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Community Quick-Build Traffic Calming Pilots

Transport Oakland;

Ajah Burts

March 18th, 2024

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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

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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

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Transport Oakland’s ask:

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

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Decorative Bulb-outs

Shafter Ave, Oakland
Example of bulbout using wide flexposts

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

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Traffic Circles

Dividers and flexposts arranged as a makeshift traffic circle

Richmond, CA

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Traffic Circles

Hay bales arranged in a circle

Livingston, MT

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Lane Diversions / Reallocations

Zebra dividers and flexposts used to block off the rightmost lane

Berkeley, CA

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Pinch points

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

Portland, OR

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Chicanes

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

Portland, OR

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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:

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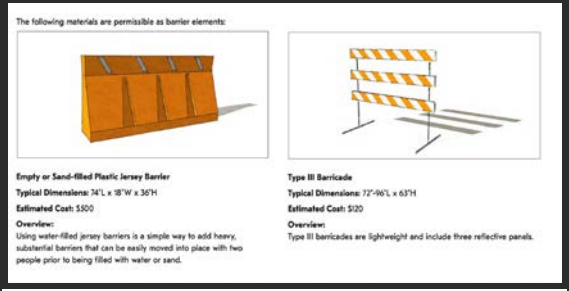
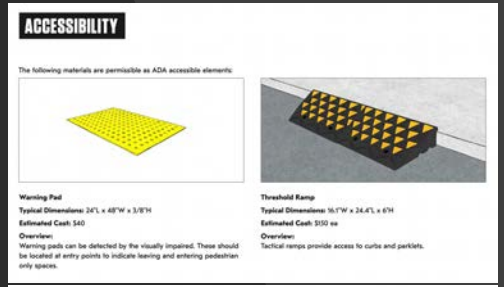
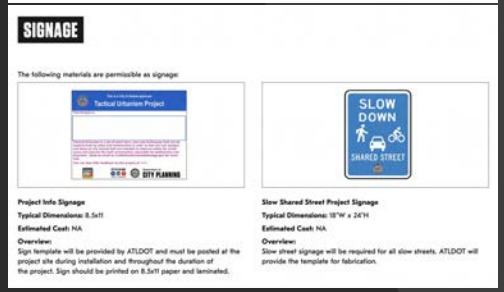
- Flex posts
- Wheel stops
- Planters
- Bollards
- K-rail
- Decorated barricades
- Zebra dividers
- In-street signage







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

Standard configurations for:

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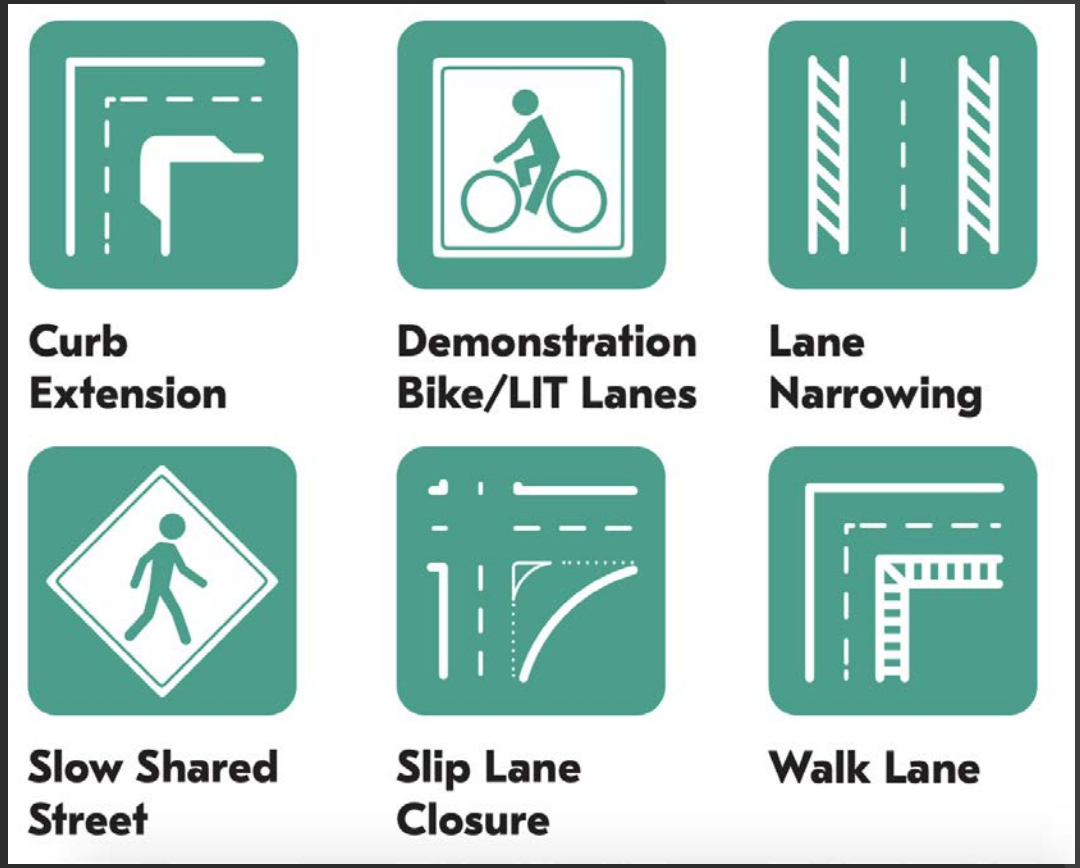
- intersection bulb-outs / curb extensions
- modal filters
- lane reallocation
- traffic circles
- chicanes
- slip-lane removal
- double-right-turn removal
- diagonal diverters
- widened pedestrian zones
- Parking removal for line-of-sight restoration



