

SUMMER 2021

United Parents for Educational Justice Community Action Planning

COMMUNITY PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

Creating Safer Streets for Walking and Biking



Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Acknowledgments

A special thank you to the Planning Committee for inviting us back into their community and partnering with us to make Boyle Heights, South Los Angeles, Watts, and East Los Angeles safer places to walk and bike!

We also want to acknowledge the Tongva, Kizh, and Chumash people as the traditional land caretakers of the greater City of Los Angeles area.

Planning Committee

Stephanie Hernandez	Partnership for Los Angeles Schools
Carmina Gomez	Los Angeles Walks
Daisy Villafuerte	Los Angeles Walks
Marco Ramirez	Bridge Housing
Saul Garcia	Urban Peace Institute
John Jones III	East Side Riders Club

A warm thank you to Jose Reyes of Palabras Language Facilitators for the simultaneous live interpretation from Spanish to English. We would also like to acknowledge the many community residents who participated in the workshop, especially the parents of United Parents for Education Justice (UPEJ). Their collective participation meaningfully informed and strengthened the direction the parents take the work in their respective communities and school.

Some of the photos used in this report were taken at CPBST workshops conducted before the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report was prepared by:

California Walks

Alma Leyva Orozco

Marina Ramirez

Wendy Ortiz

Caro Jauregui

<https://calwalks.org>

UC Berkeley, Safe Transportation Research & Education Center (SafeTREC)

Ana Lopez

<https://safetrec.berkeley.edu/>

This report was prepared in cooperation with the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). The opinions, findings and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of OTS.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 Acknowledgments

4 Executive Summary

6 Boyle Heights, Pico Aliso

8 Boyle Heights, Theodore Roosevelt HS and Hollenbeck MS

12 South Los Angeles, Twentieth Street ES

14 Watts

17 Project Team Conclusion

Executive Summary

The Community Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Training (CPBST) is a statewide project of [California Walks](#) (Cal Walks) and the [University of California at Berkeley's Safe Transportation Research and Education Center](#) (SafeTREC). The CPBST engages residents and safety advocates to develop a community-driven action plan to improve walking and biking safety in their communities. The four former CPBST workshop sites - Boyle Heights ([2020](#), [2019](#)) in the Pico Aliso Neighborhood and at Theodore Roosevelt High School and Hollenbeck Middle School, South LA ([2019](#)) at Twentieth Street Elementary School, and Watts ([2019](#)) at Florence Griffith Joyner Elementary School - each have their own unique Community Pedestrian Bicycle Safety Training report to support their walking and biking safety goals. This workshop was convened by the parents leading United Parents for Educational Justice (UPEJ), a “parent organizing and advocacy group supported by the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools.” During COVID-19, many cities changed their priorities, which slowed UPEJ’s progress in addressing their most pressing community concerns. UPEJ advocacy groups saw the need to find alternative ways to continue to build on the momentum each group had from the previous CPBST trainings. This follow-up event was conducted to support the UPEJ communities’ walking goals and address the shift in the advocacy efforts due to COVID-19.

This follow-up workshop to the Boyle Heights, South Los Angeles, and Watts CPBST, with the addition of East Los Angeles, was collaboratively planned and facilitated by the Planning Committee, Partnership for Los Angeles Schools, Cal Walks, and SafeTREC. Each community is part of United Parents for Educational Justice.

The virtual training’s goals were to:

1. Refocus strategies and programs that were originally planned at each CPBST sites;
2. Continue the momentum of UPEJ’s advocacy work despite COVID restrictions; and
3. Develop a community action plan to re-engage advocacy at each of the sites.

The virtual April 6, 2021 training convened 20 participants and consisted of:

- An overview of the Safe System Approach strategies to improve walking and biking safety; and
- Action-planning sessions to prioritize and plan for community programs and infrastructure projects.

Workshop participants developed preliminary action plans for the community programs and infrastructure projects they identified as the highest priority.

Community Recommendations

Participants split up into breakout groups by community to share their ideas for creating a safer environment for walking and biking. They referred to each neighborhood's original CPBST report community recommendations and this follow-up events' strategies to develop the following updated recommendations during the action planning sessions. Participants considered the bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements listed below. Each group then came to a consensus on the project with the greatest priority to improve the community's health and safety to outline preliminary plans for implementation.

