



# SAFE ROUTES TO PARKS AND HEALTHY RETAIL WALK AUDIT TRAINING

DEL PASO HEIGHTS GROWER'S ALLIANCE // JUNE 5, 2021

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# **THIS TRAINING IS PART OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO PARKS AND HEALTHY RETAIL PROGRAM FACILITATED BY WALKSACRAMENTO AND FUNDED BY SACRAMENTO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**



The California Department of Public Health, with funding from the United States Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – USDA SNAP, produced this material. These institutions are equal opportunity providers and employers. For important nutrition information, visit [www.CalFreshHealthyLiving.org](http://www.CalFreshHealthyLiving.org).

This training and the Safe Routes to Parks and Healthy Retail program are solely funded by Sacramento County Public Health and are in no way related or connected to the City of Sacramento or the City of Sacramento's current or upcoming transportation projects.

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## ABOUT WALKSACRAMENTO

**Mission:** Advocate & design communities that support active transportation for the benefit of health, safety, economic development, and sustainability

**Approach:** Engage, support, and guide local advocacy to develop and implement community vision.

**Our role today:** Facilitate a walk audit training to demonstrate how walk audits can support community design priorities, challenges, and opportunities

## ABOUT THE SAFE ROUTES TO PARKS AND HEALTHY RETAIL PROGRAM

In partnership with the Sacramento County Public Health Department, WALKSacramento is analyzing park and healthy retail access in North and South Sacramento and identifying policy and built environment opportunities to improve health through active travel to healthy destinations. As part of this project, WALKSacramento developed a toolbox of resources to provide best practices and guidance for Public Health Professionals, Community members, and other partners to support and implement access to parks and healthy foods.

Using the toolbox as a model for safe routes to parks and healthy retail planning, WALKSacramento is conducting in-depth community engagement around several park sites and healthy retail corridors in the County and working with partners to advance policy and infrastructure change.

View the full toolbox [here](#).





# ABOUT TODAY'S TRAINING

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- This walk audit training is meant to give you the tools as community members to develop a community vision and conduct walk audits on your own to build community support for improvements to transportation access to community destinations, particularly parks, healthy retail, and other food access sites.
- WALKSacramento will share their walk audit toolkit to guide participants through an assessment of active transportation conditions in a community.
- Guiding questions in the toolkit prompt participants to consider how street design and infrastructure conditions can affect safety, comfort, and convenience for residents.

## Today's Agenda

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Introductions

9:15 – 9:45 Walk Audit 101 Planning and Leading

9:45 – 10:30 Walk Audit in Practice

10:30 – 11:00 How to enact change using your walk audit



## ICE BREAKER

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- Name
- How long have you lived in Del Paso Heights? If you are not from Del Paso Heights, what neighborhood are you coming from?
- Share 1-2 elements or conditions that make you feel safe/comfortable OR unsafe/uncomfortable when walking.

