

About Your Project Proposal

Each project is eligible for up to \$50,000 of funding.

Please describe your project, including location, vision, and potential partners. This description will be used by the relevant City departments to identify scope, budget, and feasibility of completion.*

This proposal seeks to transform the dangerous intersection and neglected traffic island at **Congo Street and Circular Avenue** from a hazardous, overgrown barrier into a safe, accessible, and clean pedestrian refuge. Despite being a critical link for neighbors walking to the **Glen Park BART Station** and the **San Jose Ave Muni light rail**, this specific island was overlooked during previous city improvements at nearby Staples, Hearst, and Judson Avenues.

Currently, the island is completely overtaken by invasive vegetation, forcing residents, including seniors and families with young children and strollers, to walk into active traffic to bypass the island. This project will close the "safety gap" on Circular Avenue, ensuring a continuous pathway for pedestrians walking through the Sunnyside and neighboring community.

Key Improvements Proposed Include:

- **Accessible Throughway:** Construction of a code-compliant paved path connecting the two existing painted crosswalks, allowing pedestrians to cross the island safely rather than walking around it into the street.
- **Visibility & Enforcement:** Painting "Daylighting" red zones in accordance with updated city safety standards to prevent illegal parking that currently obscures the island.

We request a budget of \$50K based on the scope for SFDPW to clear the plants and build a flat foot path, as well as the length of the curbs SFMTA will need to paint in accordance with the updated daylighting red zone length. That said, we defer the full estimation to SFDPW and SFMTA and are committed to working with any city departments, should the project be selected by District 7 voters.

Explain how this project will benefit the impacted neighborhood and/or the people of District 7.*

The **Sunnyside Neighborhood Association (SNA)** has identified this location as a primary concern due to a decade of decline that has resulted in decreased pedestrian safety and increased blight. This project improves for Sunnyside residents as well as people commuting between Glen Park BART Station and various Sunnyside

destinations including CCSF, Riordan High School, Sunnyside Elementary, and St. Finn Barr School in Ingleside and Sunnyside in the following 5 critical areas:

1. **Pedestrian Safety/Vision Zero:** Eliminates the need for walking commuters to use the road as a sidewalk.
2. **Transit Equity:** Circular Ave is the neighborhood's "efficiency spine" for reaching BART and Muni. Improving this island encourages public transit use by making the walk safer and more pleasant.
3. **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED):** By clearing the overgrowth, we eliminate areas used for illegal dumping and drug activity, improving overall public health.
4. **Neighborhood Consistency:** This project completes the vision started at Judson, Staples, and Hearst, ensuring that District 7 infrastructure is uniform, modern, and well-maintained.
5. **Initiation of a Mini Neighborhood Park:** This triangle has a beautiful mature native oak tree and provides ample space for native plants. Clearing out a foot path will enable residents and neighbors in Sunnyside to start actively managing the vegetation more effectively. The opportunity for ongoing maintenance will add another dimension and community building for the existing quarterly Clean and Green volunteer events on Circular Ave sponsored by SNA, Refuse Refuse SF, and Civic Joy Fund.

Neighborhood(s) where proposal is to be implemented*

Sunnyside

Which priority will this proposal support? (check all that apply)*

Health & Safety

Neighborhood Beautification

Vision Zero

Let's go, San Francisco!

Please describe how your proposal addresses the priority area(s) selected above*

1. Health & Safety

The current state of the island—overrun with invasive species and debris—has unfortunately become a site for illegal dumping and reported drug usage. By clearing the overgrowth and improving sightlines, this project applies **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)** principles. Transforming a neglected "dead

zone" into a clean, managed space directly improves public health and discourages illicit activity, creating a safer environment for the families and seniors who live nearby.

2. Neighborhood Beautification

This project replaces an eyesore with a polished, intentional landscape. By removing invasive "jungle" growth and transitioning the space into a structured part of the Sunnyside streetscape, we restore neighborhood pride. Furthermore, the **SNA commits to sponsoring quarterly "Clean and Green" days** if the space is replanted with sustainable native species, ensuring the island remains a beautiful asset rather than returning to a state of neglect.

3. Vision Zero (Pedestrian Safety)

Circular Avenue is a high-traffic connector to Glen Park BART. Currently, pedestrians are forced into the path of vehicles because the island is impassable and the red zones (daylighting) are not enforced. This proposal directly supports **Vision Zero** by:

- Creating a protected path through the island.
- Updating red curbs to ensure clear lines of sight between drivers and pedestrians.

4. Let's Go, San Francisco!

To create a "vibrant, livable city," we must invest in the spaces between our destinations. This project turns a fragmented intersection into a cohesive community link. The overall effort was the labor of love of a bunch of neighbors who love San Francisco and call Sunnyside home, including the Cat Grey from <https://www.studio-mala.com/> who lives in Sunnyside and created the preliminary design and offered to provide pro bono design if the project were selected. In addition, SNA's commitment to quarterly volunteer maintenance days fosters civic engagement and neighborly connection, turning a city infrastructure project into a grassroots community-building tool. By making the walk to transit pleasant and safe, we reinforce San Francisco as a world-class, walkable, and vibrant city.

Please upload any supporting documents (optional)

 Pedestrians at Risk at Congo and Circular Triangle

 Congo at Circular Proposal Simple Design