



# Community Open House 3 Recap

June 6, 2019

## Open House Overview

The South Downtown Design + Activation (Soda) team hosted two open houses in May 2019. The primary focus of the open houses was on transportation, but information was also available relating the planning and activation of open spaces in the plan area.

The conclusion of these workshops marks the final phase of major outreach events for the Soda Planning Process. Moving forward, outreach will focus on the immediate neighbors on corridors with pending streetscape projects like Howard and Beale Streets.

### If you would like to learn more about this planning process, please contact

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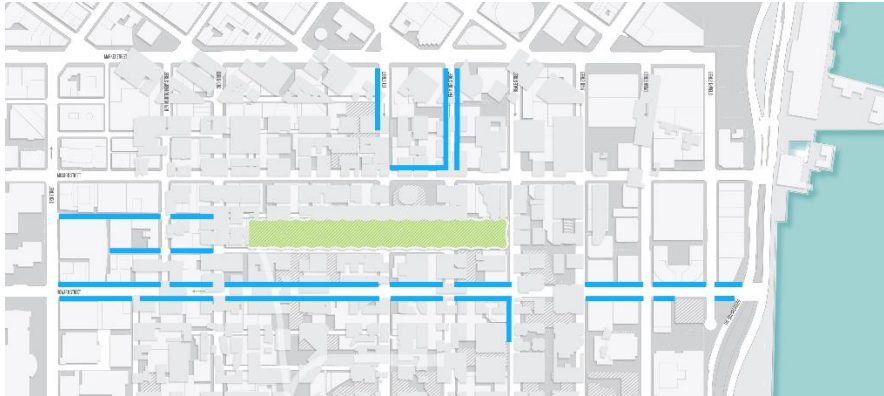
What follows is an overview of the major concepts presented at the workshops.

## Streetscape Prioritization

The City will use revenue generated by property taxes and developments impact fees within the plan area to improve streets in the neighborhood. The City presented a proposal for how these fees will be spent, *i.e.* which streetscape projects will move forward in which order.

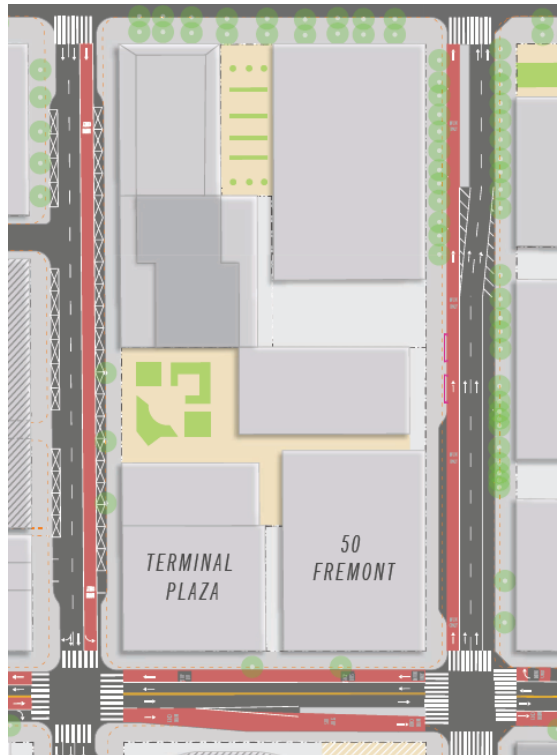
- **Phase A** projects have largely been completed. Some Phase A projects such as the Folsom and Harrison Streetscape Projects will begin construction this year.

- **Phase B** projects are moving from conceptual design to detailed engineering. There is funding on-hand to build these projects and construction is expected to move forward within the next two years. These near-term projects include:

