City of San Diego:

Child and Teen-Friendly City

Coalition Meeting #1: "Overview of Initiative and Purpose of the Coalition"

Meeting Summary Report

November 6, 2024

Prepared by:

City Planning Department

Child and Teen-Friendly City is a County of San Diego CalFresh Healthy Living program implemented by the City of San Diego's City Planning Department. This work supports the *Live Well San Diego* vision for healthy, safe, and thriving communities. For more information, visit LiveWellSD.org. Funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Visit CalFreshHealthyLiving.org for healthy tips.

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2. **Appendix: Presentation 8**

Roundtable Meeting #1

Meeting Objectives and Agenda

- Provide an overview of the initiative's purpose, objectives and the critical role the Coalition will play in shaping and advising on the design manual.
- Present the project's scope, including major goals, key milestones and the Coalition's specific responsibilities, to ensure a clear understanding of what the work will entail.
- Discuss case studies that highlight similar initiatives, offering insights into successful approaches and lessons learned, helping to set expectations and inspire informed decision-making for the Coalition's work.

Agenda	
Time	**Section**
3:00 – 3:20 PM	Welcome + Introductions
3:20 – 3:30 PM	Icebreaker
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Child and Teen-Friendly City Overview + Discussion
4:00 – 4:15 PM	Case Studies
4:15 – 4:25 PM	Purpose of the Coalition
4:25 – 4:30 PM	Next Steps

Project Team Present at the Meeting

Facilitator: Paola Boylan, Senior Planner, City of San Diego's Planning Department

- City Planning Department Project Team
  - Sameera Rao, Assistant Deputy Director
  - Breanne Busby, Senior Civil Engineer
  - Myles San Agustin, Management Intern
- County of San Diego Team
  - Hugo Salgado, Community Health Program Specialist
  - Alondra Estrada-Lam, Community Health Promotion Specialist I
- Consultant Project Team: Alta Planning + Design
  - Kristin Haukom, Senior Planning Associate
-Participants
  - Sarah Tuakli Cooper, Elementary Institute of Science
  - Carlos Cristiani, Fleet Science Center
  - Mwenda KumuduBiggs, Fleet Science Center
  - David Laurenvil, Fleet Science Center
  - Tony Figueroa, Ocean Discovery Institute (ODI)
  - Kurosh Yahyai, New Children's Museum
  - Lan Nguyen, UC San Diego Center for Community Health
  - Carmina Paz, Urban Collaborative Project

Summary

Introductions + Icebreaker

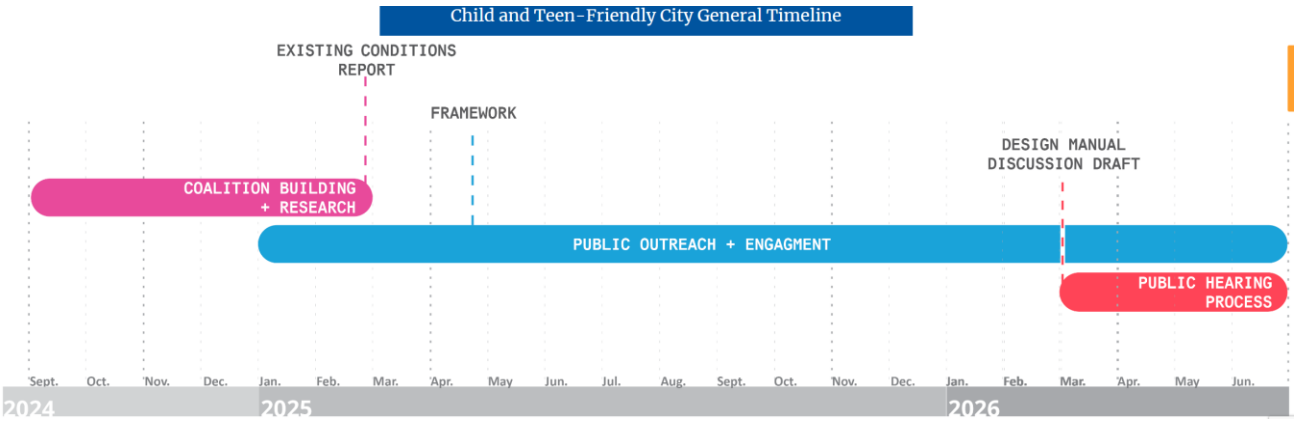
Participants were asked to share their name, how they heard about the coalition and think about the following question: *When you were growing up, was there a space that allowed you to do something as a kid that made you feel like a "big kid" or "all grown up?"*

