



Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative

Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) Recommendation 5/6/19

Downtown Commission – October 16th 2019

ST SPACE ALLOCATION: RECOMMENDED



Pedestrian Zone	Amenity Zone	Bike / Scooter Zone	Flex Parking / Travel Lane / Circulator Lane	Travel Lane	Turn Lane	Travel Lane	Flex Parking / Travel Lane / Circulator Lane
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STAGE



Our CONGRESS AVENUE ENVISION!

DEFINING THE SIDEWALK



8' Storefront Area

9.5' Walking Area

8' Amenity Area



Space for Queuing at Intersections

2' Wide Buffer

6.5' lane wide enough for passing



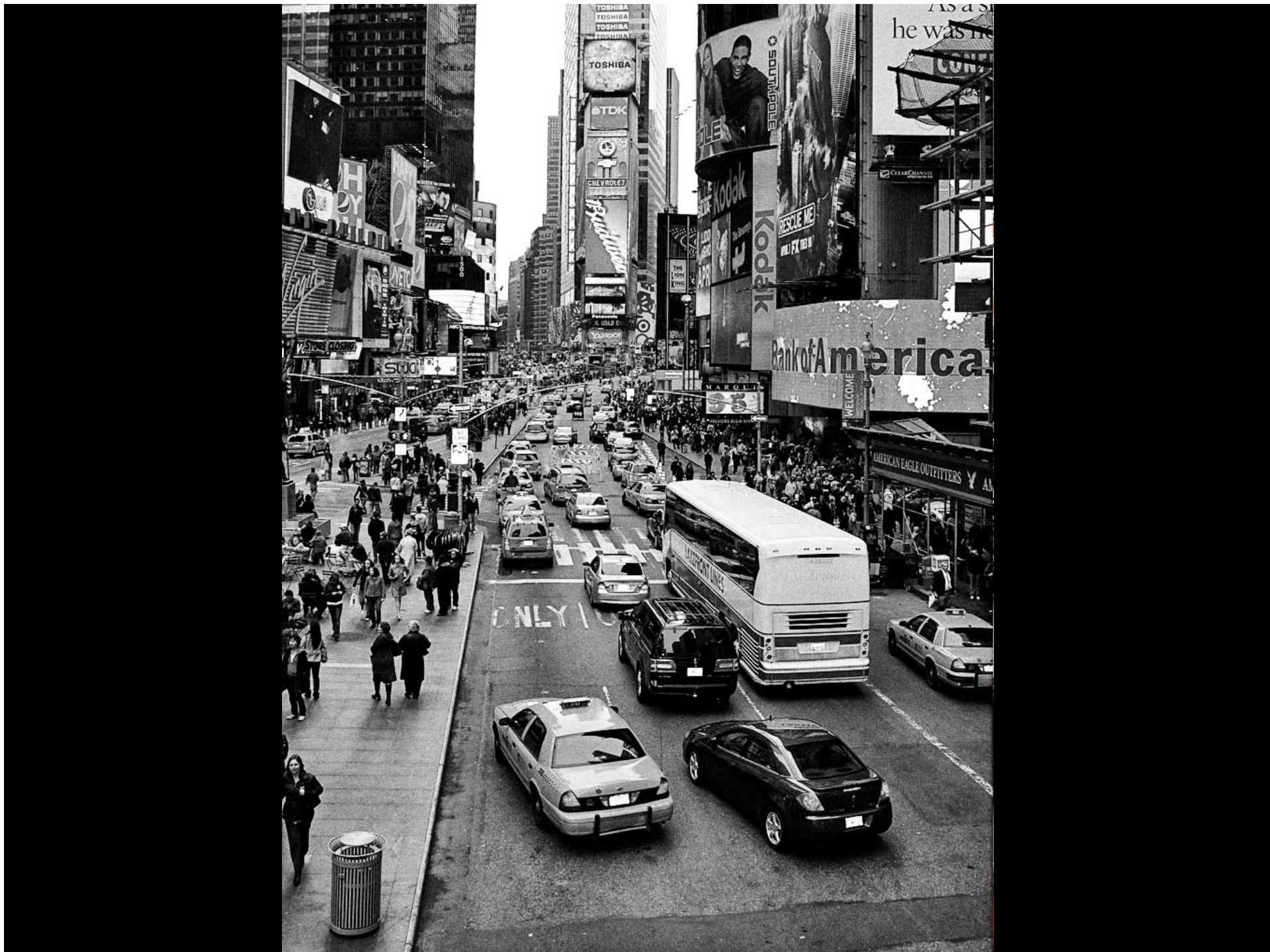


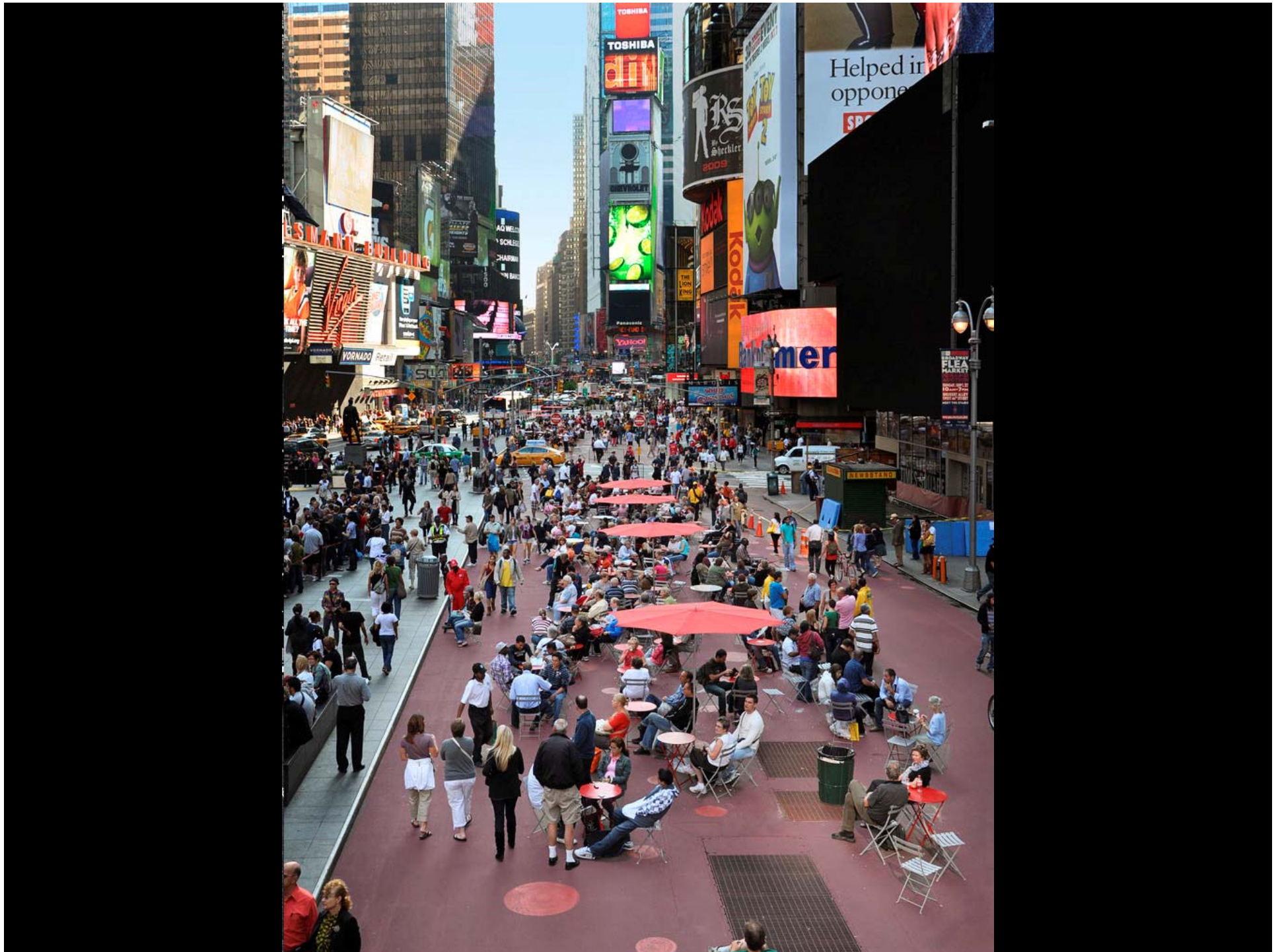














A key theme of PAC recommendation:

“Create a physical and regulatory framework that lets Congress evolve gradually over time and allows the community to try out new ideas on an ongoing basis.”

