

Transportation Planning in Western SoMa

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Outline

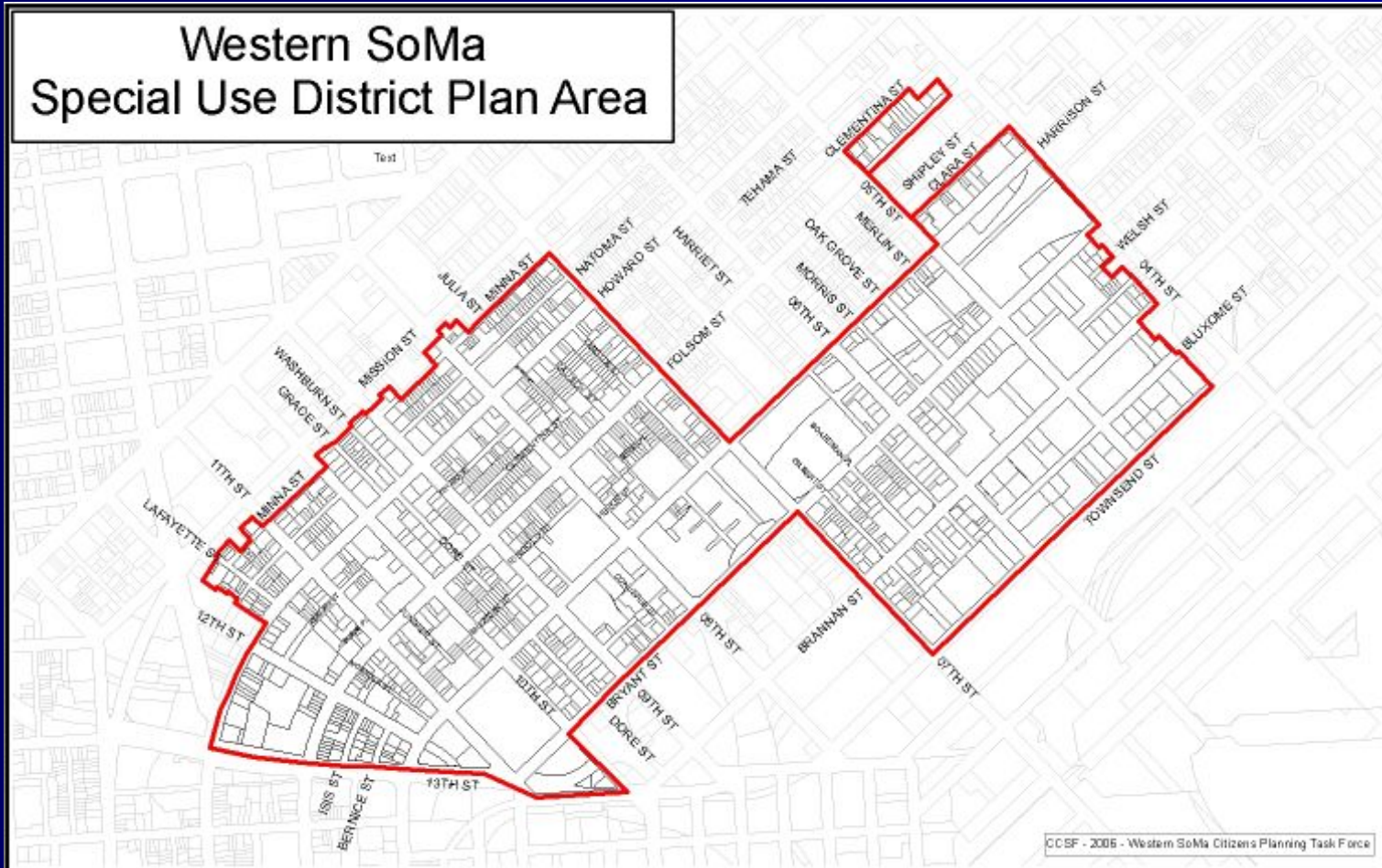
- Background
- Deliverables
 - Transportation Policies Review
 - Introduction to Traffic Calming
 - Traffic Calming Toolbox
 - Urban Goods Movement (Freight)
- Conclusion