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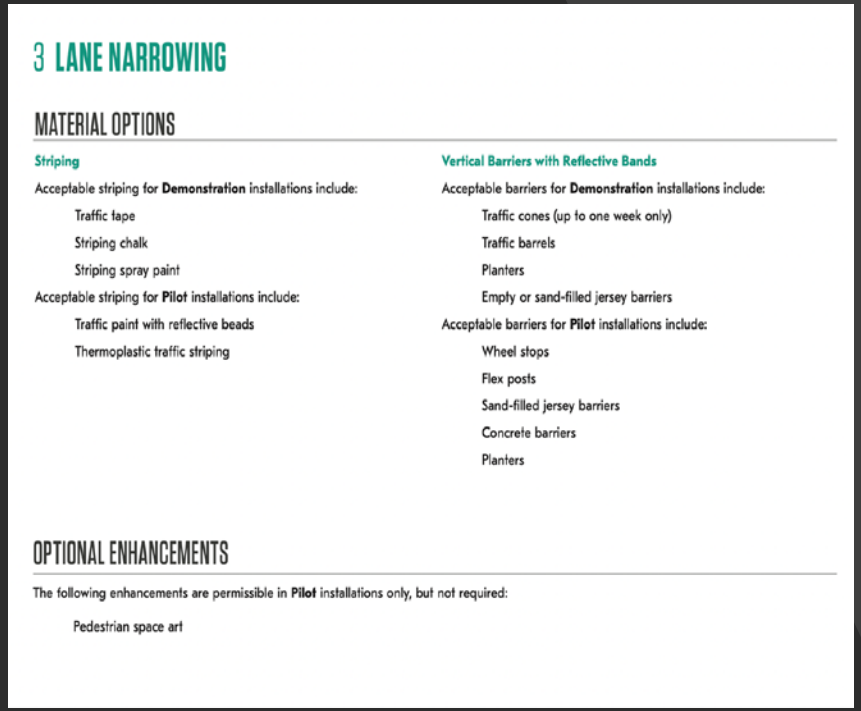
Example toolkit, excerpt from Atlanta

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

MATERIAL OPTIONS

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

OPTIONAL ENHANCEMENTS

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

- Pedestrian space art

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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