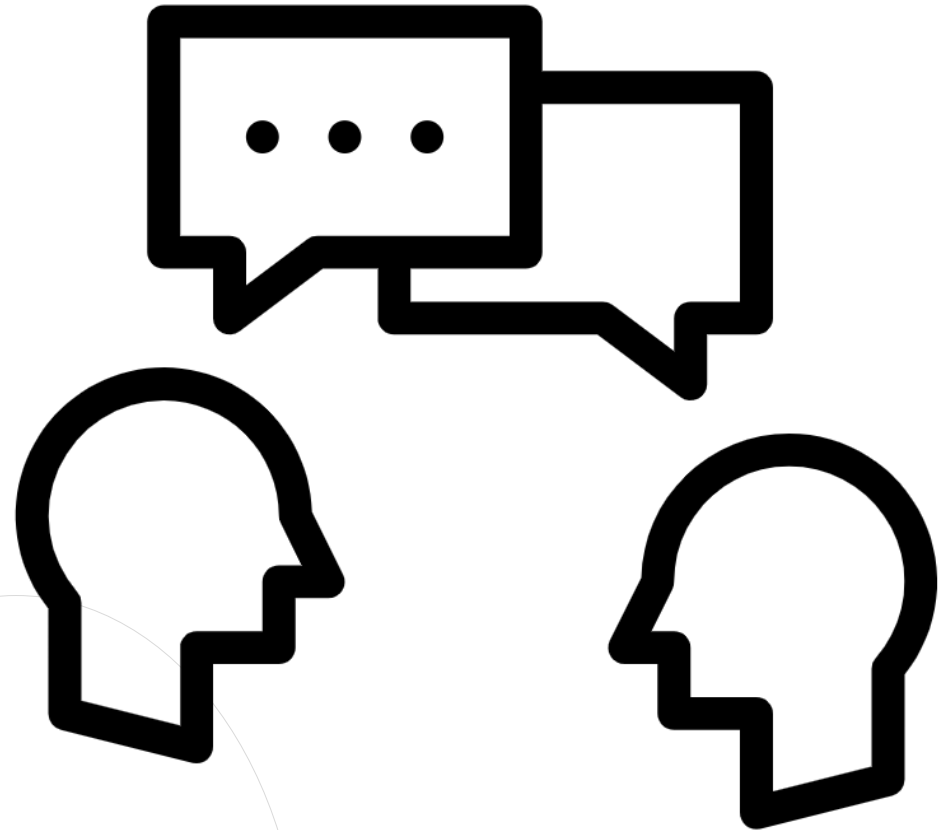




Image Credit: California Walks

## WHAT IS A WALK AUDIT?

For the purpose of today's event, we're going to focus on access to healthy food and parks

- Assess barriers to walking and biking
- Identify deficiencies in pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure
- Identify potential crossing improvements
- Identify features that would encourage more active travel
- Identify features or programs to raise awareness of community gardens or parks
- Not an engineering study



# How can a walk audit support my community?

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- Communities that are accessible by walking, biking, or using transit serve many benefits...
  - Mobility is not limited by the financial cost of owning a vehicle
  - Walkable streets allow people to safely get to school, work, or to the grocery store.
  - Walking and biking to community destinations supports healthy bodies, minds, and the environment
- Walk Audits can help by...
  - Identify barriers to walking and biking
  - Identify barriers to accessing important community destinations such as parks and healthy food
  - Bring community members together to share different and common experiences in traveling
  - Identify easily fixable problems and build support for longer term and high cost improvements
  - Engage elected officials and DOT staff around challenges and improvements desired and championed by the community.



## THREE PHASES OF A WALK AUDIT

Walk audits are simple tools and can be performed by anyone. Here are three key phases of a successful walk audit:

### PHASE 1: Pre-Audit Prep

- Data and information gathering
- Route mapping
- Discussion of existing conditions
- Getting everyone up-to-speed and setting goals

### PHASE 2: Audit Basics

- Getting Started
- What to look for
- What to measure

### PHASE 3: Post-Audit

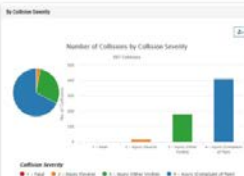
- Discussion of observations and recommendations
- Creating priorities
- Next steps and responsibilities



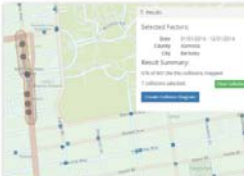
# PHASE 1: DATA AND INFORMATION GATHERING

- Travel Surveys and behavior assessments
  - Create a survey to share via online community groups or in person
  - Saferoutesdata.org travel and caregiver surveys for schools
- TIMS Collision Data <https://tims.berkeley.edu/>
  - The Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS) has been developed over the past five-plus years by SafeTREC to provide quick, easy and free access to California crash data, the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS), that has been geo-coded by SafeTREC to make it easy to map out crashes.
- Street Story <https://streetstory.berkeley.edu/>
  - Street Story is a community engagement tool that allows residents, community groups and agencies to collect information about transportation collisions, near-misses, general hazards and safe locations to travel.
- Land use and future development policies, standards, and community plans. Examples include:
  - City of Sacramento Vision Zero
  - Sacramento County Department of Health

**Available tools**



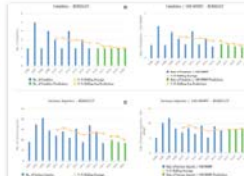
**SWITRS Query & Map**  
A basic tool for accessing fatal or injury collisions from the California Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS).




