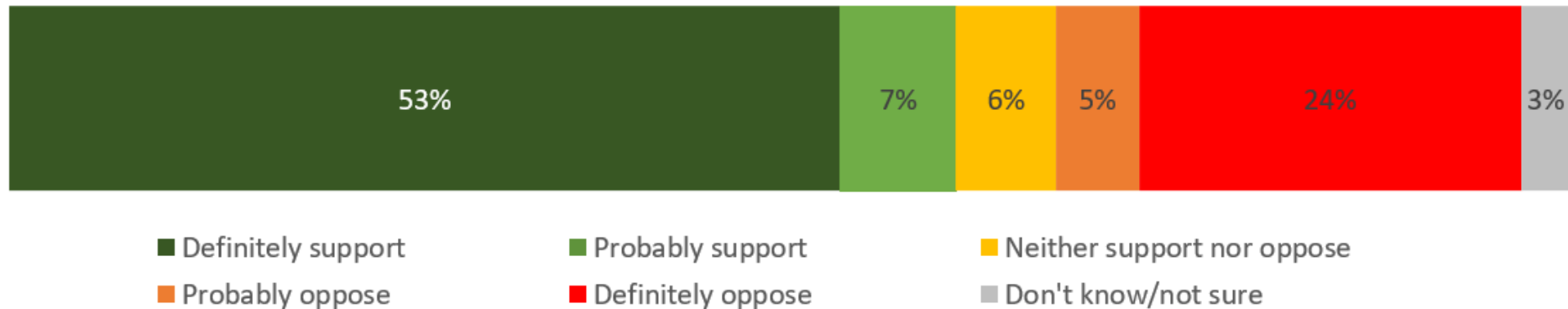
Current Temporary Project



Community Survey

A majority of survey respondents support making the transit lanes on 7th and 8th Streets permanent

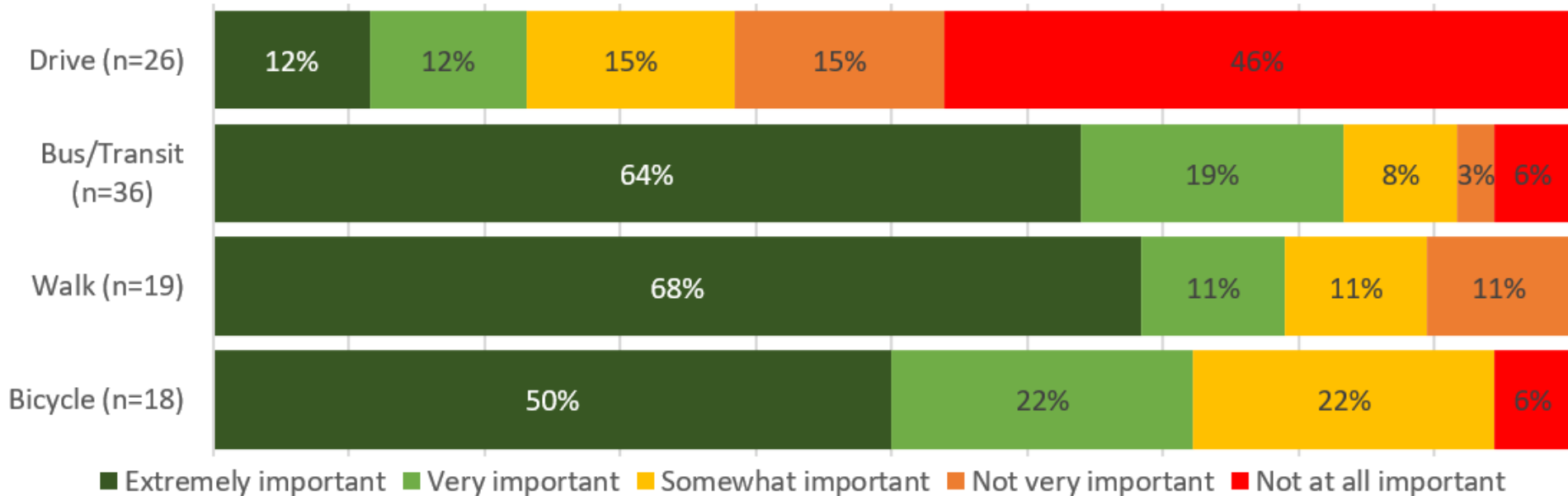
Would you support making temporary emergency transit lanes permanent? (n=94)



Community Survey

The majority of respondents said it's important to make sure Muni does not get delayed in traffic, though results varied by travel mode

