

Oakland Department of Transportation – Major Projects Division

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

September 12, 2024, meeting agenda

Outcomes

- CAC members continue to get to know one another, OakDOT staff, and 360 staff
- CAC members are briefed on the Undercrossing Improvements
- CAC members learn about the 8th Street Corridor Improvements and provide feedback
- CAC members provide feedback on art, historical markers, and greening along 7th Street as part of the 7th Street Connection Project
- CAC members are informed about next steps for Embarcadero West Rail Safety and Access Improvements
- CAC members weigh in on optional field trips

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Duration	Lead
4:30pm	Welcome and introductions	5 minutes	
4:35pm	Icebreaker activity	15 minutes	360 – Stevie Gray
4:50pm	CAC Field Trips	5 minutes	OakDOT – Celina Chan
4:55pm	Brief introduction to Undercrossing Improvements and upcoming engagement	10 minutes	OakDOT – Acacia Dupierre
5:05pm	Presentation and interactive activity about street enhancements that could be implemented through the 7 th Street Connection Project	30 minutes	OakDOT – Ruth Meza, Celina Chan
5:35pm	5-minute break		
5:40pm	Presentation on the 8 th Street Corridor Improvements Q&A from members	30 minutes	OakDOT – Audrey Harris
6:10pm	Brief update on Embarcadero West Rail Safety and Access Improvements: next steps	5 minutes	OakDOT – Acacia Dupierre



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6:15pm	Follow-ups from previous CAC meeting Announcing CAC Office Hours Announcements – CAC members share upcoming events and opportunities in their communities	10 minutes	360 – Lula Falol
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UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS Four Locations



MLK Jr. Way



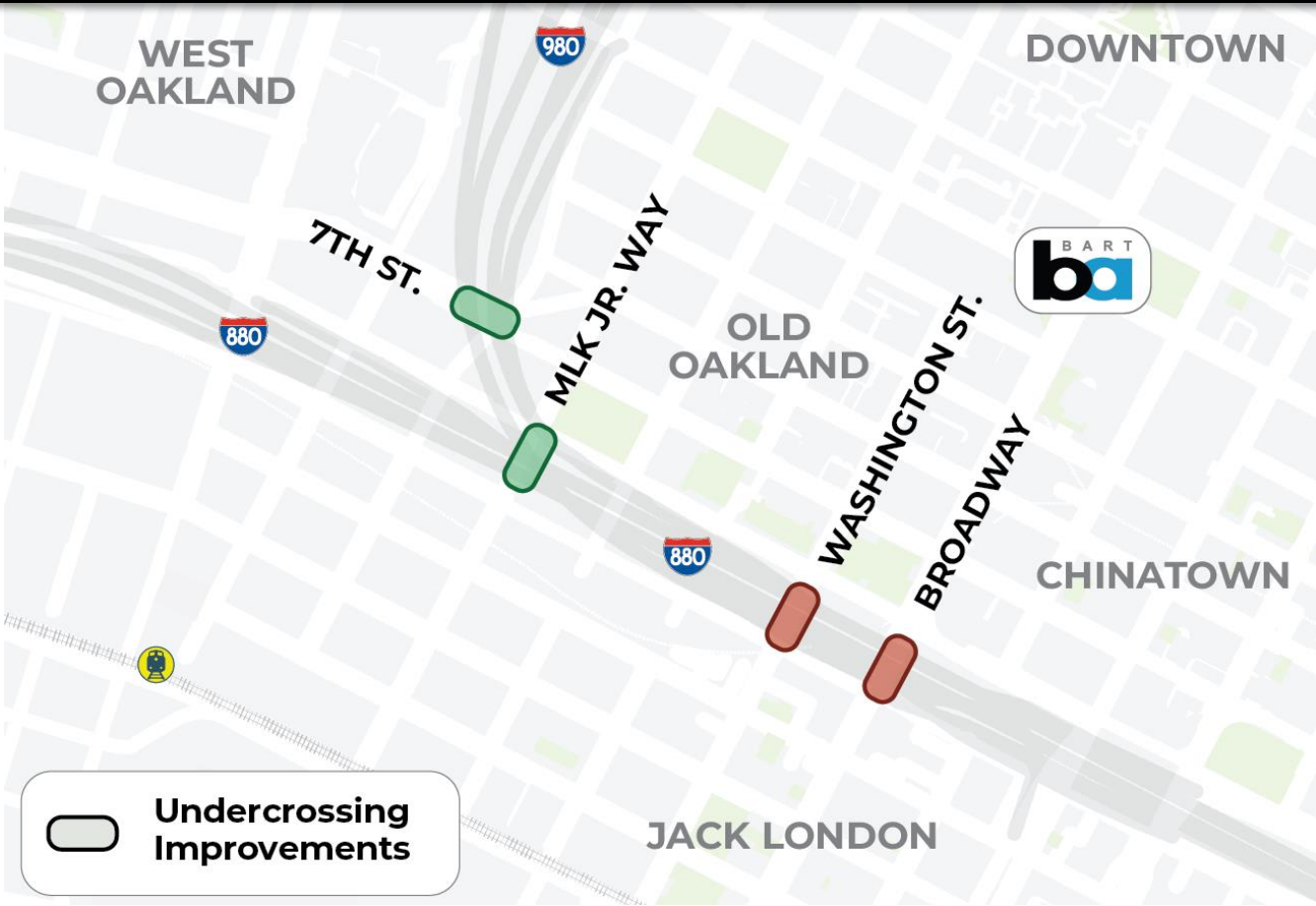
7th Street



Broadway



Washington Street



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UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS

We would love to hear:

What are important considerations for the upcoming phase of engagement (Fall 2024 – Winter 2025)?



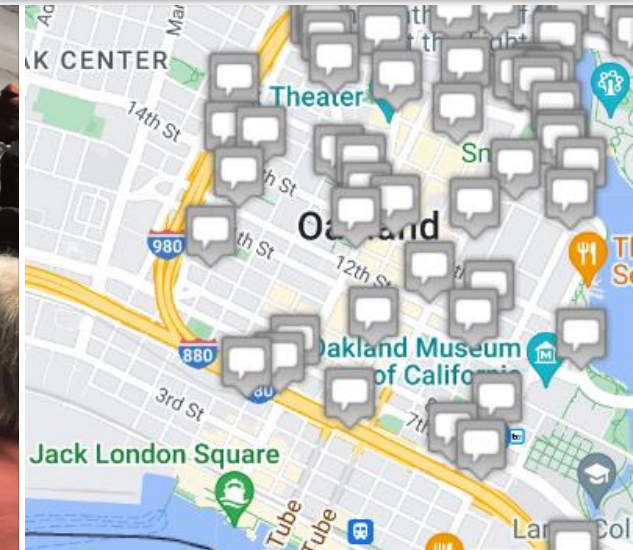
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UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS Engagement

Many documented community requests for improved undercrossing connections



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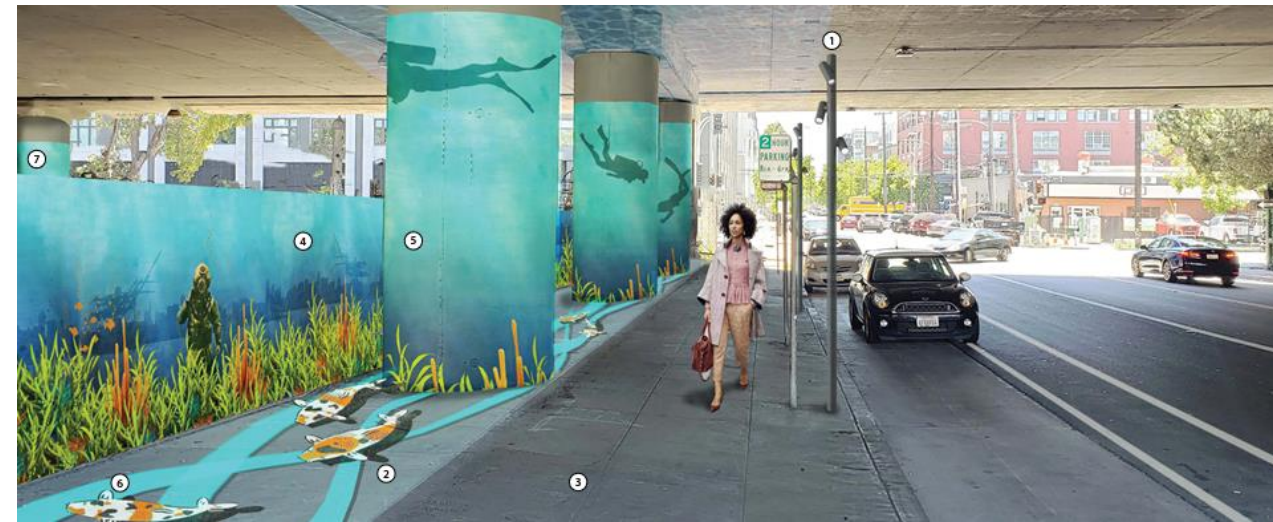
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UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS Goals

- ***Be transformative*** - Mitigate real and perceived barriers associated with traveling through undercrossings
- ***Be forward-thinking*** - Choose designs and treatments that are long-lasting, and easy to maintain
- ***Reflect community and sense of place*** - Connect neighborhoods on each side

What other **goals** are important to you?



UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS Challenges

- Low lighting at night, and harsh contrasts during the day
- Narrow sidewalks, space is designed for vehicles, not people
- Areas of fast-moving, intense traffic
- Some obstacles are unmovable, leftover spaces collect debris, and are hard to keep clean
- Loud noises add to a stressful environment
- Vicious isolation cycle: most people avoid because it feels unsafe, leads to less people, making it feel unsafe
- Isolated spaces are appealing for encampments, which add to sense of unease in the space
- Ongoing resources for maintenance are limited
- Strong regulations and limitations to introducing elements to Caltrans airspace

What other **challenges** are important to address?