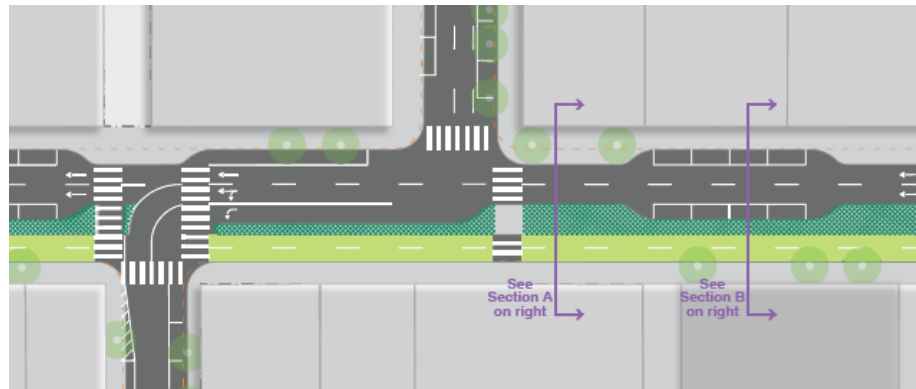


*Map of Soda Phase B Projects*

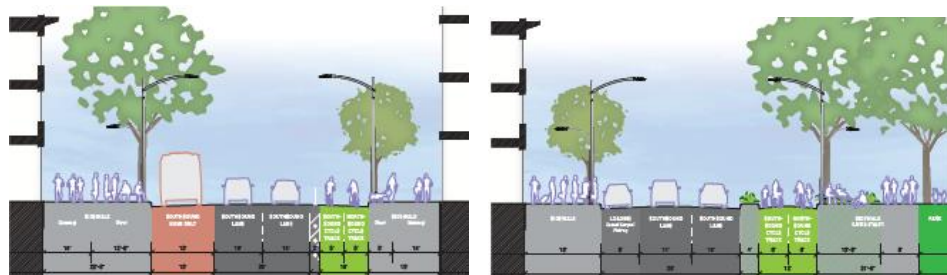
- **The Transit “U”**
  - **1st Street** from Market to Mission: sidewalk widening
  - **Fremont Street** from Market to Mission: sidewalk widening and bus island realignment
  - **Mission Street** from 1st to Fremont: north sidewalk widening and corner extensions (bulbouts)



- **Natoma and Minna Streets between YBCA and the Transit Center**
  - Pedestrian improvements
  - Includes new signalized mid-block crossings at New Montgomery and Natoma and New Montgomery and Minna.
- **Howard Street**
  - 3rd to The Embarcadero: Complete Street
  - Includes protected 2-way bikeway on the south side of the street, corner widenings (bulbouts) and a landscaped median
  - This project will generally remove between one and two lanes of traffic on Howard Street
  - New signalized mid-block crossing at Under Ramp Park



- **Stuart Street**
  - Convert to two-way between Howard and Mission
- **Beale Street**
  - Market to Howard: 2-way protected bikeway. (An additional block of the 2-way protected bikeway on the block between Howard and Folsom will be built by private developers in the near-term).
  - Howard to Folsom: West side sidewalk widening and Casual Carpool improvements
  - Includes new signalized mid-block crossing at New Montgomery and Natoma and New Montgomery and Minna.

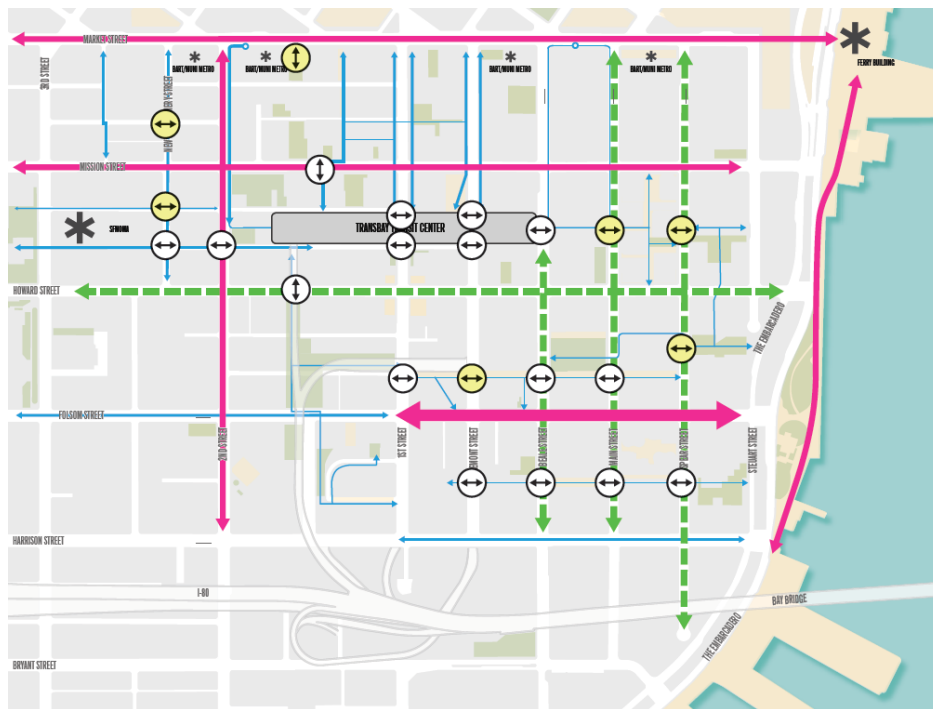


- Projects under **Phases C-E** are more conceptual in nature and will be built later. The Soda Streetscape Prioritization matrix can be found at on the Soda project website:
- <https://sfplanning.org/southdowntown>. Click on