I. Car-free “flexi-spaces”

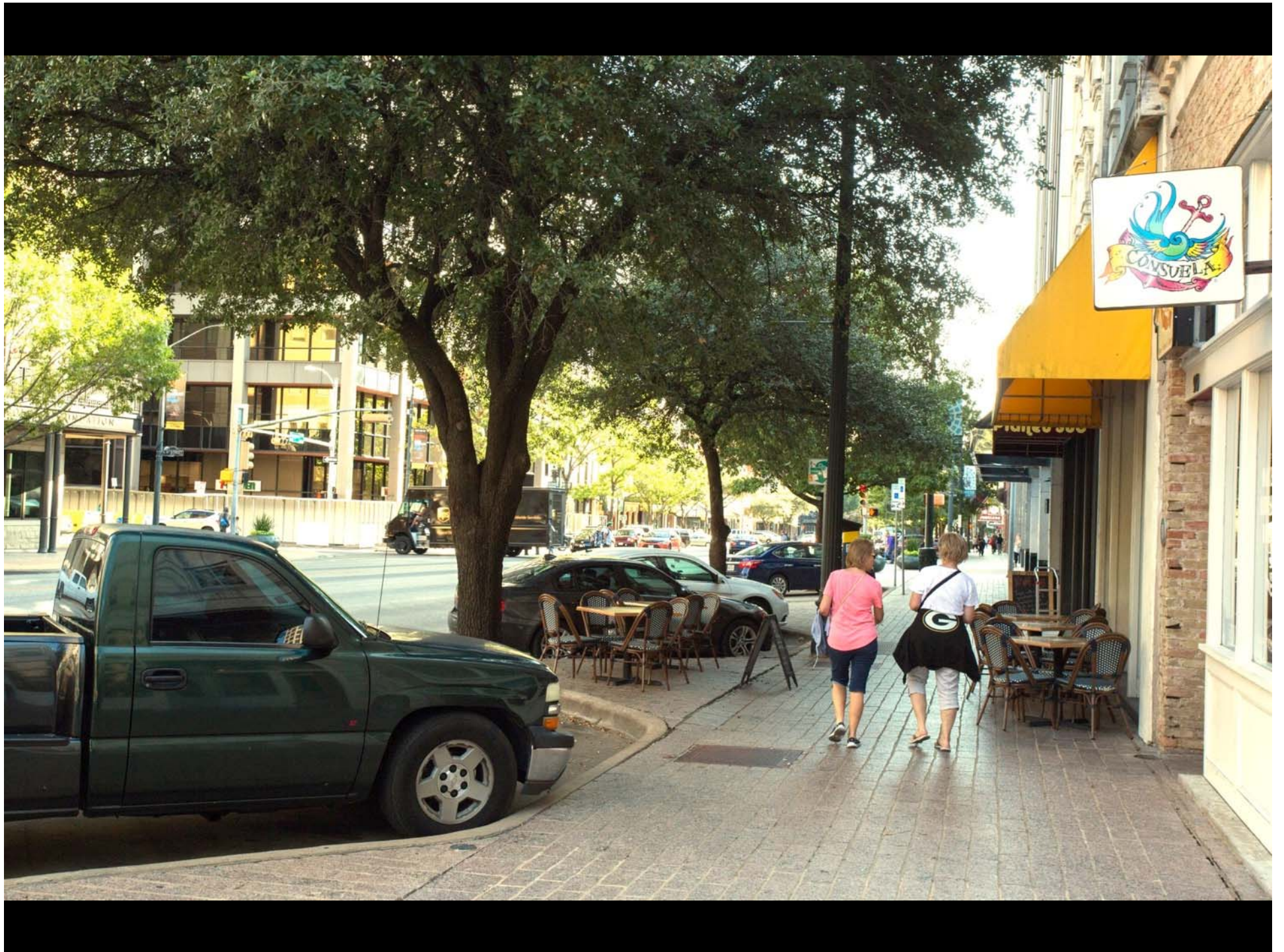
DEFINING THE SIDEWALK



8' Storefront Area

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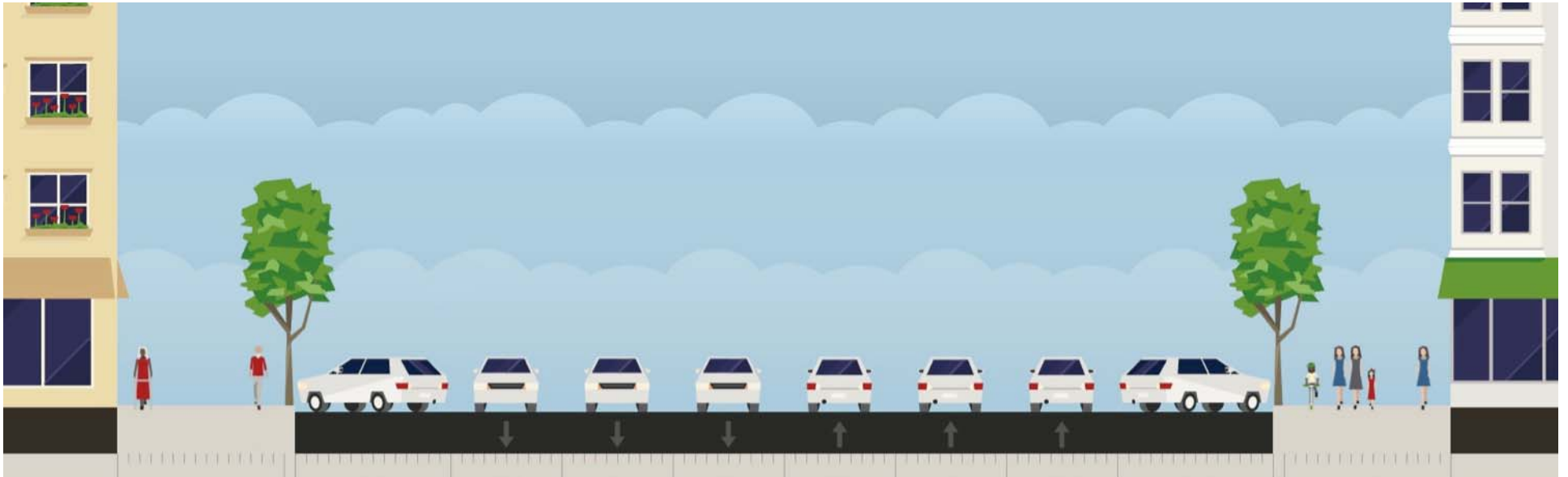




II. Repurpose more
space for people



Congress Avenue: Today



People-carrying capacity: Modest

Public space potential: Low

Economic potential: Modest



Congress Avenue: CAUDI proposal



People-carrying capacity:	Good
Public space potential:	Moderate
Economic potential:	Okay



