



SFMTA

Temporary Emergency Transit Lanes

SFMTA Board of Directors

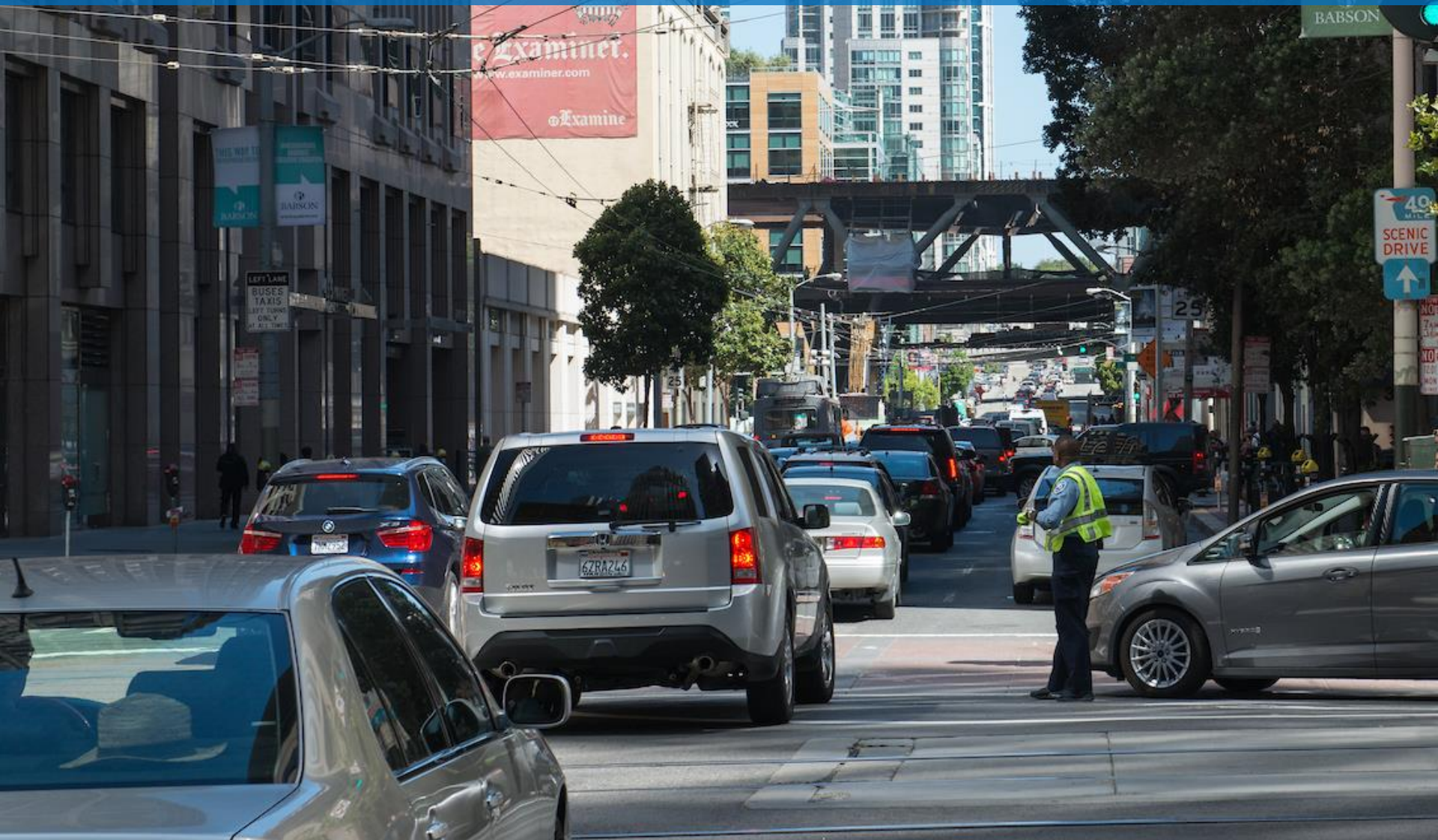
June 30, 2020

Congestion is Coming Back...