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UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS Project

Project Scope

Improvements at 4 locations to increase safety and comfort and help better connect the communities currently separated by the I-880 freeway.

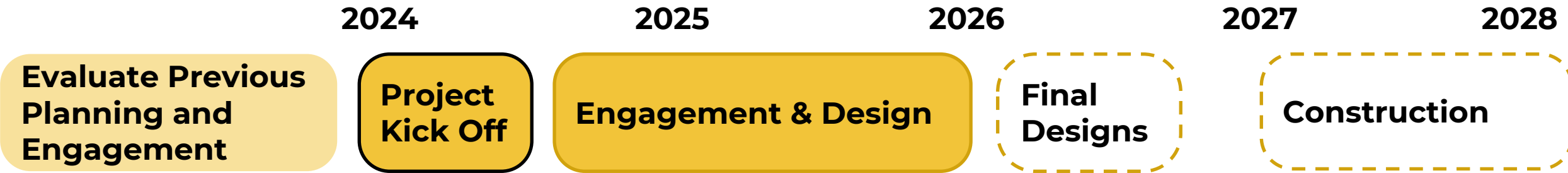
Lighting

ADA
Access

Wayfinding

Other
Improvements
as feasible

Estimated Timeline



UNDERCROSSING 1. MLK Jr Way at I-880

Features

- Multiple overhead structures and owners
- Part of the Downtown 'Green Loop'
- Existing bike route, but no painted lanes
- Existing truck route

Upcoming

OakDOT Streetscape project will

- Improve and widen sidewalks
- Install a protected cycle track – for 'all ages'
- Improve lighting along the corridor
- Increase tree canopy and improve air quality



Martin Luther King Jr Way under I-880 at 6th St. looking west



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UNDERCROSSING 1. MLK Jr Way at I-880

Recent Engagement Summer and Fall 2023

- Add **greening** (landscaping) to the underpass
- "Low maintenance **green infrastructure**"
- Question of **maintenance**
- **ADA accessibility** as a minimum upgrade
- Add **lighting** close to the ground for bikes



UNDERCROSSING 2. 7th Street at I-980

Features:

- Historic center of Black jazz and blues culture – “Harlem of the West”

Upcoming

OakDOT Streetscape project will

- Calm traffic and reduce speeding, improving safety
- Improve and widen sidewalks
- Install protected bike lanes – for ‘all ages’
- Improve lighting up and down the corridor
- Increase tree canopy and improve air quality
- Install bus shelters, boarding islands and improve riders’ experience

Vision 980 seeks to

- Explore ways to reconnect communities divided by I-980



7th St, under I-980, looking east



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UNDERCROSSING 2. 7th Street at I-980

Recent Engagement Summer and Fall 2023

- Enhancing **access and connections** between West Oakland, Uptown Oakland, Downtown Oakland for pedestrian, bike and vehicular traffic is a must.
- Excitement to ensure the PBLs **reflect the community** that lives there and the history of the corridor
- “Explore areas to cluster urban greening: **pocket forests**”
- **ADA accessibility** as a minimum upgrade
- **Lighting** needed new and replaced. “You can’t have a thriving community if you can’t see where you are going.”



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UNDERCROSSING 3. Broadway at I-880

Features

- Existing guardrail art (*removal proposed*)
- Oakland's 'Main Street'
- AC Transit's busiest corridor
- I-880 on and off ramps add to vehicle speeding, unsafe crosswalks

Upcoming

OAAP will

- Move the Webster tunnel entrance away from the intersection
- Remove the northbound slip lane from 6th St

OakDOT Streetscape project will

- Add bus-only lanes and improve bus reliability
- Implement 20mph speed limit
- Improve safety and vibrancy up and down the corridor



Broadway, under I-880 at 6th St, looking north



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UNDERCROSSING 3. Broadway at I-880

Recent Engagement Summer and Fall 2023

- October 2023 Open House Survey:
27 of 28 people would like to see existing **art removed and replaced** with something else.
- “An **important corridor** in Oakland’s mental map”
- "This **intersection is terrifying** for peds or bikes!"
- "Keep it open, easy to see"
- "I walk on **Washington instead**"
- “Better **signage** and **wayfinding** at intersections, especially underpass and 6th Street”
- Maximize opportunities for art, placemaking, **beautification** and **wayfinding** to/from community-identified **landmarks**



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UNDERCROSSING 4. Washington Street

4. Washington Street

Features

- OPD Transportation station
- Existing bike lanes
- Existing parking at the curb

Upcoming

- Undercrossing improvements



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UNDERCROSSING IMPROVEMENTS Walk This Way Tool Kit

Lighting

- for safety
- for interest

Wayfinding

- signage
- painted directions

Placemaking

- sidewalk designs
- fencing and coverings
- low maintenance plantings
- specific to **Oakland**



Which elements ...have the most impact?
...are most resilient?
...would you like to see?