## Walking

In accordance with the City’s Vision Zero policy, the Soda Plan seeks to make all streets within the Plan Area safe for people to walk in the neighborhood. The Plan identifies numerous sidewalk widenings that ensure enough space to circulate, and corner bulbouts which improve pedestrian safety by reducing crossing distances at intersections. The Plan also proposes the City build numerous signalized mid-block crossings throughout the South Downtown.

The Plan also recommends newly widened sidewalks include street trees, understory plantings, special sidewalk paving, places to sit, and street lighting.



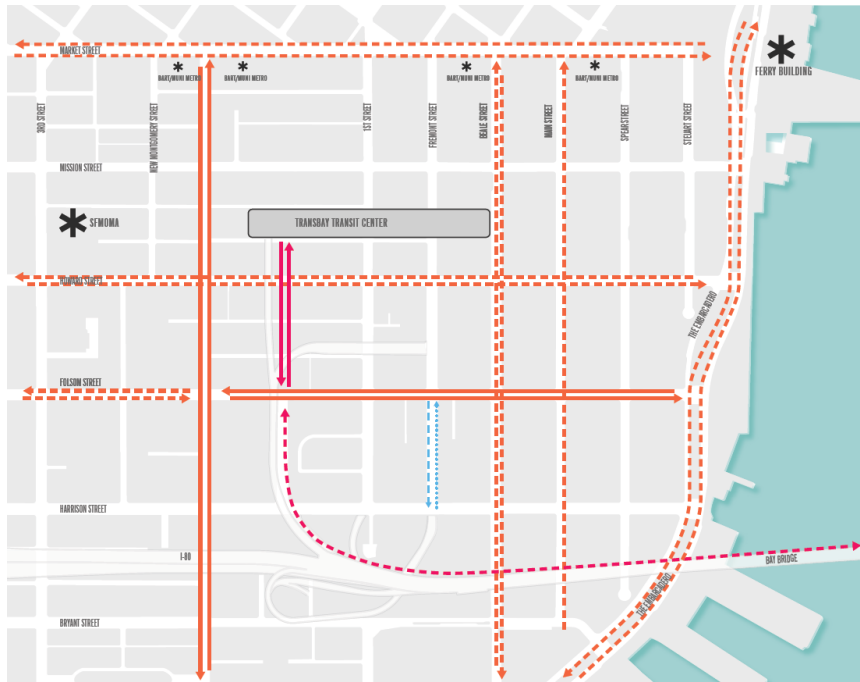
*This map shows new pedestrian connections proposed through the Soda Plan. Yellow arrows are newly proposed in the Soda planning effort and white arrows show connections proposed in previous planning efforts*

## Biking

The Soda Plan proposes to make substantive changes to the area’s bike network. To maximize safety for people on bikes, all bike facilities will be designed as protected bikeways (cycle tracks), except for a 1-block climbing lane on Fremont street. Specific bike improvements in the plan include:

- **East/West bike facilities**

- A protected bikeway on Howard Street creating 2-way facility between 11<sup>th</sup> Street and the Embarcadero
- Protected bikeways on Folsom Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Embarcadero
- **North/South bike facilities**
  - A protected bikeway on Beale Street creating 2-way facility between Market Street and Bryant Street
  - A 1-way northbound protected bikeway on Main Street between Folsom and Market
  - A 1-way southbound bike lane on Fremont Street between Folsom Street and Harrison Street
  - An off-street bike path through Under-Ramp Park, which will provide a connection between the future Bay Bridge bike path which will touch down on Essex Street and the Salesforce Transit Center.