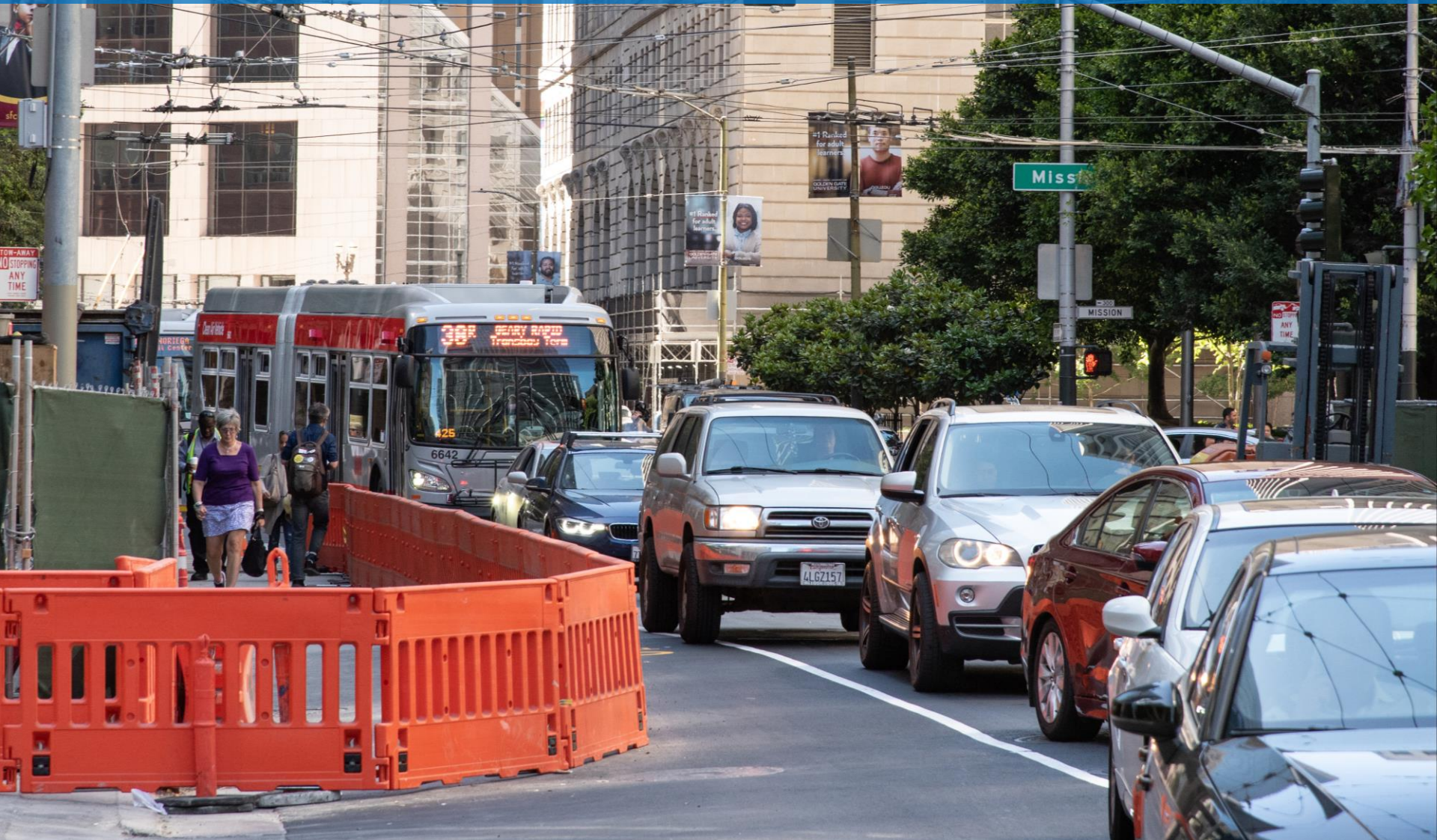


Flickr: tamasrepus

...Heavier Than Ever



We Must Act Fast



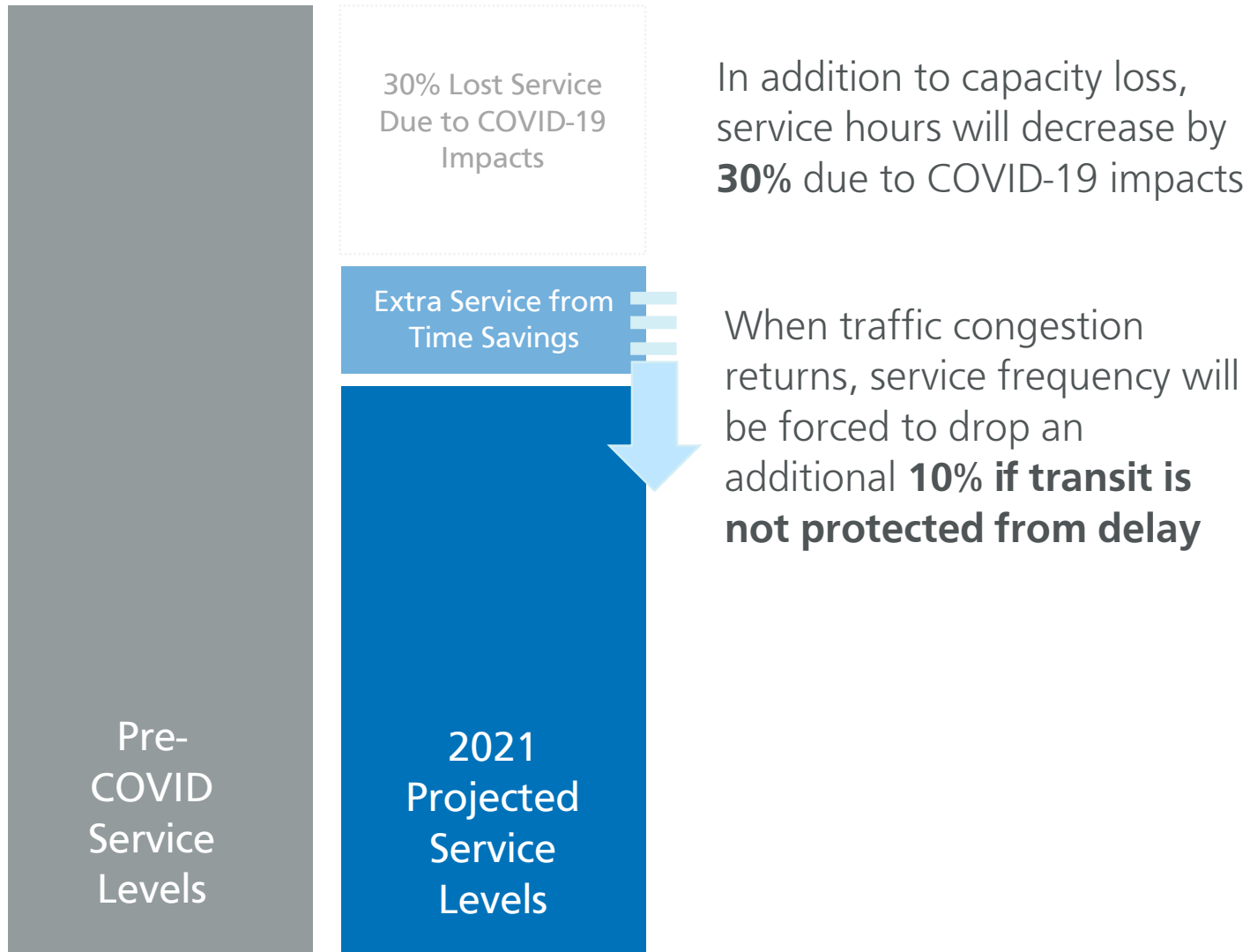
COVID-era Service Challenges



Distancing Reduces Capacity



Muni Faces Major Service Reductions



In addition to capacity loss, service hours will decrease by **30%** due to COVID-19 impacts

When traffic congestion returns, service frequency will be forced to drop an additional **10%** if transit is **not protected from delay**

