

THIS PRINT COVERS CALENDAR ITEM NO: 10.3

**SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

DIVISION: Streets

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Approving Roadway Shared Spaces street closures on: (1) Larkin Street between Eddy and O'Farrell streets, Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, the second Saturday of each month; (2) Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024 through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily; (3) Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday; and making environmental review findings.

SUMMARY:

- Roadway Shared Spaces closures which significantly interfere with or delay a public transit service, exceed ten consecutive hours per day over four consecutive days per week, or exceed a total period of time more than two years are considered to be a Longer-Term Closure and therefore require approval from this Board.
- The proposed Roadway Shared Spaces closures would close the following areas to vehicular traffic part time: (1) Larkin Street between Eddy and O'Farrell streets; (2) Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets; and (3) Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue.
- The proposed Roadway Shared Spaces closures have been presented at an Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation public hearing.
- The proposed Roadway Shared Spaces street closures have been reviewed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

ENCLOSURES:

1. SFMTAB Resolution
2. Better Streets Plan Mitigated Negative Declaration
http://sfmea.sfplanning.org/2007.1238E_FMND.pdf
3. Better Streets Plan CEQA Findings, Planning Commission Resolution
https://sfplanning.s3.amazonaws.com/default/files/meetingarchive/planning_dept/sf-planning.org/ftp/files/Commission/cpcpackets/2007.1238emrtu.pdf
4. Better Streets Plan Mitigated Negative Declaration Shared Spaces Addendum
<https://citypln-m.extnl.sfgov.org/SharedLinks.aspx?accesskey=bc61363c7effb77e5715d781677a071ae265f0cdbf27c18bd9d91b3402e0900a&VaultGUID=A4A7DACD-B0DC-4322-BD29-F6F07103C6E0>

APPROVALS:

	DATE
DIRECTOR 	May 1, 2024
SECRETARY 	May 1, 2024

ASSIGNED SFMTAB CALENDAR DATE: May 7, 2024

PURPOSE

Approving Roadway Shared Spaces street closures on: (1) Larkin Street between Eddy and O’Farrell streets, Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, the second Saturday of each month; (2) Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024 through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily; (3) Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday; and making environmental review findings.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND TRANSIT FIRST POLICY PRINCIPLES

This item will support the following goals and objectives of the SFMTA Strategic Plan:

Goal 6: Eliminate pollution and greenhouse gas emissions by increasing use of transit, walking and bicycling.

Goal 7: Build stronger relationships with stakeholders.

This item will support the following Transit First Policy Principles:

1. To ensure quality of life and economic health in San Francisco, the primary objective of the transportation system must be the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.
3. Decisions regarding the use of limited public street and sidewalk space shall encourage the use of public rights of way by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit, and shall strive to reduce traffic and improve public health and safety.

DISCUSSION

Tenderloin Proposed Roadway Shared Spaces Closure

The Tenderloin Merchant and Property Owner’s Association (TLMPA) promotes the Tenderloin neighborhood and advocates for better business conditions. TLMPA has applied for a Roadway Shared Spaces permit which would close Larkin Street between Eddy and O’Farrell streets to vehicular traffic from Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, second Saturday of each month with the exception of the August date being on August 3, 2024, to reduce conflict with Outside Lands, which is scheduled for the second weekend in August. The intersection of Larkin Street at Ellis Street would remain open to vehicular traffic. This street closure was originally permitted under the pandemic era Shared Spaces program beginning in September 2020 for every Saturday and Sunday. The closure hours have since been reduced to one Saturday a month. The Tenderloin Shared Space is a monthly community event that includes art, music, children’s activities, and community resources. The street closure requires the temporary reroute of the 19 Polk every second Saturday to accommodate the proposed closure. This reroute was implemented under TLMPA’s pandemic-era Shared Spaces permit and has not posed any significant issues.

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Trinity Proposed Roadway Shared Spaces Closure

Trinity Street is a narrow one-way southbound alley running from Bush to Sutter streets in the Financial District, parallel to Montgomery Street. The adjacent building, 333 Bush Street, has steps that connect its plaza to Trinity Street. Justin Zucker of the law firm Reuben, Junius & Rose, LLP has applied for a Roadway Shared Spaces permit which would close Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024, through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily. Mr. Zucker has operated a daily street closure in this location since October 2021, originally permitted through a pandemic emergency order, then through the temporary pandemic era Shared Spaces program. This application is a renewal from the previous year and proposes no changes to their closure footprint and setup. The Trinity Shared Space expands the outdoor seating from the 333 Bush Street building plaza to Trinity Street with tables and chairs to serve customers of nearby restaurants, businesses, and the public.