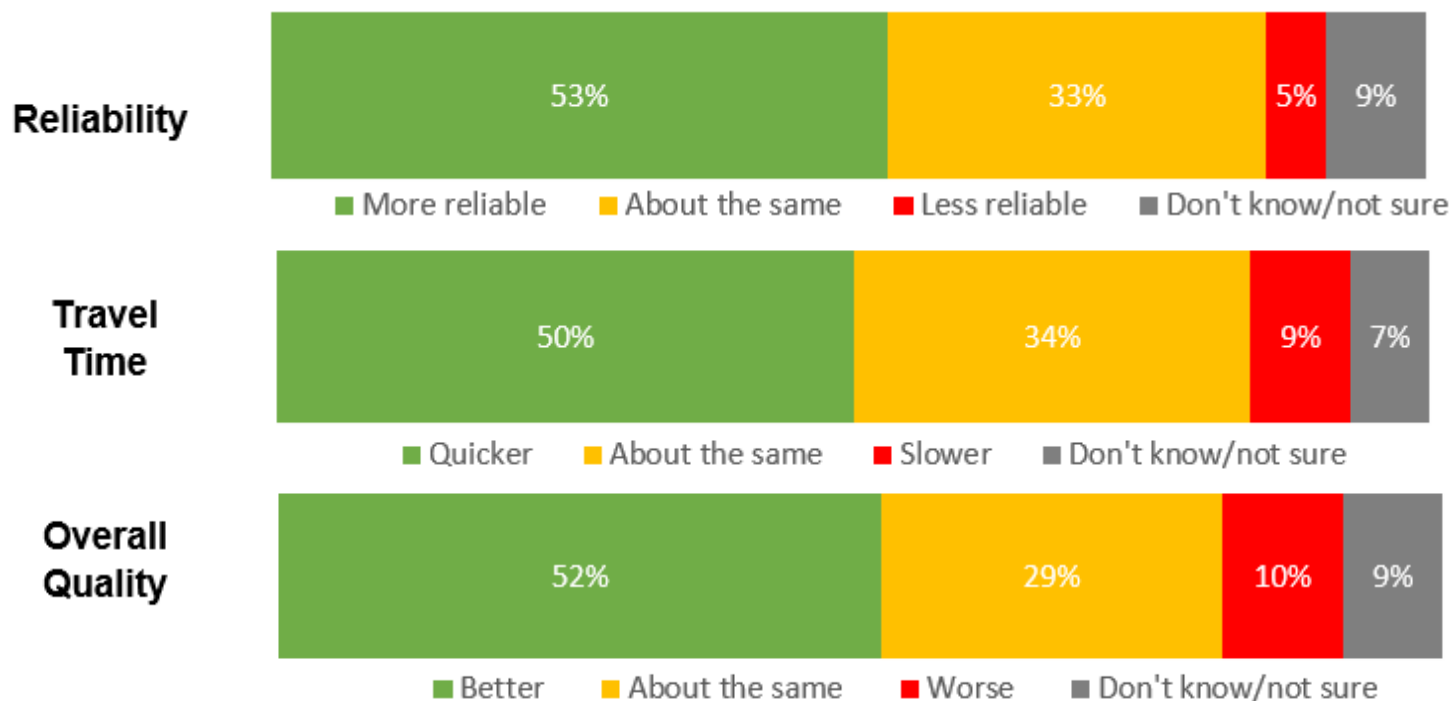
How important is it to you that Muni doesn't get delayed in traffic? (results by travel mode)



Community Survey

The majority of respondents said that 19 Polk reliability, travel time, and overall quality have improved since the temporary transit lanes were installed

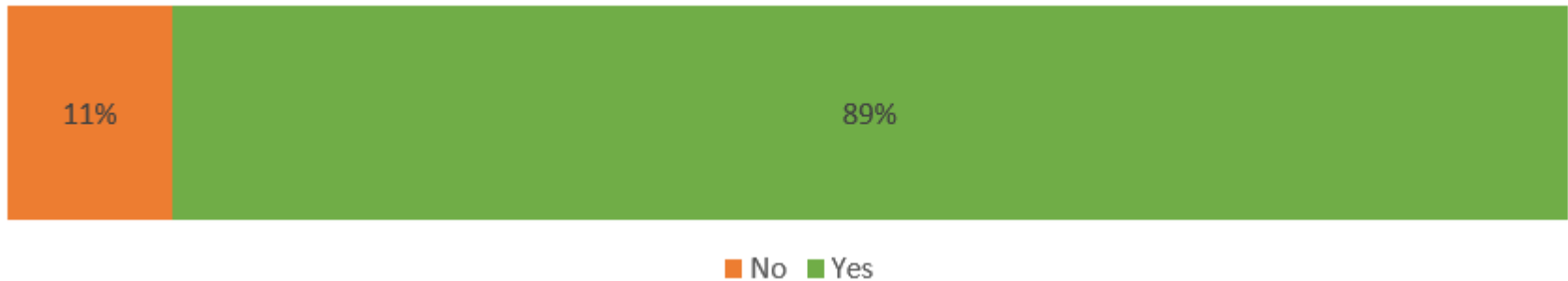
Responses from those who rode the 19 Polk at least once per week (n=58)



