Send your notes and photos to:

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

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WALK & BICYCLE AUDIT GUIDE

LOCATION: _____

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

WALKSACRAMENTO

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS A WALK & BICYCLE AUDIT?

A Walk and Bicycle Audit is a critically important tool and eye-opening experience for those seeking to improve safety, health, and access at the neighborhood scale. The goal of a Walk and Bicycle Audit is to identify barriers that make active transportation less safe or accessible and to identify opportunities for improvement based on the community's vision and goals. A Walk and Bicycle Audit is not just a technical assessment of walking and biking conditions, but can also be used as an effective community engagement strategy by gathering insights from community members about their transportation experiences and concerns.

HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT

This toolkit is meant to guide participants through an assessment of walking and biking conditions in a community. Guiding questions prompt users to consider how street design and infrastructure conditions affect safety, comfort, and convenience for pedestrians and bicyclists. The toolkit focuses on five key elements of the built environment: pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, transit facilities, vehicle facilities, and land use. Space is provided at the end of the toolkit to include a map of the route for users to make additional notes as needed.

DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS

Directly following the Walk and Bicycle Audit, it is helpful to reconvene the group to reflect on the most pressing concerns that were observed and discuss short-term and long-term priorities. WALKSacramento has developed the following resources to help communities identify specific recommendations based on identified needs:

COMPLETE STREETS TOOLKIT
For streetscape infrastructure design recommendations.

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVE DESIGN TOOLKIT
For land use and building design recommendations.

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN TOOLKIT
For public safety recommendations.

PROGRAMMING TOOLKIT
For programming, marketing, education, and encouragement recommendations.

Insert Route Map

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Describe your experience walking along the route. Did you feel safe and comfortable? Why or why not? Are there specific locations that felt less safe or could use improvement? What are your priorities for improvement?

TOOLKIT COMPONENTS

PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Pedestrian facilities include the presence and condition of sidewalks, crossings, and amenities. When assessing pedestrian facilities, consider whether it feels safe and comfortable to walk along sidewalks and across streets. Generally, as streets increase in volume and speed of traffic, wider sidewalks, greater separation of sidewalks from traffic, and high visibility stop-controlled crossings are desirable for improving the pedestrian experience.

BICYCLE FACILITIES

Bicycle facilities include the presence and condition of bike lanes and bike parking. When assessing bicycle facilities, consider whether it feels safe and comfortable to bike along the street. Generally, as streets increase in volume and speed of traffic, greater separation of bike lanes from traffic is desirable for improving the biking experience.

TRANSIT FACILITIES

Transit facilities include the presence and condition of bus stops and bus travel lanes. When assessing transit facilities, consider whether bus stops feel safe and comfortable for transit riders to use and whether buses share road space with other modes. Generally, provision of bus stop amenities such as shade, seating, and schedule information improves the transit rider experience. Bus stops should be easy to access with safe crossings nearby.

VEHICLE FACILITIES

Vehicle facilities include travel lanes. The number of travel lanes, width of lanes, and speed of traffic impact whether a street feels safe and comfortable to walk or bike along. Generally, a greater amount and width of travel lanes induce higher speeds, contributing to an unsafe and uncomfortable walking and biking experience.

LAND USE

Land use includes general destinations nearby and buildings along the route. Varied land uses, such as a mixture of housing and commercial retail, generally create a better walking and biking environment due to proximity of destinations and visual interest. Major destinations such as community centers, schools, and parks often attract pedestrian activity and should be considered when thinking about transportation barriers and safety concerns.

PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

SIDEWALKS

Are sidewalks continuous along the corridor? Y / N / VARIES

Are sidewalks wide enough for two people to walk comfortably? Y / N / VARIES

Is there a high volume of pedestrians observed? Y / N

Are sidewalks generally wide enough for the volume of pedestrians? Y / N

Are sidewalks separated from traffic? (landscaped buffer, public seating, etc) Y / N / VARIES

Are sidewalks shaded? Y / N / VARIES

Are sidewalks landscaped? Y / N / VARIES

Do sidewalks generally work for people with disabilities? Y / N

Are there curb ramps? Y / N / VARIES

Is the pavement broken or angled too steep? Y / N / VARIES

Are there barriers blocking the sidewalk such as utility poles, utility boxes, benches, etc? Y / N

Are there a lot of driveways? Y / N

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any specific locations where sidewalks or curb ramps are missing, where sidewalks are blocked or broken, and anything else you observe.

