Parks Make Life Better: Perceptions of Safety and Use for Physical Activity

Kaiser Permanente Southern California HEAL Initiative
Virtual Brown Bag Learning Series

Please make sure you have connected with the telephone using the number, access code and pin displayed in your AUDIO BOX on the right side of the screen. Also please mute your phone.
Practice Getting Started

TELEPHONE AUDIO PIN

PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE

PARTICIPATORY FORMAT
- Raising Your Hand
- Writing a Question
What is a “Virtual Brown Bag”?

- **Purpose:** To generate discussion and peer learning between Southern California HEAL grantees and partners.

- **Expected Outcomes:** Accelerated learning, inspiration, dissemination of best practices, and enhanced likelihood of successful community transformation.

- **Schedule:** Monthly web/phone convening every fourth Thursday from Noon – 1:30 pm.
Today’s Learning Objectives

**Design**

Design of safe parks, trails, green, and open space using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

**Programing**

Improve use of parks, trails, green, and open space through programing.

**Maintenance**

The role of maintenance to maintain perceptions of safety.

**Citizen Involvement**

The role of residents to identify the problem and become part of the solution.
**Agenda**

- **Introductions:** Who’s in the Room?
- **Invited “Instigators”** Launch Discussion
- **Active Dialogue** with All Participants
- **Ideas** for Replication, Adaptation or Inspiration!
Who’s in the Room?

- Northern California
  - HEAL Communities

- Southern California
  - HEAL Communities
  - City Parks and Recreation
  - City Police
  - Homeless Outreach
  - County Public Health and Parks
  - NGO’s Leading Neighborhood PA Strategies
## Cross Site Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anaheim</td>
<td>Provide families with access to new public “green space.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemon Grove</td>
<td>Create a wellness hub with infrastructure and facility improvements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach</td>
<td>Update and enhance walking paths, create physical activity zone at and near schools, develop and adopt an Open Space Master Plan for the North Long Beach area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>Provide outdoor fitness trails and equipment at parks and provide low or no cost programs, activities, classes and events for families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>Install playground, mile marker signage, outdoor fitness equipment to encourage resident residents to engage in physical activity in the parks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventura</td>
<td>Improve safe access to and linkage between parks and recreational and connectivity of existing and future paths, streets, trails, and parks. Support the purchase of, planning, and use of Kellogg Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oildale</td>
<td>Living Streets Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion “Instigators”

Council Member Andy Melendrez
Ward 2 Council Member
Riverside City Council

Ralph Nunez
Director
Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Mario Lara
Deputy Director
Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Andy Flores
Lieutenant
Police Department
Group Discussion

What role can design play in creating safer parks?

What role can programming play in improving use of parks?

How does graffiti, litter, and homelessness contribute to the perception of safety?

What are non conventional partnerships to address park safety and use?
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

CPTED is the “proper design and effective use of the built environment that can lead to a reduction in the fear and the incidence of crime, and an improvement in the quality of life.“ - C. Ray Jeffreys, 1971
# Park Safety Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO. QUESTION</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GENERAL IMPRESSIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Do you feel safe in the park, garden, or open space? If your answer is no, please explain why you feel unsafe.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Would you feel safe walking through the park, garden, or open space at night? If your answer is no, please explain why.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIGHTING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Is the level of lighting adequate to allow you to identify a face at a distance of 10 metres?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Is the level of lighting consistent throughout the park, garden, or open space so there are no dark areas where an offender could hide?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Are any of the lights out or broken?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Do you know who to call if lights are broken or not working?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Are there over-hanging bushes and trees that interfere with street lighting?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SIGNAGE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Is there a park, garden, or open space identification sign?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Are there maps or directional signs to help you find your way?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Are there signs to show you where or how to get emergency assistance?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Are signs easy to read from a distance?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Are signs located at the park, garden, or open space entry points?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Is there an activities bulletin board?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Impression
- Lighting
- Signage
- Sightlines
- Movement
- Maintenance
- Usage
- Design
- Transport
Maintenance
Citizen Involvement

- Citizen involvement in identifying the problem, prioritizing, and becoming part of the solution.

- Policing includes law enforcement, service, and order maintenance.

- Community policing restores connection between officers and residents resulting in personalized services.
Resources

Creating Safe Park Environments to Enhance Community Wellness
National Recreation and Park Association

City of Melbourne Park Safety Assessment

San Diego Community Health Improvement Partners CPTED Video
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cRKt1RmtXQ

Physical Activity, Park Access and Park Use Among CA Adolescents
UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
Replication, Adaptation, or Inspiration!
Thank You for Participating!
Kaiser Permanente Southern California HEAL Initiative
Virtual Brown Bag Learning Series

Please complete the survey prompted on your screen after the Virtual Brown Bag has ended.