

DALLAS SLOW STREETS

In response to COVID-19, the City of Dallas is announcing a pilot program called Dallas Slow Streets. The program allows neighbors to nominate their streets as Slow Streets with a 30-day permit. At this moment, the City allows 10 neighborhoods to receive the designation on a first-come, first-approved, first-served rotation.

Based on programs in Kansas City, Missouri, and Austin, The initiative is designed with neighbors' safety first. Slow Streets will be considered for low-traffic, neighborhood streets that must remain open to local traffic, emergency vehicles, and deliveries.

Dallas Slow Streets pilot program is in partnership with the City of Dallas, Better Block Foundation, Coalition for a New Dallas, BikeDFW, Amanda Popken Development, and Council office, District 1.

WHY SLOW STREETS

Throughout COVID-19, vehicular traffic has reduced, while the need for spaces for people has increased. With the Dallas Slow Streets pilot program, we're working to give neighborhoods a chance to slow down the streets in their communities by shutting them to thru traffic and opening them to activities such as walking, running, and bicycling while maintaining safe social distancing. The program is a pilot that will allow the low traffic streets to be closed for 30 days during the COVID-19 pandemic, while maintaining the local traffic and emergency vehicles.

PROCESS

1. Communication with Neighborhood.
 - a. Applicants must have approval from 25% of their neighbors to move forward with the program.
 - b. Applicants must prove that they have reached out to all their neighbors.
 - c. Post the verbiage (English and Spanish) in both flyers and via electronic communication, and give neighbors 48 hours to respond.
 - d. Once the above is finished, the applicant may move forward with their design/application.
2. Design
 - a. The following must be considered in the Slow Streets design:
 - i. Slow Streets is intended for low-traffic, neighborhood streets only.
 - ii. The length should be from intersection to intersection (no signaled streets and limited to one block).
 - iii. It is intended to stop thru traffic, but must allow local traffic (residential vehicles, deliveries, emergency vehicles, and city services).
 - b. Applicant will need to produce a site plan for their application. The site plan can be as simple as a map view of the street showing the:
 - i. The beginning of closure

- ii. The end of closure
 - iii. Lane designs, if necessary
 - iv. Cone, barricade, and signage requirements, and placement
3. Application
- a. Fill out the Dallas Slow Street application (applicants will be required to upload the site plan as well as signatures from 25% of neighbors in favor).
 - b. Applicant will hear of their status within 3 days.
4. If approved:
- a. The applicant is the Block Captain for the project, meaning:
 - i. The Block Captain will work with the Better Block Foundation on materials and implementation.
 - ii. The Block Captain will be the eyes and ears on the street, and report any issues.
 - iii. The Block Captain agrees to be the point of contact for the neighborhood, and will work to resolve any issues or complaints. The Block Captain's information will be posted on signage in the neighborhood as the point of contact.

ROLE OF THE BLOCK CAPTAIN

The applicant will be the Block Captain, meaning they will implement and oversee the changes, as well as listen and adapt to any concerns neighbors may have.

In order to apply for a Slow Street, the applicant will need to provide a site plan, which will be done in consultation with the Better Block Foundation.

The Better Block Foundation will provide the first 10 neighborhoods with the supplies necessary to implement the changes on the streets.

GENERAL CRITERIA

Low-traffic street

Neighborhood street

No signals along the street

Applicant agrees to be Block Captain

Approval from 25% of neighbors on the street

Limited to one block

Must be open to local traffic, deliveries, and emergencies

No other city or utility work along the block during its Slow Street time

You will need to provide proof that you've communicated with all neighbors about the proposed Dallas Slow Street. PDF of your email or flyer and a PDF of the approval from 25% of the neighbors will suffice.

MATERIALS

The City is not responsible to provide the elements needed for your Slow Street due to limited resources. However, the Better Block Foundation, Bike DFW, and Amanda Popken Development have partnered to provide the first 10 neighborhoods with the materials necessary.

The applicant will be the Block Captain, meaning they will implement and oversee the changes, as well as listen and adapt to any concerns neighbors may have. The Better Block Foundation will be in touch with the Block Captain once their permit is granted.

FAQS

Q: How will I get to my house, and how will I get my deliveries?

Local traffic for residents, including guests and deliveries, will not be affected.

Q: What about emergency vehicles?

Emergency access will be maintained at all times.

Q: How will my trash and recycling services be collected? How will I send my mail?

Trash, recycling, mail, deliveries, and all other normal street services will be maintained.

Q: How will the streets be selected?

The 10 selected neighbors will nominate their streets after receiving approval from 25% of their neighbors. The City of Dallas will review and either approve or deny applications for the selected streets.

Q: How long will this pilot last?

The pilot program is for 30 days, starting once an application is approved. The City may cancel the pilot program as COVID-19 pandemic situation evolves.

Q: Can I still park on the street?

Yes, you may park on the street in areas where on-street parking was previously allowed.

Q: How can I get involved and help with Slow Streets?

There are a variety of ways you can get involved to help make the Dallas Slow Streets initiative successful.

- **Contact your Block Captain for missing traffic control devices**, such as cones, barricades or signage.
- **Sign up to be a Block Captain.** Block Captains will be the eyes and ears on the street, can help maintain barricade placement, and can help keep their neighbors and the City informed. Email krista@betterblock.org to let us know you're interested.

- **Fill out the online survey** to provide your feedback on Slow Streets.
- **Spread the word!** Tell your friends and neighbors about Dallas Slow Streets – you can suggest new streets and take the online survey to provide general feedback. On social media, use #DallasSlowStreets to share how you're using Slow Streets.

EXAMPLE VERBIAGE TO NOTIFY NEIGHBORS

DATE: June 1, 2020

TO: RESIDENTS IN THE TKTK BLOCK

Re: Application for Dallas Slow Streets Pilot Project

Dear neighbors, for your awareness, we are applying for a temporary street closure through the Dallas Slow Streets pilot program to close XX Street from X to X to thru traffic for 30 days. Local traffic, emergency vehicles, and city services will still have access. The goal is to provide more open space for residents to enjoy the outdoors at a safe, social distance during COVID-19. This closure is dependent on review and approval from the City of Dallas Public Works.

In order for us to get the permit, we need approval from 25% of our neighbors. Could you please let me know if you're willing to participate in the pilot program for Dallas Slow Streets?

Thank you for your consideration,