



JFK Drive Closure and People with Disabilities  
Summary of Public Comments Received by MOD and MDC

Dec. 10, 2020

The Mayor's Disability Council included a presentation from City Departments about this issue on its October 20 public meeting agenda. MOD and MDC have received over 75 comments and communications from constituents. This summarizes the points made:

A majority stated that parking close to de Young and Academy of Sciences is necessary. The elimination of parking on JFK Drive is a major concern for many people.

Many expressed concerns that the cost of parking in the garage is unaffordable for a very large proportion of seniors and people with disabilities and several stated it should be free.

Many commenters said they must have a drop off area in front of the museum.

Some had concerns that parking on the street outside the park is unsafe and the road surface is faulty and difficult to traverse.

Many described their need for a level and short path of travel from parking to the museum and nearby facilities.

Several stated a concern that litigation might be the only way to achieve the desired outcome.

Many comments described these problems with using a shuttle as an alternative:

- Difficulty locating stops
- Inability to stand and wait
- Infrequency
- Fear that riding transit vehicles is not safe during pandemic

Many had concerns that bicyclists pose a danger to seniors and people with mobility impairments; some felt that bikers are more dangerous to pedestrians than cars and that they need to be restrained, not encouraged.

Many people with disabilities who use the park come from outside the City and drive to get there; they were concerned that they wouldn't be able to visit the park.

Many expressed understanding for the need to close JFK Drive during the pandemic but not on a permanent basis.

Some shared that driving through the park is the only way to enjoy it for some people with mobility impairments.

Some stated they won't be able to volunteer at the de Young any more.

Some were concerned that this pits groups against each other and is not necessary; it further isolates the park from the rest of the City.

Some suggested that the de Young should offer 3 hour parking vouchers.

One comment was in favor of the closure, and in favor of working out solutions to accessibility concerns.