The Future of the Great Highway

District 4 Mobility Study Town Hall

San Francisco County Transportation Authority

November 21, 2020
Today’s Focus

Future uses of the Great Highway from Sloat Blvd to Lincoln Way
District 4 Mobility Study Goals

Develop transportation solutions to increase walking, biking and transit use in order to

- improve health and safety
- increase livability
- support a thriving local economy
- address climate change locally
Agenda

1. Background and Overview
2. Great Highway Traffic Management Update
3. Ideas for the Future of the Great Highway
4. Next Steps

Audience polling and question/comment check points throughout event. Submit questions via chat to Hugh Louch
Background
Key Moves of Ocean Beach Master Plan

SOUTH REACH
KEY MOVE 1: Reroute Great Highway behind the Zoo via Sloat and Skyline
KEY MOVE 2: Introduce a multi-purpose coastal protection/restoration/access system

MIDDLE REACH
KEY MOVE 3: Reduce width of Great Highway
KEY MOVE 4: Middle Reach Native Dune Restoration

NORTH REACH
KEY MOVE 5: Better Connection between Golden Gate Park and Beach
KEY MOVE 6: Bicycle + pedestrian improvements north of Balboa
Background
Open Space Goals

Great Highway jurisdiction

● Rec and Park land
● Maintained by Public Works
● Traffic managed by SFMTA

Open Space goals

South Ocean Beach Trail
Public Meeting, Thu, Dec 3, 6pm

Great Highway Management

● Maintenance
  ○ Street sweeping, signal maintenance
  ○ Restrooms and trash collection
  ○ Access sewer under road

● 27 annual closure incidents (avg)
  ○ Sand accumulation
  ○ Flooding
  ○ PUC moving sand to South Ocean Beach
Great Highway Study Process and Progress

Work in progress
- Develop Ideas
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Complementary Street Changes
- Outreach

Upcoming Tasks
- Costs
- Operational Issues
- Recommendation
Great Highway Vehicle Usage

Pre-COVID Upper Great Highway Vehicle Counts (May 11 - 15, 2019)

- Saturday: 19,900
- Sunday: 17,600
- Monday: 18,700
- Tuesday: 19,300
- Wednesday: 18,400

Northbound
Southbound
Vehicle Counts

Lower Great Highway, north of Sloat (October 6 - 12)

Mid-week average (Tu-Th)  
5,021

Weekend average  
5,595
Vehicle Speeds

Lower Great Highway - October 6 - 12

Northbound Average
20 mph

Southbound Average
18.5 mph
Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

On the Upper Great Highway from September 19 - November 17

Weekday average 3,790

Weekend average 6,600
What We’ve Heard

- Neighborhood traffic and speeding
- Lack of process

- Safe space for biking and walking
- Enjoyment of coast
Audience Poll #1

+ Questions/Comments

Submit via chat to Hugh Louch
Great Highway Traffic Management Update

1) Ongoing data collection and evaluation
2) Use of additional traffic management tools
3) Improved outreach and communication
Questions/Comments on Today’s Conditions
Submit via chat to Hugh Louch
Future of Great Highway Ideas

Four-Lane Roadway

Full Promenade/Complete Vehicle Closure
Other Design Ideas

Promenade/Two-way Roadway

Promenade/One-way Roadway

Timed Promenade
Four-lane Roadway

- Two vehicle lanes in each direction
- No pedestrians on roadway
- Bicyclists are allowed to share roadway lanes
- Continued ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation, sand removal, signal upgrades
Traffic Management Tools

Traffic diverters and wayfinding signs to address vehicle volume

Speed humps to address speeding
Parking Management

Current regulations

- Twice monthly street cleaning
- Overnight restrictions on oversize vehicles on Lower Great Highway and La Playa
Parking Management Tools

- Parking meters
- Time limits
- Residential Parking Permit (RPP)
- Pay or Permit
Full Promenade/Complete Vehicle Closure

- Four lanes open for walking, biking and other non-motorized use
- Allows for some inward migration of dunes
- Requires area wide traffic plan and parking management
Transportation Analysis

- Consider impacts on all users
- Number of trips diverted
- Speeds and travel time for vehicles
- Transit speeds and reliability - e.g., 28/29
- Bike/Ped safety
Audience Poll #2

+ Questions/Comments

Submit via chat to Hugh Louch
Promenade/Two-way Roadway

- One vehicle lane per direction
- Promenade in current southbound lanes
- Allows for some inward migration of dunes
- Requires roadway reconstruction, adding significant cost
- Requires area wide traffic plan and parking management
- Requires signal upgrades
Promenade/One-way Roadway

- Promenade in current southbound lanes
- Two vehicle lanes in one direction in current northbound lanes
- Requires ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation, signal upgrades
- Requires area wide traffic plan and parking management
Timed Promenade/Roadway Closure

● Open for walking, biking and other non-motorized use on weekends and/or certain seasons
● Open to vehicles on the weekdays or off-season
● Requires area wide traffic plan and parking management
● Requires ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation, signal upgrades
Questions/Comments on Ideas
Submit via chat to Hugh Louch
Next Steps

- Continued outreach on ideas
- Complete transportation analysis and estimate costs
- Report back on recommendation
- Final D4 Mobility Study in Spring 2021
- Implementation actions led by Recreation and Parks Department and SFMTA
Next Steps

Our texting survey will be ready soon. Please sign up to receive email updates and we will email you when it is ready.

sfctca.org/d4mobility

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Thank you.

Questions?

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