



# Slow Streets

Slow Streets foster safe, accessible, and pedestrian-friendly environments and encourage non-motorized transportation on neighborhood local streets. Along retail corridors, the additional seating areas for visitors and patrons of surrounding businesses that can be created when Slow Streets are implemented foster a bustling pedestrian atmosphere. As an initial pilot, bollards were installed in May 2023 at intersections along Fifth Avenue in the Gaslamp Quarter, restricting through vehicular traffic during business hours and transforming the street into small pedestrian-centered plazas. A subsequent feasibility study was completed which identified other potential pedestrian improvements along Fifth Avenue. Exploring possible conversions of streets in other neighborhoods can promote greater mobility and safety across San Diego.



*Bollards installation on Fifth Avenue  
Source: City of San Diego, 2023*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**Estimated Initiation Timeframe**  
1-3 years



**Implementation Cost**  
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**Potential Funding Sources**  
» Federal grants  
» Community Parking District funds



**Leading Department**  
Transportation

**Collaborating Entities**  
Other City departments



**Relevance to Mobility Master Plan Goals**  
Goals 3, 4, 7

**Relevance to Climate Action Plan**  
Actions 3.1SA-13, 3.1SA-22, 3.5SA-2, 3.1 SA-8



**Incorporating Community Engagement**  
The community identified lack of safety for pedestrians and cyclists as a key challenge to their mobility needs. Slow Streets will create safe and comfortable environments for walking or rolling, cycling, and other micromobility modes.

## PROGRAM IN ACTION

The City of Oakland, CA, is developing a planning framework and a set of design considerations for the implementation of permanent Slow Streets. Building on the existing Bicycle Plan and Five-Year Paving Plan, in February 2023 the City announced that it planned to identify potential locations along approximately 50 miles of the bicycle boulevard network that were suitable for conversions to Slow Streets. This program would entail installing a combination of pavement markings; guide, warning, and regulatory signs; and barricades to promote non-motorized mobility options. Details of the City's plan can be found at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/oakland-slow-street>



*Road Closure in Oakland  
Source: The Oaklandside, 2020*