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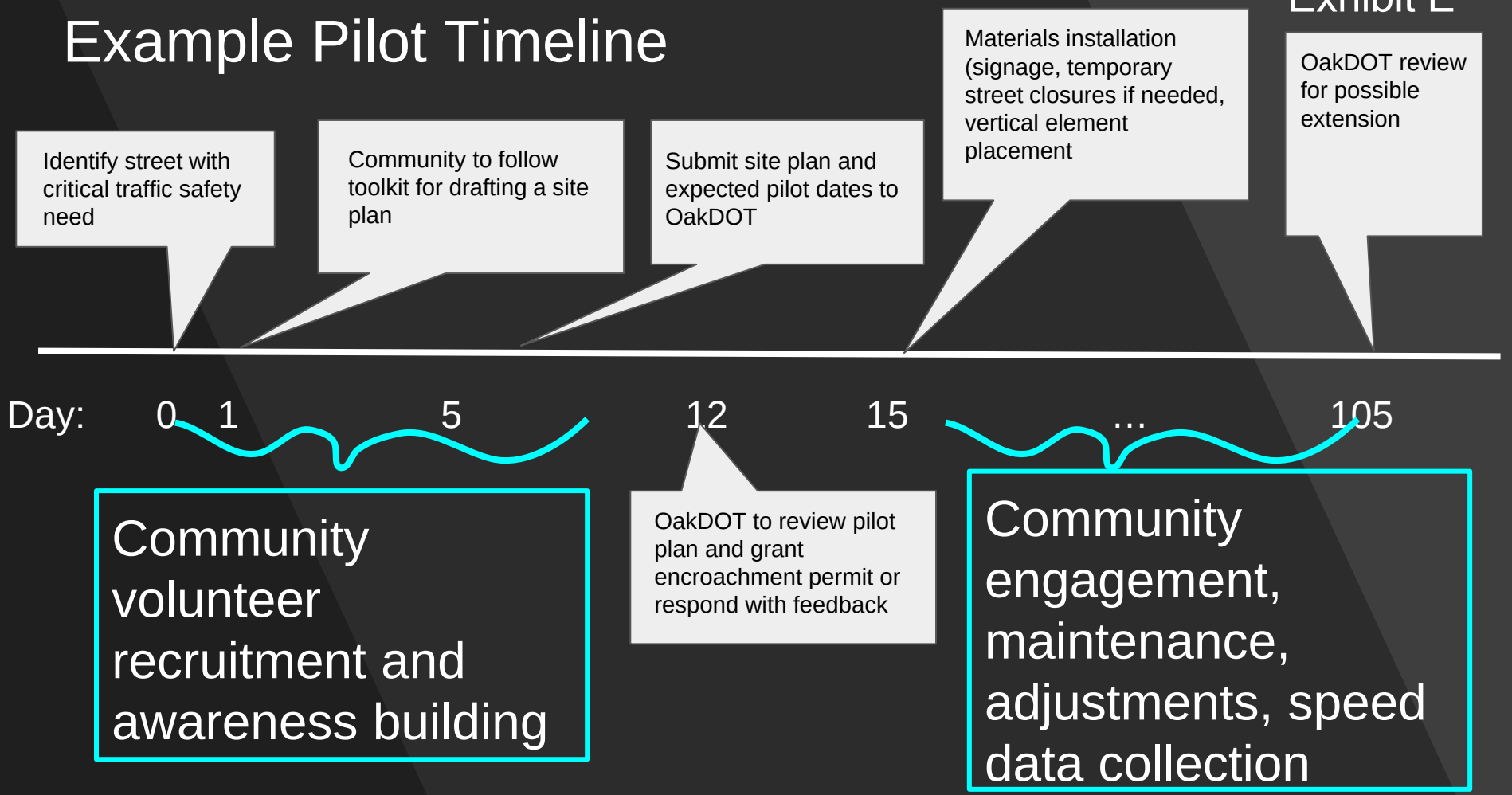
Example Pilot Timeline



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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

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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

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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 though 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

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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 comittee
- May 7th: Permitting Legislation approved by City Council
- May 17th: First traffic calming pilot project installed

Pilot Legislation Timeline

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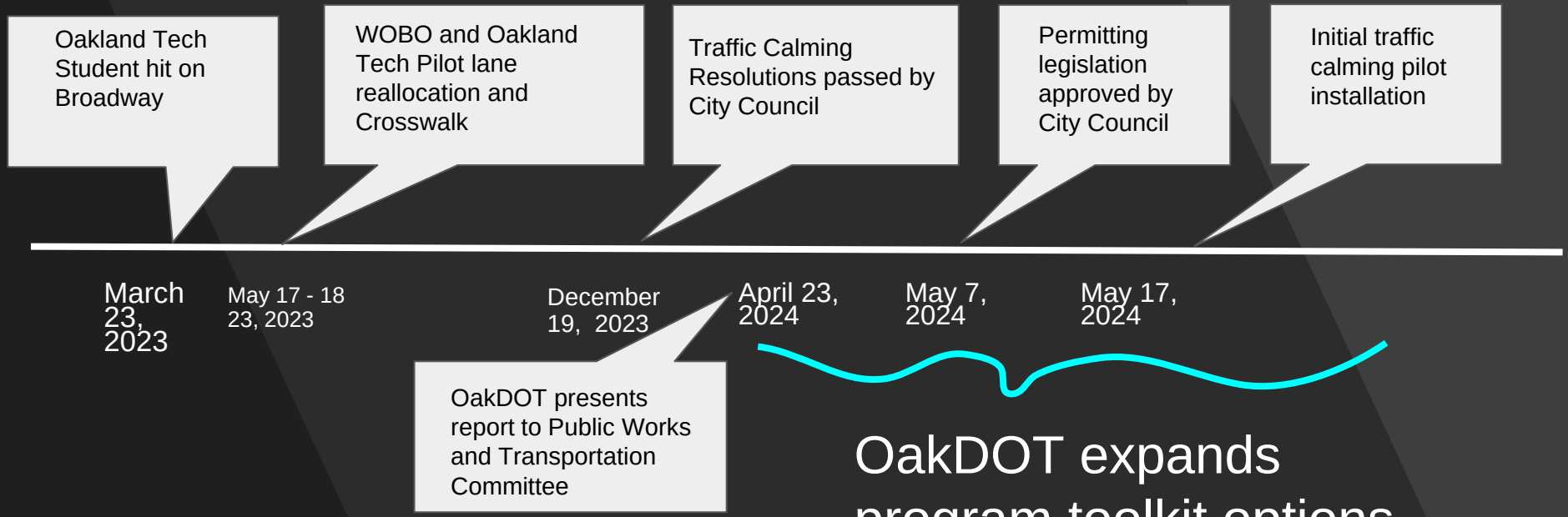

OakDOT expands program toolkit options based on community input

Thank You!

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Questions/comments:
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