30% Lost Service
Due to COVID-19
Impacts

Extra Service from
Time Savings

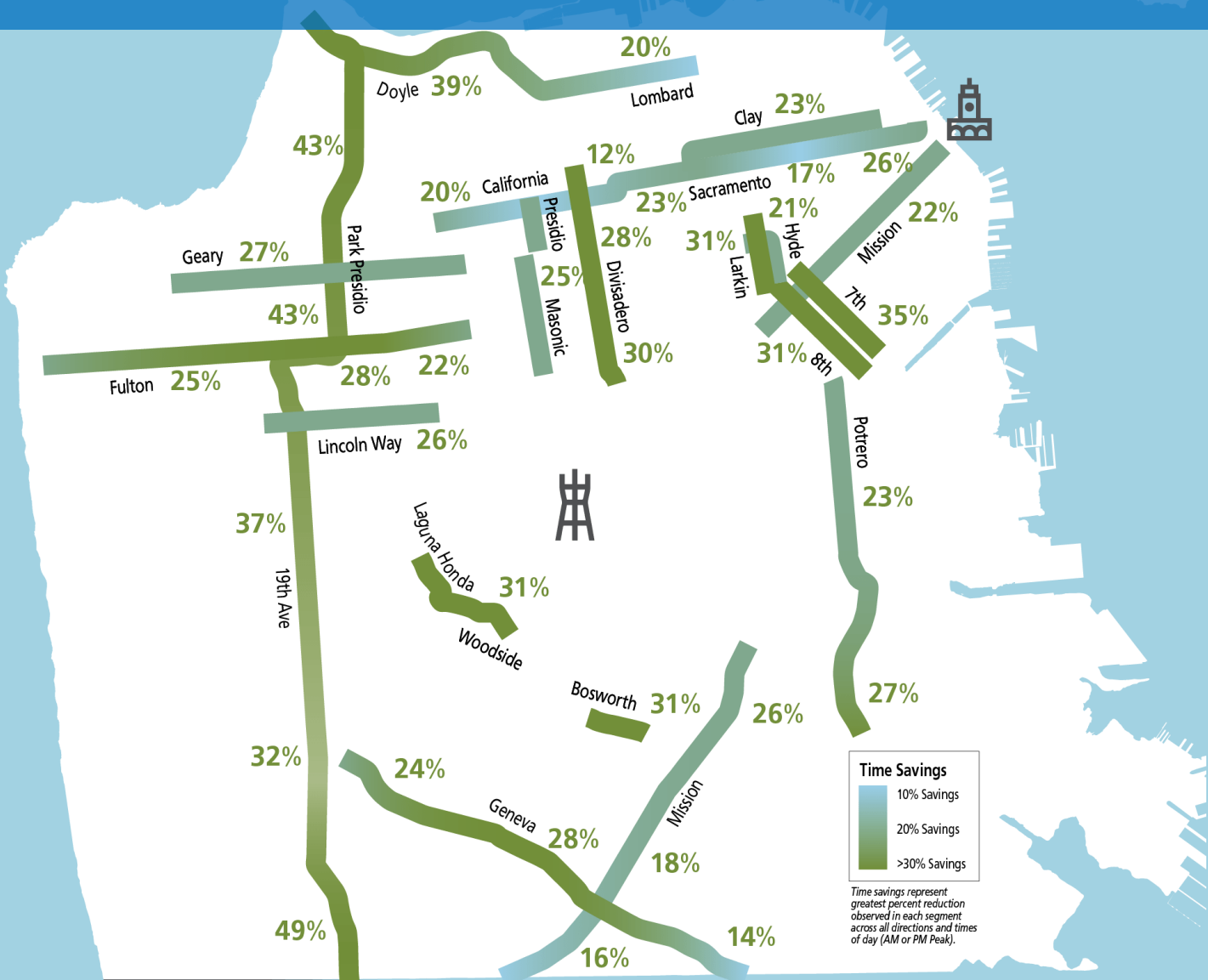
Pre-
COVID
Service
Levels

2021
Projected
Service
Levels

Who's Riding Muni Today



Time Savings During Shelter in Place



Time Savings

- 10% Savings
- 20% Savings
- >30% Savings

Time savings represent greatest percent reduction observed in each segment across all directions and times of day (AM or PM Peak).

