CLOSING STREETS TO CREATE SPACE FOR WALKING AND BIKING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

APRIL 2, 2020 WEBINAR

MLK DRIVE CLOSED TO CARS | PHOTO BY RANDY LOBASSO
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Quick Poll

Which of the following do you represent

Select one of the following:

- Public Agency
- Nonprofit organization
- Public-Private Organization
- Volunteer-only organization

Poll in progress for attendees only.

Submit
Please take our quick survey to tell us how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting your trails:

railstotrails.org/COVIDsurvey
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Moderator

Liz Thorstensen
Vice President, Trail Development, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

railstotrails.org/COVID19
Panelists

Jim Filby Williams
Director of Public Administration,
City of Duluth, MN

Sarah Clark Stuart
Executive Director,
Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia

Jodie Medeiros
Executive Director,
Walk San Francisco

Laura Leticia Bahamón Peña
Bicycle Manager,
Ministry of Transportation
City of Bogotá (Colombia)
Duluth, MN

Hawk Ridge and Seven Bridges Rd

railstotrails.org/COVID19
Six Feet Away
Social Distance for Parks and Trails

- 6' is about the length of a bicycle
- 6' is about the length of a pair of skis
- 6' is about the wingspan of a Bald Eagle

Rearrange to

COVID-19: SOCIAL DISTANCING IN PUBLIC PARKS AND TRAILS

- Be one pace or three strides behind a group if you are maintaining conversations.
- Be prepared for limited access to public restrooms or water fountains.
- Observe COVID-19’s recommendations about physical distancing of 6 feet or other periods as set.

railstotrails.org/COVID19
Why we mobilized support for the City to close MLK Drive
Trails on both sides of the Schuylkill River along Kelly Drive and MLK Drive
Bicycle counts quadrupled

### Automated Bike Counts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Counter Location</th>
<th>3/1/19 to 3/18/19</th>
<th>3/1/20 to 3/18/20</th>
<th>Pct. Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill Banks</td>
<td>13681</td>
<td>23969</td>
<td>+75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Drive</td>
<td>3288</td>
<td>18759</td>
<td>+471%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRT Spring Mill</td>
<td>3850</td>
<td>9142</td>
<td>+137%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester Valley Trail</td>
<td>1543</td>
<td>4330</td>
<td>+181%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Richmond Trail</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>+147%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>22534</td>
<td>56624</td>
<td>+151%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Tell the City of Philadelphia: Close MLK Drive to Motor Vehicles

Divert bicyclists and pedestrians from Kelly Drive to MLK Drive
MLK Drive Gates
And what options we're exploring for more streets to be open for people, not cars, as Philadelphians struggle to find space to be outdoors safely.
Who is Walk SF?

Since 1998, Walk San Francisco has been the only pedestrian advocacy organization working to make walking in San Francisco safe and enjoyable.
WE ARE ALL PEDESTRIANS.
We all deserve safe streets.

#IWalkSF  WALK SAN FRANCISCO  walksf.org
Traffic crashes are a public health & equity issue
People walking make up ~\(\frac{1}{3}\) severe and 40% of most severe injuries
Market Street by the numbers

- 500,000 people who walk daily
- 5 out of 10 most dangerous intersections
- 90 buses an hour
- ~75,000 weekday bus riders
- 6,000 people on bikes
Decade of advocacy led to Car-free Market Street on Jan 29th
JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park

Carfree space every Sunday since 1967

April - September - carfree on Saturday’s since 2007
We need your voice to win safe streets for all.

Ask leaders to make JFK Drive car-free everyday during shelter-in-place

To meet the demand for safe park space for San Franciscans during shelter-in-place for COVID-19, we need JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park to be car-free everyday of the week — not just on Sundays and holidays.

Join us in urging city leaders to implement a daily car-free JFK Drive from Kezar Drive to Transverse Drive ASAP.

TAKE ACTION NOW
Why our campaign for a car-free JFK Drive is on hold, and what’s next
Walk San Francisco @walksf · Mar 30

Getting bored of your local walk? We got you! Many thanks for wonderful volunteer Nancy Botkin for putting these ideas together.

(As always, be sure to maintain social distancing of 6+ feet on your walks.) #IWalkSF

walksf.org/2020/03/30/fiv...
THANK YOU!

Stay connected

Jodie Medeiros, Executive Director

Jodie@walksf.org
Temporary bike lanes

Biking as a measure to mitigate infection risk from COVID-19
Bogota is the birthplace of the Ciclovía (40 years ago) where every Sunday and during holidays 124 km / 77 mi of main avenues and streets are shut for pedestrians and cyclists’ recreation.