Background

- San Francisco State University
 - Urban Studies Program
 - Senior Seminar, Spring 2007
- Team Background
 - Urban Transportation
 - Land Use Planning
 - Urban Geography

Western SoMa (South of Market)

Western SoMa Special Use District Plan Area



Transportation Policies

- Comprehensive list of policies and objectives
- 67 Transportation Policy Objectives
- Over 300 Transportation Policies



Common Themes

- Street and sidewalk safety
- Accessibility
- Promote alternative modes
- Improve transit service
- Protect neighborhood character
- Parking strategy
- Economic vitality
- Environmental quality and health



Source: Natasha Casanares, Spring 2007

Introduction to Traffic Calming

- Speed Control
- Volume Control



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Presentation

Traffic Calming in S.F.

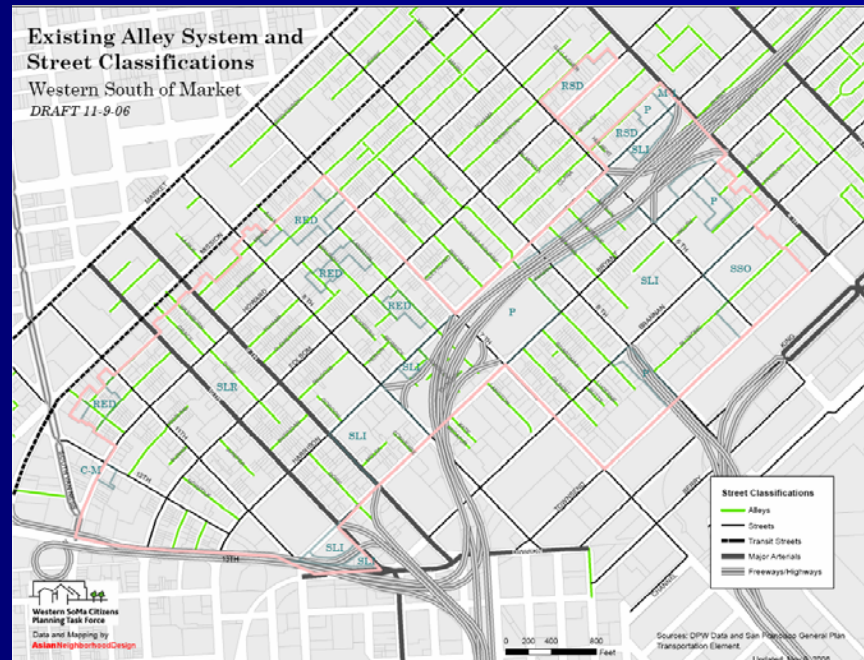
- Livable Streets Program
 - Traffic Calming Program
 - Multiple agencies involved

- Better Streets Plan
 - Streetscape Master Plan (SMP)
 - Pedestrian Transportation Master Plan (PMP)

- Department of Public Works-SoMa West Improvement projects
 - Phase I
 - Central Freeway Replacement Ancillary projects