**SWITRS GIS Map**  
The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) offers an interactive map with capability of multiple tasks including Rank by Intersection, Collision Diagram, etc.




**Collision Diagram**  
The Collision Diagram tool allows users to generate an interactive collision diagram. The Collision Diagram is accessible through SWITRS GIS Map.



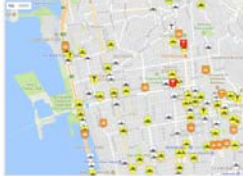
**California Safety PM Target Setting**  
California Safety Performance Management (Safety PM) Target Setting Support Tool based on FARS, SWITRS, and HPMS data.



**SRTS Map Viewer**  
Provide a pedestrian and bicycle collision map within half mile radius of public schools in California.



**ATP Maps & Summary Data**  
Utilize multiple collision maps to find pedestrian and bicycle collisions hot spot and generate data summaries within specified project and/or community limits.



**Motorcycle Collision Map**  
Provide a simple means to explore motorcycle collisions in California by selected county and/or city.

Data and reporting tools available through TIMS

# PHASE 1: DATA AND INFORMATION GATHERING

## Street Story Reports - SACRAMENTO (City)

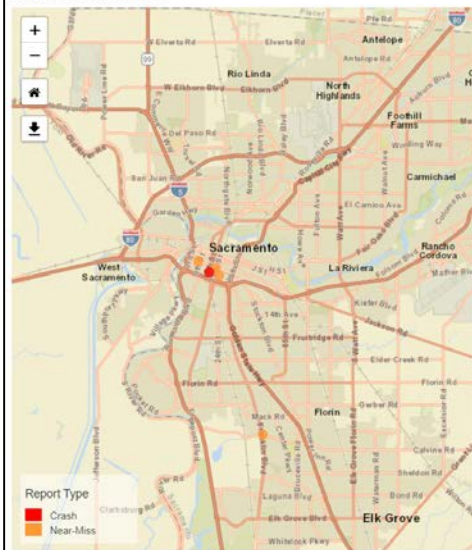
This information has been collected through Street Story, an online platform that allows residents, community groups and agencies to collect community input about transportation crashes, near-misses, general hazards and safe locations to travel.

To learn more about Street Story, please see the [Street Story Starter Guide](#) or visit our information page.

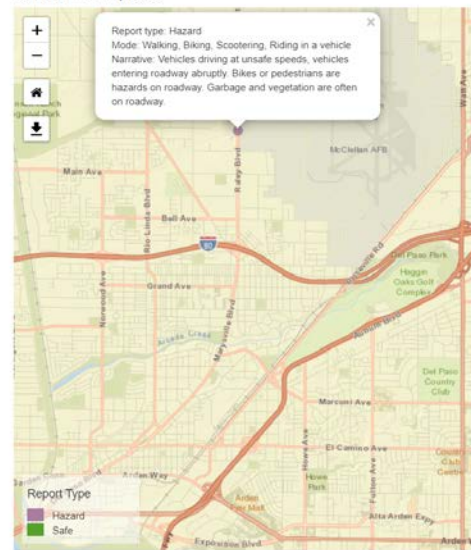
(OPTIONAL) Narrow down your reports by date