Temporary Emergency Transit Lanes

- **Proposal:** Temporary transit lanes on corridors that normally experience congestion as an emergency measure to reduce crowding and mitigate service reductions
- **Sunset Date:** Transit lanes expire 120 days after emergency order is lifted unless there is permanent SFMTA Board approval
- **Timeline:** Implement first batch of temporary transit lanes ASAP as emergency measure if approved today



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

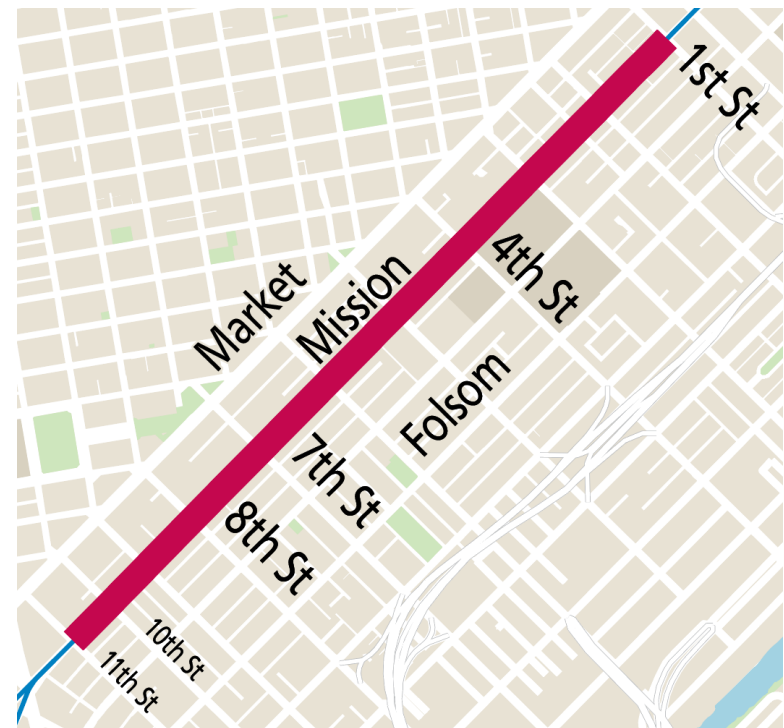


Proposed Initial Locations



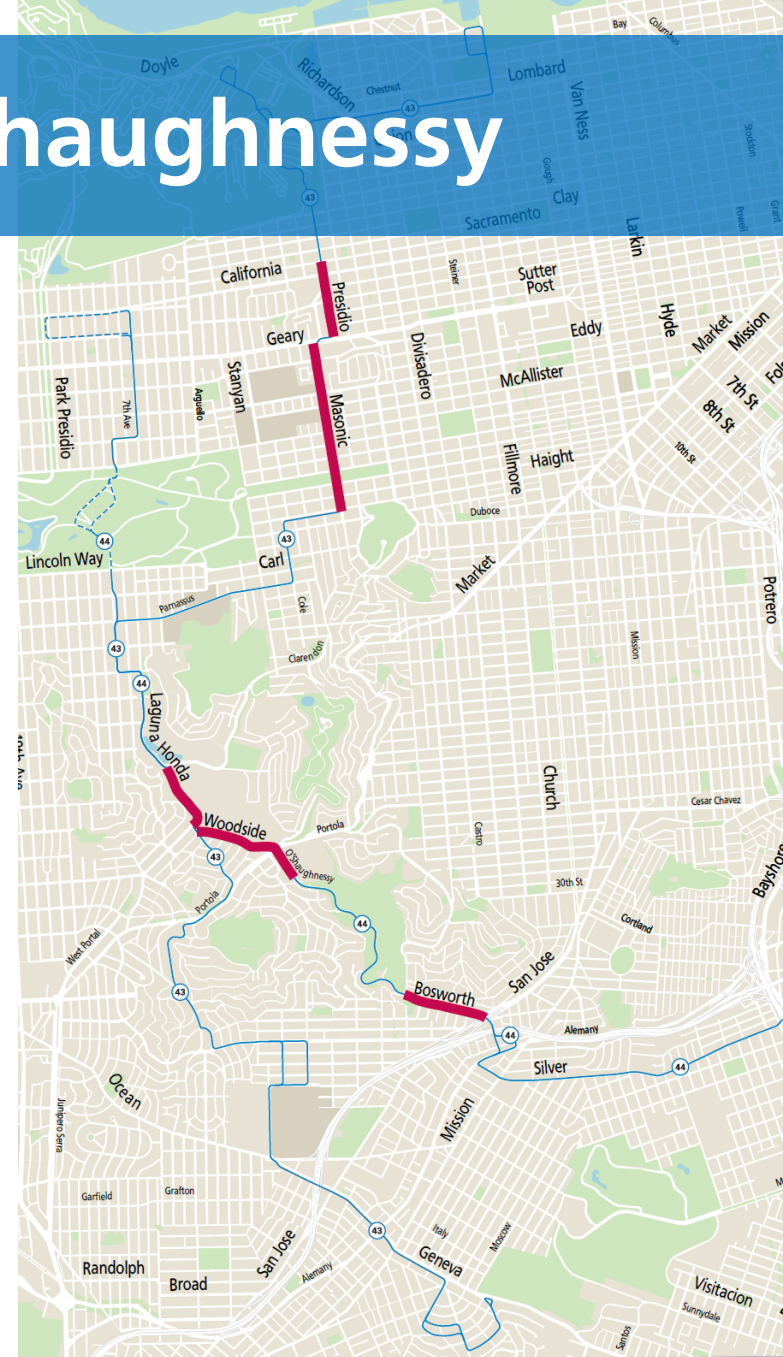
14 Mission (South of Market)