Western SoMa Street Classifications

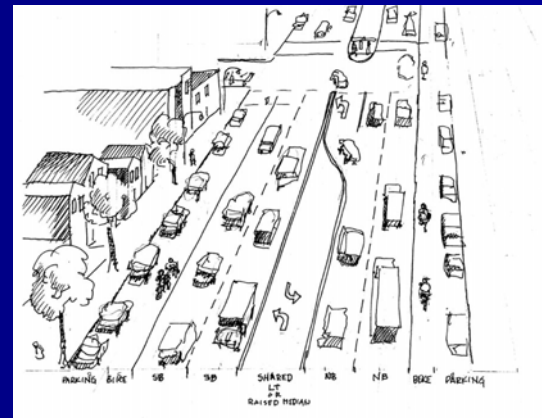
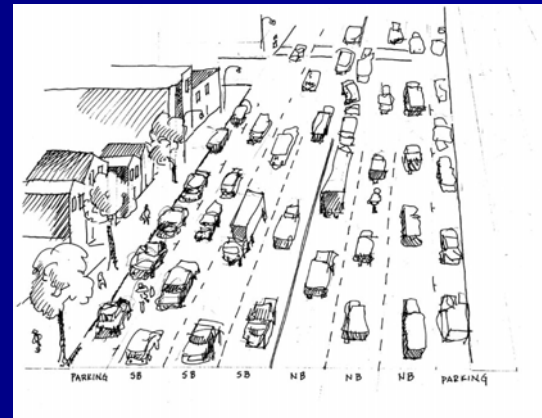
- Arterial Streets
- Transit Preferential Streets
- Streets
- Alleys



Source:
www.sfgov.org/westernsoma

Case Study: Potrero Avenue-Between 17th and 25th Streets

- Potrero Avenue Livable Streets Corridor Project - MTA 2006
 - 2 Year Project
- Treatments



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Website

Case Study: Waverly Place-Chinatown

- Chinatown Alleyways Improvement Project- DPW 2005
 - 18 Month Project
- Cost \$530,000
- Treatments



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Website

San Francisco's Current Traffic Calming Toolbox

- Bicycle Enhancements
- Chicanes
- Choker Island Circles
- Crosswalk Enhancements
- Gateway Bulbs
- Landscaping
- Neck Downs
- Median Island
- Sidewalk Bulb-Outs
- Speed Cushions
- Speed Humps

Chicanes

- **Advantages**
 - Reduces speeding
 - Emergency vehicles
 - Removes parking
- **Disadvantages**
 - Drainage Issues
 - Reduces parking
- **Cost** \$67,000 and up
- **Alternative:**
 - Parking as a Chicane



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Website

Medians and Chokers

Advantages

- Pedestrian refuge
- Reduces Speeds
- Removes parking
- Can Be Landscaped

Disadvantages

- Drainage Issues
- Removes parking
- Bike unfriendly?

Cost \$16,000 and up



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Presentation

Sidewalk Bulb-Outs

Advantages

- Increases ped visibility
- Slows turning vehicles
- Shorter ped crossing
- Removes parking

