

# Jones Street Physical Distancing Lanes (COVID-19 Project)

## Three-Month Evaluation Summary

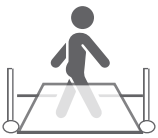
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mayor Breed announced the release of the Tenderloin Neighborhood Safety Assessment and Plan for COVID-19. The disproportionate impacts from COVID-19 to the Tenderloin are part of the broader intersectional public health issues that the Tenderloin faces, and the SFMTA is working with the community to be part of the solution.

As a result of these efforts, the SFMTA installed physical distancing lanes on Jones street from O'Farrell Street to Golden Gate Avenue to expand walking space to alleviate overcrowding sidewalks. This change included converting one car travel lane and parking to add the additional walking space. The walkway and vehicle lanes are separated by concrete barriers or "k-rail" and flex posts. These roadway changes were installed during the first week of August 2020 and are expected to remain during the course of the public health order.

### Evaluation Findings



Overall, the average and 85th percentile speeds on Jones Street have remained similar prior to the project being installed. Vehicle travel time increased on average by **4 percent**, three months post implementation .



Over a two-hour period, about **23 percent** of people walked in the physical distancing lanes and hatched area besides to the k-rail. This was up **8 percent** when compared to the one-month post installation condition.



The number of vehicles traveling on Jones Street and Hyde Street dropped by **14 percent and 11 percent**, respectively. (Hyde Street was also measured in order to understand if diversion was happening as a result of the roadway changes.)



Pedestrian counts at the intersection of Jones at Golden Gate Avenue increased by **27 percent** compared to the pre-implementation condition.



Compared to the 1-month evaluation, fewer people are parking in the tow-away lane during the PM peak period. However, people parking and loading on the east-side against the k-rail are parking for longer periods, on average of **about 77 minutes**.

#### Date of Completion

- Early August 2020

#### Project Extents

- Jones Street from O'Farrell Street to Golden Gate Avenue

#### Data Collection Time Frames

- Pre-project data collection: late July 2020
- 1-month post-data collection: late September 2020
- 3-month post data collection: mid November 2020

#### Project Elements

- Additional pedestrian walking space for physical distancing
- Road diet (three lanes to two)

#### Key Evaluation Metrics

- Pedestrian counts
- Physical distancing behavior
- Vehicle speed and travel time
- Parking/Loading behavior
- Vehicle queuing