*Proposed Soda Bike Network showing future bike facilities and future bike facilities immediately outside the Soda Plan area. Orange lines indicate cycle tracks and blue lines indicate bike lanes.*

**Transit**

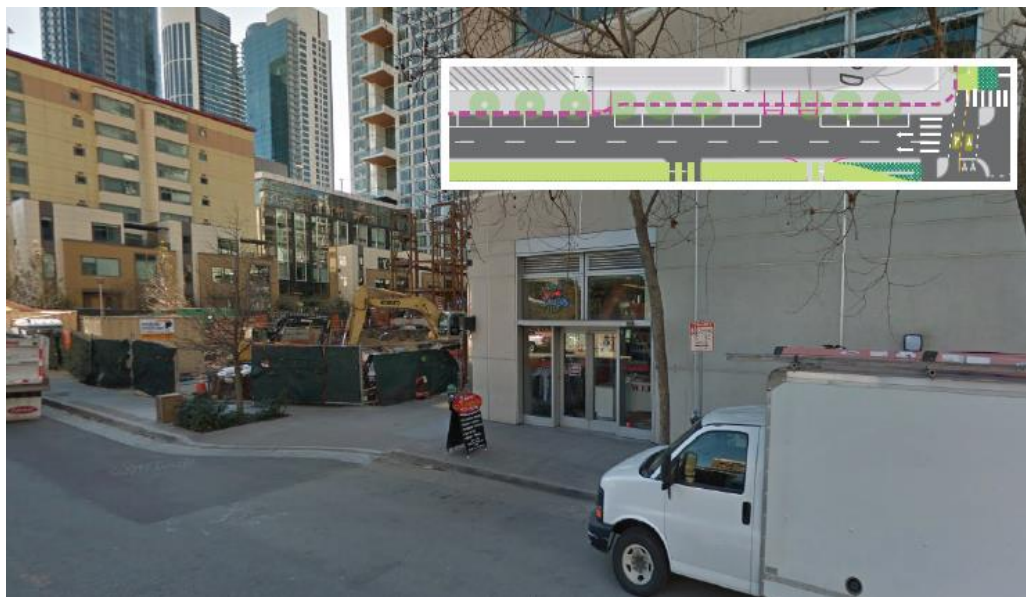
The Soda Plan proposes striping a red transit-only lane on Beale Street between Market and Mission Streets. This will give Muni additional operational flexibility when routing buses to the Transit Center.

The City will also be re-establishing transit service to Rincon Hill. The Muni Route 12 bus will no longer run on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and will instead run further east along Folsom Street and head north/south along Spear and Main Streets.



**Curbside**

The eastbound Casual Carpool pick-up will be returned to its original location on the west side of Beale Street between Howard and Folsom Streets. The sidewalks will be widened on this block to ensure there is enough space to accommodate people waiting for casual carpool rides and don't block the accessible path of travel on the sidewalk.



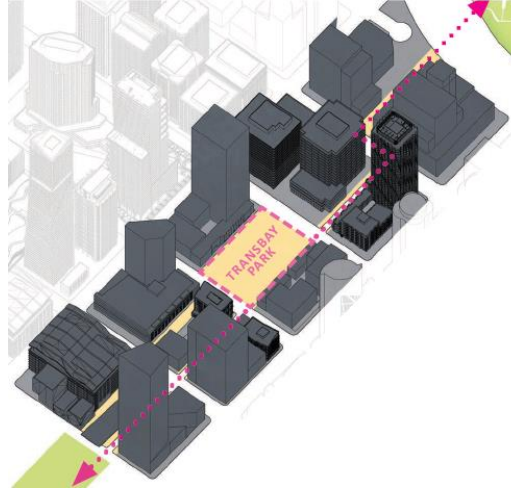
*The west sidewalk on Beale between Howard and Folsom will be widened to accommodate space for Casual Carpool.*

In recognition of increased demand on the curbside (by uses such as transit stops, bike share stations, pedestrian amenities, and on-street loading zones), the City is proposing all on-street parking spaces north of Folsom Street be converted to on-street loading spaces (white, yellow, green and blue curb).

## Open Space

The Soda Plan proposes a new open space under the Bay Bridge footing at the end of Spear Street. Low-cost materials such as paint and movable tables and chairs are recommended to test the viability of converting half of the southern-most block of Spear Street into a new park.

The City will soon begin an outreach process for Transbay Park, a new public open space sited in the middle of the block bounded by Howard, Main, Folsom, and Beale (where the Temporary Transbay Terminal is sited).



*The Soda Plan proposes the City build a new park at the foot of Spear Street (left). Planning for Transbay Park (right) will begin shortly.*