South Los Angeles, Twentieth Street Elementary School

- Install high-visibility crosswalks and fluorescent signage at the East 20th Street/Naomi Avenue intersection;
- Develop a community safety messaging campaign to stop street racing in the community around Nava College Preparatory Academy;

East Los Angeles, Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School

- Install speed calming measures at Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School along Percy Street to encourage drivers to reduce their speed, especially during pick-up and drop-off times;
- Create a designated pick-up and drop-off zone at Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School;
- Install a permanent speed radar feedback sign on Indiana Street to encourage lower speeds for drivers exiting State Route 60 and traveling south on Indiana Street towards Stevenson Middle School;
- Paint high-visibility crosswalk markings at all crosswalks surrounding Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School;

Boyle Heights, Pico Aliso

- Develop educational community programs to encourage the community to walk and bike more, including an Earn-a-Bike Program for youth, and weekly walks for the whole community;
- Install protected bike lanes and bike racks along South Mission Road, especially near Mendez High School;

Watts

- Install a traffic light on the Century Boulevard/Wilmington Avenue intersection to improve traffic flow;
- Paint new high visibility crosswalks markings at the Century Boulevard/Wilmington Avenue intersection for students walking to Joyner Elementary School;
- Install curb ramps on the east side of the Compton Avenue/110th Street intersection;
- Install curb ramps on the east side of the Compton Avenue/111th Street intersection for students and parents walking to and from Lovelia P Flournoy Elementary School; and
- Develop a speed reduction safety campaign for Watts residents.

Boyle Heights, Pico Aliso

Project Name: Parklet on the South Anderson Street/East First Street intersection next to Self Help Graphics

Project Description: A parklet on South Anderson Street and East First Street, next to Self Help Graphics, would provide community residents with an outdoor space to sit and play in the Pico-Aliso neighborhood where there is limited free accessible community space.

Project Goals:

1. To increase Self Help Graphics' physical space, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions;
2. Provide residents with an opportunity to enjoy this cultural and artistic landmark through an inviting outdoor streetscape; and
3. Increase traffic safety by forcing drivers to slow down near the parklet.

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>Recruit a committee to advocate for the parklet. Committee members can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community partners ● Businesses ● Residents ● CPBST Planning Committee 	Summer 2021	Self Help Graphics UPEJ	<p>Pico Aliso, Boyle Heights Workshop Summary and Recommendations (Planning Committee, page 3 and Asset Map, page 10)</p> <p>LADOT Parklet Application and Process Information</p>
<p>Community engagement strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct a community listening session to understand community needs and interest for the parklet ● Develop a survey to gauge what community members want to see in a parklet ● Begin to gather support letters from other local partners if deemed necessary ● Begin to gather signatures for a petition if deemed necessary 	Fall 2021	Parklet Planning Committee	<p>Councilmember Kevin De Leon for support</p> <p>LADOT Parklet Flash Cards for outreach</p> <p>LADOT Plaza and Parklet Sample Letter of Support</p> <p>LADOT Plaza and Parklet Sample Petition</p>

Project Name: Parklet on the South Anderson Street/East First Street intersection (*continued*)

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>Apply for a Parklet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Submit application and email peoplest@lacity.org for instructions on how to submit ● Follow approval process as listed on LADOT website 	Winter 2021	Parklet Planning Committee	<p>LADOT Parklet Application Manual</p> <p>LADOT Parklet Kit of Parts</p> <p>LADOT Parklet Application</p>
<p>Plan a grand opening event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Event can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Entertainment ○ Community art ● Outreach to local businesses and community groups to build excitement and spread the word ● Develop outreach materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create flyers ○ Develop event page on social media ● Develop a press release 	Spring 2022	Parklet Planning Committee	<p>How to Write a Press Release</p>

Boyle Heights, Theodore Roosevelt High School and Hollenbeck Middle School

Project Name: Speed reduction educational campaign and speed calming infrastructure near Hollenbeck Middle School and Theodore Roosevelt High School.