### Report Map

Crashes / Near-misses

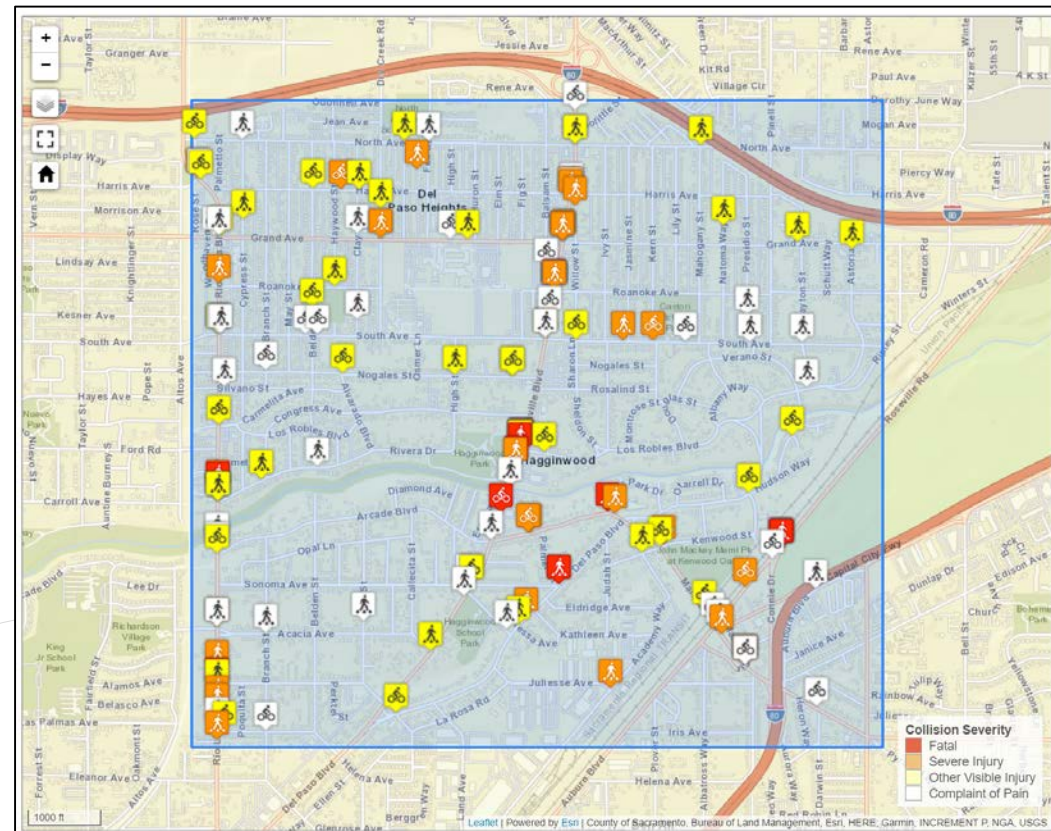


Hazards / Safe places



Yearly Trends

Street Story Report Summary



TIMS ATP Map and Summary Tool Collision Summary 2014 - 2019



# PHASE 1: ROUTE MAPPING & DISCUSSING EXISTING CONDITIONS

## Conducting a pre-audit meeting

- Discuss existing conditions and issues
- Determine routes using knowledge of regularly traveled routes, community destinations, school attendance boundaries (if applicable) and discussion of issues.

Be flexible!

*Try to observe key concerns on your walk. Is there a major complaint about a particular area in the park or retail detitanation? Or is the complaint an intersection ¼ a mile away? Speeding cars? Is there location a known destination or could awareness be improved? Could be a symptom of roadway design...*



