

San Francisco Parklet Program



The democratization of public space and the new COVID paradigm

Urban GreenUP Webinar

29 April 2021

Presentation Overview

Pre-COVID

- Parklets: how it all started
- San Francisco Parklet Program overview

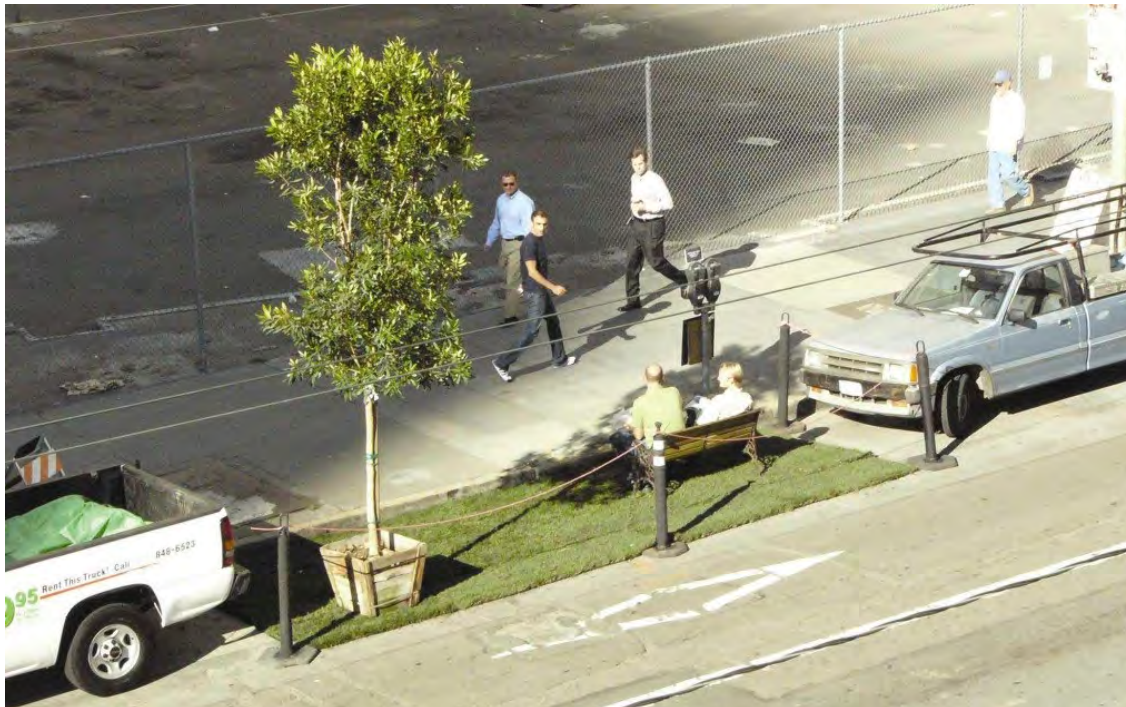
Post-COVID

- Parklets in a new paradigm
- The future of parklets and participatory design



Parklet Origins: community design in action

- First "guerrilla" parklet in 2005
- Tactical Urbanism:
Low-cost, temporary improvements --> long-term change
- Democratic/participatory planning and design

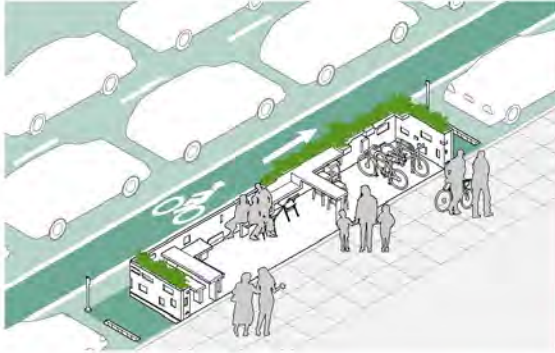


San Francisco Parklet Program History

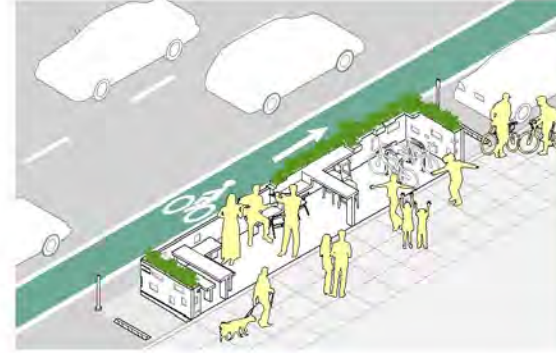
- 2010: City pilot program with 5 parklets
- General call for proposals
- Creation of Parklet Manual