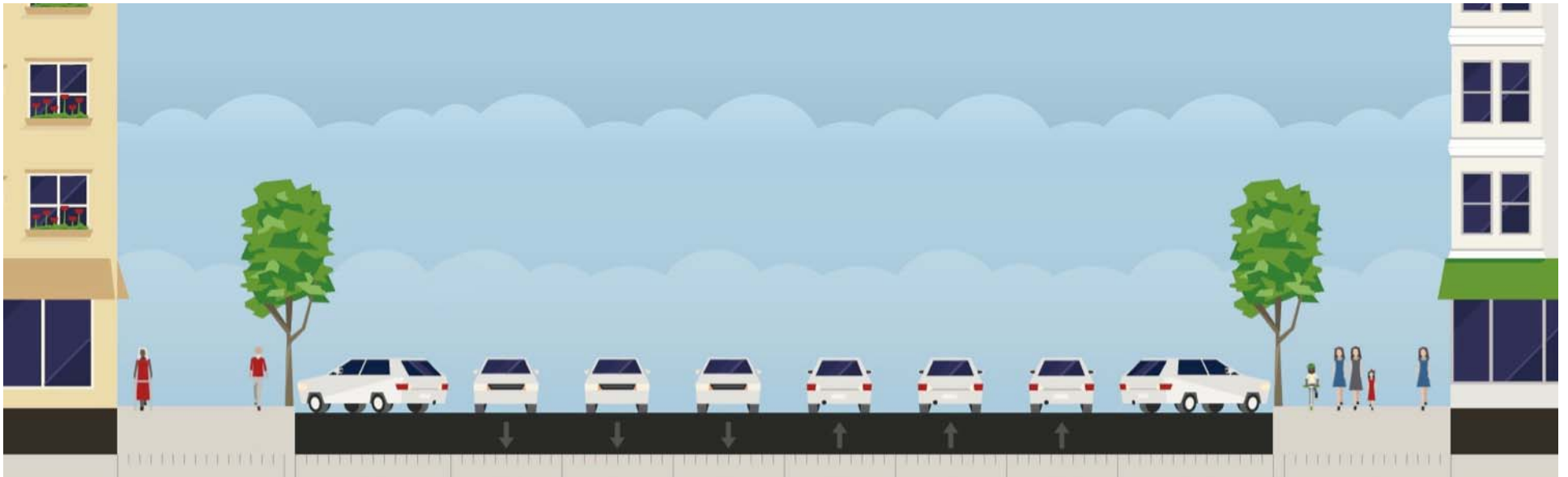
Congress Avenue: PAC proposal



People-carrying capacity:	Good
Public space potential:	Excellent
Economic potential:	Excellent



Congress Avenue today: A poor people-mover



- Only **2 unobstructed travel lanes** at rush hour
- Right-turning traffic **conflicts with pedestrians**
- Middle lanes blocked by **left-turning traffic**
- Poor/no accommodation for **space-efficient transportation** (walking & bicycling)

A better traffic flow with 4 lanes than 6 lanes



Improve flow on the outer travel lanes

- Pedestrian scrambles
