

# General Placement Guidelines

The following should be considered as general guidelines for amenities in the public right of way when you are first designing a new Love Our Neighborhoods project or forming your site plan. Please refer to the appropriate amenity guidelines for your specific project, the Love Our Neighborhoods regulations, or contact Public Works at [LoveOurNeighborhoods@sfdpw.org](mailto:LoveOurNeighborhoods@sfdpw.org) with further questions.

## Sidewalk considerations:

- Always ensure an unobstructed path of travel.
  - When a sidewalk is less than nine (9) feet wide, assume it should be four (4) feet minimum.
  - When a sidewalk is nine (9) feet or wider, assume it should be six (6) feet minimum.
  - Benches always require six (6) feet of clearance in front of them.
- Paths of travel should, as much as possible, be continuous with minimal curvature. I.e.—avoid placing amenities in a way that creates tight curves or turns or creates a zig-zag pattern to the path of travel.
- Keep all in-sidewalk utility boxes and vaults, sewer vents, etc. clear and accessible. We recommend a minimum of three (3) feet of clearance.

## Vertical Right of Way Elements:

- Keep amenities three (3) feet from vertical street/sidewalk elements and public infrastructure. These include things such as street or utility poles, parking meters, garbage cans, bike racks, street trees, etc.
- Amenities may not be affixed in any way (chained, tied, bolted, etc.) to public infrastructure.

## Fire and safety considerations:

- Keep amenities at least four (4) feet from a fire escape's footprint and
- five (5) feet from a fire hydrant or a building's exterior fire department connection.
- Amenities may be placed continuously along a sidewalk with other (existing) elements. However, there must be one (1) four(4)-foot, unobstructed gap every twenty (20) feet.

## Parking considerations:

- If street parking is parallel to the curb, amenities should be two (2) feet from the curb.
- If street parking is perpendicular or at an angle to the curb, the amenities should be four (4) feet from the curb.

## Curb Zone considerations:

- Amenities may not be placed in bus zones.
- Amenities may not be placed in red or blue curb zones except under the following conditions:
  - The sidewalk is nine (9) feet or wider.
  - The amenity is placed against a property line and leaves the required path of travel.
  - The amenity needs to follow all other clearance requirements.