LAND USE

BUILDINGS

Do buildings have entrances that are close to the street? Y / N / VARIES

Are buildings separated from the street by parking lots? Y / N / VARIES

Is there pedestrian access through parking lots? Y / N / VARIES

Are parking lots shaded? Y / N / VARIES

Do buildings have varied facades and interesting architecture? Y / N / VARIES

Do buildings have windows and active spaces that face the street? Y / N / VARIES

Are windows covered by flyers and signage? Y / N / VARIES

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any specific locations where pedestrian access to buildings is challenging or any other observations about buildings along the route.

LAND USE

GENERAL

What are the nearby land uses? Circle all that apply:

SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING / MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING / COMMERCIAL RETAIL / INDUSTRIAL / OPEN SPACE / RECREATION / OTHER (DESCRIBE)

Are land uses along the route varied? Y / N

What are the key destinations nearby?

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any additional observations about land uses along the route.

PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

CROSSINGS

Are there marked crossings at regular intervals? Y / N

Do crossings feel safe to cross? Y / N / VARIES

Are crossings adequate for traffic volumes and speeds? Y / N / VARIES

Do crossings have countdown signals? Y / N / VARIES

Do countdown signals provide sufficient time to cross? Y / N / VARIES

Are pedestrians allowed to move through the intersection before vehicles? (lead pedestrian intervals) Y / N / VARIES

Do cars yield to pedestrians? Y / N / VARIES

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any specific locations where marked crossings could be added or improved, where intersections feel unsafe, and anything else you observe.

PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

AMENITIES

Are there pedestrian amenities along this route? Y / N
(benches, art, wayfinding signage, etc)

Are paths well lit? Y / N / VARIES

Does the route generally feel welcoming to pedestrian activity? Y / N

Do spaces along the route generally feel safe? Y / N

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note the types of amenities that are provided (if any). Note specific locations where amenities could be provided or improved.

VEHICLE FACILITIES

TRAVEL LANES

What are speed limits along this route?

Do vehicles travel faster or slower than posted speed limits? FASTER / CLOSE TO LIMIT / SLOWER

How many lanes are available to vehicles?

About how wide are travel lanes?

What kind of stop controls are used along this route? Circle all that apply:

NONE / STOP SIGNS / TRAFFIC SIGNALS / OTHER (DESCRIBE)

Do drivers generally adhere to the stop controls? Y / N

Is there on-street parking? Y / N

Is there a landscaped median strip? Y / N / VARIES

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any other observations about vehicle traffic and speeds along the route, including specific locations where drivers do not yield to pedestrians or places where stop controls could be added or improved.

TRANSIT FACILITIES

BUS TRAVEL LANES

Do buses have a dedicated bus lane? Y / N

Do buses have adequate space to load and unload passengers? Y / N / VARIES

Do buses and bicyclists share space on the road? Y / N / VARIES

Do buses receive priority at intersections? Y / N / VARIES

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any additional observations about bus travel lanes and how buses function on the street.

BICYCLE FACILITIES

BICYCLE LANES

Are bicycle facilities provided? Y / N / VARIES

Are bicycle facilities continuous? Y / N / VARIES

What kind of separation from vehicles is provided for people on bikes? Circle all that apply.

NONE / BIKE LANE NO BUFFER / BUFFERED WITH HASHED STRIPING / BUFFERED BY PARKING / BUFFERED BY LANDSCAPING / COMPLETELY SEPARATED FROM STREET / OTHER (DESCRIBE)

Do bicycle facilities feel safe to use? Y / N / VARIES

Are bicycle facilities adequate for traffic volumes and speeds? Y / N / VARIES

Is there a high volume of people riding bikes that are observed? Y / N

Are bike facilities wide enough for the volume of people biking? Y / N / VARIES

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note any specific locations where bike facilities could be added or improved to make biking along the route safer and more comfortable.

BICYCLE FACILITIES

BICYCLE PARKING

Do destinations along the route have bicycle parking? Y / N / VARIES

What style of parking is available? Circle all that apply:

NONE / INVERTED U RACK / BIKE HITCH / WHEEL WELL SECURE / GRID / LONG TERM STORAGE BOXES / OTHER (DESCRIBE)

Is bicycle parking in plain sight and visible from well-trafficked pedestrian areas? Y / N

Is bicycle parking adequate for bicycle volumes? Y / N / VARIES

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note specific locations where bike parking could be provided or improved. Note any other observations about bike parking.

TRANSIT FACILITIES

BUS STOPS

Do bus stops include any amenities such as shade structures or seating? Y / N / VARIES

Are bus stops well maintained and clean? Y / N / VARIES

Do bus stops provide route information? Y / N / VARIES

Are bus stops generally easily accessible? Y / N

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Note specific locations where bus amenities could be provided or improved. Note where access to bus stops could be improved and any other bus stop observations.