Hawthorn Proposed Roadway Shared Spaces Closure

Hawthorn is a nightlife venue and cocktail bar in the Union Square area. Hawthorn has applied for a Roadway Shared Spaces permit which would close Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday. Hawthorn has operated a street closure in this location since February 2021, originally permitted through a pandemic emergency order, then through the temporary pandemic era Shared Spaces program. This application is a renewal from the previous year and proposes no changes to their closure footprint and setup. The Hawthorn Shared Space provides outdoor seating and entertainment.

The requests are to close the following areas to vehicular traffic, as requested by the respective applicants:

- Larkin Street between Eddy and O'Farrell streets (intersection of Larkin and Ellis streets to remain open), Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, the second Saturday of each month with the exception of the August date being on August 3, 2024;
- Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024, through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily; and
- Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday.

The SFMTA Board of Directors is asked to consider the approval of a Longer-Term Closure of the above areas under the authority granted by California Vehicle Code section 21101 and Div. II, section 206 of the Transportation Code for the purpose of issuing a Roadway Shared Spaces permit. In doing so the Board would find based upon a determination of public convenience and necessity that the subject portions of Larkin Street, Trinity Street, and Maiden Lane are no longer needed for vehicular traffic during the proposed closure hours, and that the street closures are necessary for the safety and protection of the public who will use the street during the closure.

ITEMS

The following items were considered at a Public Hearing held on March 28, 2024, by the

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Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation (ISCOTT).

- A. ESTABLISH – SHARED SPACES ROAD CLOSURE – Larkin Street between Eddy and O’Farrell streets (intersection of Larkin and Ellis streets to remain open), Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, the second Saturday of each month with the exception of the August date being on August 3, 2024.

Item A would grant a permit for a Shared Spaces Road Closure for the Tenderloin Merchant and Property Owner’s Association for monthly community events.

- B. ESTABLISH – SHARED SPACES ROAD CLOSURE – Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024, through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily.

Item B would grant a permit for a Shared Spaces Road Closure for Justin Zucker to provide outdoor seating on Trinity Street.

The following items were considered at a Public Hearing held on April 11, 2024, by ISCOTT.

- C. ESTABLISH – SHARED SPACES ROAD CLOSURE – Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday.

Item C would grant a permit for a Shared Spaces Road Closure for Hawthorn for outdoor seating and entertainment.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Item A was considered at a Public Hearing held on March 28, 2024 by ISCOTT. No public comments were received at the hearing. In advance of the hearing, the Tenderloin Merchant and Property Owner’s Association shared that they had conducted individual outreach with merchants.

Item B was considered at a Public Hearing held on March 28, 2024 by ISCOTT. No public comments were received at the hearing. In advance of the hearing, ISCOTT received a letter of support signed by the property owners of the two adjacent buildings at 333 Bush Street and 149-155 Montgomery Street.

Item C was considered at a Public Hearing held on April 11, 2024 by ISCOTT. No public comments were received at the hearing. In advance of the hearing, ISCOTT received a letter of support from the Union Square Alliance.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The details of the proposed closure presented in Items A, B, and C are as requested by the applicants.

FUNDING IMPACT

The ISCOTT application fee, which applies to Roadway Shared Spaces (Transportation Code SEC 6.16(g)), is set at a cost recovery rate to cover staff's time and effort to review the subject application. The District 5 Supervisor's Office has paid the application fee of \$2,200 for Item A for applications submitted 30 to 59 days before the first event. The applicant for Item B has paid an application fee of \$2,200 for applications submitted 30 to 59 days before the first event. The applicant for Item C has paid an application fee of \$1,800 for applications submitted 60 to 89 days before the first event.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

On April 19, 2021, the San Francisco Planning Department determined that the Shared Spaces Program (Case No. 2021-003010ENV), inclusive of items A, B, and C, is within the scope of the Better Streets Plan Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (FMND, Case No. 2007.1238E, September 17, 2010), and that the proposal would not require the preparation of a subsequent negative declaration under CEQA Guidelines section 15162. On October 28, 2010, the Planning Commission in Resolution No. 18211, adopted findings under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of the Administrative Code (CEQA Findings), and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), associated with the Better Streets Plan.

