



Tech Tips for San Francisco Street Safety

A little information can go a long way to help you navigate San Francisco safely and effectively. Your cell phone can be a powerful tool, when it comes to keeping informed about possible hazards to avoid in the City. Here's our list of tech tips:

- Register with www.alertsf.org. This is a free service, and it's extremely useful. Users can customize it to suit their preferred mode of receiving information – by text message, email or phone. The AlertSF program will let users know about street closures, disasters, and other events that may affect their path of travel. We especially like that this program does not require a Smartphone and there's nothing to download.
- SF MUNI has their own alert system, which is specific to MUNI service delays and announcements. Alerts can be set to be sent to users via email or text message, and can be customized to match a user's specific route, or to cover the MUNI system, in general. Visit www.sfmta.com to sign up for this service.
- BART has a similar alert program, which delivers alerts about BART service delays, accidents, etc via email or text message. Like MUNI's program, this is customizable. To register, go to <http://www.bart.gov/news/alerts> .
- BART's On-Demand Text Services program allows the user to send a text message about a specific line, station, or issue, and receive a reply within seconds. This is especially useful for finding out if an elevator at a specific station is working. Information on how to use this program can be found at <http://www.bart.gov/schedules/mobile/sms> .
- SF's 311 hotline and website are great resources for anyone in the City. Consumers can call 311, tweet @sf311, or download the SF311 mobile app to report issues around the city, including potholes, broken pedestrian walk signals, or other street hazards. Also check out the "Streets and Sidewalks" section of their website at <http://sf311.org/streets-and-sidewalks-new-version> to find out, in greater detail, how reports are dealt with, how long it may take for hazards to be resolved, and how to provide consumer feedback.