



SFMTA

Transportation Access Matters!

Past, Present, Future

TRACS Keynote Address,
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Big Ideas

- History
- Geometry
- Intersections
- The Future



History

Disability Rights Movement

- Bay Area birthplace of Disability Rights Movement
- 1973
 - Rehabilitation Act
 - Section 504
 - Any entity receiving federal funding cannot discriminate based on disability
- 1977
 - Section 504 not taken effect
 - Demonstrations across the US



San Francisco Federal Building Sit-In, 1977



Disability Rights Movement (cont 'd)

- 1980
 - First accessible Muni buses
 - Beginning of SF Paratransit
- 1980's
 - Demonstrations at APTA meetings
- 1990
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- 1992
 - Designated network of accessible rail stations/stops to meet ADA Key Station requirements
- 1994
 - First ramped taxis in San Francisco



Other Improvements by SFMTA





San Francisco Paratransit



**Identification of Eligibility
for ADA Paratransit Service**

Name Jill Smith
ID 150622
Eligibility Full
Travel with PCA? Y

1011 0168 7816 1864

Expires: 12/31/2013

shop@round





FREE MUNI for Seniors and People with Disabilities

To qualify for free Muni rides, you must be low-to-moderate income and either be a senior or person with a disability. Program begins March 1, 2015.

For more information and to apply for the program visit www.sfmta.com/freemuni or call 311 (415.701.2311).

For Muni route, schedule, and accessible services information anytime. Visit www.sfmta.com or contact 311

Free language assistance / 免費語言協助 / Ayuda gratis con el idioma / Assistenza linguistica gratuita / 無料の言語支援 / 免費語言協助 / 免費語言協助 / 免費語言協助 / 免費語言協助



SFMTA
Municipal Transportation Agency





Geometry

Geometry: Making Civil Rights Real

- Make civil rights real in physical space
- Accessibility is everyone's responsibility
 - Build in accessibility from Day 1
- People with disabilities are a valuable consumer base
 - “Nothing for us without us”
 - Engage consumers and use their feedback
- Beyond compliance, meet the needs of users

Geometry: Interventions

You also need interventions
beyond feet and inches.





Intersections

The Curb Cut Effect



- Technology designed for people with disabilities can help everyone.
- When assistive technology is installed often enough, it becomes the norm.

Universal Design

“The design of products and environments to be usable by all people,
to the greatest extent possible,
without the need for adaptation or specialized design”

– Ron Mace, Founder of Universal Design Center at UNC

7 Principles of Universal Design

1. Equitable Use
2. Flexibility in Use
3. Simple and Intuitive Use
4. Perceptible Information
5. Tolerance for Error
6. Low Physical Effort
7. Size and Space for Approach and Use

(Center for Universal Design, 2000)

People with Disabilities are Vulnerable in Multiple Ways

People with disabilities in San Francisco...

- Are more likely to not be working/unemployed
- Almost 50% earn less than \$25,000/year
- 35% take public transit
 - Similar to the able-bodied population
- Over 1/5 of people who identified as Black/African-American identified as having a disability
 - Twice the rate of other racial groups, includes all ages

(Source: Table S1810 "Disability Characteristics," 2010-2017 ACS 5-year Estimates)

Seniors are Vulnerable in Multiple Ways

Seniors in San Francisco...

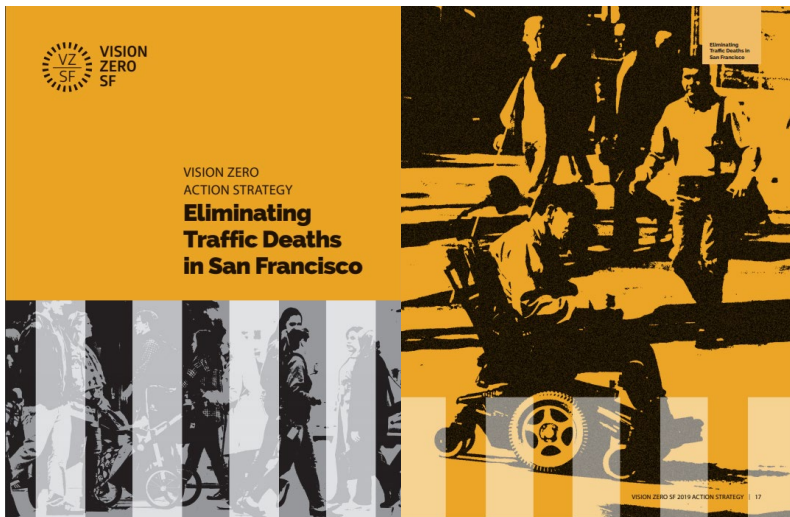
- 37% identify as having a disability
- Almost a third of 65+ year olds are 80+
- 55% speak a language other than English
 - 40% of them speak English “less than very well”
- Over 80% of seniors not in the labor force
- Almost half of seniors are renters
 - 54% of renting seniors are rentburdened*

*Spending 30% or more of income on rent

(Source: Table S0101 “Age and Sex,” 2012-2017 ACS 5Year Estimates; Table S0103 “Population 65 Years and Over in the US,” 2012-2017 ACS 5year Estimates)

Centering Vulnerable Populations

Vision Zero



Seniors account for ~50% of pedestrian deaths, but comprise only 15% of the SF population

Equity Lines



Crowding → More frequent headways

Other Accessible Interventions

When we make things better for people with disabilities, we can meet a multitude of needs.





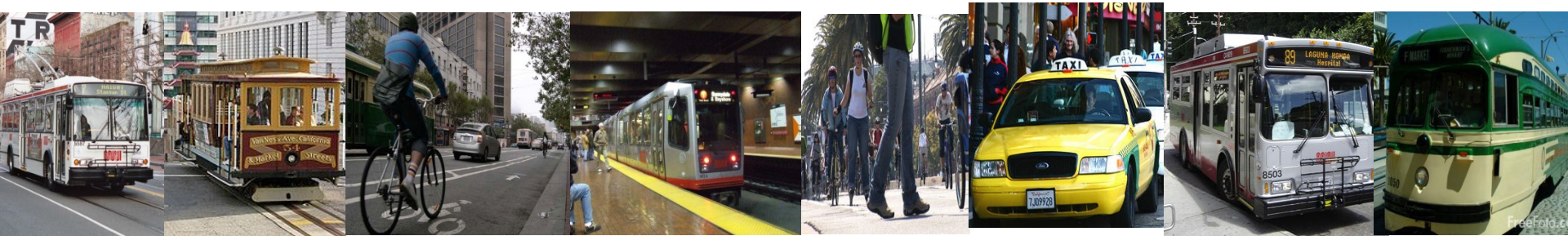
The Future

Fewer people driving is good for the future

- Less VMT
- Alternatives and choices
 - Historically limited for seniors and people with disabilities
 - Transportation is key for these communities
 - Latent demand

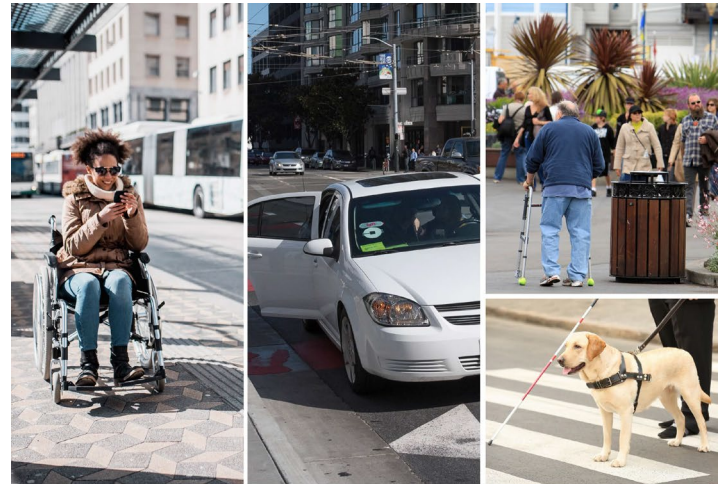
Demographics are Changing

- Seniors are fastest growing demographic
 - Living longer
 - Aging in place
- Tech savvy seniors
- Public all want convenience



Transportation is Changing

- Emerging mobility
 - TNCs Disabled Access
 - New technology
 - Avs
 - Users and nonusers
- Be proactive, not reactive



TNCs and Disabled Access

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

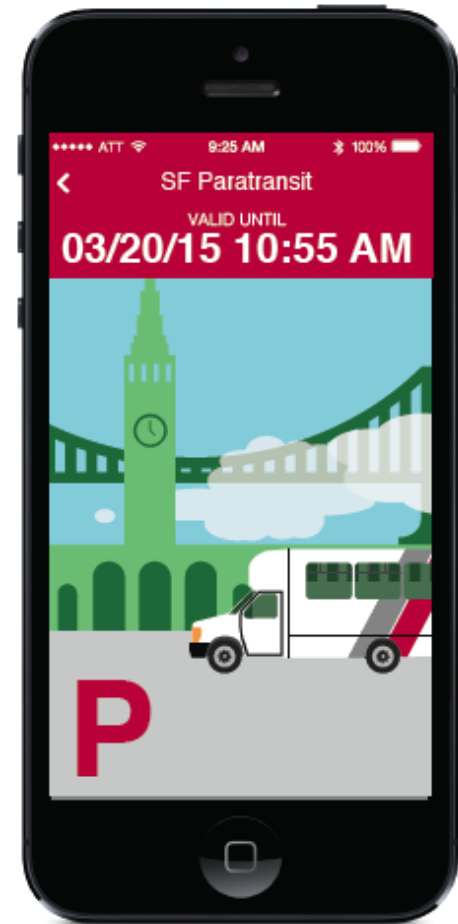
Taxis and Accessible Services Division

April 2019



Funding

- Be smart with current funding
- New funding sources
 - FASTER Bay Area
- Paratransit
 - Cost
 - Technology
- Affordability



Climate is Changing

- “New normal”
 - Extreme weather, rising temperatures, rain, etc.
 - Vulnerable people



- Build Resiliency into our transportation system
 - Better service now
 - Emergencies

Wrap Up - Big Ideas

- History
- Geometry
- Intersections
- The Future





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