

- 1 Barriers at entry points to indicate “essential traffic only” (no vehicular access except emergency access and delivery)
- 2 Entry point signs to clarify use and brand the program, as well as offer traffic control or guidance to motorists

## Provide safe space for physical activity, play, distant socializing, etc.

### CONTEXT

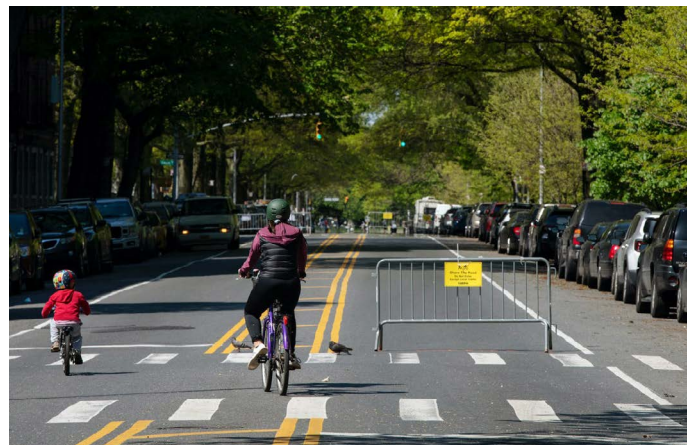
- Parkway or waterfront corridors with few intersections.
- Low-volume residential streets.
- Commercial streets with local restaurant/retail clusters and no transit.

### KEY STEPS

- Install temporary traffic barriers and “Emergency Vehicle/Delivery Only” signs at intersections.
- Establish grid of entry points into local streets where barricades should be installed.

**TIMELINE:** One week.

**DURATION:** Time of day, day of week, weekends, or ongoing (weeks, months).



Credit: Bryan Thomas/Getty Images

### Brooklyn, NY, USA

Open streets in Brooklyn and other boroughs of New York City provide space for pedestrians to gather and stay active.

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## Planning

- Identify a single corridor or a network of streets that can be closed to vehicular traffic during select hours of the day or days of the week, or permanently.
- Unlike Slow Streets, on-street vehicular parking should be disallowed over the duration.
- Examine proposed neighborhood greenways, bike boulevards, or routes that await implementation. Where full closures are difficult, consider Slow Streets instead.
- Where resources are constrained, prioritize one- to two-block Play Streets adjacent to closed or inadequate playgrounds and schoolyards.
- Ensure that programs and activities support safe physical distancing.

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## Engagement

- Reach out to resident associations, business districts, community organizations, bike/walk and health coalitions, schools, and mutual aid organizations.
- Partner with stakeholders and advocates to place flyers or safely contact local residents.
- Connect with community groups to identify obstacles or issues affecting design or length.

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## Design + Implementation

- Identify corridors to fully close to through traffic and target times of day or week. Partial closures can preserve local access but prevent most through-movements.
- Consider open/play streets at a corridor scale to move people safely to essential services (medical care, grocery stores, pharmacies, transit).
- Use temporary “Road Closed” signs, which can be attached to barricades or A-frames if necessary; adding pedestrian or bicycle warning signs is optional.

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## Monitoring

- Key criteria: number and percent change in overall demand during specific hours.
  - Use automated devices, such as a camera or tube counter, to gather bike volume and short (15-minute to one-hour) sample pedestrian or user type counts (younger and older children, elderly people, etc.) if practical.
  - Use counts or conduct surveys to determine adjustments, if necessary.
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Credit: Natalia Bomtempo



Credit: DPA

### Brasilia, Brazil

Brasilia opens its streets for pedestrians and cyclists on Sundays.

### Berlin, Germany

Berlin prohibits vehicles on several streets to create space for play and gathering.