Project Description: Hollenbeck Middle School and Theodore Roosevelt High School parents previously advocated for a speed hump at the East Sixth Street/South Fickett Street intersection. However, the road incline at this intersection makes it ineligible for this particular treatment. Consequently, they are seeking alternative infrastructure solutions and opportunities to educate the community on speed reduction. Because infrastructure changes can take a lot of time, they will develop and launch an education campaign in the interim to slow down drivers, especially along East Sixth Street between Soto Street and South Mott Street, South Mathews Street between East Sixth Street and East Fourth Street, and South Mott Street between East Sixth Street and East Fourth Street.

Project Goals:

1. Increase driver's awareness about safe speeds on East Sixth Street, South Mathews Street, South Mott Street, and on the neighborhood streets near Theodore Roosevelt High School and Hollenbeck Middle School.
2. Request infrastructure improvements to reduce speeds near Theodore Roosevelt High School and Hollenbeck Middle School.

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>Develop a creative action plan to call attention to traffic safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an event committee for a "Mamás contra el exceso de velocidad" (Mothers Against Speeding) safety campaign. • Engage the principals at Hollenbeck Middle School and Roosevelt High School about the campaign. • Schedule 2-3 meetings to plan out logistics 	Fall 2021	UPEJ	

Project Name: Speed reduction education campaign and speed calming (*continued*)

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
Outreach Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit parent, teacher, and student volunteers at Hollenbeck Middle School and Roosevelt High School. Develop and distribute an event flyer 	Fall 2021	UPEJ & Event Committee	
Event Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce everyone to the safety campaign Select a date and determine a place for the demonstration Identify props that would be needed for a demonstration event Identify educational resources that could be useful to share at event 	Winter 2021	UPEJ & Event Committee	National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA) - Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine CA Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) - Go Safely Toolkit Go Safely CA OTS - Not So Fast Speeding Information Card Go Safely CA OTS - Not So Fast Poster SCAG Go Human Kit of Parts
Implement Event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share educational materials with event participants as a way to promote traffic safety and speed reduction. Engage with participants to gather information about the community's transportation safety concerns. 	Winter 2021	UPEJ	

Project Name: Speed reduction education campaign and speed calming (*continued*)

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>After Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connect with local resources, such as organizations and institutions (e.g. churches, schools, and social media outlets) to share educational resources and continue to promote speed reduction. ● Use resources like NHTSA “Speed Kills-Spanish” to develop talking points to promote slowing down. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Record a message from parents that can serve as a call to action. 	Spring 2022	UPEJ	National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA) - Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine
<p><u>LONG TERM GOAL:</u> Request safety improvements at high priority areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Request an intermittent flashing beacon and fluorescent painted crosswalk markings for the East Sixth Street/South Fickett Street intersection. ● Request school signage on South Soto Street and East Sixth Street to create driver awareness about surrounding. 	Spring 2022	UPEJ	Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) ladot@lacity.org

Project Name: Speed reduction education campaign and speed calming (*continued*)

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>If speeding persists, community participants will seek support from police enforcement to address speeding concerns around Hollenbeck Middle School and Theodore Roosevelt High School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact Hollenbeck Community Police Station ● Work with police officers to address speeding on East Sixth Street, East Fourth Street, and South Soto Street. 	Spring 2022	UPEJ	Hollenbeck Community Police Station

South Los Angeles, Twentieth Street Elementary School

Project Name: UPEJ Parent Recruitment Drive

Project Description: UPEJ parents from Twentieth Street Elementary School will recruit new members and develop relationships with key staff from nearby schools in South Los Angeles to create a stronger walk and bike safety parent advocacy group in South Los Angeles.

Project Goals:

1. Develop relationships with key staff at schools in South Los Angeles to strengthen advocacy groups in schools around South Los Angeles;
2. Recruit more people to the UPEJ South Los Angeles group to help plan walk and bike advocacy efforts; and
3. Expand walk and bike safety programming to schools beyond Twentieth Street Elementary.

