Department of Public Works

The Great Highway Emergency Repair Status

Traffic Analyses

August 2010

Objectives

- Present traffic analyses for three intersections following southbound Great Highway closure between Sloat Boulevard and State Highway 35) and implementation of the emergency response detour

- Indicate loss of southbound Great Highway as a priority emergency route

- Indicate the prevailing need to provide for essential traffic

Traffic Data

Using traffic counts provided by Caltrans, and the SF Municipal Transportation Agency, the City conducted traffic analyses for the three impacted intersections:

(1) SB Great Highway /Sloat Boulevard Intersection
Traffic counts taken from February 22–February 28, 2002 and from January 12-January 20, 2010

(2) SB Great Highway/State Highway 35 Intersection
Traffic counts taken from July 13, 2010 - July 20, 2010

(3) SB State Highway 35/ John Muir Drive Intersection
Traffic counts taken from March 8, 2002–March 19, 2002 and July 13, 2010-July 20, 2010

Traffic Impacts of the Detour

An emergency detour began January 18, 2010, severely impacting the following intersections:

(1) <u>SB Great Highway /Sloat Boulevard</u>
- Reduction in Average Daily Traffic (ADT) from 11,660 to 7,700.
- Vehicles now turn left at Sloat Boulevard, creating a level of service degradation to F

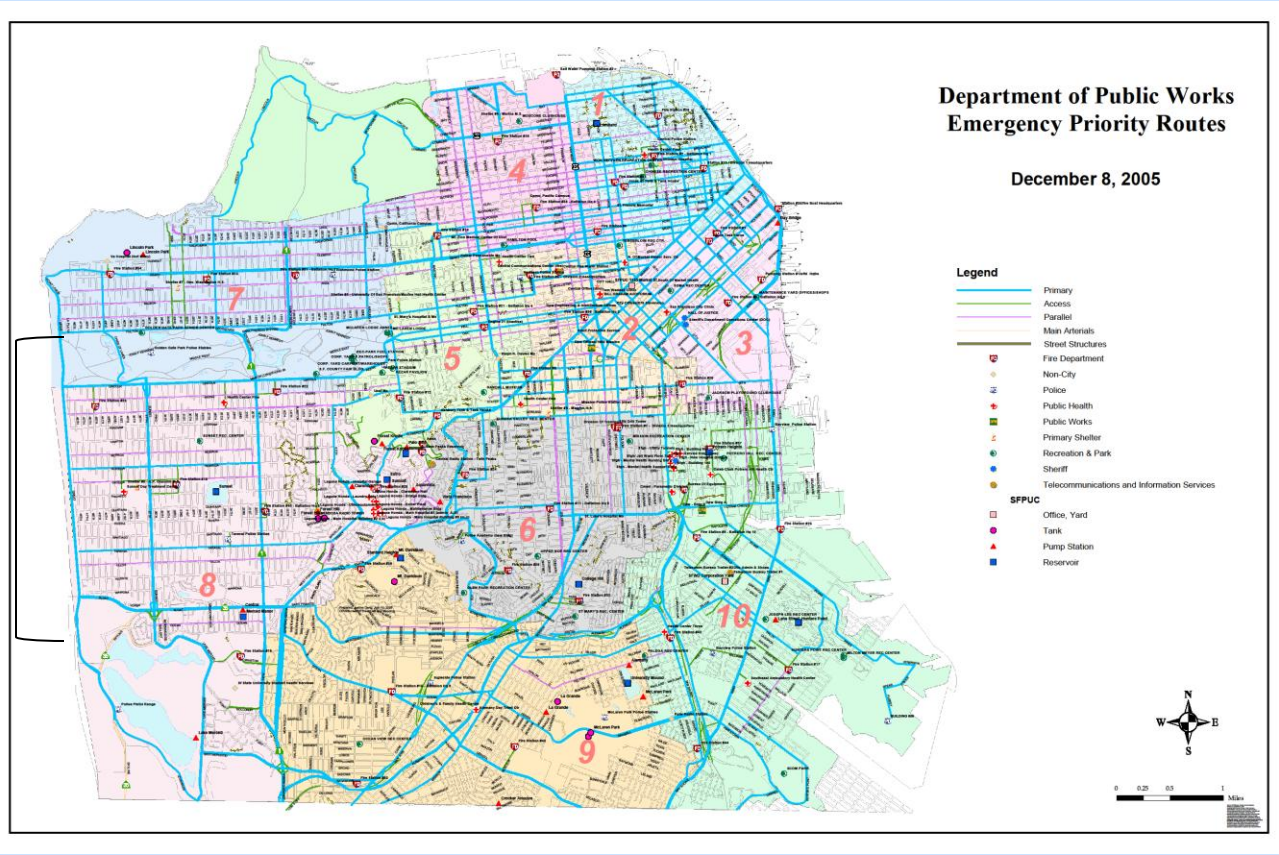
(2) <u>SB Great Highway/State Highway 35</u>
- Three-fold ADT increase from 4,000 to 12,969, causing a level of service degradation to F
- Observed backup and manual traffic control are required at PM peak hours

(3) <u>SB State Highway 35/ John Muir Drive</u>
- Reduction in ADT from 15,660 to 12,969.

