

PROJECT SUMMARY REPORT

San Miguel L St. Pop-Up Bike/Pedestrian Lane for Bike & Walk to School Week



DATES: May 4-8, 2026

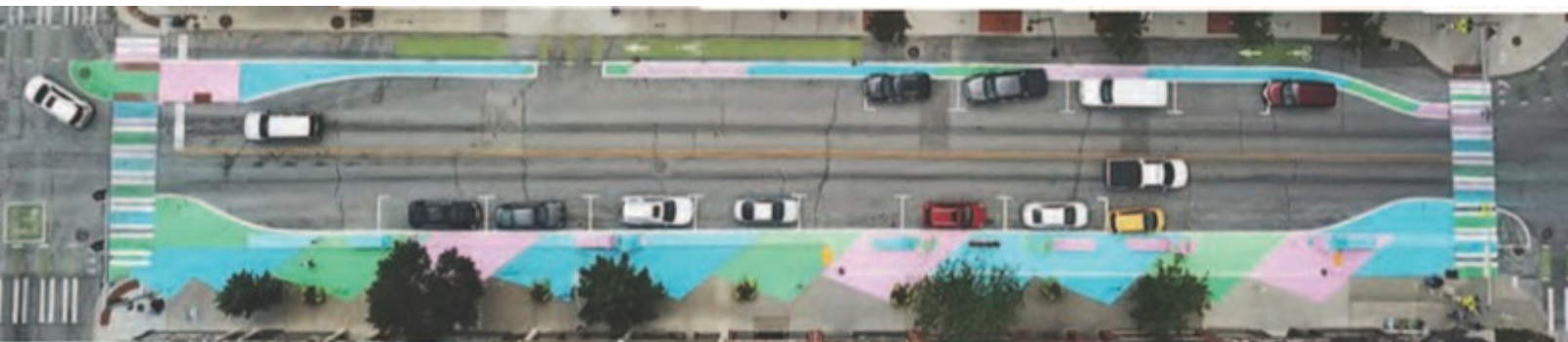
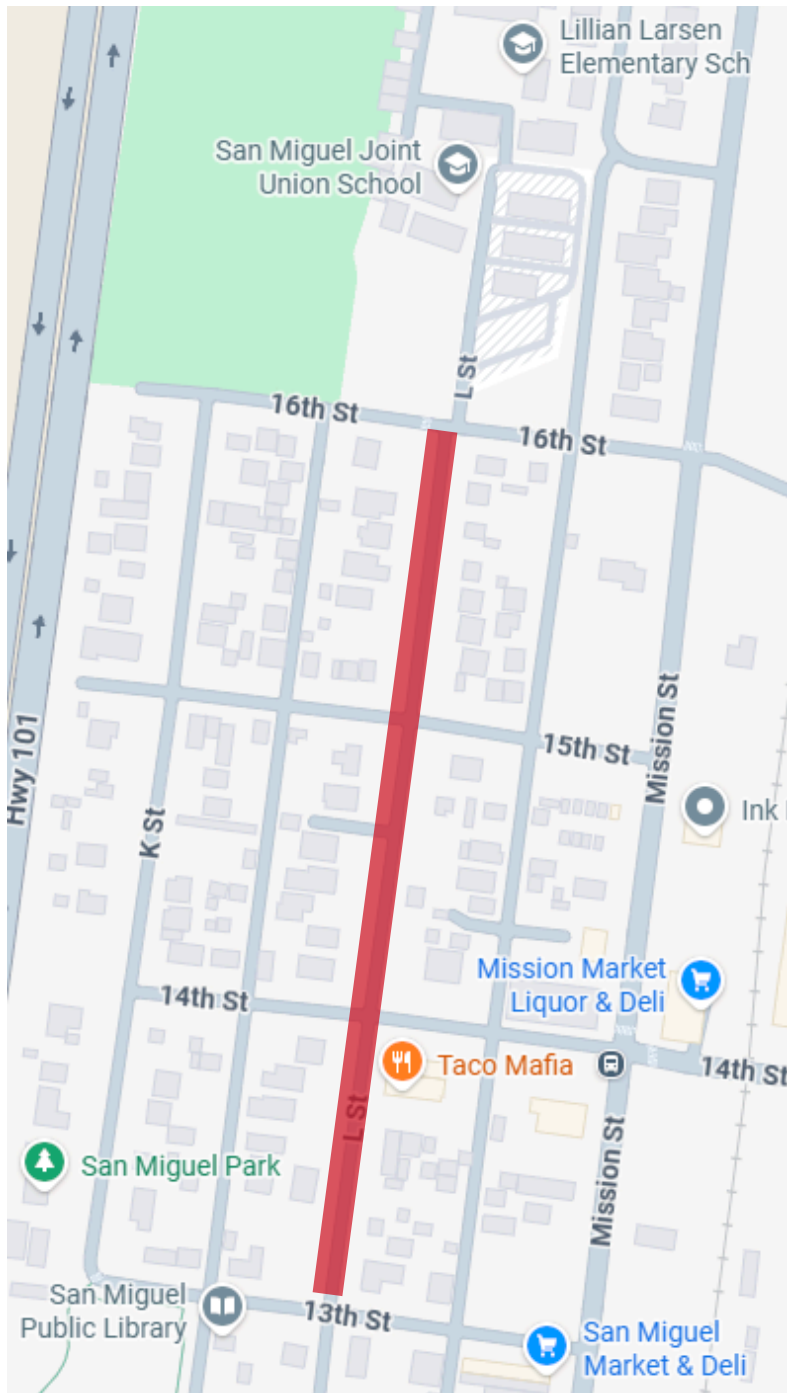
L St on Bike to School Day



