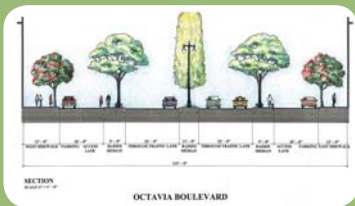


Remove the highway

CENTRAL FREEWAY - OCTAVIA BOULEVARD SAN FRANCISCO, CA



SIMILARITIES TO I-81

- Carried comparable traffic volumes
- Existed as an elevated freeway in an urban area

DIFFERENCES FROM I-81

- Not designated as an interstate highway
- Carried no through traffic (spur to downtown)
- Previously closed due to earthquake

SO WHAT HAPPENED?

- In 1989, an earthquake damaged the freeway forcing it to close temporarily
- In 1996, the freeway was repaired and reopened
- Ultimately, a proposal to replace the freeway with a boulevard gained support, and it was redesigned as Octavia Boulevard
- At its opening, the new boulevard carried about half the volume of the freeway it replaced

Lessons learned

- Surrounding street and transit network was able to absorb significant traffic
- A boulevard can:
 - Carry high traffic volumes
 - Spur development
 - Provide a pedestrian and bicycle-friendly environment