

12/13/2001

**Fell Street Bike Lane Update from DPT Director.
Fred Hamdun**

“Currently The Bicycle Program is exploring the removal of a tow-away parking prohibition during the PM peak period (4pm to 6pm) between Scott Street and Baker Street. If the study demonstrates that this parking prohibition removal is feasible, then DPT will seek Board of Supervisors’ legislation to stripe a bike lane on these three blocks of Fell Street. The bicycle programs plan is to increase the width of the southern parking/travel lane to better accommodate bicycle traffic.

DPT staff explored several lane widths that could be implemented independent of the results of the above-mentioned test. While researching these possible lane configurations, concern was raised about making lane width changes that would compound an existing southward lane shift due to a street configuration change at Baker Street, as shown in the enclosed sketch. The northern curb shifts five feet south as one crosses Baker Street, from east to west because the northern sidewalk west of Baker Street is five feet wider than it is east of Baker Street. A width increase of the southern parking/travel lane would shift the remaining traffic lanes northwards towards the protruding sidewalk.

With this in mind, DPT proposed the following re-striping (from south to north) of Fell Street from Scott Street to Baker Street:

12’ parking/travel lane | 9’6”through lane | 9’6”through lane |17’9”
travel/parking lane

The existing offset of the lane configuration where Fell Street crosses Baker Street is already dramatic enough to warrant lane line extension lines through the intersection of Fell Street and Baker Street to guide traffic across this intersection. Widening the southern parking/travel lane beyond 12’ would result in a further northward shift of the traffic lanes and would increase this offset, resulting in an increased potential for conflicts at the intersection of Baker Street with Fell Street. It should be noted the DPT’s proposed lane-striping configuration will not prohibit the possible striping of a bicycle lane along Fell Street.”