LAKE MERRITT BART Intersection Improvements
Evaluation Report

Completed: July 2019
Evaluation: June 2020

9th and Madison

Before

- Poor crosswalk visibility
- Bike lanes unprotected at intersections

After

- Widened, more visible crosswalks
- Protected bike lanes at intersections

Driver yielding to pedestrians increased by 23%.
Drivers were found to yield to bicyclists 87% of the time.

Background: Chinatown in Oakland is a bustling neighborhood that's home to many seniors and children who rely on walking and transit to get around. However, many of the streets are designed to prioritize the efficient movement of vehicles, and result in high concentrations of severe and fatal traffic crashes. OakDOT engaged community groups, BART, and AC Transit on swift and effective strategies to improve safety at five intersections around the Lake Merritt BART station.
Before

Signals difficult to see
Long crossing distances

After

Added overhead signals
Crossing distance shortened by almost 60%
Painted pedestrian spaces

Close calls, or number of times a driver or pedestrian had to abruptly yield to avoid a collision, decreased 11-fold from about nine per hour to less than one per hour.

Next Steps: This project has resulted in significant safety improvements using temporary materials to five intersections around Lake Merritt BART. Permanent improvements to some of these intersections are currently being designed as part of BART’s redevelopment of the Lake Merritt BART Station, and the Oakland Alameda Access Project.