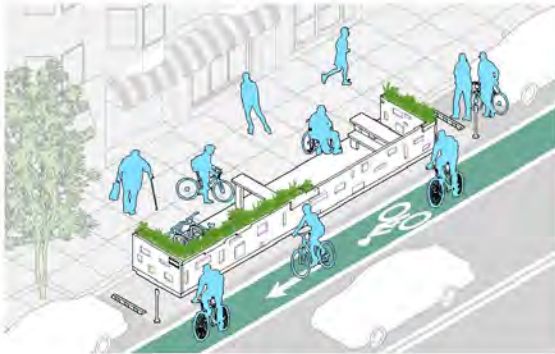
Parklet Governance: Vision & Goals



**RE-IMAGINE THE
POTENTIAL OF CITY
STREETS**



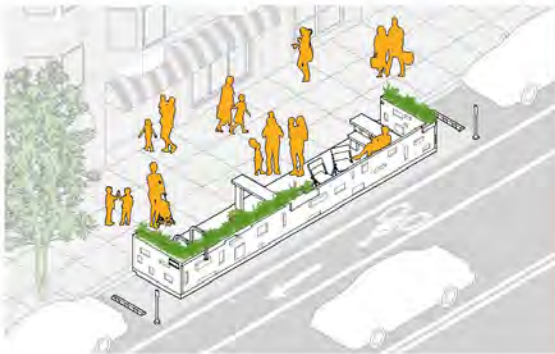
**FOSTER
NEIGHBORHOOD
INTERACTION**



**ENCOURAGE
NON-MOTORIZED
TRANSPORTATION**



**SUPPORT LOCAL
BUSINESSES**



**ENCOURAGE
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
& ACTIVITY**

- ✓ Parklets aim to enhance the pedestrian experience and support adjacent land uses
- ✓ Their goal is to be a community asset and a neighborhood amenity

Parklet Governance: Location, Cost, Policies

- Site selection
 - Sponsors opt-in
 - Vetting by City staff (meet program goals, safety, maintenance/operations)
 - Opportunity for community input and buy-in
- All costs responsibility of parklet sponsor (ie design, permit, construction, maintenance)
- Open to the public
- No branding, table service, alcohol



Parklet Governance: City Coordination



Bureau of Street
Use and Mapping

- ✓ Program branding & admin (website, graphics, outreach)
- ✓ Initial point of contact
- ✓ Ensure parklets meet goals and follow program standards