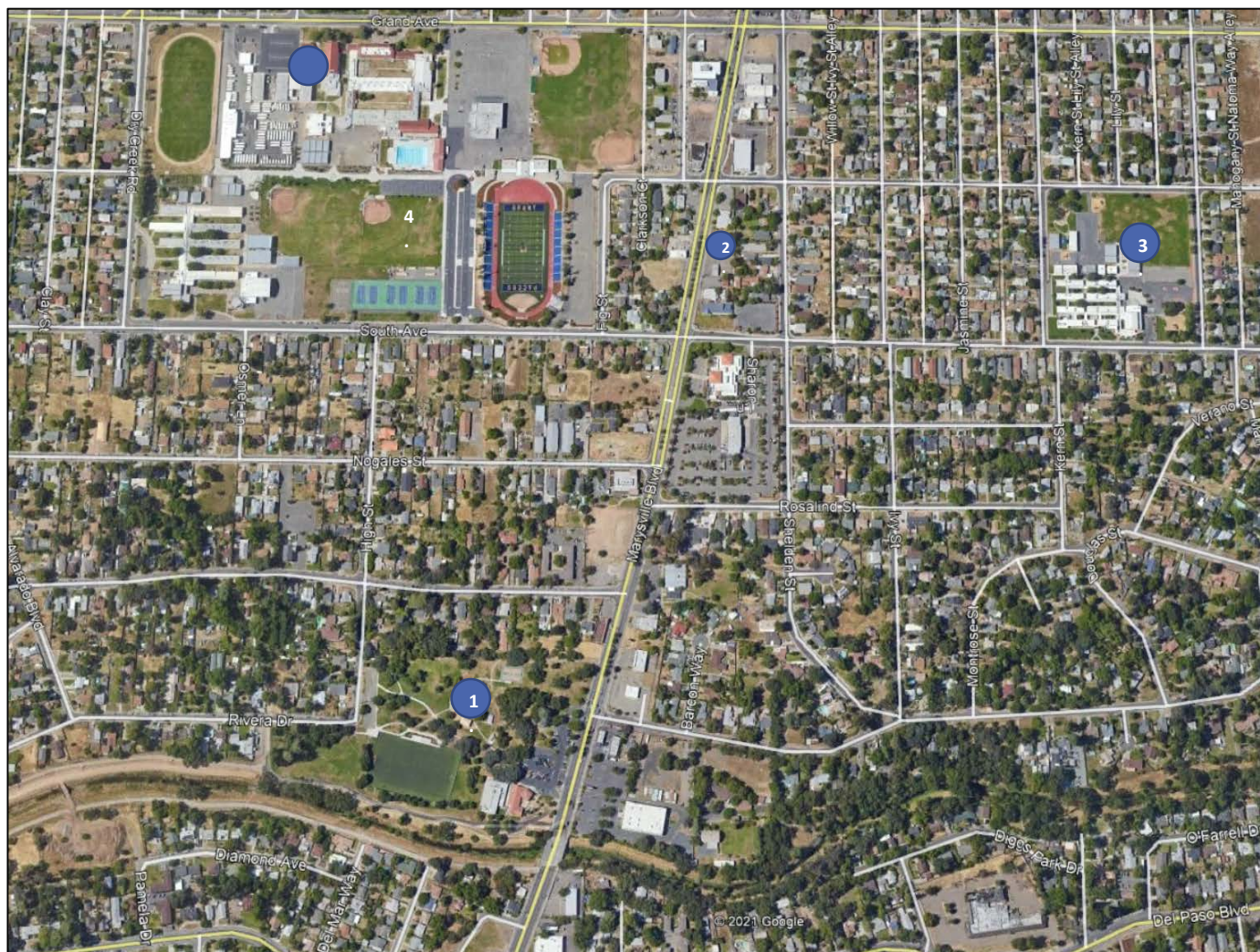


# Existing Conditions Discussion

## Key

1. Hagginwood Park
2. Community Garden
3. Michael J. Castori Elementary
4. Grant Union High School

## Notes:



## GETTING EVERYONE UP-TO-SPEED & GOAL SETTING

- Walking Environment
  - Make sure that everyone understands what makes a great walking environment and what doesn't
- Walk Audit Purpose
  - Share your intention for conducting this audit
    - Overall safety evaluation?
    - Prioritize locations for infrastructure funding?
    - Increase awareness and access to healthy foods and green space?
  - Target locations
    - Mention specific locations and issues that you want to observe



## GETTING EVERYONE UP-TO-SPEED & GOAL SETTING

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### **What makes a good walking environment?**

With your group, please brainstorm several infrastructure and non-infrastructure elements that help create a safe and inviting walking environment. Please prioritize your top 5.

*List your thoughts here:*

# GETTING EVERYONE UP-TO-SPEED & GOAL SETTING

## Setting Goals for your walk audit

Setting goals and describing your vision for the area you are auditing helps you identify what is important to you and your community, and helps generate ideas for addressing challenges and barriers. Here are two sample questions to get you started:

1. What is your vision for the area or location you are auditing?
2. How would your area or location look or feel like in an ideal setting or situation?

# GETTING EVERYONE UP-TO-SPEED & GOAL SETTING

## Discussing Barriers and Challenges

Sharing existing barriers and challenges to access the area or location is a great way to share your personal experience and learn about others experiences. This exercise will help you find common challenges and understand challenges experienced by those with different mobility needs from your own. Here are two sample questions to get you started:

1. Ask participants to share how they access a space. What do they like? What do they find challenging?
2. How does the route or space feel now? What makes it feel safe/unsafe?
3. How well known is this park or healthy food destination for nearby residents? How could awareness shape the feeling of the space for those who use it? How can awareness benefit the community?

*When discussing physical barriers or challenges, this is a great exercise to have participants mark on one map of the area with a red pen or color coded sticky note.*



## PHASE 2: WALK AUDIT BASICS

### Equipment

- Safety vests, clipboards, checklists, measuring tapes, etc.

