



San Francisco Bicycle Coalition  
1720 Market Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102

T 415.431.BIKE  
F 415.431.2468

[sfbike.org](http://sfbike.org)

PROMOTING THE BICYCLE FOR EVERYDAY TRANSPORTATION

April 23, 2020

Hon. Mayor London Breed  
City Hall, Rm. 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

cc: Jeffrey Tumlin, Director, SFMTA  
Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Recreation and Parks  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Dear Mayor Breed,

Your leadership during this pandemic and the foresight of our public health officials have saved untold lives and positioned our city and region well for an eventual recovery. The impacts of COVID-19 and the public health order have not been felt equally, however. Poor and unhoused San Franciscans, communities of color, families with children, seniors and people with disabilities have struggled to obey the order while staying healthy. Their experiences moving around our city for the past six weeks have laid bare the inequalities that have always existed in our transportation system.

That's why the Slow Streets initiative you announced this week is so promising. It is a tool that has the potential to address the very real health concerns posed by making essential trips in our densest neighborhoods. In order to realize that potential, however, it must be deployed equitably throughout our city's neighborhoods and open spaces. Therefore, and on behalf of our over-10,000 members, I write to request that City staff take the following actions:

1. Immediately develop and implement a strategy for Tenderloin Slow Streets to allow for social distancing and compliance of public health orders;
2. Expand the list of Slow Street candidates to prioritize San Francisco's densest neighborhoods;
3. Include streets that serve parks across our city, including Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, and Lake Merced Park;
4. Create a process for communities to engage in Slow Streets and develop community ownership so neighborhoods across the city can advocate for inclusion of their local streets;

5. Limit law enforcement and rely instead on temporary infrastructure, signage, and voluntary compliance for successful implementation and operations of Slow Streets; and,
6. Commit to continuing Slow Streets after the shelter-in-place order is lifted to promote safe, calm and sustainable streets.

As we emerge from the shelter-in-place order, we believe that the benefits of Slow Streets will only become more obvious. What you have begun as a public health initiative can serve as a catalyst for lasting change to address the inequities in San Francisco's transportation network. We are ready to help and support you in that process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Wiedenmeier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Wiedenmeier  
Executive Director