



SFMTA

Overnight restriction for Recreational Large Vehicles

SFMTA Board Directors Meeting

October 1, 2024

Why Are We Here Today?

- Homelessness is a major challenge in San Francisco, and the city does a lot to address it.
- The city needs additional tools to help people who are homeless.
- Mayor Breed and city agencies are proposing SF Transportation Code amendments that will give an additional tool to our colleagues who conduct homeless outreach.

Homeless Outreach Teams

- When people live on the sidewalk or in vehicles on city streets, there are health and safety impacts for everyone.
- City employees are out on the street every day working with individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
- We offer resources, including shelter, housing, financial assistance.
- **This proposed change to the Transportation Code would give us one more tool, to be used as a last resort, to encourage people to get the help they need.**

Transportation Code today

- SFMTA Board of Directors is authorized to restrict overnight parking on city streets by oversized vehicles.
- If restrictions are needed on a particular street, staff conduct outreach and engagement and then bring an item to the Board of Directors.
- If the Board approves parking restrictions on a particular street, the city advances posting regulation and begins enforcement.
- Existing restriction is not a towable offense.

What would change

- The Director of Transportation would also be authorized to restrict overnight parking for a subset of oversized vehicles, on any street in the city.
- Once the restrictions have been noticed and people living in vehicles have been offered shelter, and signs posted, vehicles that have not moved can be towed.

What would not change

- Whether the overnight parking restriction is authorized by the SFMTA Board or the Director of Transportation, the city will continue to do extensive outreach before any vehicle that appears to be inhabited is cited or towed.

Large Vehicles on City Streets

Large vehicles on city streets jeopardize street safety, curb access, circulation and operations. Challenges have been observed and reported for years by residents, businesses, enforcement, officials and other institutions.

311 Complaints	Year to Date*	Total for Year
2024	1,491	
2023	1,318	1,968
2022	1,403	2,051

** Date through August 2024*

2012: Board of Supervisors approves 7.2.54

SEC. 7.2.54. LARGE VEHICLE PARKING RESTRICTIONS.

To Park a vehicle over 22 feet in length or over 7 feet in height, or camp trailers, fifth-wheel travel trailers, house cars, trailer coaches, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, or semi-trailers as defined by the California Vehicle Code and Health and Safety Code, between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m. when Municipal Transportation Agency signs are posted giving notice.

History of Restriction

Vehicular habitation is illegal in San Francisco.

Police Code, Section 97; established 1971.

2013

- SFMTA Board of Directors approved first locations for OV parking restrictions.
- Staff published report: *Oversize Vehicle Parking Restriction Pilot – Evaluation and Recommendations*

2014

- SFMTA Board approved a second location for parking restrictions, then directed the agency to pause on additional restrictions because of concerns.

2018

- District 11 Supervisor asked for OV parking restrictions on De Wolf Street. Board approved restrictions, directed staff to develop guidelines for future proposals.