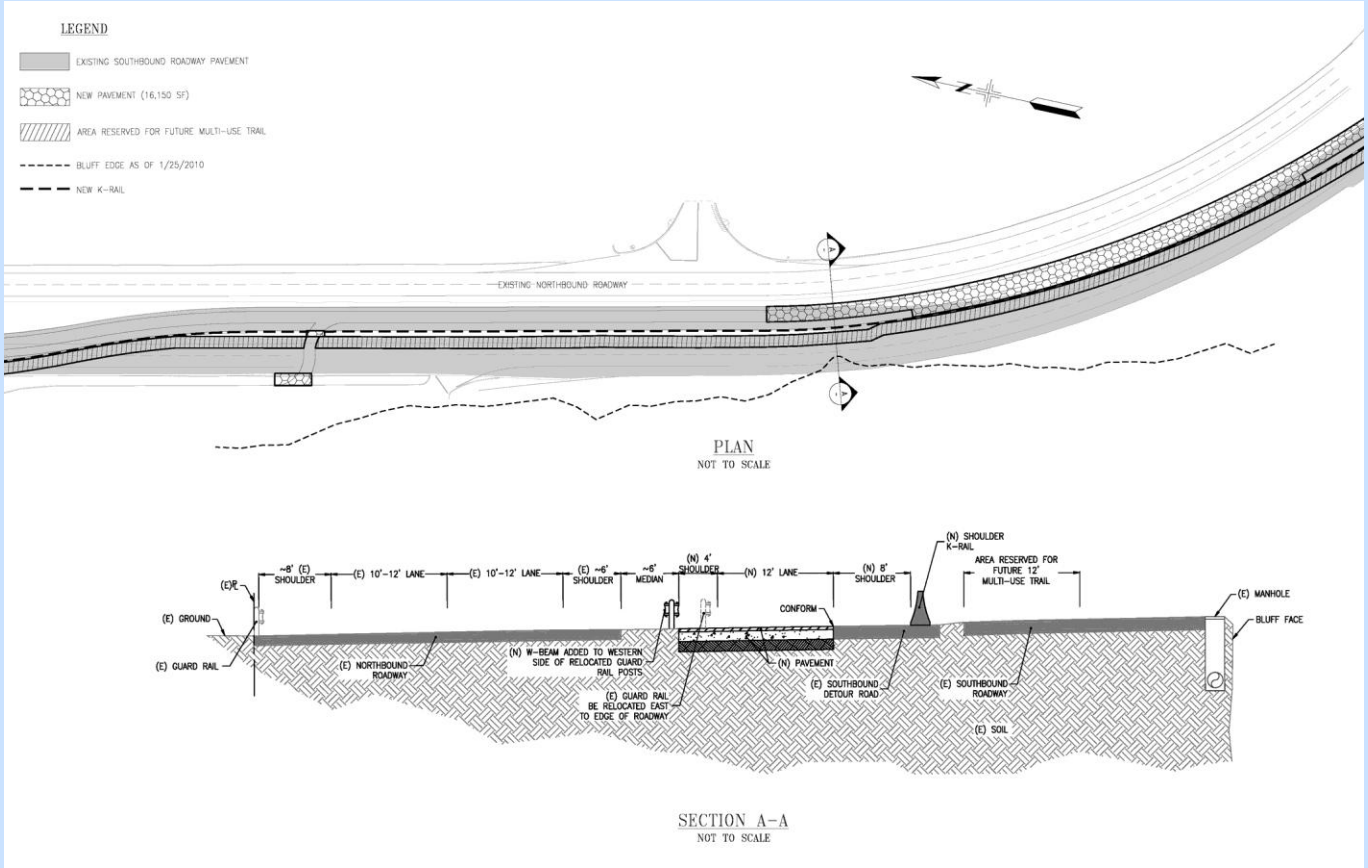
Loss of Emergency Route

The closure of the Great Highway has resulted in a loss of an emergency route. The Great Highway is a San Francisco designated priority route. In the event of an emergency, evacuation efforts will be hindered if SB Great Highway remains closed.

Great Highway



Road Realignment
Reduced to Single Traffic Lane



<u>The reduction in South Bound lanes has not reduced roadway ability to handle AM and PM peak traffic volume based on 2002 and 2010 traffic counts.</u>

Conclusion

- The detour has not provided for essential traffic. Rather, the emergency detour response has impacted Highway 35, as roadway conflicts were diverted to Highway 35 between southbound Great Highway and Sloat Boulevard

- The continued closure of southbound Great Highway could affect southbound evacuations in the event of an emergency