Bus Operator Feedback

The vast majority of bus operators reported that the temporary transit lanes on 7th and 8th Streets have made their jobs easier

Have the transit improvements made your job easier? (n=19)



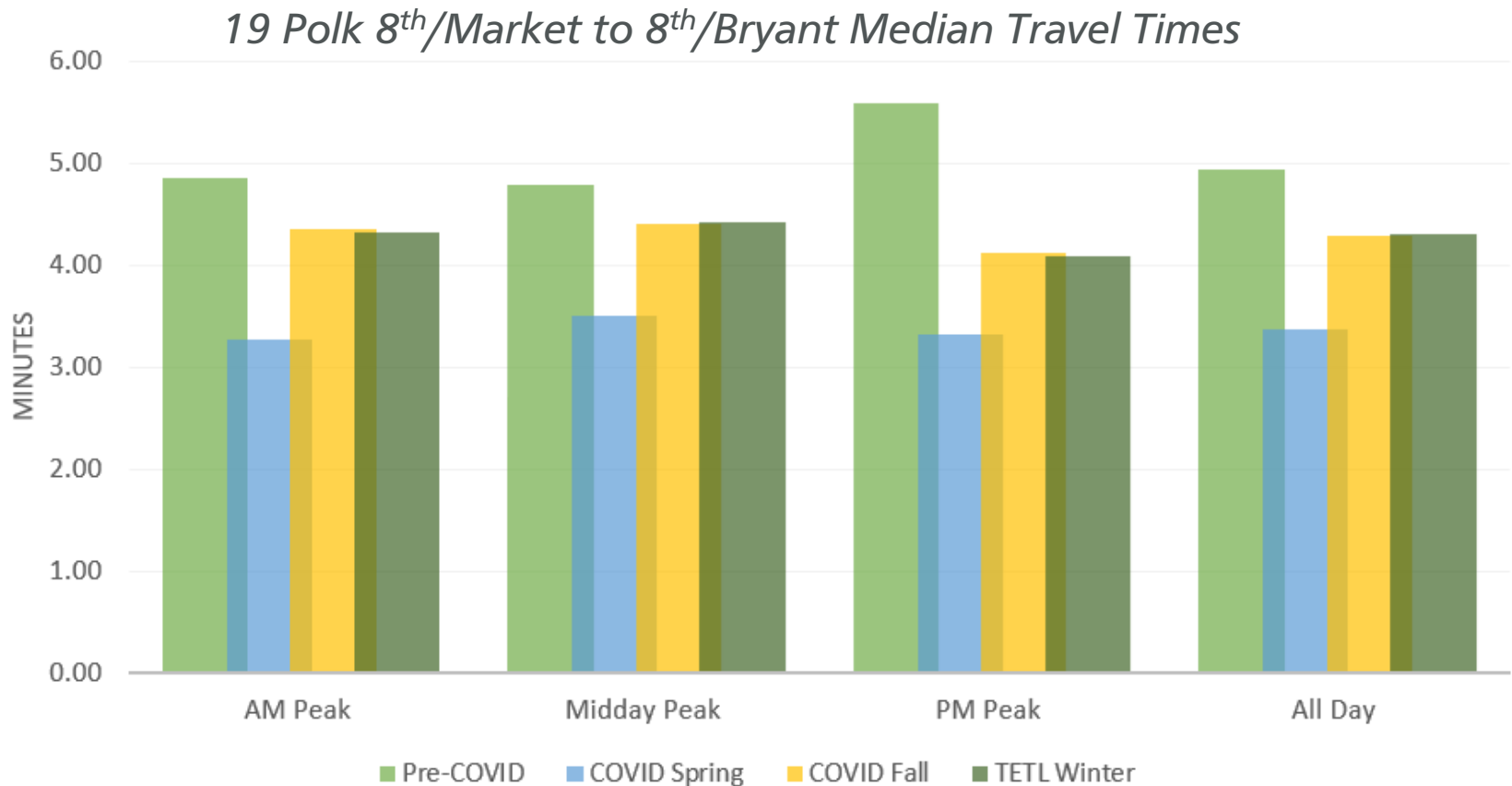
Project Beneficiaries and Equity

	Household Income Below \$35k	People of Color
19 Polk	40%	58%
Muni Systemwide Average	26%	57%
San Francisco City/County	18%	60%
Bayview	37%	90%