### Procedure

- Try to assess the environment from multiple angles and viewpoints. A motorist sees the road differently than a bicycle or pedestrian.
- Take strategic pictures!
- Put yourself in a other's shoes. An adult pushing the stroller or using a mobility device travels differently than a middle school student

### Walk, observe and discuss!

- What is the experience like?
- What problems are encountered?
- What can be done to fix them?

## WALK & BICYCLE AUDIT GUIDE



LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



## PHASE 3: POST-AUDIT

### Hold a meeting after your audit

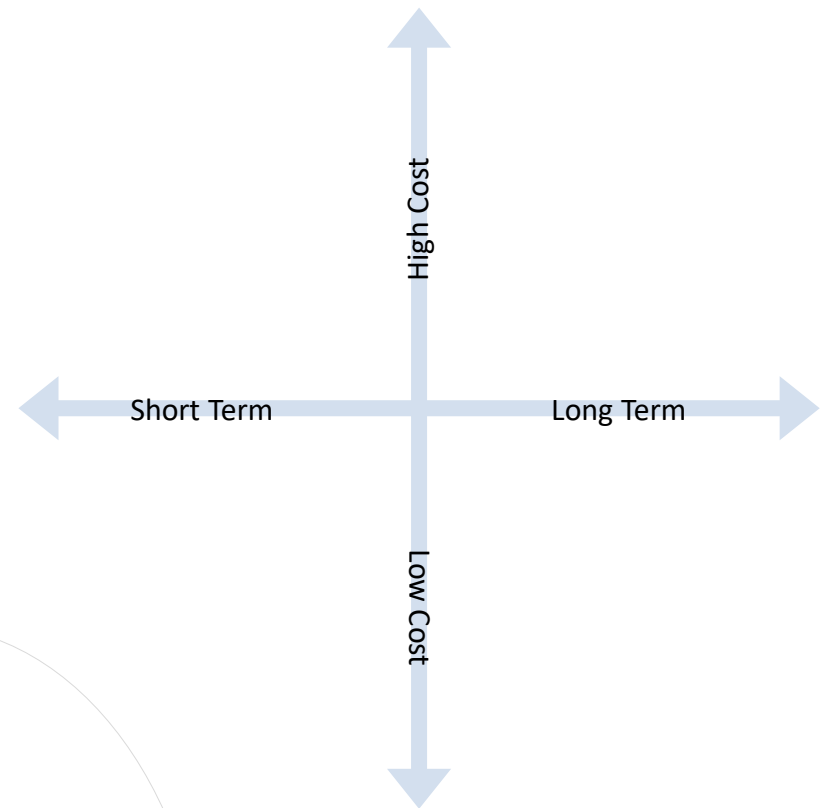
- Discuss observations and potential solutions
  - What did you see? Summarize findings as a group
- Share ideas about infrastructure and non-infrastructure changes you want to see
  - Crosswalk improvements
  - Community planting days, exercise classes, youth-focused activities
  - Wayfinding/promotion to nearby community about community garden
- Work with your assessment team to identify priorities
  - High-cost
  - Low-cost
  - Short/long term
- Develop a next steps plan to ensure that the ideas from your audit do not end there!



# POST-AUDIT

## Identify Priorities

Notes:



# POST-AUDIT

## Be the catalyst for change!

- Create a summary report with photos, data, and information gathered from the audit. Include challenges and suggested recommendations.
- Record findings on the [Safe Trec Street Story](#) tool to generate data reports to help tell your story
- Create a task force to develop a plan to pursue improvements. Create a plan of action for accomplishing short, easy-to-implement updates and one for longer term, higher cost projects
- Schedule meetings with elected officials, community leaders, organizations, and community groups, local DOT, local parks, businesses, etc. to share your observations, gain support, and identify opportunities for funding or programs



October 2011

## Creating a more walkable Commonwealth Estate

A Community Street Audit Report by the Fitter for Walking project in the London Borough of Redbridge



Living Streets is the national charity that stands up for pedestrians. With our supporters we work to create safe, attractive and enjoyable streets, where people want to walk.





# THANK YOU



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[www.walksacramento.org](http://www.walksacramento.org)