- Implement temporary 24/7 bus lanes (replaces part-time bus lanes)
- Convert part-time tow-away to 24/7 on one side of street
- Restore 24/7 parking on other side by eliminating part-time tow-away
- Widen lanes to accommodate buses and reduce bus collisions



43 Masonic and 44 O'Shaughnessy

- Convert existing curbside travel lane to temporary transit and taxi lane (bikes would be allowed on Presidio, Bosworth, Woodside)



19 Polk (7th and 8th streets)

- Convert existing curbside travel lane from general purpose to temporary emergency transit and taxi lane



Potential Additional Locations

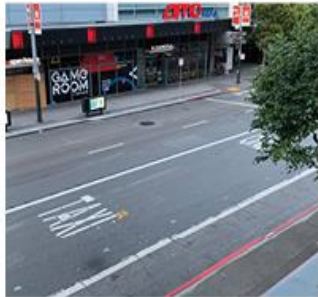
- Additional lanes could be approved by City Traffic Engineer after a public hearing if they meet these criteria:
 - 12% time savings or more during emergency
 - Will have Muni service within 45 days after approval
 - Does not remove more than one lane per direction AND preserves one lane per direction
 - In addition, all Muni Metro rail lines are eligible
- Projects may still be brought to SFMTA Board for final approval when appropriate





1. Implement Temporary Emergency Transit Lanes
Inform the community
During Emergency Declaration

Temporary transit lanes sunset 120 days after end of emergency order



2. Gather community feedback
Evaluate Temporary Emergency Transit Lanes
Summer 2020 to mid-2021



3. Based on evaluation and feedback, consider permanent legislation of lanes and other transit improvements
Late 2020 to winter 2021/22