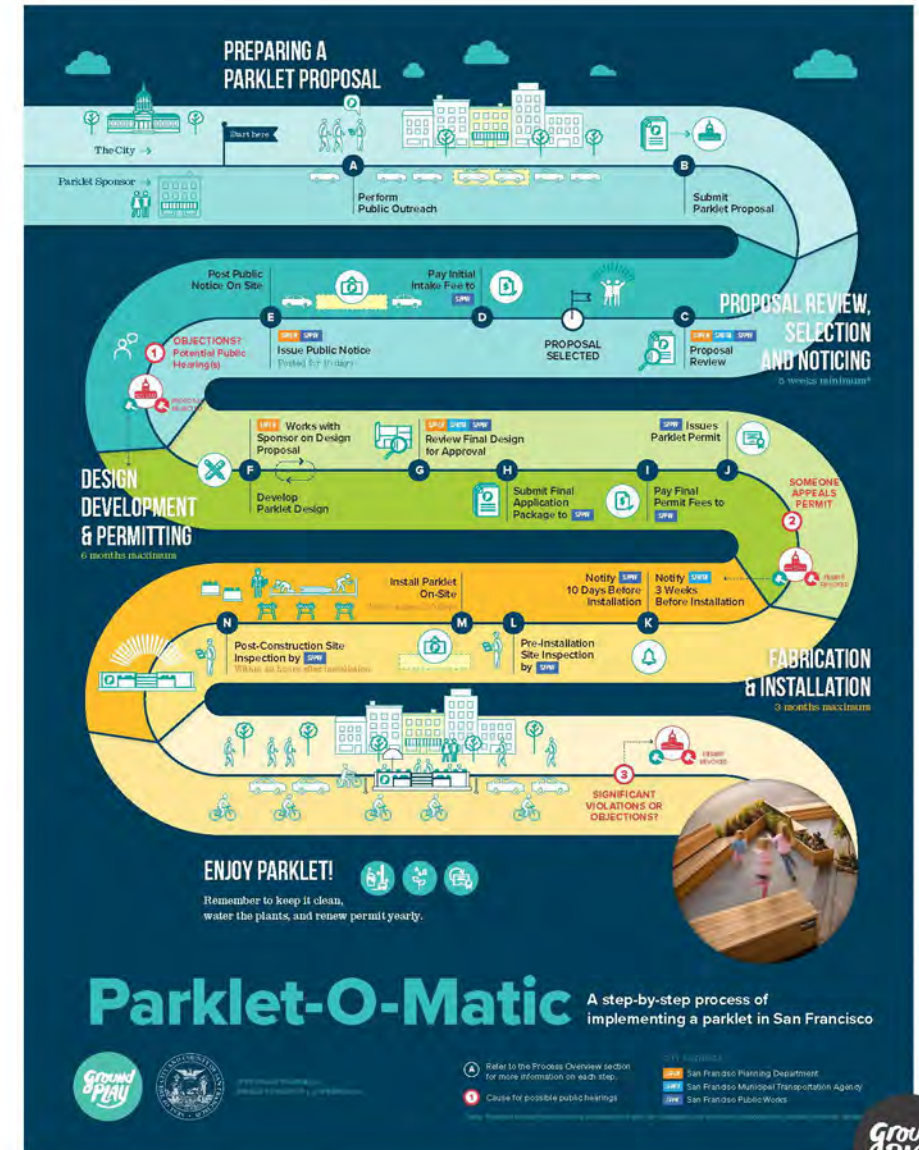
- ✓ Review for traffic, transit, pedestrian, bicycle, or circulation issues
- ✓ Provide guidance on color curb changes when needed
- ✓ Ensure parklets meet MTA's overall goals and objectives

- ✓ Ensure parklets are well constructed, safe, and accessible
- ✓ Process and issue permit
- ✓ Inspection
- ✓ Enforcement



Parklet Governance: 3-Step Process

- 1 PARKLET PROPOSAL & NOTICING
- 2 DESIGN DEVELOPMENT & PERMITTING
- 3 FABRICATION, INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE



Parklet Governance: Who Can Apply?

PARKLETS BY TYPE OF SPONSOR

Business or Organization	# of Parklets
BID or CBD	2
Restaurant or Café	48
School	2
Museum	1
Residential	1
Art Gallery or Space	2
Retail	1
Market (Groceries)	2

(as of June 2020)



Parklet Design Best Practices



Have fun & be creative





Find inspiration in your community & environment



Provide permanent, built-in seating





Use durable materials

Parklets and the new COVID-19 Paradigm



COVID-19 Response: Shared Spaces Program

March 2020

- San Francisco implements Shelter in Place
- Businesses closed
- Indoor dining not allowed