Downtown/Civic Center	41%	64%
Mission	24%	56%
Nob Hill	20%	50%
North Beach	30%	52%
Pacific Heights	8%	33%
Potrero Hill	15%	44%
Russian Hill	22%	43%
SoMa	32%	59%
Western Addition	22%	49%

Source: American Community Survey 2019 5-Year Estimates

Transit Performance

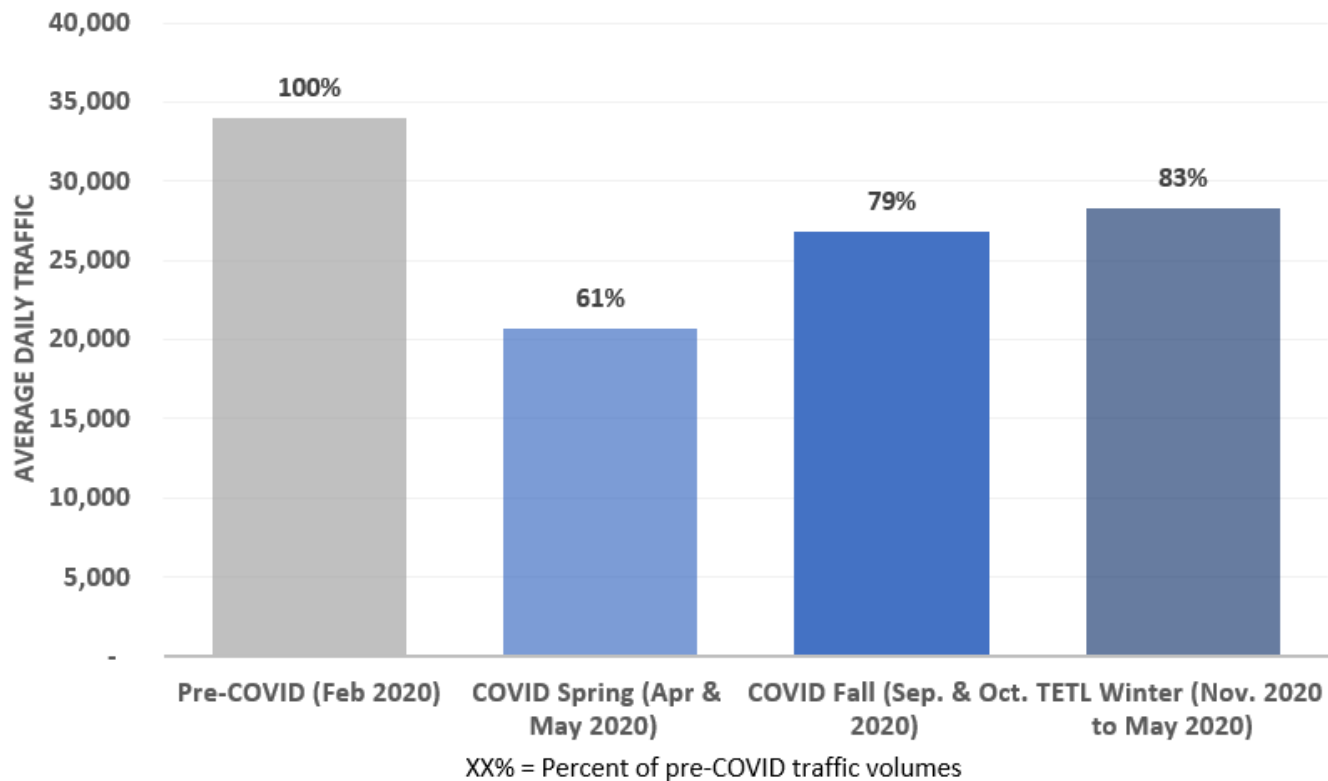
The temporary transit lanes helped 19 Polk buses maintain consistent travel times despite continued increase in citywide traffic volumes



