

# Golden Gate Park Access and Safety Program: Quarterly Program Report

## Program Background

On April 26, 2022, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved restrictions on private vehicles on three miles of roadways in Golden Gate Park, including JFK Drive east of Transverse Drive, to make it safe for everyone to walk, roll, stroll, or skate in San Francisco’s largest park. In addition to the private vehicle restrictions, San Francisco Recreation and Parks (Rec Park) with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) committed to more than 40 additional efforts to support safety, equity, accessibility, and mobility in Golden Gate Park.

Highlights for Summer 2022 include the restoration of eastbound traffic to MLK Drive, providing easy access for GGP visitors through the Community Shuttle Program, and the execution of a contract for a new shuttle provider.

## Summer 2022 Quarter Highlights

### Equity

**Community Shuttle:** The community shuttle program has been running since the end of February and provides trips from Equity Zone neighborhoods with the goal of empowering residents to return with their families and serve as Honorary Guides to the park. 100 community members participated during the first series of trips in the spring and grew to 1,000 over the summer. Each trip includes a guided tour of the SF Botanical Garden, Japanese Tea Garden, and de Young Museum, as well as an outdoor picnic and tickets to the SkyStar wheel. Rec Park hosted 31 field trips this summer and plans to offer two trips per month from now through spring 2023.



HAPPY RIDERS FROM THE COMMUNITY SHUTTLE

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**GGP Shuttle Ridership:** Overall shuttle ridership is equal to pre-pandemic levels. Daily weekend ridership average in 2019 was 189 riders, which increased to 191 in the first half of 2022. Additionally, weekday ridership in 2022 is 113, which shows that weekday visitation of the park occurs at a similar rate as the weekend.

## Accessibility

**GGP Shuttle Contract:** New shuttle contract with Transmetro began October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Contract includes provisions for low-floor vehicles, vehicle wrap, and operator training. Two standard, high-floor shuttles will be added to the fleet in fall 2022, with a projected procurement date of early-2023 for two low-floor vehicles. *Regular weekday and weekend service will not be impacted by the contract transfer.*



**NEW SHUTTLE WRAP**

## Mobility

**Garage and Promenade Signage:** Directional signage for garage access, and decorative signage for JFK Drive, was in August 2022.



**TEMPORARY SIGNAGE FOR GARAGE WAYFINDING (LEFT) AND PROMENADE BANNERS (RIGHT)**

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**West Side Traffic:** SFMTA and Rec Park completed striping and signage modification to restore traffic on MLK Drive from Chain of Lakes to Sunset Drive.



**NEW PROTECTED BIKEWAY ON MLK DRIVE**

**Promenade Capital Upgrades Surveys:** A Department of Public Works survey to assess ADA improvements to the Conservatory of Flowers was completed in July 2022.



**EXAMPLES OF CROSSINGS IN NEED OF ADA IMPROVEMENTS**

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## Safety

**Placemaking:** Rec Park kicked off [Promenade Play Days](#) – a series of free installations and events along JFK Promenade over the next several months. Promenade Play Days include “Paint the Promenade” by Paint the Void with new murals throughout JFK by local artists, installation of Doggie Diner Heads between Conservatory Drive West and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, installation of Public Pianos at Conservatory Drive West & Stow Lake Drive/E 14<sup>th</sup> Ave, live music performances, 100 new chairs, and additional activations and events.



### MURAL PAINTING AT 10TH AVENUE BRIDGE

In addition, Rec Park is providing enhanced promenade entrances at Kezar Drive and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues with mural installations, accessible tables, seating options and new trees. Mural installation began in mid-September.

## Upcoming Initiatives and Near-Term Work in Progress

**Low-Floor Shuttles:** TRANSMETRO will provide two low-floor shuttles in early 2023.

**Street Improvements on Middle and Transverse Drive:** Crews will begin installing a separated lane for pedestrians and bikes along Middle Drive between MLK Jr Drive and the Polo Fields parking lot. Work began on October 5<sup>th</sup> and will conclude by the end of the month. New paint for the bicycle route and improved bollards along Transverse are planned for fall 2022.

**Shuttle Information:** Improve shuttle website to include real-time passenger information. Permanent shuttle signage is in development.

**Promenade Capital Upgrades:** The Board of Supervisors approved this year’s budget, which includes key accessibility improvements to the Promenade, including curb ramp upgrades on JFK Drive, Stanyan Street frontage improvements and shuttle stop accessibility upgrades.

**Music Concourse Garage:** The Board of Supervisors passed the flexible pricing in the Music Concourse Garage, which allows MTA to work with MCCP and Rec Park so set rates and provide additional subsidized parking for Discover and Go and Museums for All pass users.

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**Bikeshare Services:** Coordination with the Permits Division and Lyft/Bay Wheels is in progress to add 6 classic bike share stations and 6 virtual stations in the park. Lyft provided feedback on the draft contract, which is now being reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.

## Prior Completed Efforts

- **Shuttle Stop Improvements:** All shuttle stops now have benches, temporary signage, and improved route information.
- **Adaptive Bike Program:** Adaptive bike programs returned with Bay Area Outdoor Recreation Program (BORP) on July 9.
- **Muni Service:** The 21 Hayes returned to service on July 9th.
- **Music Concourse Taxi Stands:** Two taxi stands were installed in front of the Cal Academy and the de Young Museum.
- **New tour bus zones:** In late April, SFMTA crews installed new tour bus zones next to the Structural Maintenance Yard for tour buses visiting Golden Gate Park to park and wait.
- **Google and Apple Maps:** Google and Apple maps are providing correct directions to the MCCP garage as well as identifying the closed streets.
- **Transportation Network Companies:** Uber and Lyft are aware of the street closure and the ability of drivers to enter the garage through the north side of the park and drop off passengers by the music concourse or at the base of the elevators