June 2020

Shared Spaces Program

- Economic Recovery
- Bring businesses' operations outdoors

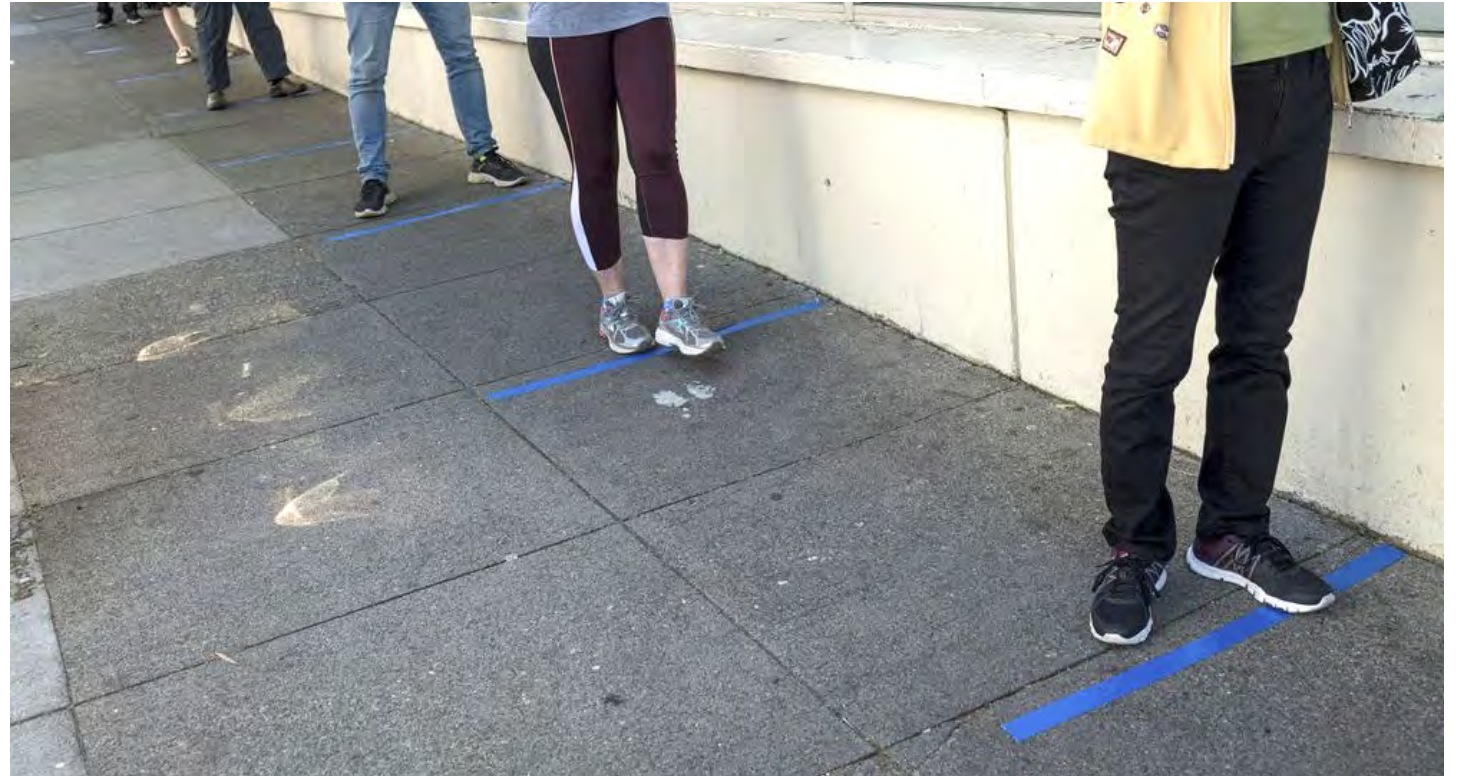


COVID-19 Response: Shared Spaces Program

Curbside Pickup



Distanced Queuing



COVID-19 Response: Shared Spaces Program

Outdoor Dining



Retail



COVID-19 Response: Shared Spaces Program

Roadway



Personal Services

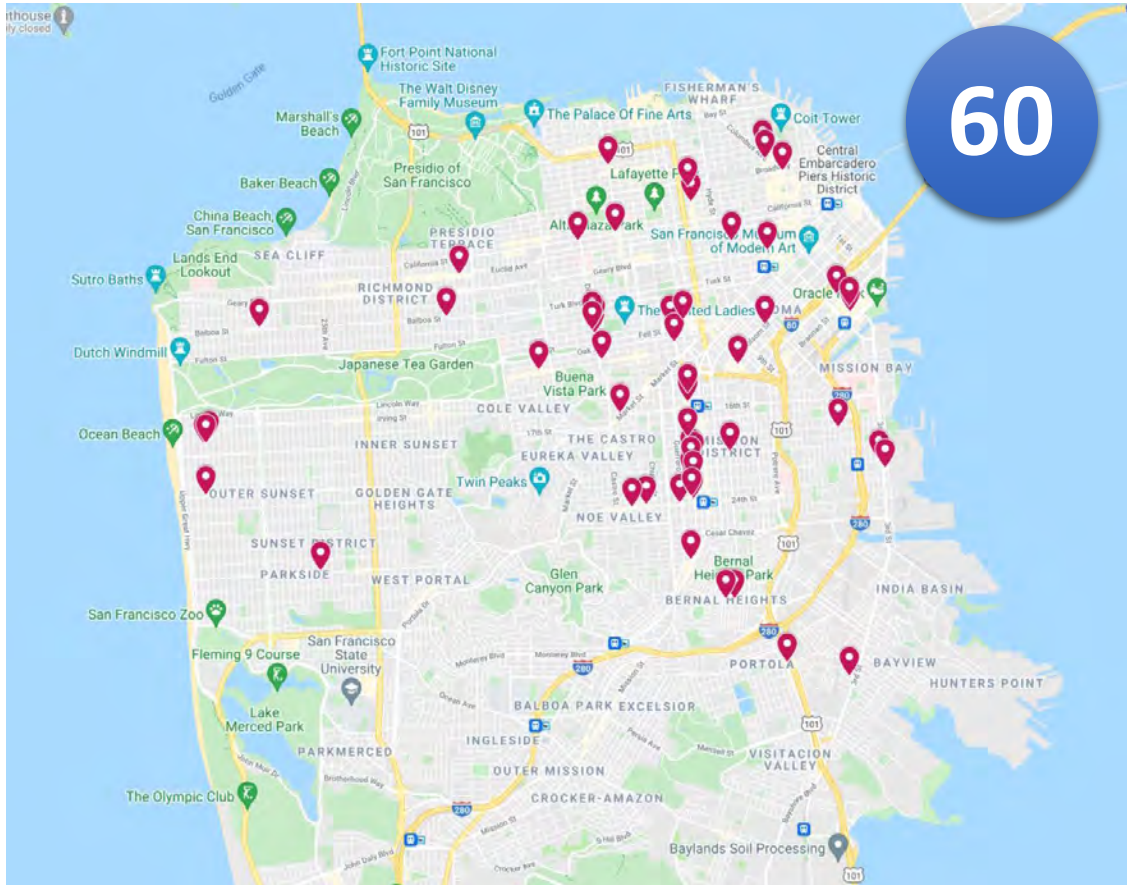


COVID-19 Response: Shared Spaces Program

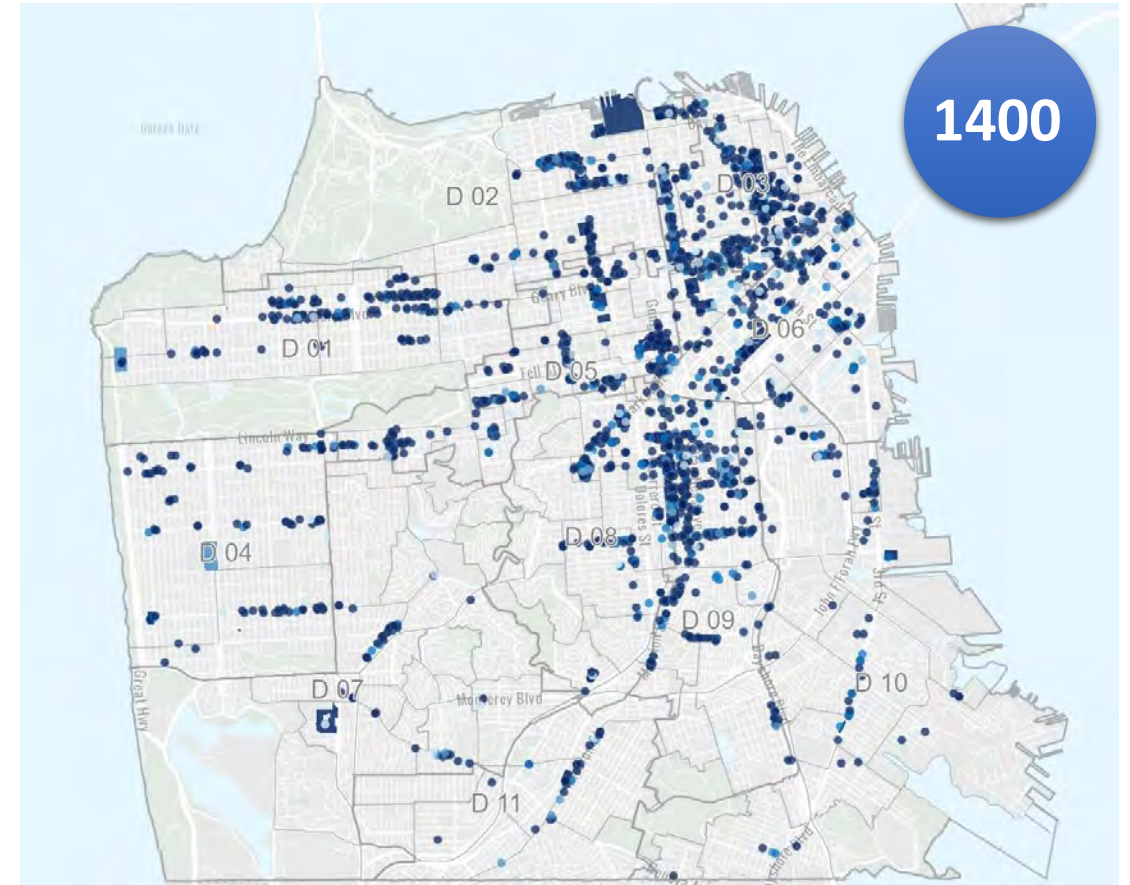
Just Add Music



Parklets & Shared Spaces volumes



Pre-pandemic Parklets Installed as of March, 2020: ~60



Shared Spaces Installed as of April 2021: ~1400

Design Guidelines

Pre-existing Regulations



Accessibility