Participants shared that walking or skateboarding independently on streets in their neighborhood made them feel like a "big kid" or "all grown up." People shared how walking, skateboarding and taking public transit opened opportunities to move around even when traveling short distances. These actions allowed individuals to explore the surrounding spaces outside of their home and learn how to navigate streets more confidently and comfortably. At the same time, participants noted that, when they were kids and even into early adulthood, the lack of sidewalks on major roads outside the neighborhood—such as collector streets— and complicated intersections made caregivers nervous about letting children venture too far. This also posed challenges during their teenage years when they needed to connect to community resources. In addition, participants discussed how a child's radius for allowed independence has shrunk over the years in urban areas, raising questions about how to expand this range safely. These discussions highlighted the value of well-connected neighborhood amenities and the role infrastructure can play in fostering and promoting independence as kids age. To achieve this, we envision mixed communities—embracing diversity in race, income, and age—that are connected through thoughtful pathways, allowing people to access spaces without feeling isolated or secluded.

In addition, participants discussed the value of having youth represented on the coalition to make sure their voices are heard when it comes to the planning of spaces that they will be using. The team will continue to look for opportunities to engage with young minds as the initiative continues.

Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces Overview

The project team shared with participants a general timeline of what to anticipate throughout the life of the project, including documents that will be developed to inform the Design Manual, such as the Existing Conditions Report. Followed by an overview of elements that foster public spaces that are welcoming to children, teenagers, and their caregivers based on existing research (listed below). This included discussing a cartoon that depicts the juxtaposition between outdoor spaces that are designed with families in mind, versus those that are more car centric (see attachment). This prompted conversations about how to bring the various elements discussed, to the City of San Diego in a way that allow various neighborhoods to be connected as opposed to fostering siloed communities. Participants discussed wayfinding as a strategy to both direct people within the neighborhood to use the safest walking and biking pathways to connect to resources, as well as help those visiting from other neighborhoods navigate the area.



Elements of a Child and Teen-Friendly Public Space

- Promote Physical activity and minimize risk.
- Feel comfortable and spacious.
- Create moments to pause and play.
- Support independence.
- Inspire curiosity, joy and learning opportunities.

Case Studies

The project team presented several case studies of placemaking projects that can foster inspiration among coalition members to help guide the Child and Teen-Friendly Design Manual. Case studies included are listed below.

- The Beach at Campus Martius Park, Detroit, MI
- Jamison Square, Portland, OR
- Trampoline Sidewalks, Copenhagen, DE
- Klyde Warren Park, Dallas, TX

Participants shared additional case studies to explore to address the needs of the local community. This included an exterior installation led by the Exploratorium in San Francisco. The installation known as "Middle Ground" celebrated the anniversary of the local library and strives to respect at a deep level the different types of people using the spaces including people experiencing homelessness, while still making it safe for patrons walking to the Exploratorium. To achieve this, volunteers or case workers who knew individuals in the community were there to guide others and support the population.



Aaron Levy Wolins/SFBay

Visitors mingle during the opening of the public installation Middle Ground: Reconsidering Ourselves and Others at the Main Library in San Francisco, Calif., on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2019.

Purpose of the Coalition

Together with the project team coalition members reviewed the purpose of the coalition listed below.