RELATED PROJECTS

MLK Jr Way Streetscape Improvements

www.oaklandca.gov/MLK

7th Street Connections Project

www.oaklandca.gov/7thStreet

Broadway Streetscape Improvements

www.oaklandca.gov/Broadway

Oakland Alameda Access Project - OAAP (ACTC)

www.alamedactc.org/programs-projects/highway-improvement/oakland-alameda-access-project

Vision980 (CalTrans)

www.vision980.org

CONTACT US



Project Webpage

**[oaklandca.gov/projects/
undercrossing-improvements](https://oaklandca.gov/projects/undercrossing-improvements)**

Team Webpage

www.oaklandca.gov/MPD

Contact:

mpd@oaklandca.gov



Reconnecting Communities

AT A GLANCE

PROJECT SUMMARY

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) needs your help to improve connections between West Oakland and Downtown with the Vision 980 Study.

WHY

The Interstate 980 freeway divides communities in West Oakland from Downtown Oakland and is a barrier to travel and economic opportunities between these communities.

HOW

In collaboration with local communities, we want to explore ALL ideas for reconnecting neighborhoods divided by the I-980 corridor (between I-880 and I-580) and delivering more equitable outcomes for the City of Oakland, the Bay Area region, and the State of California.

PROJECT CONTACTS

Community Planning Branch Chief

CalTrans

Becky Frank

Vision980@dot.ca.gov

Community Visioning

Coordinator RBA Creative

Randolph Belle

randolph@rbacreative.com

(510) 333-9175



Caltrans Bay Area
111 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94612

To better reflect the variety of lived experiences around I-980, we need to hear from all communities impacted by this study! Sign up here to provide feedback and learn more about study activities: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/SSgb55/vision980>

SIGN UP NOW

THE STUDY WILL FOCUS ON:

- Acknowledging past injustices including racially discriminatory decision making
- Reintegrating communities
- Addressing environmental justice
- Improving multimodal transportation options

WE WILL CONSIDER A WIDE RANGE OF OPTIONS, INCLUDING:

- Improving public-transit connections along the corridor
- Adding dedicated pedestrian and bicycle paths or bridges
- Redesigning roadways and over/underpasses for people walking, biking, and taking transit
- Capping the freeway to expand open space
- Transforming the freeway to create new land-use opportunities like housing or parks

PHASE 1 STUDY ACTIVITIES:

- Collaborate with partners, stakeholders, and the public to identify a new concept and vision for transportation and land use along the entire I-980 corridor.
- Develop an evaluation framework to ensure the I-980 corridor vision meets equity performance measures or benchmarks.

PHASE 2 STUDY ACTIVITIES:

- Collaborate with partners, stakeholders, and the public to perform a more detailed feasibility and technical analysis of the concept/vision identified in Phase 1.



Reconnecting Communities

I-980 Corridor Alternatives Study (Vision 980-Phase 1)

17th Annual Oakland Juneteenth Celebration and Street Festival

Saturday, June 22nd, 2024

BACKGROUND

- I-980 in the San Francisco Bay Area has a history of impacting and dividing underserved and priority communities in Oakland.
- The freeway was intended to provide direct access to downtown Oakland undergoing redevelopment. Its construction started in the 1960s, was temporarily halted by an injunction in 1972, and was completed in 1985.
- Acknowledging past injustices to underserved and priority communities, and seeking to correct or mitigate those mistakes, is an important part of delivering on the State's commitment to racial and social equity.

VISION 980-PHASE 1

- I-980 divides communities in West Oakland and Downtown Oakland and is a barrier to travel and economic opportunities between these communities.
- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) needs your help to improve connections between West Oakland and Downtown as part of Vision 980-Phase 1.
- In collaboration with local communities, Caltrans wants to explore all ideas for reconnecting neighborhoods divided by the I-980 corridor (between I-880 and I-580) and delivering more equitable outcomes for the City of Oakland, the Bay Area region, and the State of California.
- The study will focus on:
 - Acknowledging past injustices including racially discriminatory decision making
 - Reintegrating communities and repairing harm
 - Addressing environmental justice
- From this study, Caltrans will consider a wide range of transformative options, including:
 - Improving public transit connections along the I-980 corridor
 - Redesigning roadways for people walking, biking, and using transit
 - Creating new land use opportunities like housing, open space, and access to economic opportunities that benefit impacted communities

Update on the 7th Street Connection Project

Urban Design Enhancements



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PROJECT MAP: 7th Street Connection Project

The 7th Street Connection Project is located on **7th Street** from **Mandela Parkway** to **Martin Luther King Jr. Way**.