- More loading zones & drop-off spaces on cross streets
- Mid-block drop-off spaces
- Prohibit loading/drop-offs

Improve flow on the inner travel lanes

- Convert an inner travel lane to a turn lane
- Prohibit left turns



Other: Convert nearby one-way streets to two-way

San Francisco

Plan to close 2 miles of Market Street to private car traffic moves forward

March 12, 2019



“Our businesses’ perspective is that these transformations are important in the long term.”

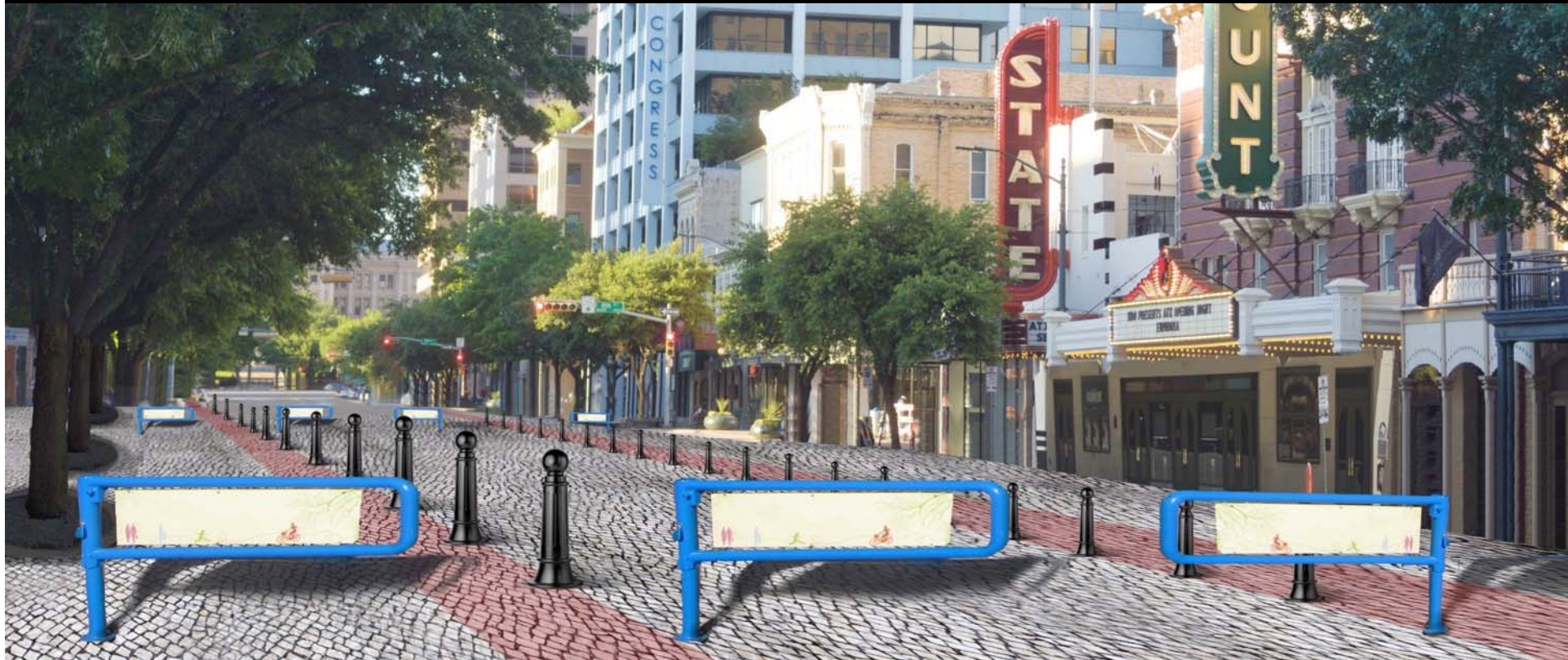
- Jay Cheng, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

