

# Community Quick-Build Traffic Calming Pilots

**Transport  
Oakland;  
Ajah Burts  
March 18th, 2024**

## Project Origin

- Broadway street-calming pop-up demonstration at Oakland Tech, May 17 - 18, 2023
- OT Student hit by vehicle on Broadway March 23, 2023
- Collaborative WOBO & Oakland Tech response



Crosswalk on Broadway reduced to one lane using cones and flexposts

## Project Origin (cont.)

- Two full-day traffic calming pilot demonstration
- Extra speedway lane removed to design for calm passage through school zone



Crosswalk on Broadway reduced to one lane using cones and flexposts

# Goals:

- Engage neighborhood around creative solutions for creating a safe public right-of-way
- Take community action to respond to a serious traffic collision
- Listen to the wants and needs of students and community members, especially those using alternative forms of transportation



# WOBO Broadway Project:

- Drafted site plan and set pilot date
- Special Event Permit application
- Neighborhood outreach/ publicity
- Volunteer Recruitment
- Installation



Transport Oakland's ask:

Allow community groups to create quick, ambitious projects to address acute street safety concerns

# Decorative Bulb-outs



Shafter Ave, Oakland  
Example of bulbout using  
wide flexposts



Washington D.C.  
Intersection corner  
has flexposts that  
prevent sharp turns

# Traffic Circles



Dividers and flexposts  
arranged as a makeshift  
traffic circle

Richmond, CA



# Traffic Circles

Hay bales arranged in a circle



Livingston, MT

# Lane Diversions / Reallocations

Zebra dividers and flexposts used to block off the rightmost lane



Berkeley, CA

# Pinch points



Two sets of flexposts in pairing arranged in opposite facing bracket shapes which create a pinch point

Portland, OR

# Chicanes



Zebra dividers and paint arranged such that cars have to slowly weave around them

Portland, OR

# Key aspects for Oakland's pilot program:


- Progressive design toolkit
  - Prioritizes pedestrian safety and allows pilots that slow down cars, a proven safety feature
- Minimal insurance requirements - especially for projects designed to slow vehicles
- Include sturdy materials, designed to be flexible as a project layout morphs
- Short (5-10 day) turn-around times

# Toolkit of pre-approved materials:


Exhibit E

- Flex posts
- Wheel stops
- Planters
- Bollards
- K-rail
- Decorated barricades
- Zebra dividers
- In-street signage

The following materials are permissible as barrier elements:



**Empty or Sand-filled Plastic Jersey Barrier**  
Typical Dimensions: 34'L x 18"W x 30"H  
Estimated Cost: \$300  
**Overview:**  
Using water-filled jersey barriers is a simple way to add heavy, substantial barriers that can be easily moved into place with two people prior to being filled with water or sand.



**Type III Barricade**  
Typical Dimensions: 72"-96"L x 63"H  
Estimated Cost: \$120  
**Overview:**  
Type III barricades are lightweight and include three reflective panels.




**Traffic Barrel**  
Typical Dimensions: 15"-23.5" DIA. x 39.2"H  
Estimated Cost: \$75  
**Overview:**  
Traffic barrels are easy to install and create a heavy and durable wall of separation. They should be spaced intermittently to allow curbside access.




**Traffic Cone**  
Typical Dimensions: 14" DIA. x 28-36"H  
Estimated Cost: \$30  
**Overview:**  
Traffic cones are an affordable and easily movable barrier with reflective bands.

### ACCESSIBILITY

The following materials are permissible as ADA accessible elements:



**Warning Pad**  
Typical Dimensions: 24"L x 48"W x 3/8"H  
Estimated Cost: \$40  
**Overview:**  
Warning pads can be detected by the visually impaired. These should be located at entry points to indicate leaving and entering pedestrian only spaces.



**Threshold Ramp**  
Typical Dimensions: 16.7"W x 24.4"L x 6"H  
Estimated Cost: \$100 ea  
**Overview:**  
Tactical ramps provide access to curbs and parklets.

### SIGNAGE

The following materials are permissible as signage:



**Project Info Signage**  
Typical Dimensions: 8.5x11  
Estimated Cost: NA  
**Overview:**  
Sign templates will be provided by ATLDOT and must be posted at the project site during installation and throughout the duration of the project. Sign should be printed on 8.5x11 paper and laminated.



**Slow Shared Street Project Signage**  
Typical Dimensions: 15"W x 24"H  
Estimated Cost: NA  
**Overview:**  
Slow street signage will be required for all slow streets. ATLDOT will provide the template for fabrication.



