Walking Field Trip #3: Park Boulevard and El Cajon Boulevard

Address: Corner of Park Boulevard and El Cajon Boulevard Date: April 28, 2023

The purpose of the walking field trip was to identify safety concerns, gaps and deficiencies in the pedestrian network along El Cajon Boulevard. This walk was coordinated with Walk n Roll San Diego. Participants provided input on issues that make it unsafe or uncomfortable for them to walk along the route as well as what they enjoyed. The walking field trip was attended by Circulate San Diego, Walk n Roll San Diego, and local community members.

El Cajon Boulevard is located in the neighborhood of North Park, and this walk audit took place between Park Boulevard and Idaho Street. Between 2017-2022, there was 1 pedestrian fatality, 37 pedestrian injuries, and 24 bicycle injuries within a quarter mile of the walking route (see Figure 1).

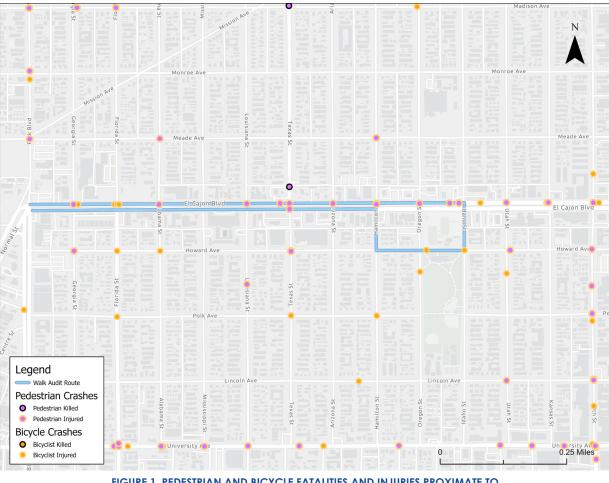


FIGURE 1. PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE FATALITIES AND INJURIES PROXIMATE TO EL CAJON BOULEVARD (2017-2022)

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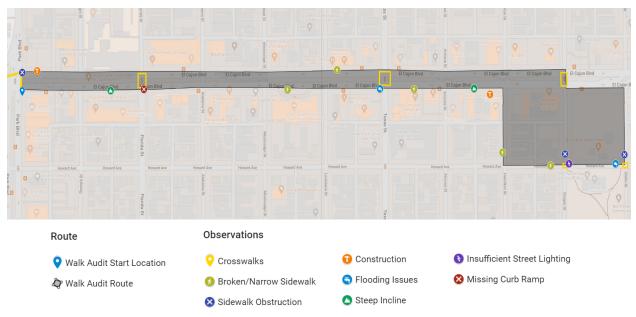


FIGURE 2. PARK AND EL CAJON BOULEVARD WALKING FIELD TRIP RESULTS



FIGURE 3: NO PAINTED CROSSWALK AND FLOODED POT-HOLE CREATES UNSAFE WALKING CONDITIONS

FIGURE 4: GROUP PARTICIPATING ON TRIP; TEMPORARY SIDEWALK AMIDST THE CONSTRUCTION

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The walking field trip took place along El Cajon Boulevard, primarily between Park Boulevard and Idaho Street (see Figure 2). While four intersections on El Cajon Boulevard had a complete set of crosswalks, any intersection lacking north/south pedestrian access did not provide an east/west crosswalk. Participants observed obstacles that made it difficult for pedestrians to walk, including missing curb ramps, steep inclines, flooding, and trash. As displayed in Figure 3, there is flooding and a pothole on the corner of Howard Avenue and Idaho Street, which makes it dangerous for crossing pedestrians and turning vehicles. Participants also noted broken or narrow sidewalks on many streets. Towards the end of the walk, there was construction on Park and El Cajon Boulevard, but barriers were put in place to create an alternative sidewalk for pedestrians (see Figure 4). Participants mentioned the walk was pleasant at times due to shading from trees, bicycle and scooter parking, local business frontages, and company from other participants, but they would like to see improved sidewalk conditions, public trash cans, and bus shelters to make it a completely leisurely walk.



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