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>Relationship Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connect with Principals at nearby schools during “Coffee with the Principal” events to promote UPEJ and recruit new parents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Head Start School ○ Julian Nava Middle School ○ Synergy (charter school) ○ Neven Elementary School ○ Santee High School ○ Ortopedica 	Fall 2021	UPEJ South LA Parents	<p>Maria Ruiz, UPEJ parent Advocate, can help connect with other schools</p> <p>Stephanie Hernandez, UPEJ support staff at LA Partnership</p> <p>Principal Mario Garcielita can help connect to other key staff at nearby schools</p>

Project Name: UPEJ Parent Drive *(continued)*

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a flyer to share with parents from South Los Angeles schools and include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meeting date(s) ○ Zoom link ○ Blurb about the parent group ○ Picture of the group ● Distribute the flyer via email to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principals ○ Parent Teacher Association groups ○ Parent outreach groups ● Distribute printed flyers to parents through student take home folders. 	Fall 2021		<p>Canva</p> <p>South LA CPBST 2019 Summary and Recommendations Report</p>

Watts

Project Name: Temporary Roundabout Demonstration Project at the Wilmington Avenue/East 103rd Street intersection

Project Description: Work with the Watts Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to install a temporary roundabout on Wilmington Avenue/ East 103rd Street to reduce driver speeds and improve road safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Work with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's Pedestrian Advisory Committee to identify how to assess how the roundabout impacts driver speeds and improves pedestrian and bicyclist safety. Data gathered from the temporary demonstration can then be used to advocate for a permanent roundabout at this intersection.

Project Goals:

1. Slow down driver speeds at the intersection and reduce unsafe driving behaviors; and
2. Increase bicycle and pedestrian visibility and safety.

[table begins on the next page]

Project Name: Roundabout at the Wilmington Avenue/East 103rd Street intersection (*continued*)

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>Educate the community about the benefits of a temporary roundabout demonstration to recruit an advocacy committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop an outreach plan for surrounding neighborhoods ● Conduct community listening sessions ● Develop and distribute education materials about roundabouts and design variations ● Develop and conduct survey to gauge what community members want to see in the roundabout design ● Recruit a committee to advocate for the installation of the temporary roundabout. Committee may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community partners ○ Businesses ○ Residents ○ CPBST Planning Committee ○ Coordinators from nearby neighborhoods ○ Los Angeles Walks ○ East Side Riders Bike Club ○ Watts Rising 	Fall 2021	<p>Juana Ortega, Watts Pedestrian Advisory Council</p> <p>Planning Committee</p>	<p>Costa Mesa Alliance for Better Streets - Reimagine 19th</p> <p>LADOT DIY Great Street</p> <p>Tactical Urbanist's Guide</p> <p>How to Create an Outreach Work Plan</p> <p>Conducting Public Forums and Listening Sessions</p> <p>Authentic Community Engagement Requires Vulnerability</p> <p>Watts Community Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Training 2019 Report and Planning Committee</p>

Project Name: Roundabout at the Wilmington Avenue/East 103rd Street intersection (*continued*)

Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party	Resources
<p>The Advocacy Committee will connect with the following agencies to gain support. Request agencies listed below to implement the Temporary Roundabout Demonstration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation • Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Bicycle Advisory Committee in Watts • Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) • Office of City Councilmember Joe Buscaino • Office of LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis 	Fall 2021	Demonstration Advocacy Committee	<p>Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) - Cambio de Carril Report</p> <p>Watts Wilmington Ave: Wilmington ReImagined Final Report</p>
<p>Advocate for a permanent roundabout at the Wilmington Avenue/ East 103rd Street intersection. The Committee will share funding opportunities with the agencies along with feedback from the temporary demonstration to demonstrate community enthusiasm and commitment to the implementation of a permanent roundabout.</p>	Spring 2022	Demonstration Advocacy Committee	<p>SCAG - Community Streets Mini Grants</p> <p>AARP Livable Communities</p> <p>Climate Grant Opportunities Table</p> <p>Sustainable Transportation Equity Project</p>

Project Team Conclusion

The work done by the various UPEJ parent groups has been essential in improving walking and biking safety in the LA area. UPEJ parent groups built power within the community and relationships with key city staff to advance their goals. While COVID-19 has slowed their progress, it has not altered their commitment and drive. While many of their goals are long term and require persistence and patience, UPEJ parents have the collective power to meet all their goals. As UPEJ continues to adapt to the ever changing environment, the Project Team remains committed to support their walking and biking efforts past this follow-up event.

For a more detailed discussion of the past Community Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Trainings this worksop references, please download the full reports on [SafeTREC's](#) or [Cal Walks'](#) websites.

Thank you for your interest in the Community Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program. For more information, please visit:

<https://safetrec.berkeley.edu/programs/cpbst> or <https://www.calwalks.org/cpbst>

safetrec@berkeley.edu or cpbst@calwalks.org

