



Photo credit: Mark Fiore, KQED



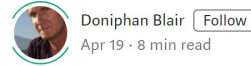
Nicole Ferrara, Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor, OakDOT

# Demands for safe space to walk, jog and bike creating public health risks

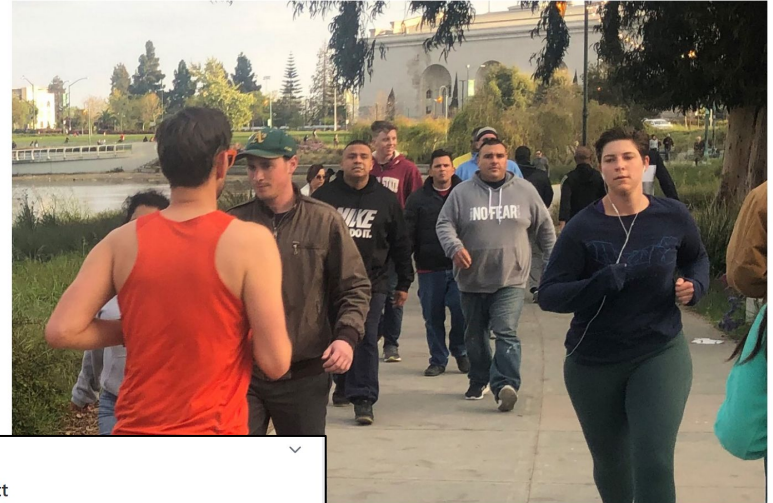
## Considerations:

- Attractive nuisance vs. public health centered solution
- Supporting behaviors people are already doing (healthy essential travel)
- Ensuring the health and safety of our crews
- Extremely swift rollout

## Oakland in the Time of Corona



Doniphan Blair · 8 min read



nd at the beginning of shelter-in-place. Photo: Doniphan Blair

Adams Point

### Social distancing at Lake Merritt

I'm not one to post about things in the neighborhood or complain, but this weekend while attempting a short "social distance" walk, I saw two soccer games, a number of people playing frisbee, lots of children on the playground, and a boxing class all at Lake Merritt in one five minute stretch. I am genuinely concerned about our community and want to know what we can do to maintain health and safety. What can be done about the large gatherings still happening at the lake?

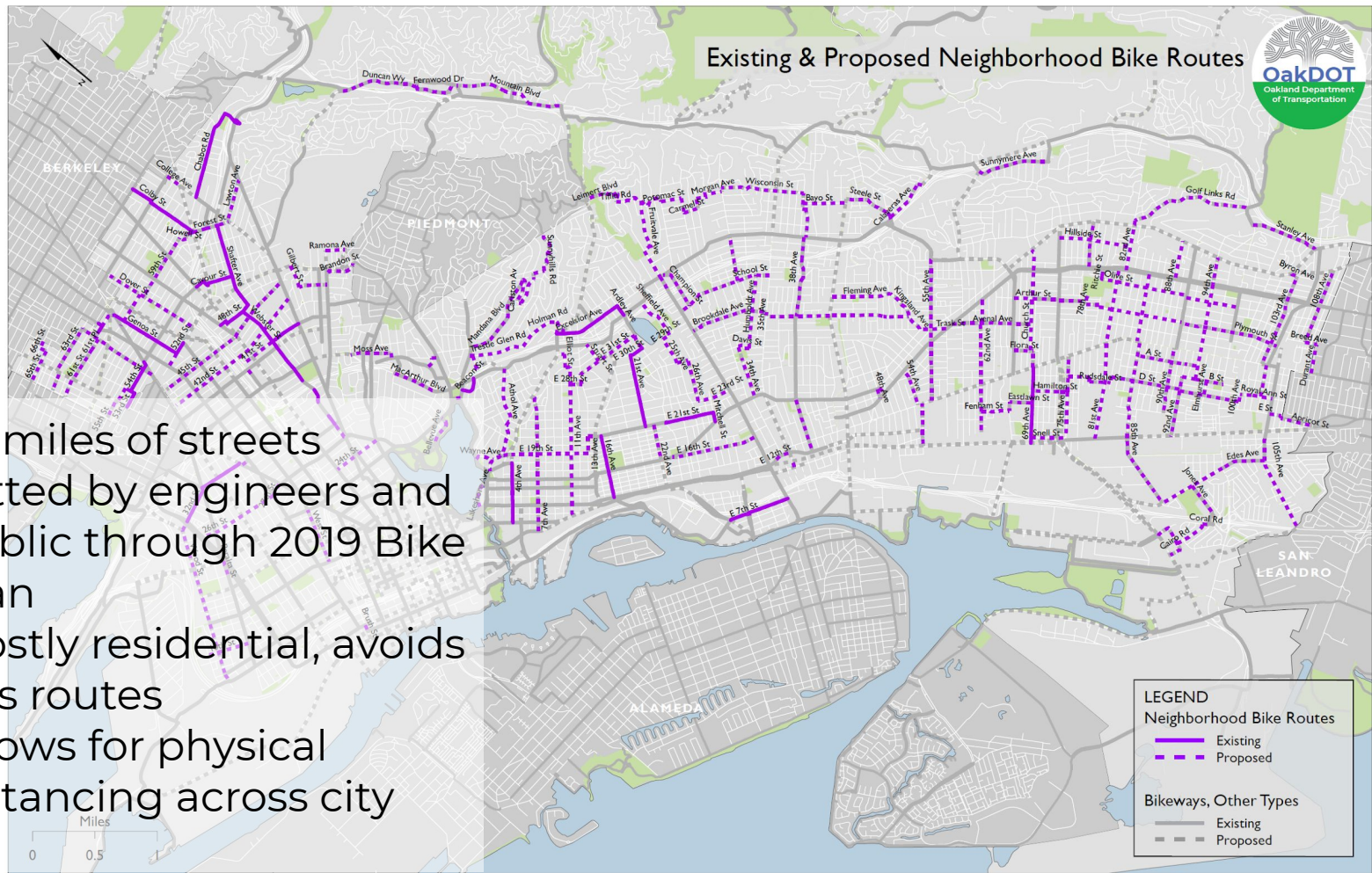
22 Mar · 24 neighborhoods in General

Thank Comment

👍👎 129 171







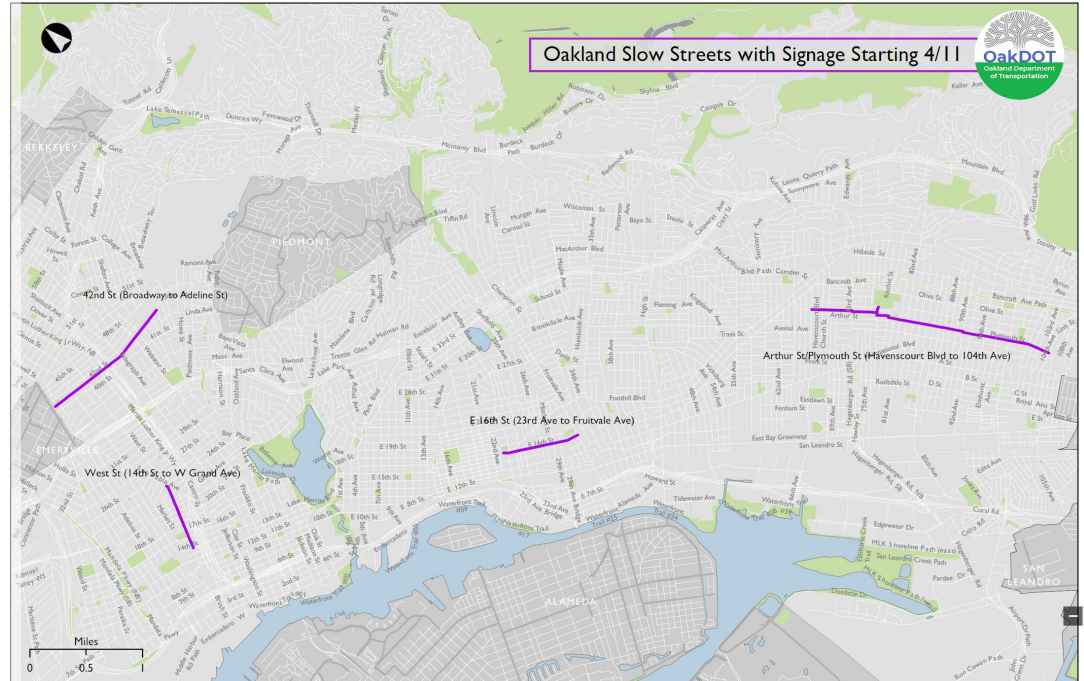
- 74 miles of streets vetted by engineers and public through 2019 Bike Plan
- Mostly residential, avoids bus routes
- Allows for physical distancing across city

# “Soft Closures” Began within 32 hrs of Announcement on 4 streets/4.5 miles

## Street selection:

- Equity indicators: communities of concern, access to parks, all are proposed neighborhood bike routes
- No major challenges (transit, high traffic volumes, emergency services, etc.)

**Other 70 miles:** discourage driving





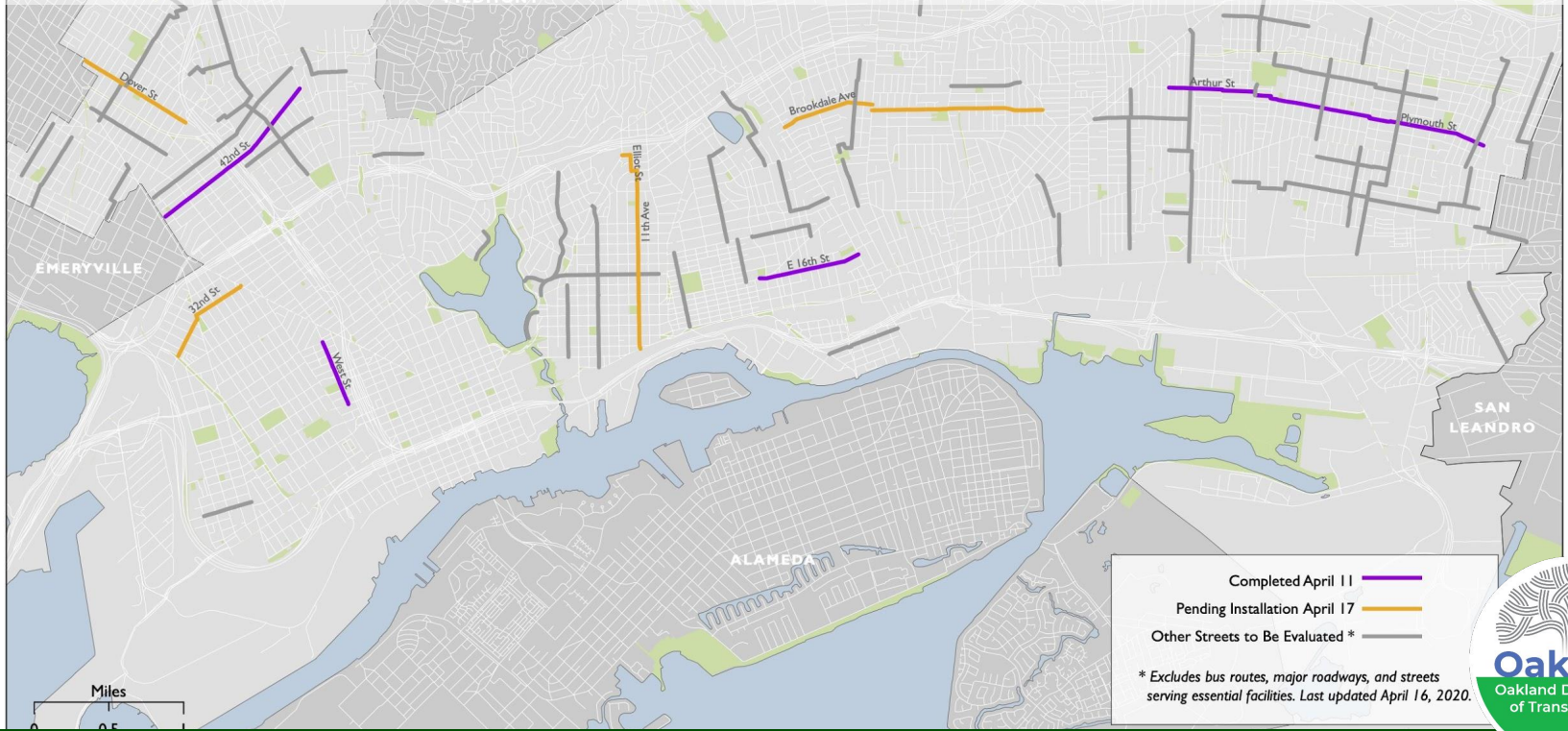
# Phase 1: Details, Outcomes

- **Barriers & signs:** rented, target highest traffic intersections, marked w/ spray chalk
- **Volunteer support:** flyering, evaluation, replacing & reporting barrier issues
- **Outcomes:** very positive overall, compliance w/ distancing & speeding, demand for more, concerns about process & engagement esp. from E. Oak.



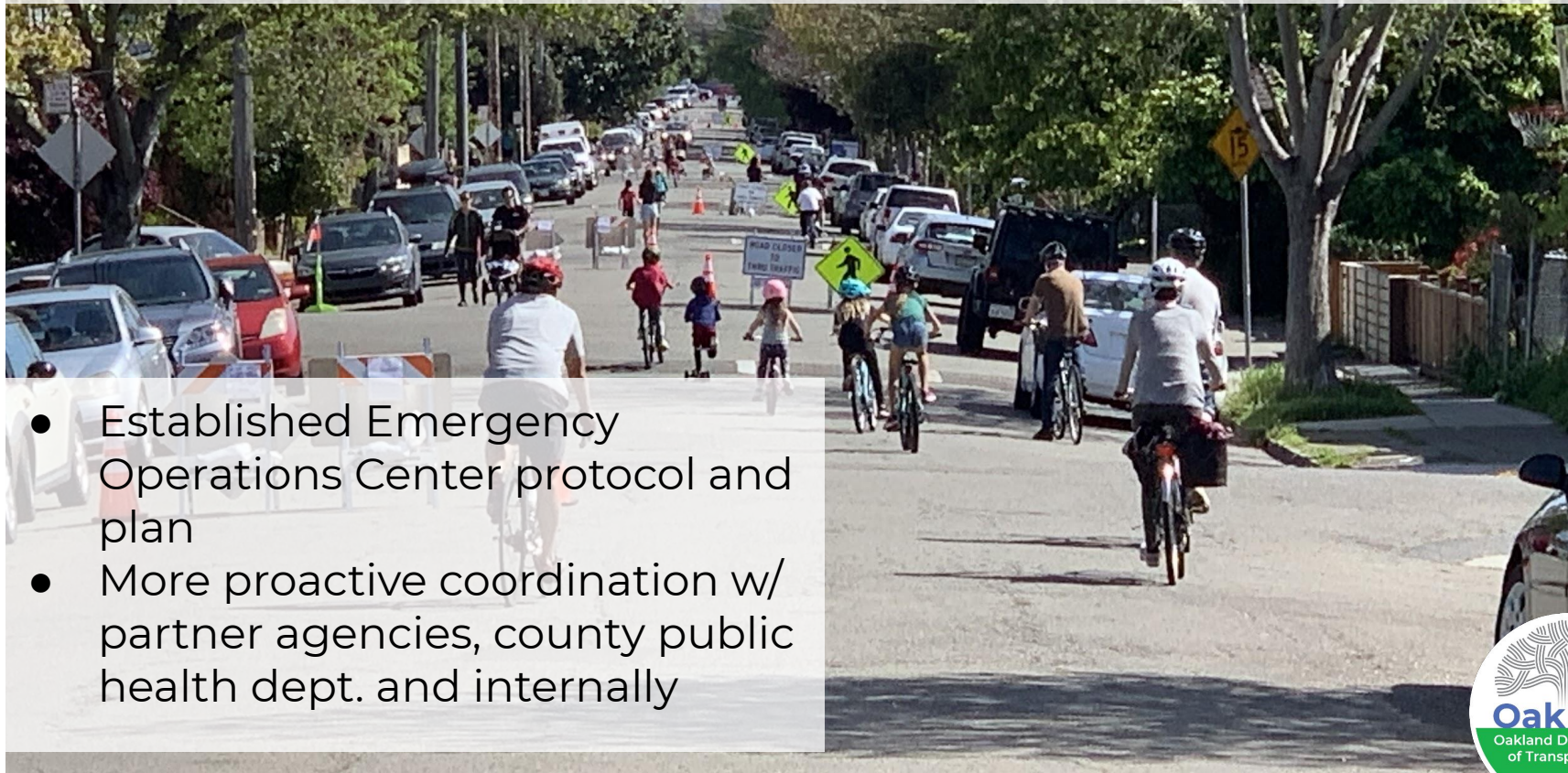
# “Soft Closures” Expand 6 Days Later with Additional 4 Streets/4.5 miles

Oakland Slow Streets Program





# Phase 2: Adjustments to Process



- Established Emergency Operations Center protocol and plan
- More proactive coordination w/ partner agencies, county public health dept. and internally





# Phase 2: Adjustments to Engagement

- Added round of community input and direct outreach to CBOs
- Established ways for formal input: 311 and online survey
- New flyers for branding



**OAKLAND  
SLOW STREETS**  
NO THROUGH TRAFFIC

**CALLES LENTAS  
de OAKLAND**  
No se permite el tráfico de paso

屋崙慢行路  
禁止交通進出



**#OaklandSlowStreets**  
[tinyurl.com/oaklandslowstreets](https://tinyurl.com/oaklandslowstreets)

 **OakDOT**  
Oakland Department  
of Transportation

Oak 311



# More to Come: Iterative Approach



- Maintenance
- Virtual Strategy
- Tactical urbanism
- Additional streets off Neighborhood Bike Routes w/ CBO and broader community engagement
- Evaluation: photo documentation, survey and 311 results, weekly crash reports from OPD





# Silver Lining

## Next 74 Miles



Flora 4/10/20  
for KQED.org