Disadvantages

- Drainage issues
- Truck turning issues
- Removes parking

Cost \$67,000 each



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Presentation

Speed Cushions & Humps

Advantages

- Reduces speeding
- Reduces volume
- Retains parking

Disadvantages

- Emergency response
- Increases noise
- Retains parking

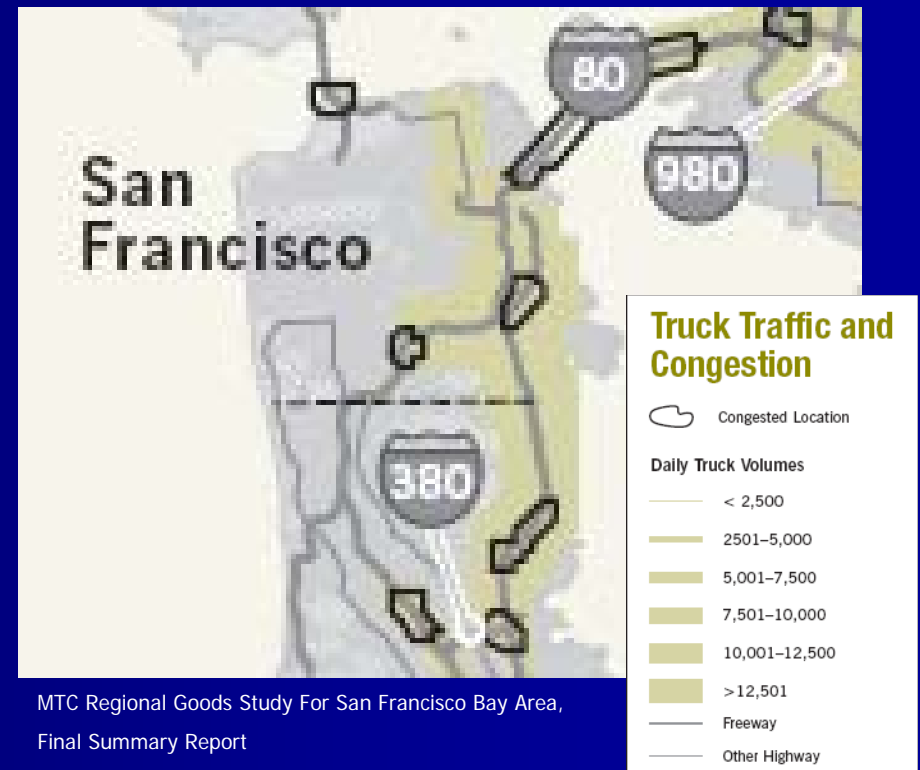
Cost \$6,000 each



Source: MTA Traffic Calming Presentation

Urban Goods Movement

- Truck Traffic
- Specific to Western SoMa
 - Terminus of two Freeways
 - >12,500 Trucks pass through daily



