

# Accessible Parking Policy Advisory Committee Background Information

OVERVIEW PRESENTATION / 1





## Presentation Overview

1. Blue zones
2. Disabled placards and plates
3. Disabled placard/plate enforcement
4. Disability, car availability, and poverty statistics in SF



## Blue zone overview

### Purpose

Ensure proximity to public destinations for people with disabilities.

### Features

- Must display disabled placard to park in blue zone
- Generally located in areas with high public use
- Marked by signage and blue curb paint





## Blue zone request process

1. Application via 311 call or mailed to SFMTA
2. SFMTA traffic engineers survey location
3. Notice posted around location and on-line
4. Public Hearing at City Hall
5. SFMTA Board of Directors approval
6. SFMTA paints curb and posts signage



## Blue zone data

### Blue zones in San Francisco

- 700 blue zones
- 2.3% of metered spaces

### Proposed ADA guidelines

- Blue zones in 4% of marked or metered parking

### Physical requirements for blue zones (ADA and MOD)

- Street slope < 8.3%
- Clear sidewalk with cross slope < 2%
- Ramps behind zones
- No tow-away zones



## Disabled placards and plates overview

### Purpose

Improve proximity to destination and minimize need to return to car.

### Types

- Temporary or permanent
- Hanging placard or license plate

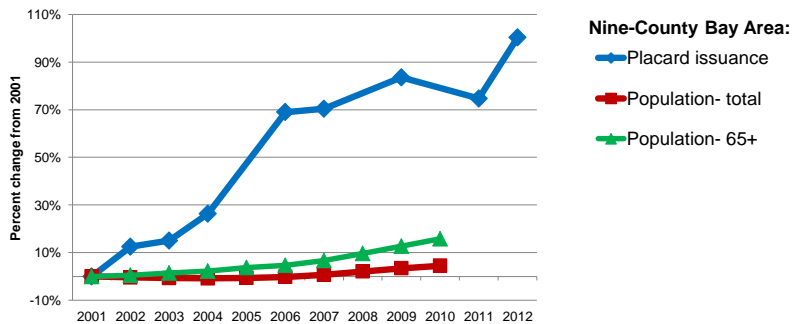
### Features for on-street parking (CA state law)

- Enable parking in blue zones
- Exempt from meter payment
- Exempt from time limits- meters, RPP, signed limits



## Disabled placard issuance

- DMV issues placards
- 60,750 placards held by San Franciscans as of Nov. 2012
- In surrounding 8 counties, 453,830 placards



Sources: CA DMV and U.S. Census



## Disabled placard issuance- data table

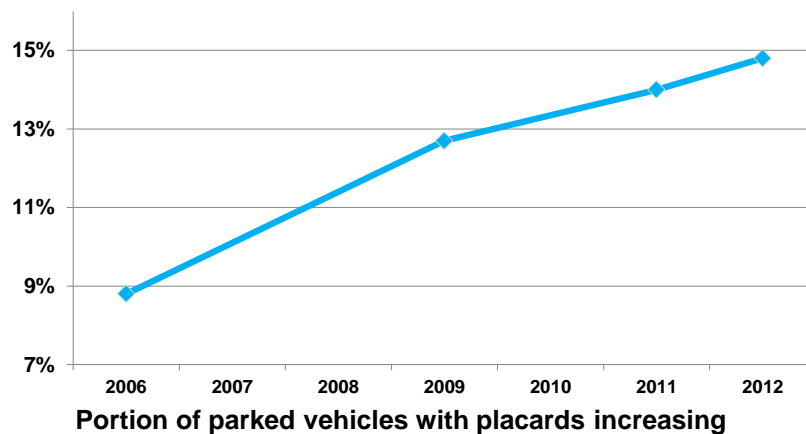
Percent change since 2001- nine-county Bay Area

Year	Placard issuance	Population- total	Population- 65+
2001	0%	0%	0%
2002	12%	0%	1%
2003	15%	-1%	1%
2004	26%	-1%	2%
2005		-1%	4%
2006	69%	0%	5%
2007	70%	1%	7%
2008		2%	10%
2009	84%	3%	13%
2010		5%	16%
2011	75%		
2012	100%		

Sources: CA DMV and U.S. Census Bureau



## Disabled placard on-street usage



Source: SFMTA surveys. Vehicles surveyed included commercial vehicles in yellow loading zones; the proportion of parked cars with placards would be higher if these vehicles were omitted. 2012 survey results are preliminary (figure includes 10 of 20 areas surveyed).