PROJECT GOALS

- Improved **safety** on 7th Street for residents and others who travel on 7th Street by walking, rolling, biking, taking transit, and driving
- Improved **accessibility** for persons with disabilities
- **Calmer vehicle speeds**
- A **greener** 7th Street, with many more trees to:
 - Improve air quality and reduce exposure to air pollution
 - Provide shade and help keep 7th Street comfortable on hot days
- Reflect community **needs and desires** for 7th Street



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IMPROVEMENTS DELIVERED THROUGH PROJECT

- Protected bike lane on both sides of 7th Street
- Pedestrian improvements, including crosswalk improvements
- Transit boarding islands for bus riders
- More pedestrian lighting
- New street trees and landscaping



PROJECT TIMELINE

Timeline	Actions
Fall 2023	• Project kicks off
Fall and Winter 2023	• Community engagement to inform 35% designs
Spring and Summer 2024	• Community engagement on trees, historical markers, art
Feb 2025	• Final designs (100%)
2026-2027	• Continue to keep the community engaged with project updates and what to expect during construction
2027	• Construction starts
2030	• Construction is complete

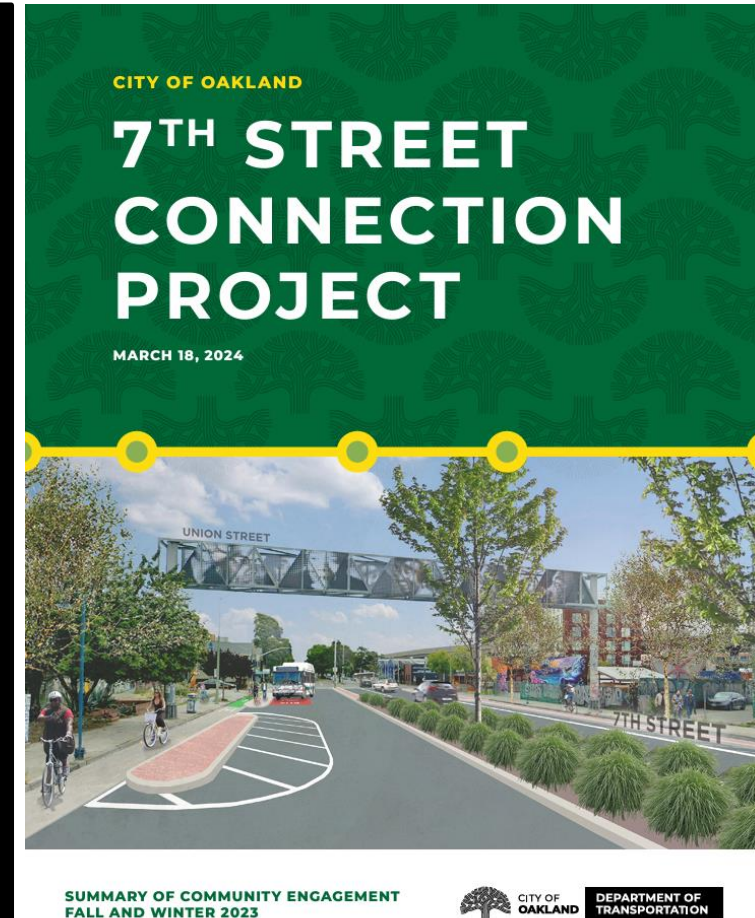
7TH STREET: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Fall and Winter 2023 Recap



Check out the full report that summarizes project background, community engagement activities in Fall and Winter 2023, and how feedback was incorporated into the project:

www.oaklandca.gov/7thstreet



SPRING AND SUMMER 2024 ENGAGEMENT

Aims:

- *Provide updates on the project*
- *Seek input on art, historical markers, greening, and lighting*

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES TO DATE

5/28/2024	7th Street Thrives Meeting
6/6/2024	Acorn Neighborhood Council
6/27/2024	Launch online survey
7/2/2024	Walk corridor and talk to businesses
8/6/2024	National Night Out at Defremery Park
9/4/2024	Prescott Elementary Coffee Hour
9/9/2024	Oak Center Neighborhood Association meeting
9/13/2024	(TODAY) CAC meeting



ENHANCING THE CORRIDOR THROUGH URBAN DESIGN

We want to explore how to **integrate history and culture** into the design of the corridor through:

- **Art**
- **Historical markers**

We also want to hear your ideas on how to make 7th Street comfortable and inviting by adding **trees and landscaping**.

Options for urban design elements are informed by prior community engagement activities for this project.



Fruitvale Transit Village, Credit: Project for Public Spaces



Jack London Square, Credit: 510 Families

GROUP ACTIVITY

8th Street Corridor Improvements

**OakDOT's Major Projects Division
Community Advisory Committee
September 12, 2024**



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OUTLINE & DESIRED OUTCOMES

Outline

- Project Location and Goals
- Planning & Engagement Outcomes
- Project Development
- Timeline & Next Steps
- Upcoming Grant Funding Opportunity

Desired Outcomes

- Consensus on the proposed project goals and anticipated outcomes through design
- Feedback on improvements proposed
- Support for seeking additional grant funding to advance the proposed project

PROJECT LOCATION AND GOALS

8th Street between Fallon Street and MLK Jr. Way, through Chinatown and Old Oakland



Goal: Improves **pedestrian safety and accessibility**; enhance bike connections, access to local and regional transit, and access to nearby regional trails

Prioritization: Prioritized under the Complete Streets Capital Program adopted in the Oakland Budget (91/100); overlaps with the High Injury Network and higher priority communities.

