



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ALERT

Tenderloin Nonprofits Transform Block for Phoenix Day

SAN FRANCISCO (October 13, 2021) – On Sunday, October 17, one block in the heart of the Tenderloin will be transformed into a green, car-free oasis — a prototype that local nonprofits hope to make permanent.

On [Phoenix Day](#), Livable City's Sunday Streets event, the 100 block of Golden Gate Avenue, between Leavenworth and Jones, will feature music, a bounce house and games for neighborhood children, and over 50 trees donated for the event by Friends of the Urban Forest and Pacific Nurseries. Programming is led by St. Anthony's and community partners, including De Marillac Academy, 826 Valencia, and Wu Yee Children's Services.

The activation is a preview of what could happen if local nonprofits are granted permission to permanently transform the 100 block of Golden Gate Avenue.

In 2020, the city of San Francisco granted a partial block closure to ensure that social service organizations could continue providing critical resources during COVID-19. Turning crisis into opportunity, neighborhood nonprofits have used the space to serve the community even more effectively than before, hosting things like outdoor voter registration, COVID-19 pop-up testing, and Play Streets events for children. Now, a coalition led by St. Anthony's, the Tenderloin Community Benefit District, and Mercy Housing, is proposing [Golden Gate Greenway](#) — a permanent greenspace to benefit the community physically, mentally, and spiritually.

"The people of the Tenderloin need more safe, green, outdoor space," says St. Anthony's Chief Executive Officer Nils Behnke, who is leading the effort to make Golden Gate Greenway a reality.



The plan for Golden Gate Greenway is actively being developed with community input, in partnership with City agencies. In the meantime, Phoenix Day will give San Franciscans a sneak peek of what the block — and the greater Tenderloin — could be, with a little City support and a lot of community spirit.

“In this neighborhood,” says Behnke, “it’s about making change one block at a time.”

To learn more about Golden Gate Greenway, please visit www.GoldenGateGreenway.org.

Phoenix Day on Golden Gate Avenue

Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021

Time: Noon - 5 PM

Where: Golden Gate Avenue between Leavenworth and Jones
San Francisco, CA 94102

About St. Anthony's

Founded in 1950, St. Anthony's is the most comprehensive safety net service center in San Francisco, directly providing food, clothing, medical care, addiction recovery services, access to technology, job training, and other critical resources to the community. Every day we support and are supported by thousands of San Franciscans. Everyone who comes through our doors joins the St. Anthony's family and helps us create a future where all people flourish.

Learn more at: <http://www.stanthonysf.org/impact-report-20/>.