San Miguel Pop-Up Project Vision

Location: L St between 13th-16th St

Inspiration:



References: [AARP Pop-Up Placemaking Tool Kit](#) ; [May 2025 Coconut Grove Bike to School Day](#)

San Miguel Pop-Up Project Implementation

Summary of Community Feedback

Community response to the demonstration project was overwhelmingly positive. Residents living along L Street shared that speeding traffic is a longstanding concern, with several commenting that they are surprised no one has been seriously injured. Community members also expressed disappointment when the temporary installation was removed, reflecting strong support for a permanent improvement.

SLO County Public Works staff visited the site following the demonstration and noted how well the installation was being used by pedestrians and cyclists.

Administrators at Lillian Larsen Elementary School reported a dramatic reduction in morning vehicle congestion during the demonstration. They noted that on a typical school day, drop-off traffic extends from the school entrance and backs up several blocks, but during the project they observed virtually no traffic queue.

Survey Results

Community survey responses further demonstrated strong support for the project and its potential benefits.

- **58%** of respondents reported using L Street daily.
- **90%** said they would consider allowing their children to travel to school independently, rather than being driven, if the improvements were made permanent.
- **91%** reported that the corridor felt comfortable for walking or biking with the demonstration installed, compared with only **30%** who felt comfortable before the installation.
- **47%** of survey responses came from residents living on San Miguel's west side, the population most likely to benefit from a permanent improvement.

Lillian Larsen Bike to School Day May 6, 2026





Volunteer Participation

The project was made possible through collaboration among local agencies, organizations, and community volunteers, including:

- 3 staff members from the County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department
- 3 staff members from the County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Department
- 1 Community Schools Coordinator
- 4 community volunteers
- 2 leaders from the local church

The California Conservation Corps had planned to provide additional volunteers to assist with installation but was unable to participate because of an emergency deployment.

Observed Safety Issues and Opportunities

The demonstration highlighted opportunities to improve pedestrian safety beyond the project limits. Because several neighborhood streets connect directly to L Street, extending similar treatments to these connecting corridors could further improve safe walking and biking access throughout the area.

Recommendations for Future Improvements

The Safer L Street for San Miguel demonstration showed that meaningful safety improvements can be achieved without constructing a traditional sidewalk. A combination of thermoplastic striping and stanchions significantly improved both actual and perceived safety while reducing vehicle speeds. It demonstrated that this lower-cost approach could be effective and implemented quickly.

Given the strong community support, positive operational observations, and encouraging survey results, San Miguel Community Friends would be happy to find and obtain grants to help make these safety improvements a lasting benefit for the community.



See more photos on [Dropbox](#).