July 2020

January 2021

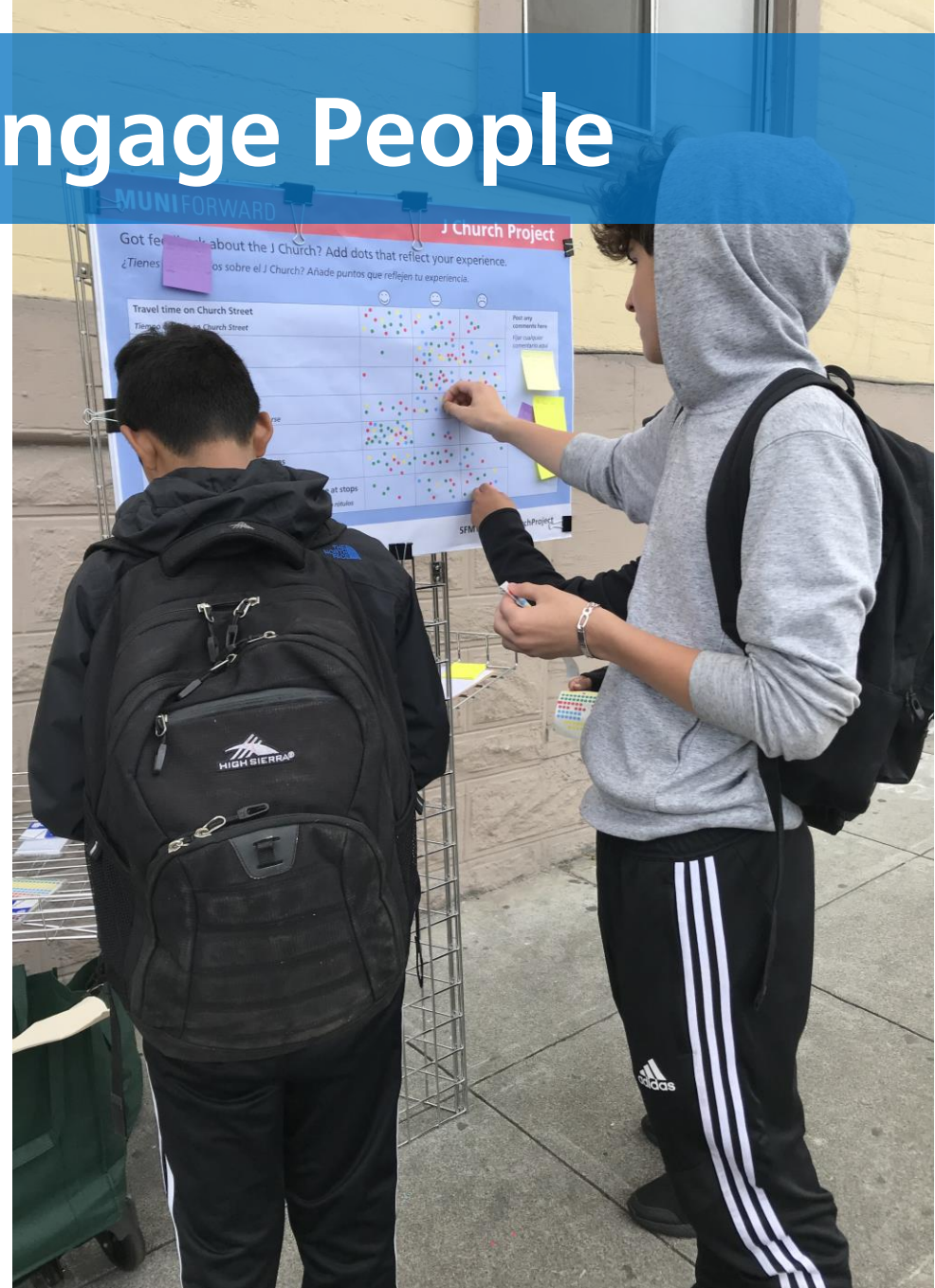
July 2021

January 2022



A New Way to Engage People

- Adapting outreach techniques to COVID-19 era
- On-the-ground, real-time monitoring and outreach to evaluate the temporary lanes
- Actively solicit feedback from marginalized communities
- Unless there is a public process to legislate, temporary lanes will automatically sunset



Evaluation Process

- Community input will shape the evaluation framework, with a focus on equity, health and economic recovery
- Public engagement and evaluation will guide whether and what longer-term improvements are pursued



Today's Legislation

- Approve temporary emergency transit lanes on Mission, Masonic, Presidio, 7th Street, 8th Street, O'Shaughnessy, Laguna Honda, Woodside, Bosworth
- Delegate authority to City Traffic Engineer's Office to approve temporary emergency transit lanes on additional corridors after a public hearing
- Note: All temporary emergency transit lanes must be removed within 120 days after emergency order expires if not approved for permanent legislation
- Temporary emergency transit lanes may be modified or even removed any time during the emergency in response to data and feedback

Next Steps

Today: SFMTA Board approval

July:

- Begin developing evaluation framework with community
- Continue informing neighbors of temporary emergency transit lanes

Late summer/fall:

- Install first temporary transit lanes
- Begin evaluation of initial temporary emergency transit lanes
- Additional lanes approved by City Traffic Engineer after public hearing