III. Make Congress (7-11th St)
a “festival street”

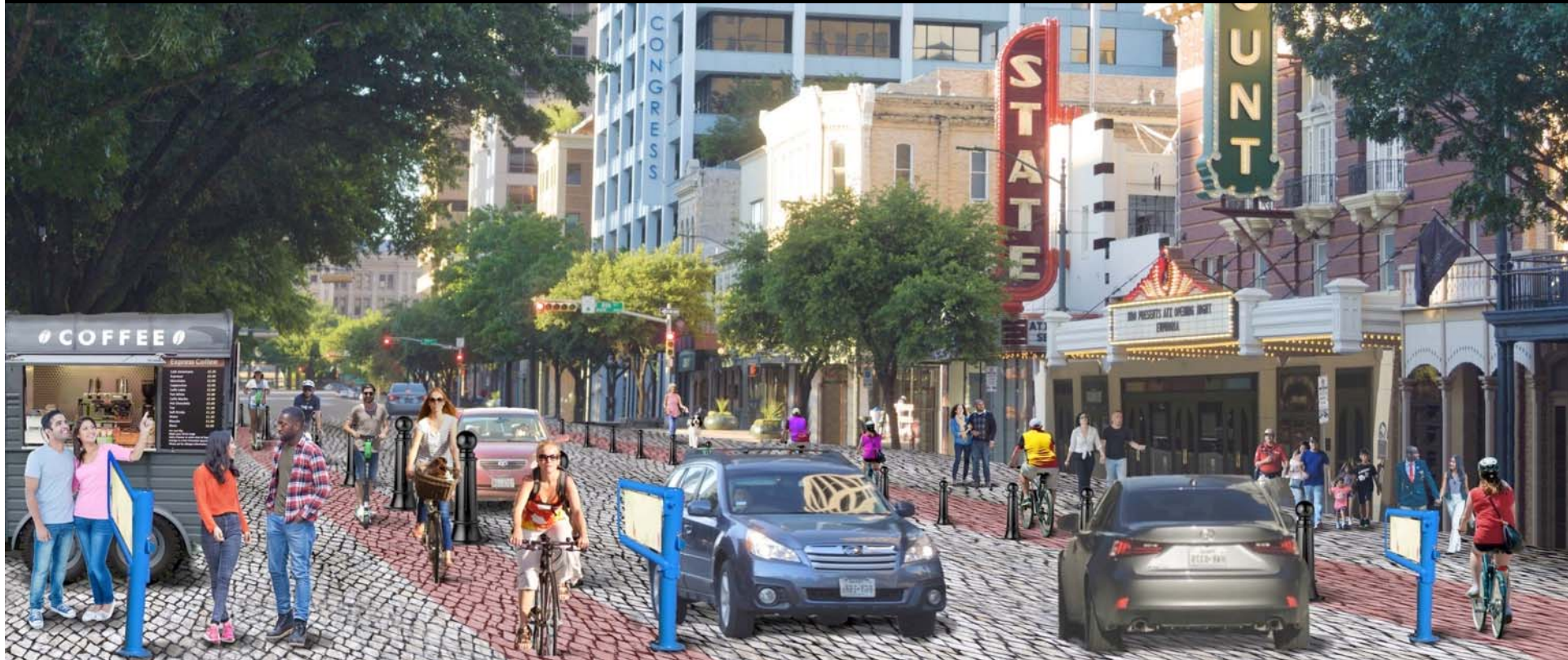


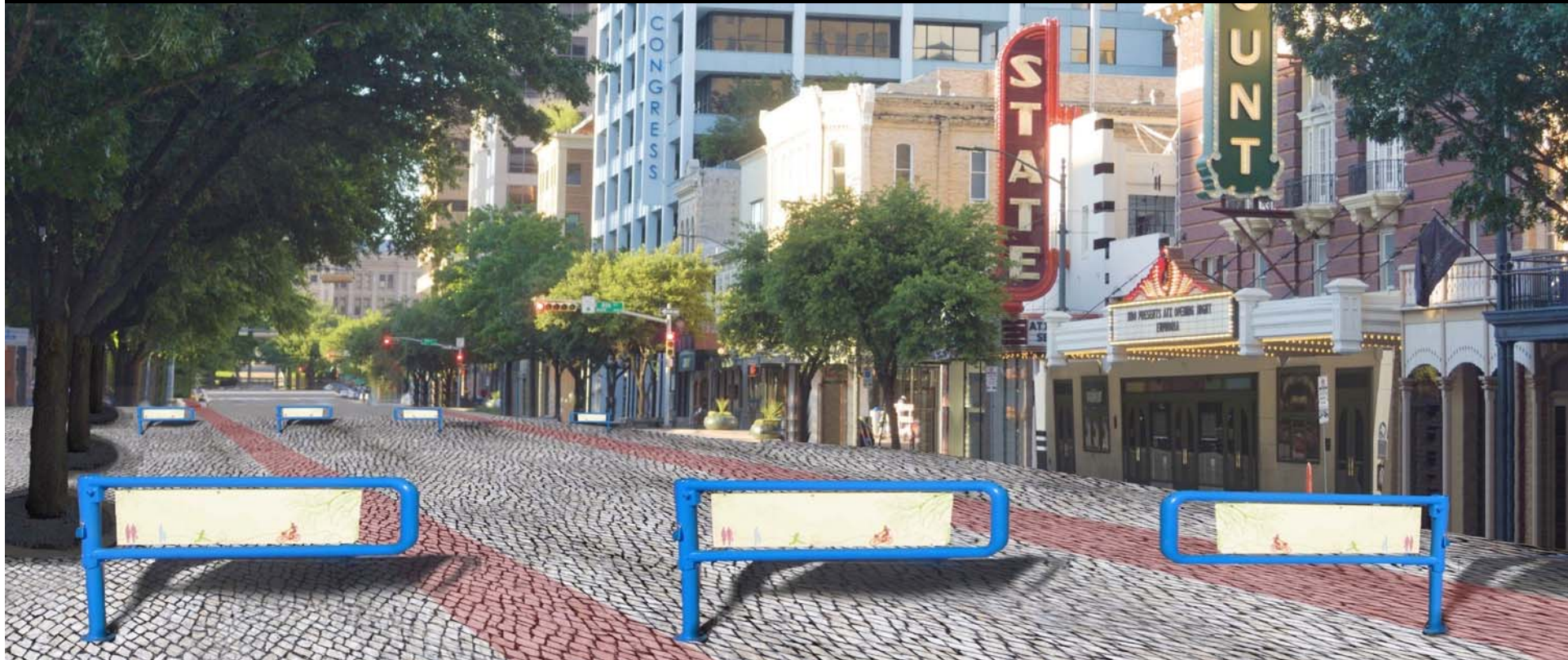


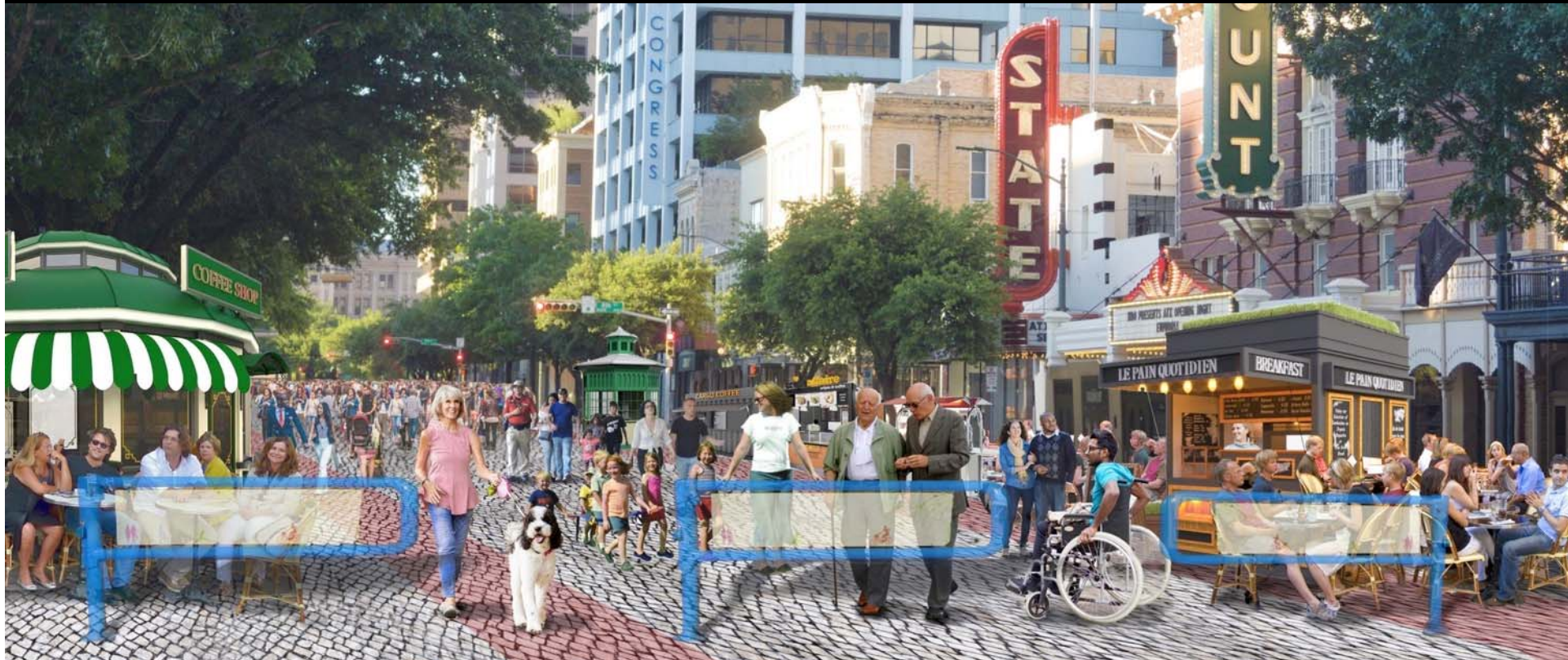


















IV. Install more
restrooms

Pedestrian Advisory Council

Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative Recommendation

Key proposals

- Programmable **car-free “flexi-spaces”**
- No more than 4 **vehicular lanes** (Cesar Chavez - 11th St)
- **“Festival street”** design (7th - 11th St)
- Public **restrooms**

Other proposals

- Fund a PARK(ing) Day program
- Encourage more events on Congress through regulations and design
- City-organized Open Streets program
- Replace street-facing parking with small buildings (10th - 11th Streets)
- Discourage vacant properties
- Comprehensive downtown parking strategy
- One-way to two-way street conversions
- Fund near-term improvements



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