Funding Secured: Project is about 40% funded.

PAST PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

Past plans have called for improvements on 8th Street, including:

- Intersection safety improvements, such as pedestrian scrambles
- Curb extensions
- Better lighting
- Bike infrastructure
- Reducing number of vehicle lanes
- Two-way street conversion



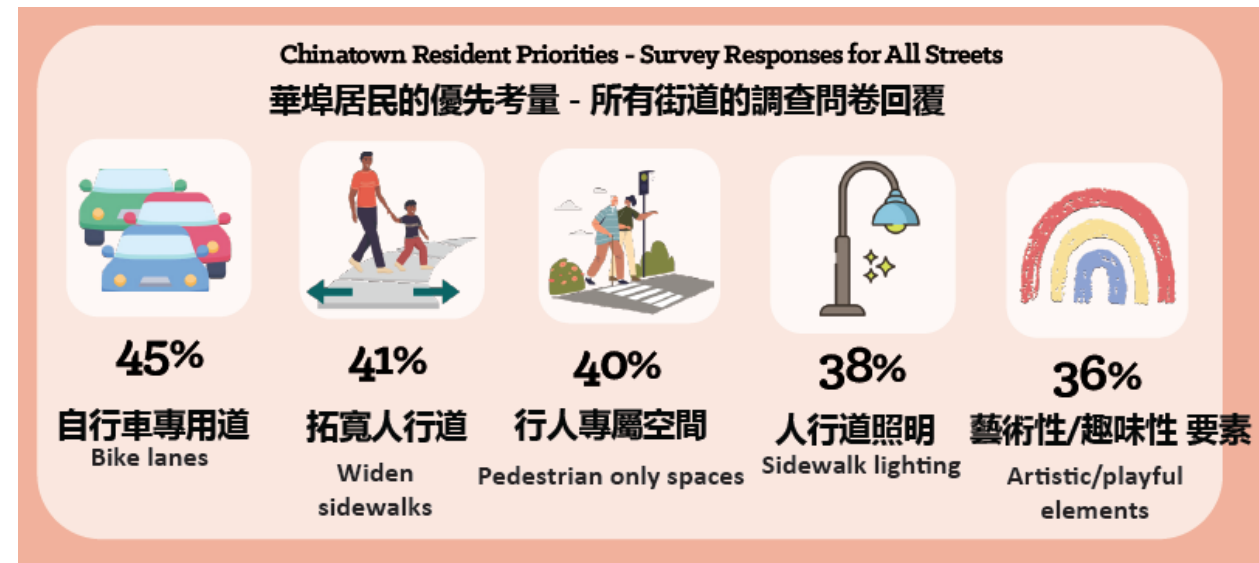
RECENT ENGAGEMENT & OUTCOMES

Community Engagement

- Engagement for this project has been coordinated with the **Chinatown Complete Streets Plan** (CCSP) as 8th Street was a community-identified priority.
- Engagement completed** and in coordination with CCSP since Spring 2024:
 - Community based organization briefings & technical meetings (10x)
 - Tabling at Community Events (2x)
 - Business canvassing (8 businesses)
 - Focus groups with seniors (2x)

Alignment with Community Priorities identified in the CCSP:

- 8th Street project team referenced CCSP engagement results in determining the project scope of work and focused engagement



WHO HAVE WE TALKED TO

Who we spoke with:

- Asian Health Services
- Chinatown Complete Streets Plan TAC
- Lincoln Elementary School PTA
- Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce
- Oakland Chinatown Improvement Council
- Oakland Chinatown Coalition
- Old Oakland Neighbors
- OakDOT Major Projects Community Advisory Committee
- Seniors at Two Focus Groups
- Farmers Market & Stacey Fest

- AC Transit
- BART
- Oakland Planning and Building Department

Who we still need to hear from, including follow-ups:

- More long-term residents
- Youth
- Laney College
- Lincoln Elementary School
- Elected officials

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT - PROCESS

Inputs

- Past and present recommendations/requests for improvements
- Traffic safety outcomes and disparities
- Funding

Making Decisions

- Meet critical safety needs for those who need it most
- Alignment with past recommendations and requests
- Technical feasibility
- Budget feasibility

Desired Outputs

- Increased perceived and actual safety travelling
- Community reflected in the project design and outcomes

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT - ALTERNATIVES

Scenario	Total Cost Estimate	Funding Gap	Staff Recommendation
Baseline	\$20.6M	\$14M	Do not pursue; not responsive enough to community priorities
Baseline + Community Priorities	\$22.4M	\$13.9M	Pursue Advance engagement and design; Pursue additional grant funding
Baseline + Community Priorities & Desires	\$31.2M	\$24.6M	Do not pursue Cost prohibitive