Transit Performance

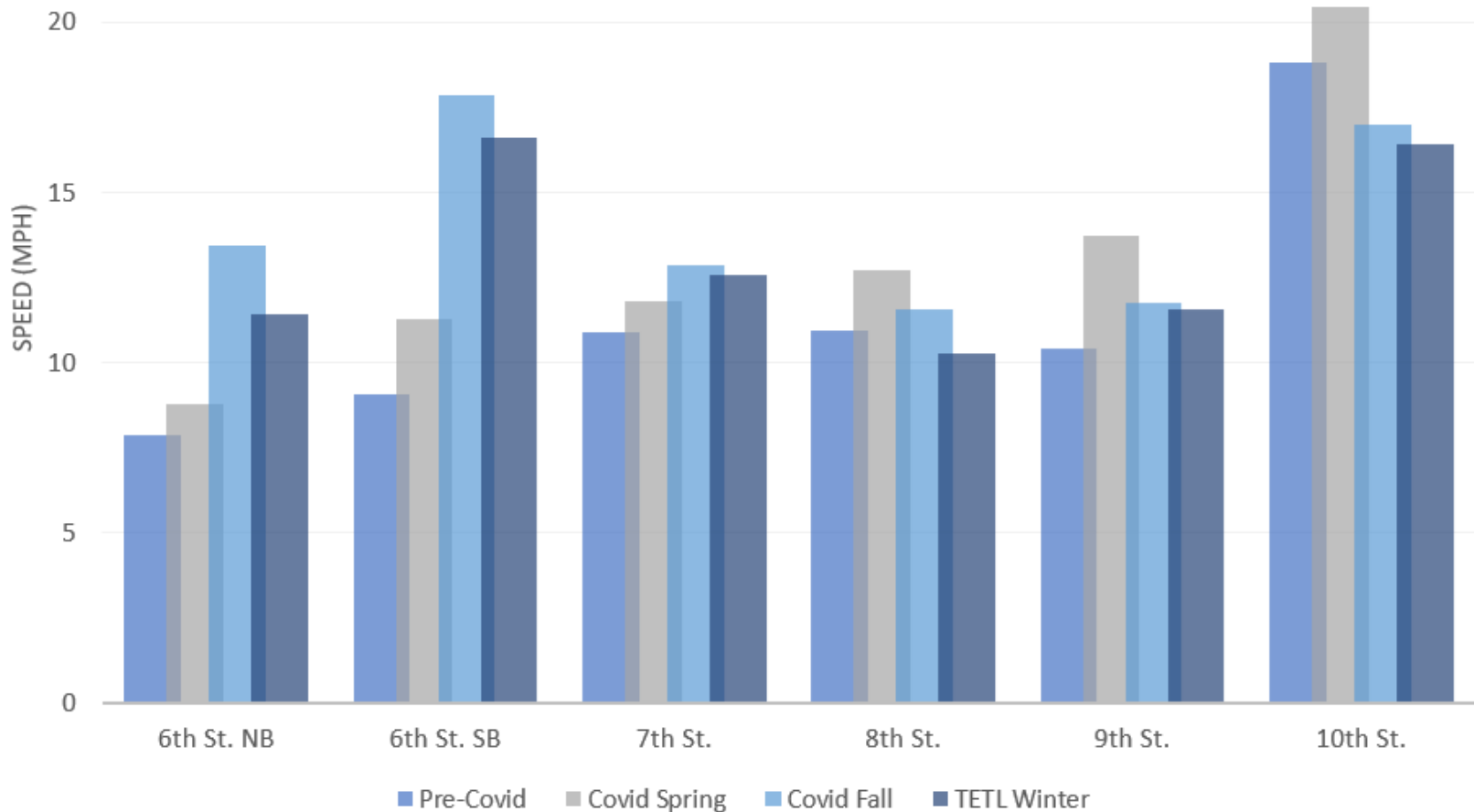
The temporary transit lanes helped 19 Polk buses maintain consistent travel times despite continued increase in citywide traffic volumes

8th Street Average Daily Traffic



Traffic Evaluation

The temporary transit lanes had little effect on traffic speeds, indicating little effect on traffic congestion



Next Steps and Timeline

- **August-October:** As-needed meetings with community organizations
- **November:** Present evaluation results and community feedback to SFMTA Board of Directors, so that they can decide whether to make the lanes permanent



Thank You

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Reference Slides

Program Benefits

- **Equity:** The project reduces the risk of exposure for people who have the fewest travel choices and ensures there is enough capacity on board, especially for lower-income people of color
- **Public Health:** Reducing crowding on transit is imperative to preventing the spread of COVID-19
- **Economic Recovery:** A strong economic recovery is dependent on an efficient transit system