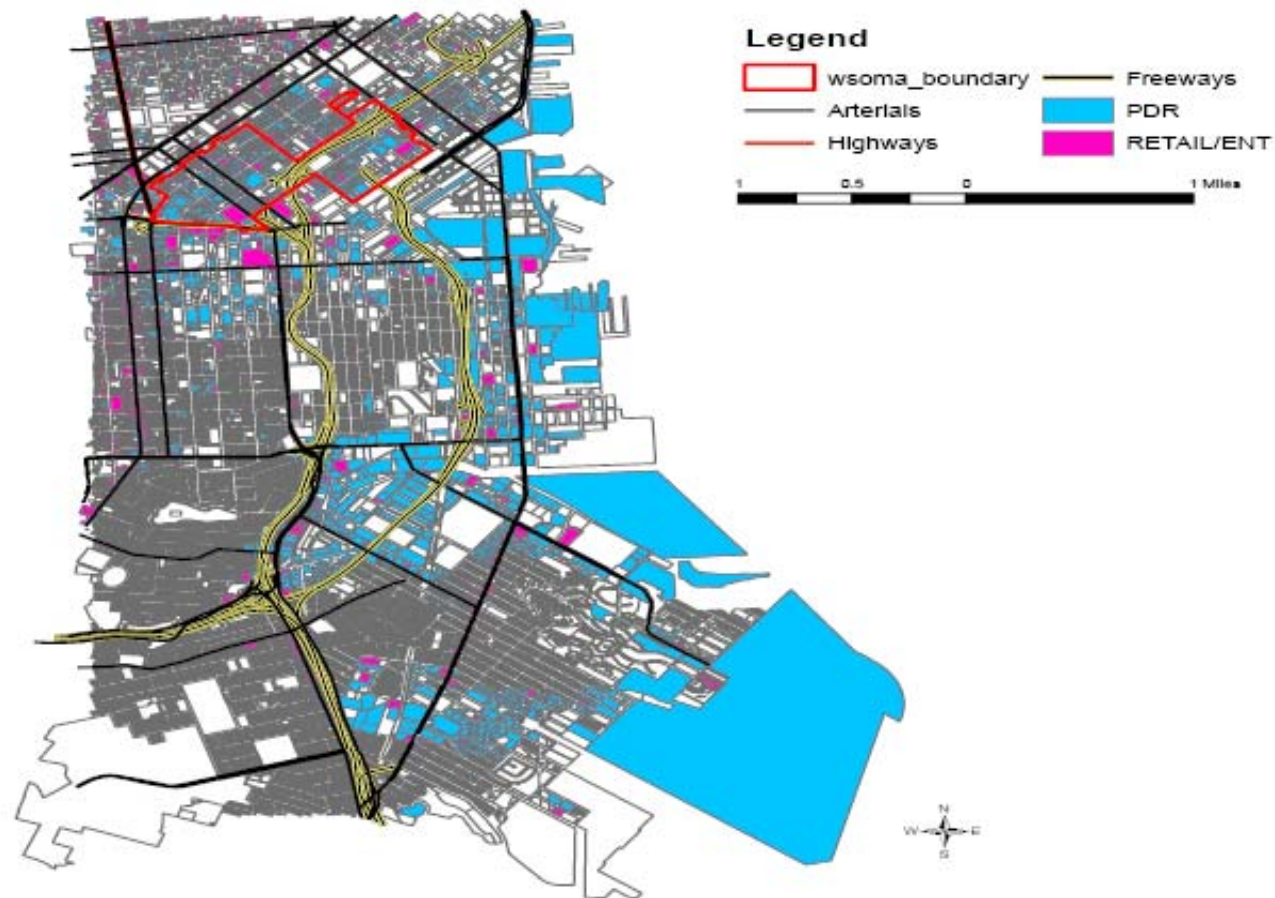
Within the Bay Area

- Goods travel to three destinations
 - San Francisco Airport
 - Oakland Airport
 - Port of Oakland