Note: All cost estimates are draft and are subject to change as of August 2024.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT – PROPOSED SCOPE

- **Improve pedestrian safety at crossings** by...
- Upgrading existing **pedestrian scrambles** and a new one at Harrison/8th Street
- Adding a **traffic signal** at Alice Street & 8th Street
- Adding bulb outs to **shorten crossing distances** and **protect people on bikes** where there are bike lanes
- Daylighting intersections and driveways to **improve sight lines**
- **Improve pedestrian experience** by removing sidewalk tripping hazards, installing wayfinding signage, upgrading pedestrian lighting to improve safety and visibility
- **Removing one vehicle lane** and using that space to expand pedestrian space, add diagonal parking, and/or add ADA passenger/commercial loading zones
- Adding **new amenities** on the sidewalks such as bike racks, new trash cans, transit shelters and street trees (where feasible)

TIMELINE & NEXT STEPS

Milestone	Tasks/Deliverables
<i>Now – End of 2024</i>	• Continue Engagement: continue to engage community on confirming community priorities and scope evolutions • Pursue additional grant funding: Applications due on 10/14 and 10/31 • Continue Project Development: issue a Design RFP for consultant support to advance designs
2025 - 2027	• Continue Engagement to gather feedback on lighting, sidewalk amenities, landscaping, and beautification • Advance project designs to completion and list for construction
2028 - 2030	• Construction

UPCOMING GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Regional Measure 3 Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail

...to fund **bicycle and pedestrian** access improvements on and in the vicinity of the **state-owned toll bridges** connecting to **rail transit stations** and ferry terminals.

Funding Request

- Total Project Cost: \$22.4M
- Funding Request: \$13.9M for Construction

Important Dates.

- Application Deadline: October 14, 2024
- MTC Staff Recommendations Released: February 2025



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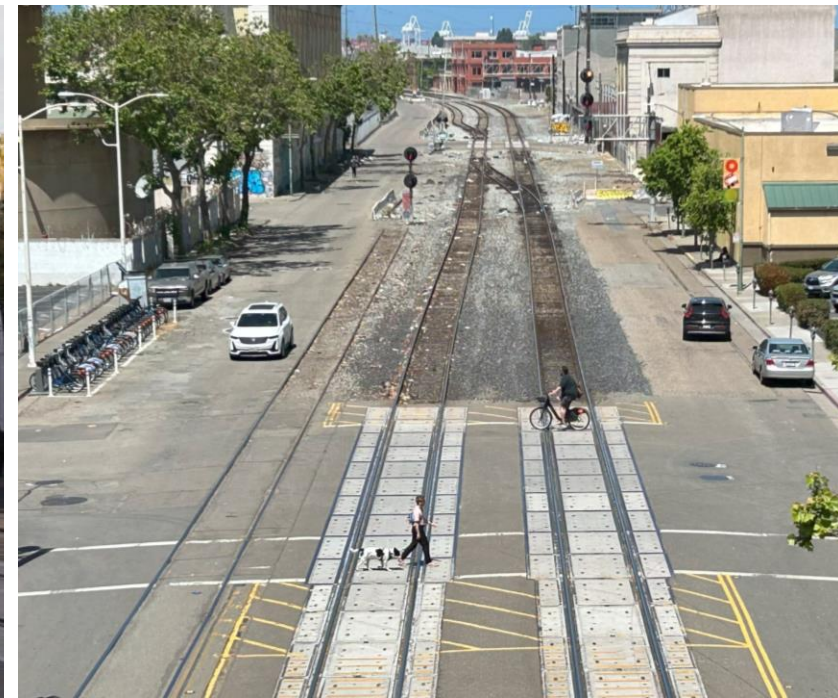
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. If you're familiar with this street, how do you think the proposed improvements will improve transportation safety on 8th Street?
2. If there was one less vehicle lane on 8th Street, how could we repurpose that space?
3. Are there any parts of the project or project development that you would like clarification on?
4. Do you have any feedback on who else we should engage for this project?



Embarcadero West

Rail Safety and Access Improvements



EXISTING clockwise from top left Embarcadero West at Washington St, Clay St, and Webster St

