

Hallidie Plaza Accessibility Improvements Project

Presenter: Christine Hunt

SF Public Works

- Curb Ramp Program

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Hallidie Plaza - History

- Opened in 1973 and named after Andrew Smith Hallidie, who developed the world's first cable car system.
- Designed by Lawrence Halprin, John Carl Warnecke, and Mario Ciampi in modernist/Brutalist architectural style.
- Key BART/Muni Powell St station was one of the first stations along Market St and serves as a front doorstep to San Francisco, near attractions and shopping districts.
- Outdoor elevator added in 1997



Existing Conditions

- Plaza Access
 - Stairs
 - Escalators
- Elevator
 - Decommissioned for removal
- Drainage
- Cleanliness
- Café with Seating
- Planted Terraces



Funding & Stakeholders

- Funded by November 2024 Prop B Ballot Measure
 - Healthy, Safe and Vibrant San Francisco Bond
 - \$9M for Design & Construction
- Stakeholders:
 - SF Public Works
 - Office on Disability & Accessibility
 - Union Square Alliance
 - OEWD
 - BART/Muni
 - RED



SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
**Department of Disability
and Aging Services**

Office on
Disability and
Accessibility



SAN FRANCISCO
**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC &
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Project Scope

Address existing ADA barriers to create a safer, more welcoming, and inclusive public space, while strengthening connections between transit, the plaza, and the surrounding neighborhood, benefiting residents, commuters, and visitors.

Phase I:

- Permanent removal of the decommissioned elevator structure.
- Construction of a ramp connecting Plaza level and the BART station entrance.

Phase II:

- Construction of a main ramp connecting Street level to Plaza level.
- Incorporation of landscaping and beautification elements.

Design Considerations

- Design for a welcoming, safe and vibrant public space
- Consider incorporation of future accessibility improvements
- Ensure the plaza remains sociable and flexible in accommodating programs/activities
- Consider operations and maintenance as it relates to design changes in plaza
- Honor the legacy of the plaza design and ensure its integrity remains alongside new accessible features
- Recognize Hallidie Plaza as a main entry to San Francisco



Project Schedule & Updates

- Project Schedule
 - Complete Design by Fall 2026
 - Complete Construction Phase I by Spring 2027 and Phase II by Summer 2028
- Design Progress
 - Project team is working closely with ODA
 - Ed Roberts Campus visit
 - Developing concept plans
- Upcoming Community Meeting
 - Hybrid meeting to be held at Disability Cultural Center
 - Meeting date is tentative for March-April 2026
- Project Website: sfpublicworks.org/hallidieplaza

Thank you!

Christine Hunt

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