Above: pictures and descriptions of various traffic calming tools  
Left: two people painting new barricades used to make a parklet

# Standard configurations for:

Exhibit E

- intersection bulb-outs / curb extensions
- modal filters
- lane reallocation
- traffic circles
- chicanes
- slip-lane removal
- double-right-turn removal
- diagonal diverters
- widened pedestrian zones
- Parking removal for line-of-sight restoration



**Curb  
Extension**



**Demonstration  
Bike/LIT Lanes**



**Lane  
Narrowing**



**Slow Shared  
Street**



**Slip Lane  
Closure**



**Walk Lane  
Closure**

# Example toolkit, excerpt from Atlanta

Atlanta's similar program lists a number of different traffic calming options, including:

- Recommended materials
- Standard dimensions and measurements
- Example plan documents

**3 LANE NARROWING**

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**MATERIAL OPTIONS**

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**Striping**

Acceptable striping for **Demonstration** installations include:

- Traffic tape
- Striping chalk
- Striping spray paint

Acceptable striping for **Pilot** installations include:

- Traffic paint with reflective beads
- Thermoplastic traffic striping

**Vertical Barriers with Reflective Bands**

Acceptable barriers for **Demonstration** installations include:

- Traffic cones (up to one week only)
- Traffic barrels
- Planters
- Empty or sand-filled jersey barriers

Acceptable barriers for **Pilot** installations include:

- Wheel stops
- Flex posts
- Sand-filled jersey barriers
- Concrete barriers
- Planters

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**OPTIONAL ENHANCEMENTS**

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The following enhancements are permissible in **Pilot** installations only, but not required:

- Pedestrian space art



## Example Pilot Timeline

- Day 0: Identify street with critical traffic safety need
- Day 1: Community to follow toolkit to draft a site plan
- Day 5: Submit site plan and pilot dates to OakDOT
- Day 12: OakDOT to review pilot plan and grant encroachment permit or respond with feedback
- Day 15: Materials installation (signage, temporary street closures if needed, vertical element placement)
- Day 105: OakDOT review for possible extension

# Example Pilot Timeline

Exhibit E

Identify street with critical traffic safety need

Community to follow toolkit for drafting a site plan

Submit site plan and expected pilot dates to OakDOT

Materials installation (signage, temporary street closures if needed, vertical element placement)

OakDOT review for possible extension

Day: 0 1 5 12 15 ... 105

Community volunteer recruitment and awareness building

OakDOT to review pilot plan and grant encroachment permit or respond with feedback

Community engagement, maintenance, adjustments, speed data collection

## Further Community Engagement:

- Educational posters/flyers explaining the pilot
- Community artwork intentionally doubled as traffic calming features
- Link to online feedback form, to be reviewed after initial trial



Above: bulbout with informational poster attached to the ground

## After Initial Pilot Period:

- Continuation of traffic calming if rate of speeding decreases
- Response to proposed adjustments

## Data Collection:

- Telraam traffic counts for volume and speed
- Traffic collision data within 20 feet of affected intersections

# Considerations for People with Disabilities

- Rapidly adding new infrastructure to the street could create obstacles or hazards for people without a lot of time for them to give input before installation
- Make certain that any design toolkit specifically outlines common issues and ADA standards
- Because they are using flexible and easily movable materials, projects can be quickly changed midway through the pilot period to account for feedback
- This presents an opportunity for more of the general community to learn about accessible design and become advocates going forward

## Considerations for People with Disabilities cont.

- Communities comprised mostly of people with disabilities and elders will have a hard time doing their own installations, and care needs to be taken to ensure they aren't left out because of that
- It should be very easy for CBO's to partner with such communities and provide the physical assistance necessary

## Potential Pilot Legislation Timeline

- March 23rd 2023: Oakland Tech student hit on Broadway
- May 17-18th 2023: Oakland Tech and WOBO run pilot
- December 19th: City Council passes traffic calming resolution
- April 23rd: OakDOT presents report to Public Works and Transportation committee
- May 7th: Permitting Legislation approved by City Council
- May 17th: First traffic calming pilot project installed

# Pilot Legislation Timeline

Exhibit E

Oakland Tech  
Student hit on  
Broadway

WOBO and Oakland  
Tech Pilot lane  
reallocation and  
Crosswalk

Traffic Calming  
Resolutions passed by  
City Council

Permitting  
legislation  
approved by  
City Council

Initial traffic  
calming pilot  
installation

March  
23,  
2023

May 17 - 18  
23, 2023

December  
19, 2023

April 23,  
2024

May 7,  
2024

May 17,  
2024

OakDOT presents  
report to Public Works  
and Transportation  
Committee

OakDOT expands  
program toolkit options  
based on community  
input



# Thank You!



Questions/comments:  
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