Sightlines



Drainage



Movability & Portability

New Regulations



Fire & Emergency
Access



Airflow

Implementing a Permanent Program

- Maintaining Program Goals
 - Public seating
 - Support local businesses
 - Encourage pedestrian activity
- New provisions
 - One-stop permit intake portal
 - Streamlined process
 - Short review period
 - Encourage arts, culture, and entertainment
 - Additional parklet options



Shared Spaces Program: Maintaining Public Access



1 Public Parklet




2 Movable Commercial Parklet

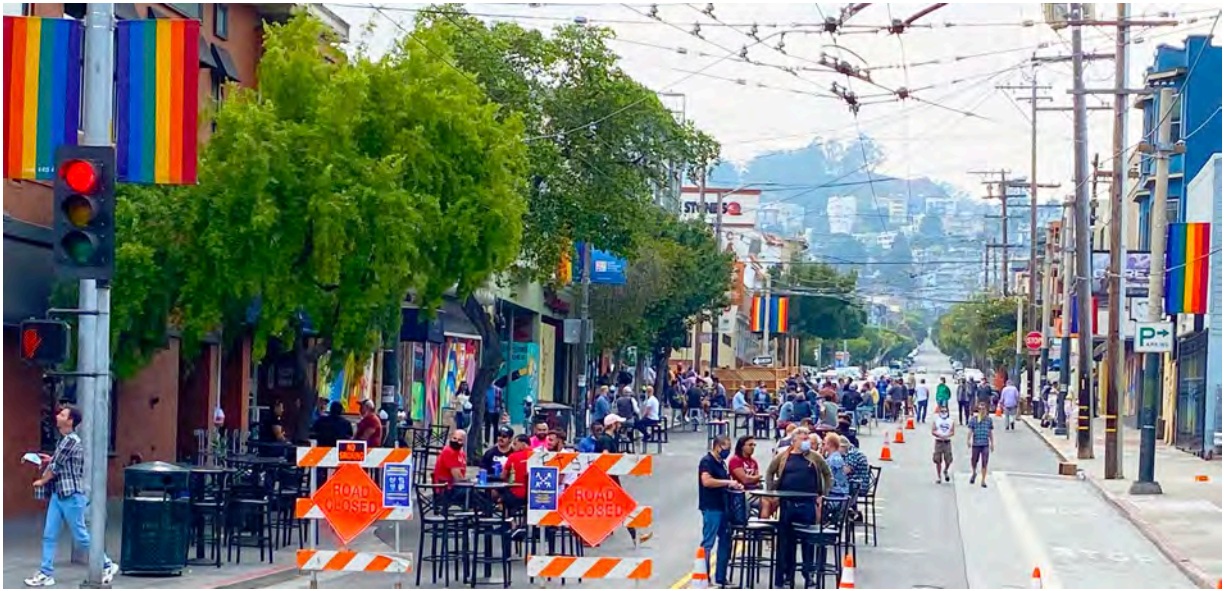


3 Commercial Parklet

Shared Spaces Program: Maintaining Public Access

TIER	TYPE	 PUBLIC ACCESS	 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY	 DAILY OCCUPANCY	 CONSTRUCTION
\$ 1	Public Parklet	Entire facility during daylight hours through 10pm	None	24 hours	Fixed Structure
\$\$ 2	Movable Commercial Parklet	At least one bench during hours of commercial operation	During hours of operation	During hours of Operation	Movable Fixtures
\$\$\$ 3	Commercial Parklet	At least one bench during hours of commercial operation, Otherwise entire facility during daylight hours through 10pm	During hours of operation	24 hours	Fixed Structure





Thank you!

SAN FRANCISCO PARKLET PROGRAM

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San Francisco Shared Spaces Program



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