The city boasts the largest network of bike paths in Latin America (550 km / 342 mi) extending all over the city.

Bogota ranks 12th among the most bike-Friendly cities in the world according to the Copenhagenize Index 2019*

880,800 daily trips on Bikes / 5.6 million trips on public transportation**

1,535,640 Bikes in the city mostly in medium and low-income households.

* [https://copenhagenizeindex.eu/](https://copenhagenizeindex.eu/)
** Transportation Survey 2019. Transportation Office
Facilitate and promote an individual transportation alternative, that’s affordable and convenient for the user, which helps reduce crowds in Public Transportation.

**Main actions**
- Interinstitutional coordination: IDRD, SDM, TM with the support from the Police Department and IDIGER.
- Temporary bike lanes implemented (117 km (72 miles), 35 km (22 miles) during the lockdown
- Corridors as a mirror of the most crowded public transport routes.
- Traffic light prioritization reset
- Extensive operation of signaling and regulation of bicycle lanes, for road safety.

**Know how and decision-making**
- **Expertise**: Support the measurement of the capabilities already developed (IDRD logistics + SDM technical evaluation).
- **Assimilation**: Quick response from users, reflects the city’s cycle culture..
- **Adaptation**: Quick response to operating conditions, both on bike lanes and mixed traffic, to add, remove or modify corridors, as needed.
550 km of permanent Bike Lanes + 35 km (22 mi)
Phase 4 (25.03)

Drill monitoring

Permanent cycling infrastructure
Temporary bike lanes
DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

Cyclists volume before the drill (Phases 1, 2 and 3)

Source: SDM

Nota: Período de afaro 05:00 - 07:00 p.m.
DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

Volume of cyclists during quarantine per rider - period a.m.

Source: SDM
DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

TransMilenio validations in trips a.m. and p.m. analysis

Source: TransMilenio S.A.
DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

Zonal component demand behavior – Health emergency

Source: Transmilenio S.A.
HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES
CHALLENGES

THEFT OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS

INVASION OF BICYCLE LANE

EXCESSIVE SPEED

Fuente: SDM
Daily means of transport before and after the declaration of emergency

Before emergency declaration:
- Bike: 54.4%
- TransMilenio: 14.9%
- Carro particular: 6.5%
- SITP Zonal (Azul, rojo...): 6.3%
- Ninguno, permanecí en...: 8.3%
- SITP Provisional: 2.1%
- Caminar: 2.9%
- Moto: 12.7%

After emergency declaration:
- Bike: 60.4%
- TransMilenio: 8.7%
- Ninguno, permanecí en...: 8.3%
- Carro particular: 4.8%
PERCEPTION FROM CITIZENSHIP

- Excelente: 66.9%
- Bueno: 18.6%
- Regular: 7.7%
- Malo: 6.8%
#TodoSaldráBien

LAURA LETICIA BAHAMÓN
Bogota Bike Manager
gerentebici@movilidadbogota.gov.co
SHARE THE TRAIL

Practice Safe Social Distancing on the Trail

Before you head out, check to ensure the trail is open. Be prepared that trails may have limited services: facilities may be closed, and maintenance and security may be limited or unavailable. Find trail-manager contact info at TrailLink.com. Check coronavirus.gov for the latest public-health guidance.

- On the trail, do not gather in groups.
- Avoid playgrounds or other areas where groups may form.
- Keep 6 feet between you and others at all times.
- Leave any area where you cannot maintain a 6-foot distance.
- Carry water, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to further protect yourself.
- Do not touch your face.
- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently.
- Stay home if you exhibit any symptoms of illness.

Visit rails-to-trails.org/COVID19 for resources and information about ways to stay healthy and well during this time of social distancing.
Resources  \texttt{railstotrails.org/COVID19}

As American life is altered significantly in response to COVID-19, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) is offering insights and information about ways to be physically active and well during this time of extreme social distancing. We are also sharing details about what trail managers are doing to keep communities safe and perspectives on the long-term impacts of the illness on the trails movement and the communities we all serve. The CDC's website, \texttt{coronavirus.gov}, as well as local and state public health agencies are the best resources for current public health guidance and local orders and regulations.

\texttt{railstotrails.org/COVID19}
Help Us, Help You

- Sign our petition to close streets for walking and biking: railsotrails.org/COVID19petition
- Complete this survey: railsotrails.org/COVIDsurvey
- Create a case study for your shovel ready projects. Contact Mary Ellen (maryellen@railsotrails.org) for more info
  - View existing case studies here: railsotrails.org/trailstransform
What future covid-19 related topics would you like us to cover?

Please write in the chat box or post webinar survey to let us know.