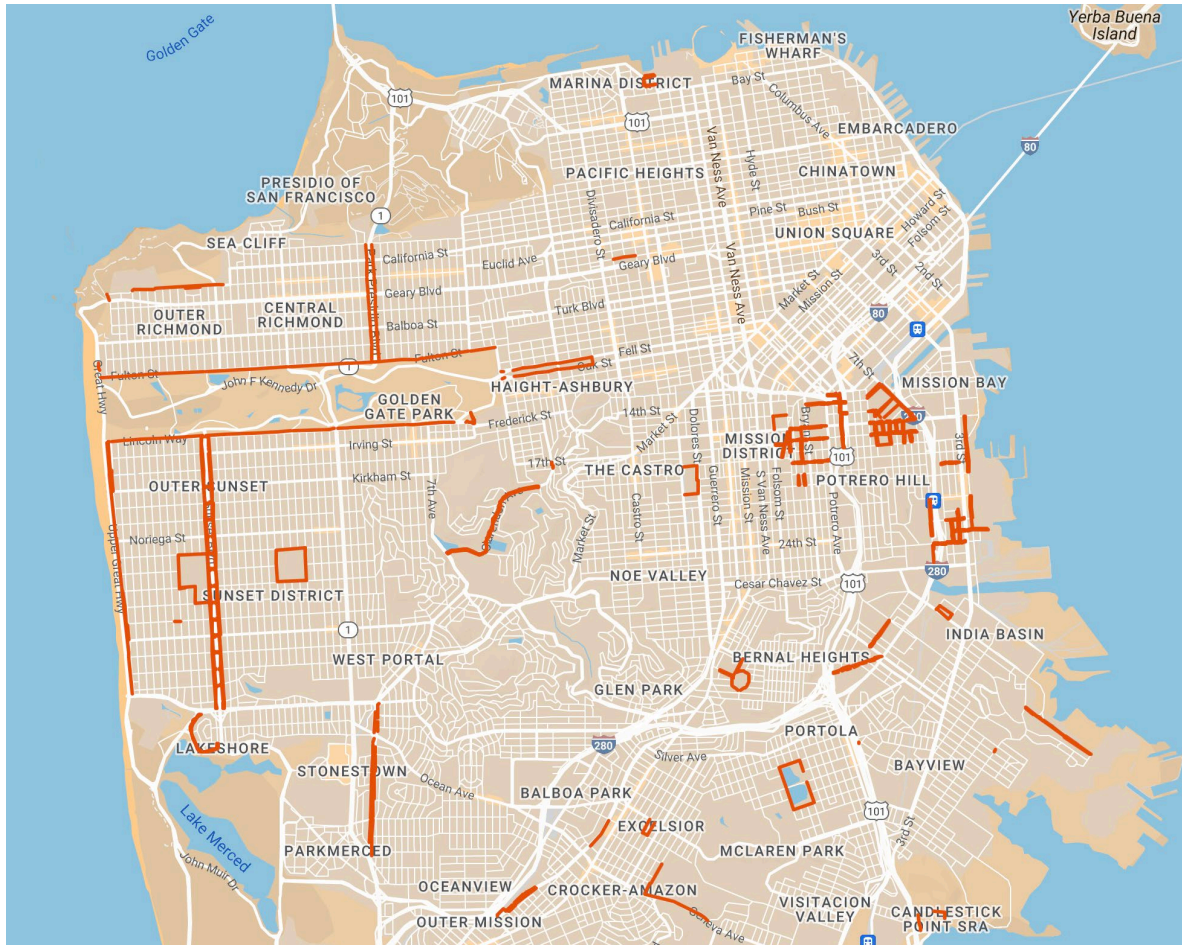
2019

- SFMTA Board approved OV parking restriction in D9 on the perimeter of the University Mound Reservoir

2020

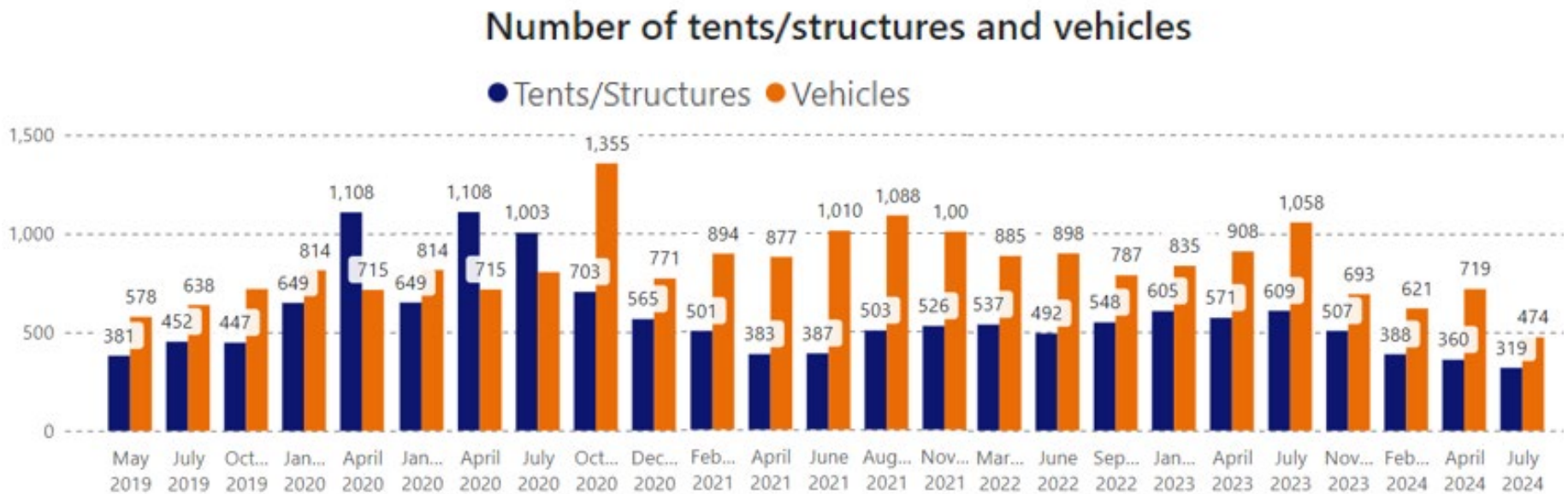
- Pandemic began.

Large Vehicle Overnight Parking Restrictions in San Francisco



Continued Challenges

Impacts of large recreational vehicles continue to be a challenge. City streets don't offer facilities for managing trash and human waste that are generated by long-term vehicular habitation.