Copies of the CEQA determinations are on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and may be found in the records of the Planning Department by Case Number at <https://sfplanninggis.org/pim/> or 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400 in San Francisco, and are incorporated herein by reference.

OTHER APPROVALS RECEIVED OR STILL REQUIRED

Pursuant to section 206 of the Transportation Code, the decision of the SFMTA Board of Directors with respect to any proposed Longer-Term Closure of a Traffic Lane shall be final.

A public hearing for Items A and B was held at the March 28, 2024 meeting of ISCOTT. A public hearing for Item C was held at the April 11, 2024 meeting of ISCOTT.

The City Attorney has reviewed this item.

RECOMMENDATION

Approving Roadway Shared Spaces street closures on: (1) Larkin Street between Eddy and O'Farrell streets, Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, the second Saturday of each month; (2) Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024 through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily; (3) Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday; and making environmental review findings.

SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) has received applications for Roadway Shared Spaces street closures as follows:

- A. ESTABLISH – SHARED SPACES ROAD CLOSURE – Larkin Street between Eddy and O’Farrell streets (intersection of Larkin and Ellis streets to remain open), Saturday, May 11, 2024, through Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 am to 8 pm, second Saturday of each month with the exception of the August date being on August 3, 2024;
- B. ESTABLISH – SHARED SPACES ROAD CLOSURE – Trinity Street between Bush and Sutter streets, Wednesday, May 9, 2024, through Thursday, May 8, 2025, 8 am to 10 pm, daily;
- C. ESTABLISH – SHARED SPACES ROAD CLOSURE – Maiden Lane between Kearny Street and Grant Avenue, Saturday, May 18, 2024, through Sunday, May 18, 2025, 5 pm to 10 pm, each Tuesday through Friday, and 12 noon to 10 pm, each Saturday; and

WHEREAS, The subject portion of the above listed streets are no longer needed for vehicular traffic during the proposed closure hours and the street closures are necessary for the safety and protection of the public who will use those portions of the streets during the closures; and,

WHEREAS, On September 17, 2010, the San Francisco Planning Department published the Better Streets Plan Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (Better Streets Plan FMND, Case No. 2007.1238E), and under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of the Administrative Code—the San Francisco Planning Commission adopted CEQA Findings, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) on October 28, 2010 under Motion 18211; and,

WHEREAS, On April 19, 2021, the San Francisco Planning Department determined that the Shared Spaces Program (Case No. 2021-003010ENV), inclusive of Items A, B, and C is within the scope of the Better Streets Plan FMND and that it would not require the preparation of a subsequent negative declaration under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162; and,

WHEREAS, The SFMTA Board of Directors has reviewed the Better Streets Plan Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (FMND) and Addendum and finds that since adoption of the FMND, no changes have occurred in the proposed project or in the circumstances under which the project would be implemented that would cause new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of impacts identified and analyzed in the FMND, and that no new information has emerged that would materially change the analysis or conclusions set forth in the FMND; The actions approved herein would not necessitate implementation or additional or considerably different mitigation measures that those identified in the FMND; and

WHEREAS, Copies of the CEQA determinations are on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors, and may be found in the records of the Planning Department by Case Number at <https://sfplanninggis.org/pim/> or 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400 in San Francisco, and are incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, The public has been notified about the proposed modifications and has been given the opportunity to comment on those modifications through the public hearing process; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors adopts these CEQA findings as its own; a copy of the Planning Commission Resolution, the CEQA findings, and the CEQA determinations are on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors, and may be found in the records of the Planning Department at <https://sfplanning.org/> and 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400 in San Francisco, and is incorporated herein by reference; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency approves Item A above, and finds that the subject portion of the above listed street is no longer needed for vehicular traffic during the proposed closure hours and the street closure is necessary for the safety and protection of the public who will use that portion of the street during the closure; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency approves Item B above, and finds that the subject portion of the above listed street is no longer needed for vehicular traffic during the proposed closure hours and the street closure is necessary for the safety and protection of the public who will use that portion of the street during the closure; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency approves Item C above, and finds that the subject portion of the above listed street is no longer needed for vehicular traffic during the proposed closure hours and the street closure is necessary for the safety and protection of the public who will use that portion of the street during the closure.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of May 7, 2024.

Secretary to the Board of Directors
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency