Curbside Management:
Understanding Impacts of On-Demand Mobility on Public Transit Use and Vulnerable Road Users

Develop recommended best practices of curb management for an array of innovative transportation modes.

WHAT IS THE NEED?

The goal of this project is to develop recommended best practices of curb management for an array of innovative transportation modes (e.g., carsharing, bike sharing, scooter sharing, ride sourcing/transportation network companies (TNCs), etc.). Such practices may include mechanisms such as: 1) fees for access and use; 2) prioritizing access for public transportation, cyclists, pedestrians, elderly, youth, and disabled populations; 3) geofencing to limit curb access; and 4) pricing to reflect key priorities (e.g., high-occupancy vehicles, walking and cycling, clean vehicles, etc.).

On September 18, 2018, Congressman Mark DeSaulnier hosted a roundtable to discuss this issue titled: “Public Transit and TNCs: Challenges and Opportunities for Improving Transportation.” Many issues were discussed at this multi-stakeholder event, which included numerous public transit operators, local transportation agencies, private-sector stakeholders, and academia. Pressing issues discussed include: curbside management, impacts on public transit use due to ride sourcing/TNCs, labor issues, and paratransit opportunities.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

This research project focuses on curbside management and planning, particularly considering growing ride sourcing/TNC and curbside demand by a variety of modes (including low-speed modes, like e-scooters). This exploratory research will analyze and document the impacts of ride sourcing/TNCs (along with...
WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

This 12-month project will set the stage for identifying policy opportunities for managing public rights-of-way (e.g., curb space); reducing modal conflicts for the inclusion of shared mobility; and managing the curb to encourage public transit ridership—such as carsharing parking; space for bike sharing and e-scooters; and loading zones for ride sourcing/TNCs, micro-transit, and shuttles. Key deliverables include: 1) a report that introduces key issues identified by stakeholders, 2) a synopsis of existing policy interventions currently being employed to manage curb access, and 3) lessons learned and recommended best practices. Along with the report, we will produce infographics and fact sheets and host a final project webinar. The findings will be promoted through conferences and local government networks, as well.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

1. A framework for assessing curb-space management practices (e.g., managing competition, pricing rights-of-way, enforcement, and other practices);
2. Findings that organize and characterize local curb management policy approaches based on different parameters (e.g., size, mode, public transit, policies, best practices, etc.);
3. A report that provides a summary of the expert interviews, survey findings, and recommended policy approaches;
4. An infographic and fact sheets that summarize key project takeaways.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

Due to COVID-19, the research team asked Caltrans if they could postpone the final deliverable to continue to gather survey data. Caltrans approved the delay if they would not charge any work done past the end date of the contract. The research team agreed and has concluded the survey data collection.