- Guide the development of the City of San Diego's first-ever Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces Design Manual.
- Engage in discussions on key documents released for public review, such as the Existing Conditions Report, Framework, and Design Manual.
- Ensure that the manual accurately reflects community needs and aspirations.
- Offer feedback and propose revisions, as needed, to ensure the document is comprehensive and aligned with the project's overarching goals.
- Help identify potential pilot placemaking projects for the draft design guidelines.
- Build capacity and improve understanding of how to identify effective interventions and advance policy initiatives.

Next Steps

The coalition discussed:

- Getting together in early December – date to be decided,
- Opportunities to include youth in coalition meetings, and
- Opportunities to engage children at upcoming events such as December Nights in Balboa Park, as well as through interactive exhibits in partnership with coalition members.



Child and Teen-Friendly City Coalition Group Photo



CHILD & TEEN FRIENDLY CITY

Coalition Kick-off Meeting

CalFresh Healthy Living

County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency

Live Well San Diego

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Agenda

- Introductions + Icebreaker
- Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces Overview
- Case Studies
- Our Purpose as a Coalition
- Next Steps

Icebreaker



Tell us:

- Your name
- How did you hear about the coalition?
- When you were growing up, was there a space that allowed you to do something as a kid that made you feel like a “big kid” or “all grown up?”

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CHILD & TEEN FRIENDLY CITY



A city designed to be child-friendly and supportive of a healthy childhood is a better city for everyone.

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Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces



research childhood uses of public spaces



give kids, teens, and caregivers a chance to **share ideas**



design with all genders, incomes and abilities in mind



plan inviting **public spaces**

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Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces

Spaces for children are often limited to the playground, neglecting the majority of the urban fabric and infrastructure as an everyday place for youth.



Streets



Libraries



Open Spaces



Hangout spots

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Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces



promote physical activity & minimize risk



feel comfortable + spacious



create moments to pause + play



support independence



inspire curiosity, joy + learning opportunities

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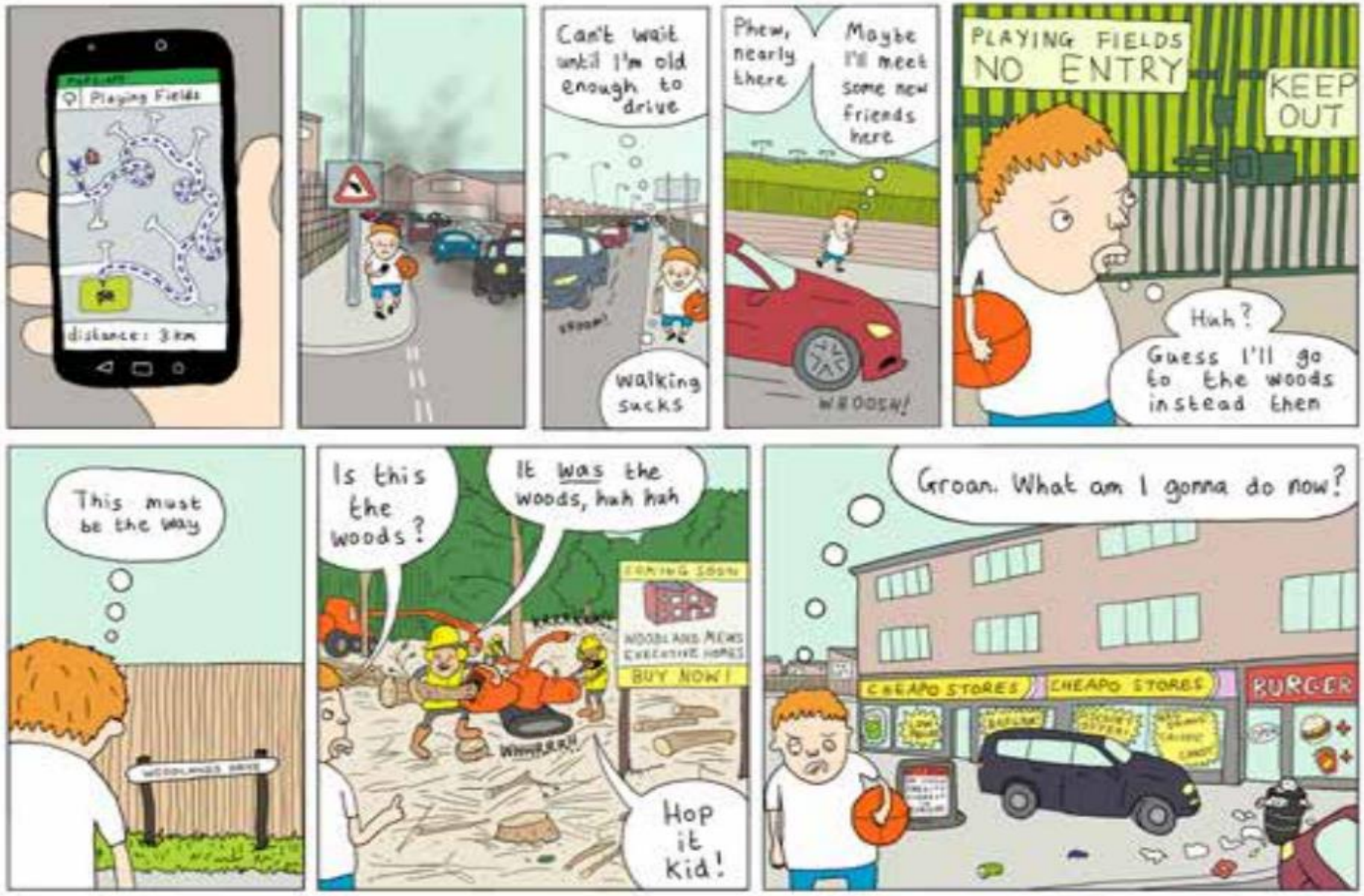
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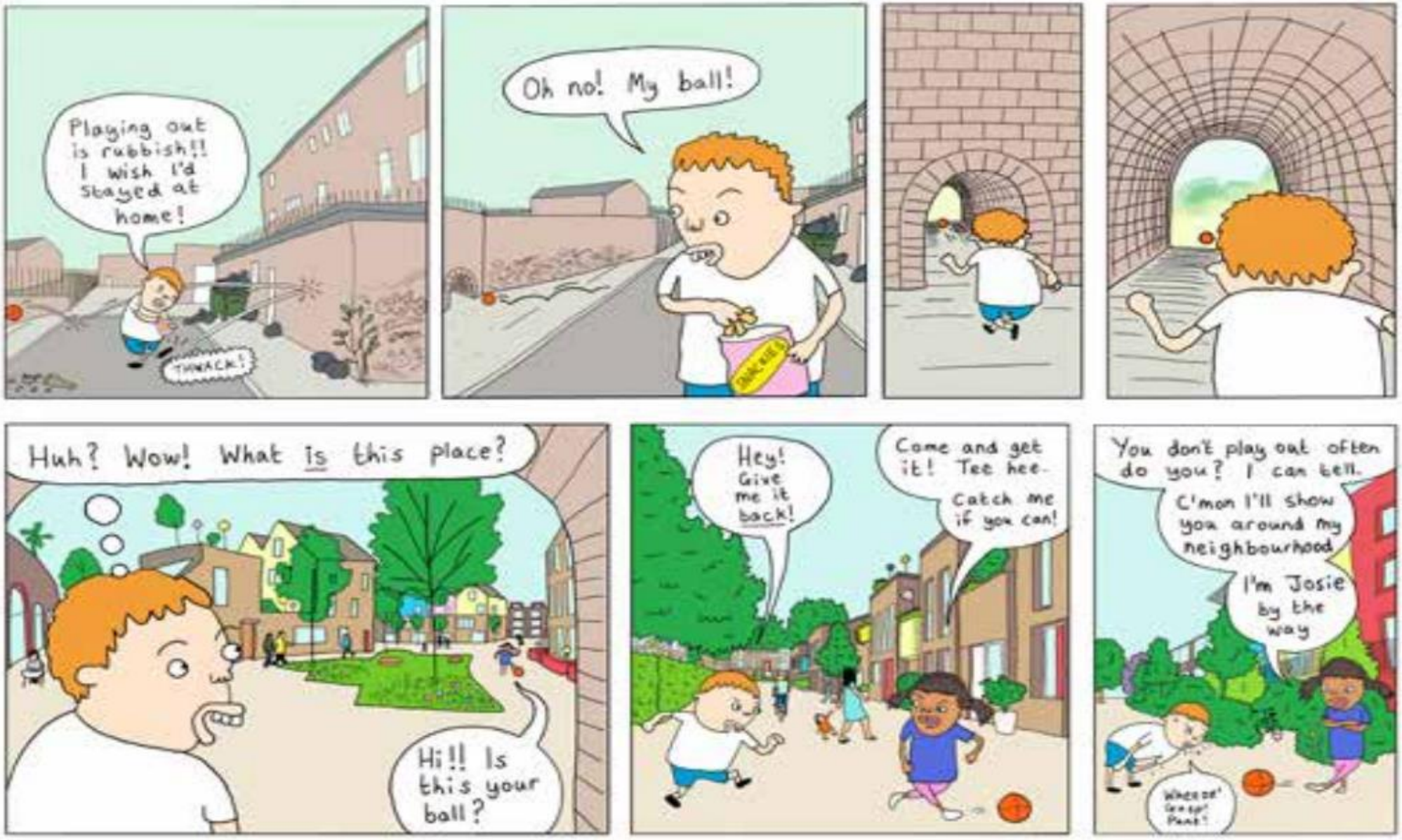
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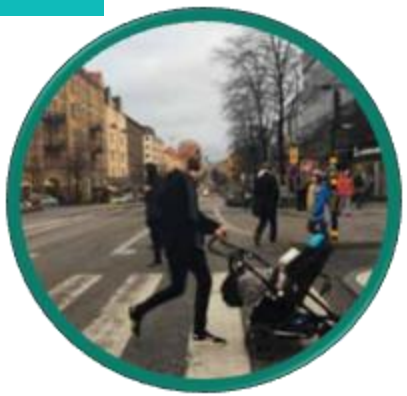