Map Courtesy of www.its.dot.gov

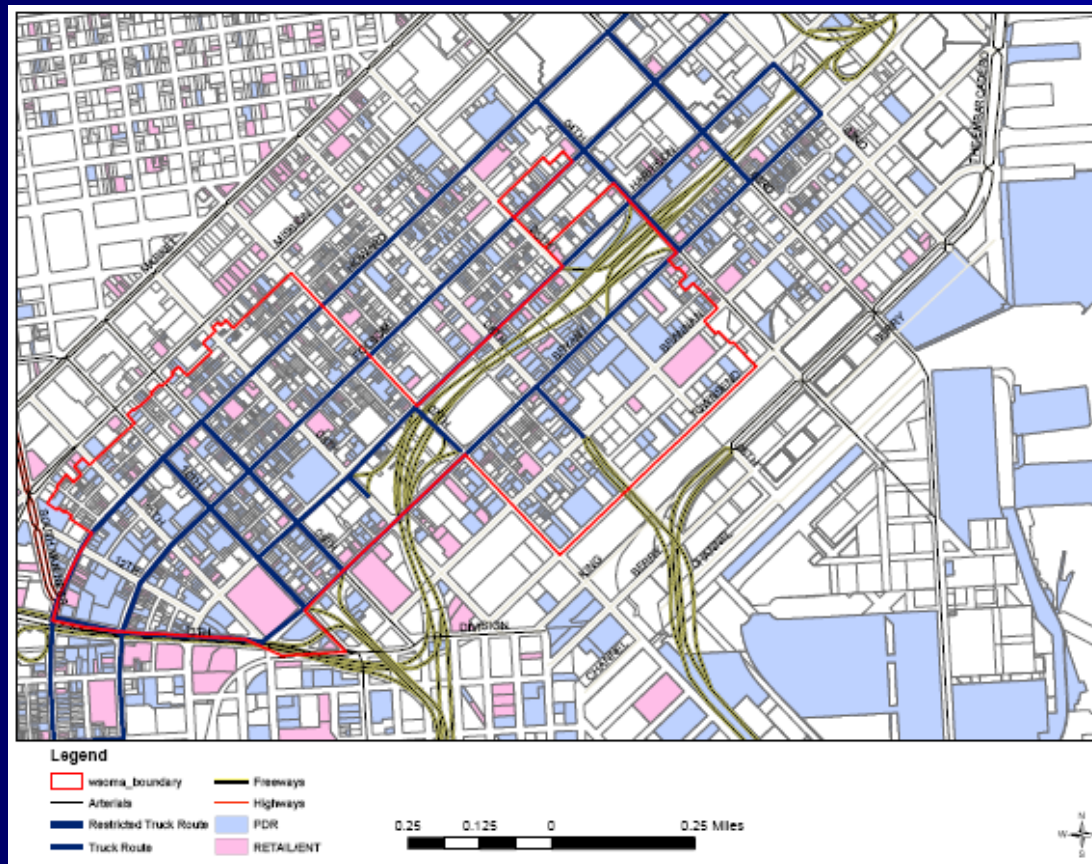
Eastern San Francisco



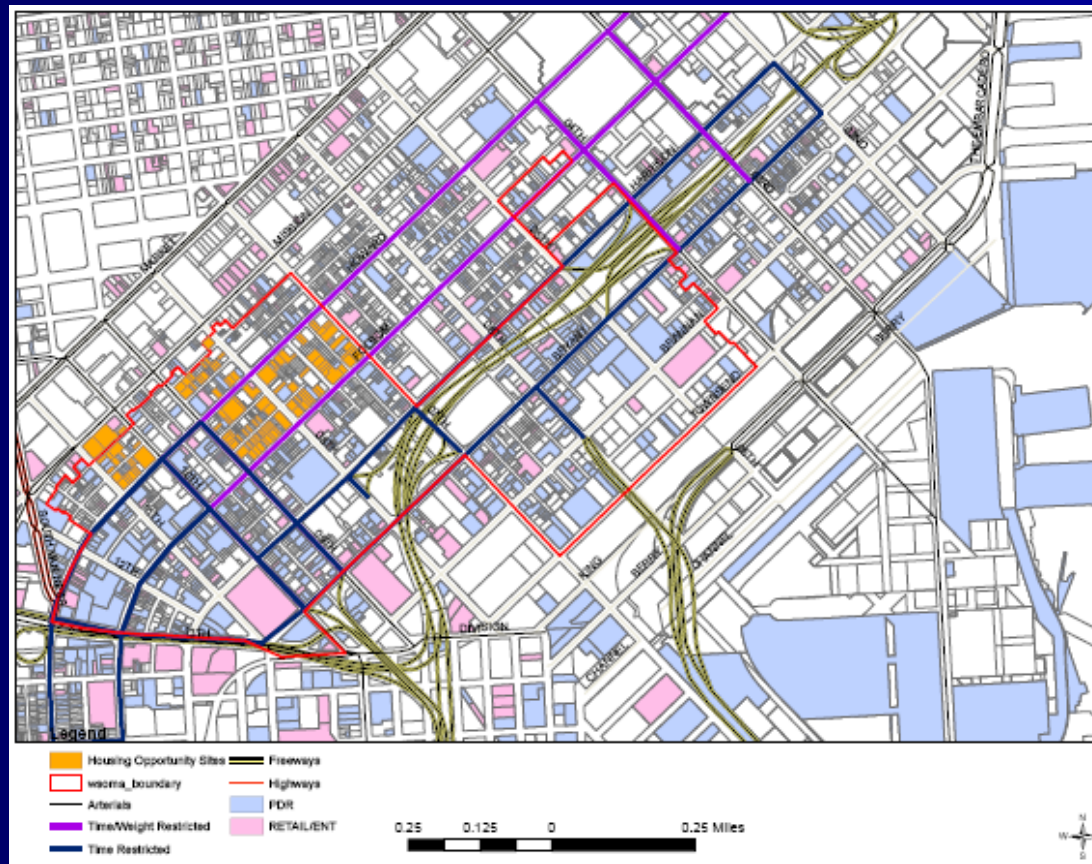
Assumptions for Western SoMa

- Long Haul Traffic keeps to Arterials and Freeways
- Goods Movement to Western Soma is primarily from Bayview and Showplace Square
- Existing Commercial Facilities are sufficient for loading and unloading
- Arterials provide sufficient North South movement; an East West Route is needed