## Disabled placard on-street usage Data table

Year	Portion of parked vehicles with placards
2006	9%
2009	13%
2011	14%
2012	15%



## Large variance between neighborhoods

Location	Portion of parked vehicles with placards
Ocean Avenue	26%
Chinatown	25%
Outer Richmond	23%
Fisherman's Wharf	21%
Irving Street	13%
AT&T Park	13%
24th Street	13%
Union Street	10%
SOMA	8%
Hayes	7%

*Source: 2012 SFMTA survey. Vehicles surveyed included commercial vehicles in loading zones; the proportion of parked cars with placards would be higher if these vehicles were omitted.*



## Disabled placard enforcement overview

### Disabled Placard Detail

- 11 full-time Parking Control Officers (PCOs) + 1 supervisor
- 4% of force

### Two-week training

- Protocol (e.g. never ask about type of disability)
- Reporting requirements
- Field training

### All PCOs help enforce accessible parking

- Issue blue zone and ramp citations
- Write expired placard citations, then alert Detail



## Disabled placard enforcement methods

### High stakes

- Placard confiscated on site
- Citation costs \$966 (state policy cap \$1,000)
- 57% of placard citations are protested at SFMTA
- 12% of those protests go all the way the CA Superior Court

### High standards

- Stakeouts to catch misuse in action
- Teams of two to ensure a witness and improve PCO safety
- 25-30% of time spent writing extensive reports

## Disabled placard confiscations

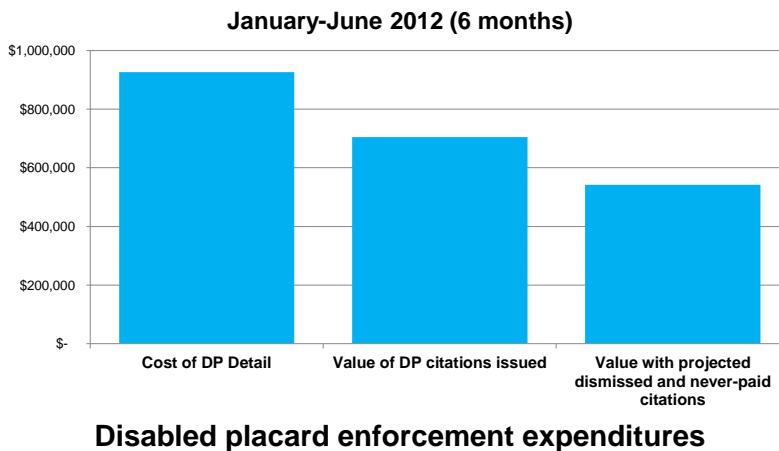
### Placard confiscation January to June 2012:

- 720 placard citations with confiscations
- 890 total placards confiscated



Photo: Matthew Roth

## Placard enforcement is resource-intensive for City



Source: PRWT Services (SFMTA's citation payment processing vendor)





## Placard enforcement is resource-intensive for City

### Data table

<b>January to June 2012</b>	<b>Cost/value</b>
Cost of Disabled Placard Detail	\$ 926,400
Value of placard citations issued	\$ 704,200
Value with projected dismissed and never-paid citations	\$ 542,200



## Disability, car availability, and poverty 2008-2010

<b>Description of statistic</b>	<b>S.F.</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
Share of people with disabilities with low incomes	51%	47%
Share of non-disabled people with low incomes	25%	31%
Share of people with disabilities in household with vehicle available	57%	85%
Share of non-disabled people in household with vehicle available	78%	94%
Share of people with disabilities with vehicle available and low income	16%	32%
Share of low income people with disabilities who commute by auto	2%	9%

Source: US Census Bureau American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, 2008-2010. "Low income" is defined as  $\leq 200\%$  of the federal poverty line. Disabilities include all those measured by the U.S. census, not just mobility impairments.