Source: Healthy Streets Operations Center (HSOC) <https://www.sf.gov/data/healthy-streets-data-and-information>

Summary of Code Amendments

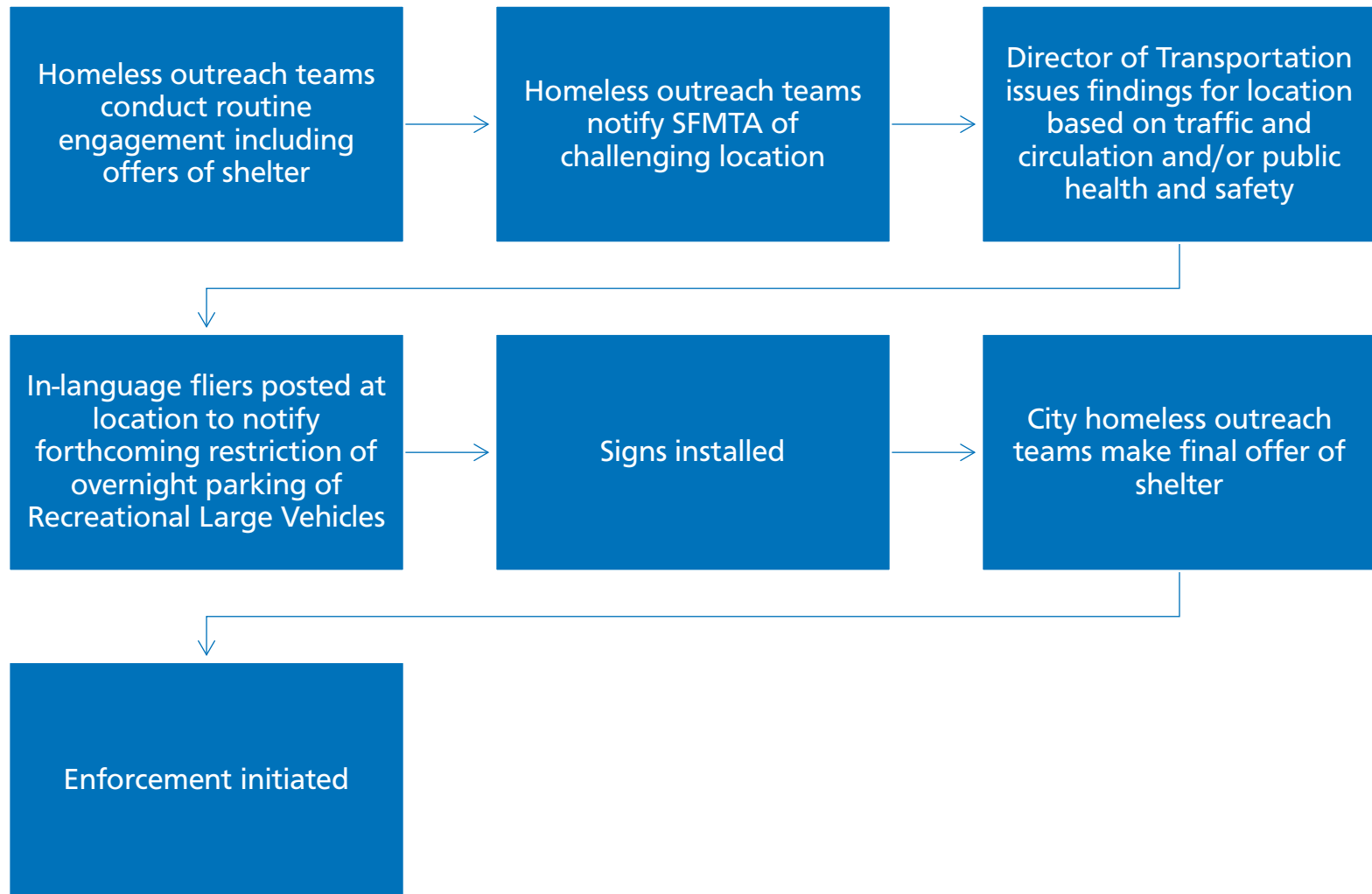
1. Define Recreational Large Vehicle.
2. Authorize the Director of Transportation to issue criteria and guidelines to determine where to post signs to enact the restriction.
3. Require the Director to make written findings.
4. Authorize the Director of Transportation to install signage implementing the Recreational Large Vehicle parking restriction overnight from Midnight to 6 a.m.
5. Make the violation towable.



Code Requirement

(c) If the street where signs are posted includes Recreational Large Vehicles that are used as lodging, enforcement will not commence until an offer of shelter by City acting through City homeless outreach teams or any successor entity has been made to occupants of the Recreational Large Vehicles.

Process and Implementation



Summary

The San Francisco Transportation Code amendments we are asking to vote on today will:

1. Allow the Director of Transportation to restrict overnight parking for Recreational Large Vehicle under specific circumstances.
2. Make the violation of this restriction a towable offense.

The Mayor's Office and city agencies that work with people who are experiencing homelessness believe these changes will help them be more effective in getting people into shelter and off the streets.

Questions and Comments