Community Design Workshop

Community Design Workshop

Embarcadero West Rail Safety and Access

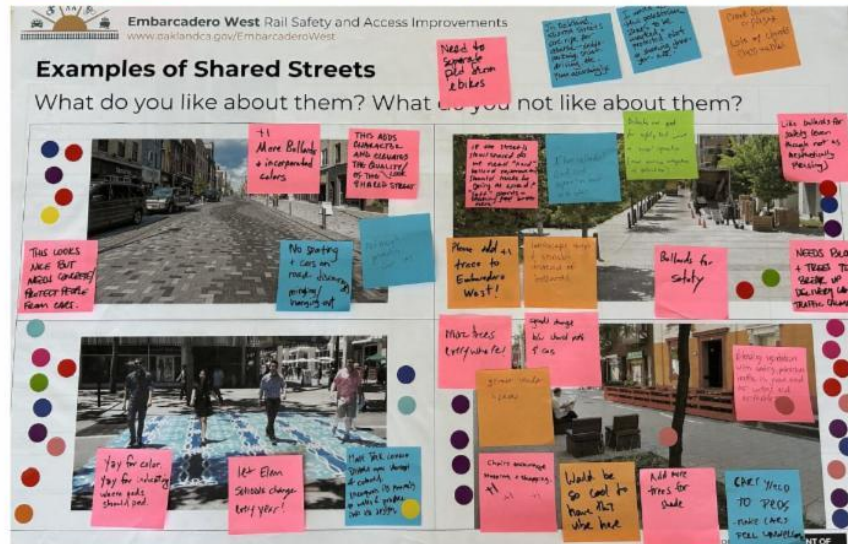
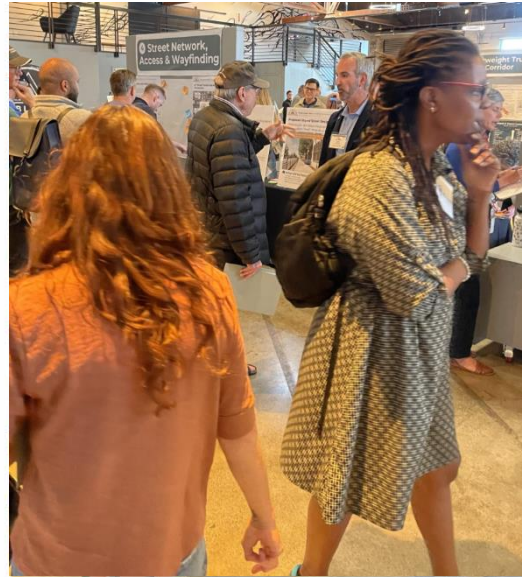
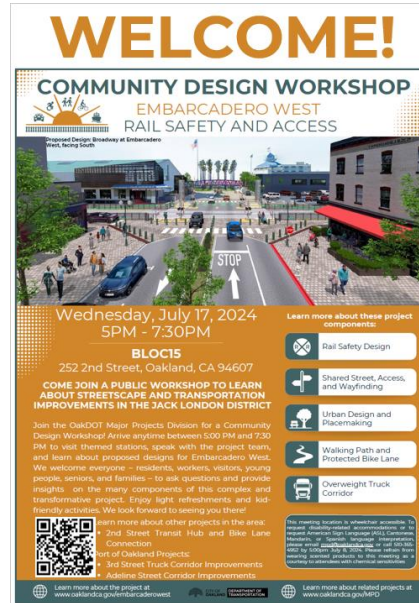
- 112 people attended
- 76 surveys collected
- 100s of comments & conversations

**Wednesday July 17,
2024**

5:00pm - 7:30pm

BLOC15

252 2nd Street
Oakland, CA 94607



Embarcadero West Rail Safety and Access

www.oaklandca.gov/EmbarcaderoWest

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Community Engagement To Date



200
surveys
completed

500
people
estimated
reached &
engaged



- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**
Thursday May 2
- **Jack London Improvement District**
Tuesday May 7
- **Mayor's Commission Persons with Disabilities**
Monday May 20
- **Ferry Fest**
Saturday June 1

- **OakDOT MPD Community Advisory Committee**
Thursday June 13
- **Jack London Square Farmer's Market**
Sundays in June
- **Jack London Neighborhood Council**
Tuesday June 25
- **Port of Oakland Harbor Tour**
Friday July 12
- **Community Design Workshop**
Wednesday July 17

- **Pedal Brewfest**
Saturday July 20
- **StaceyFest**
Saturday July 20
- **Jack London Brewing District Block Party**
Saturday August 3
- **Jack London National Night Out**
Tuesday August 6
- **West Oakland National Night Out**
Tuesday August 6



Embarcadero West Rail Safety and Access

www.oaklandca.gov/EmbarcaderoWest



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Estimated Timeline

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Project Design	35%	65% 100%					
Community Engagement							
Construction			'Near Term Improvements'				

Fall 2024 Community Engagement Summary Report
Updated Design Draft
Design coordination with UPRR, local businesses

Fall 2024 – Winter 2025
Next Phase of Engagement (65% Design)
Wayfinding and access, urban design, opportunities for aesthetic improvements

- Pop-up at community events
- **December 12** CAC Workshop
- Updates and information to be posted on project webpage

Next Meeting

Community Advisory Committee Thursday December 12, 2024

4:30pm - 6:30pm

Oakland City Hall
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612

save the
date!

refreshments
provided!

mark
your
calendar!



Expected agenda items

2024 Wrap-up / Look-ahead to 2025
Undercrossing Improvements Design
Embarcadero West Urban Design

For updates and information visit
www.oaklandca.gov/CAC



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