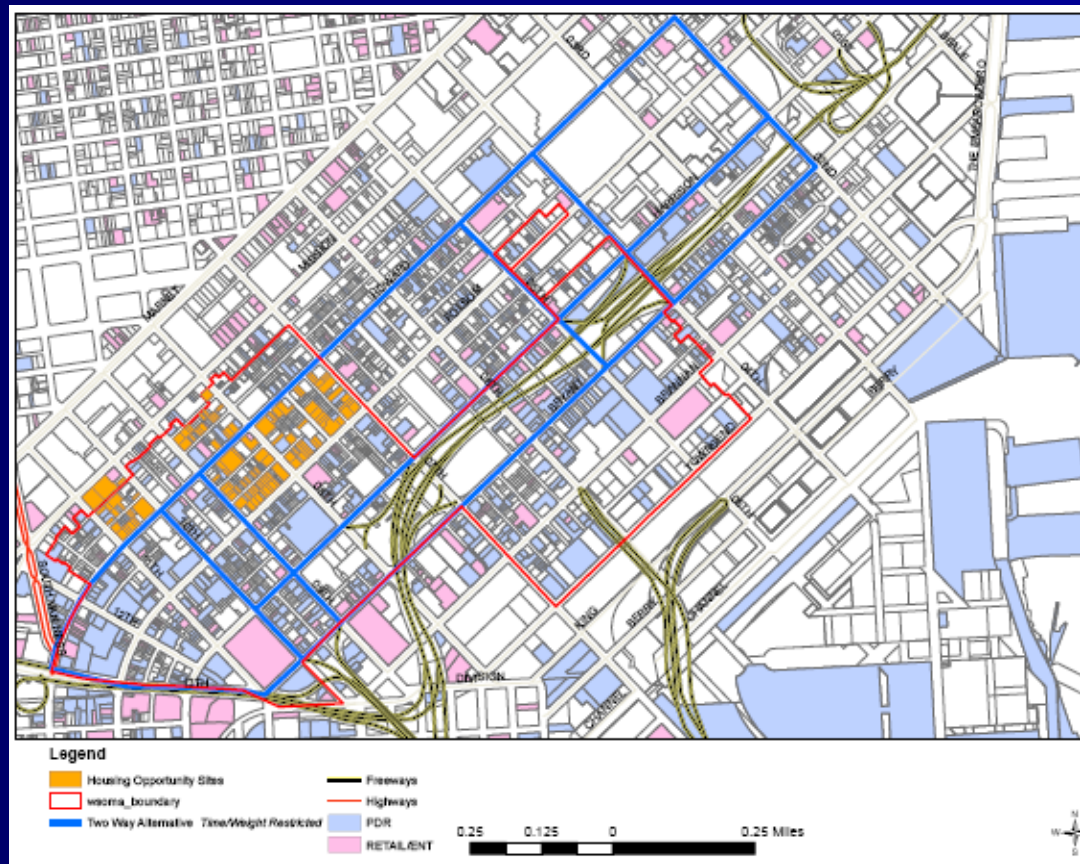
Existing Route



Modified Existing Route



Proposed Two-Way Route



References

- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Regional Goods Movement
 - www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/rgm/
- Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) Traffic Calming Website
 - www.sfmta.com/cms/ocalm/13576.html
- MTA PowerPoint on Traffic Calming
- San Francisco Better Streets
 - www.sfbetterstreets.org
- San Francisco General Plan
 - www.sfgov.org/site/planning_index.asp?id=41423
- Traffic Calming: State of the Practice
 - www.ite.org/traffic/tcstate.htm
- Western SoMa Citizens Planning Task Force
 - www.sfgov.org/westernsoma

Thank You!