MAKING
SPACE
FOR
GIRLS

Elements of Child + Teen-Friendly Spaces



prompt physical activity





comfortable + safe

spaces to pause + play



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County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency

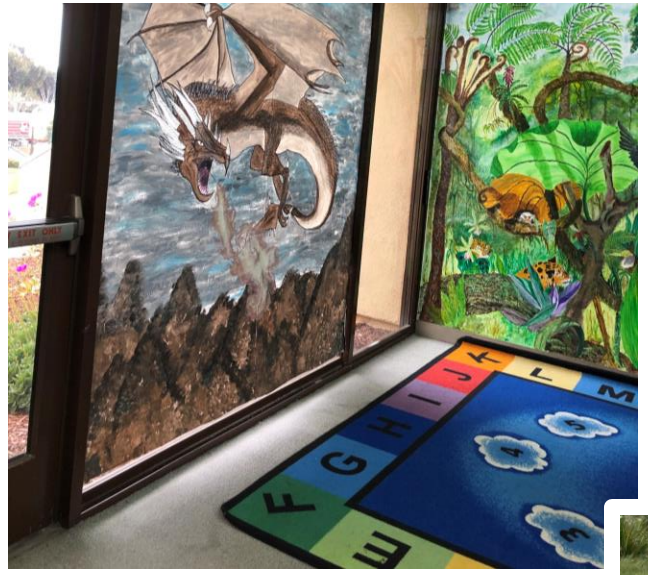
Live Well San Diego

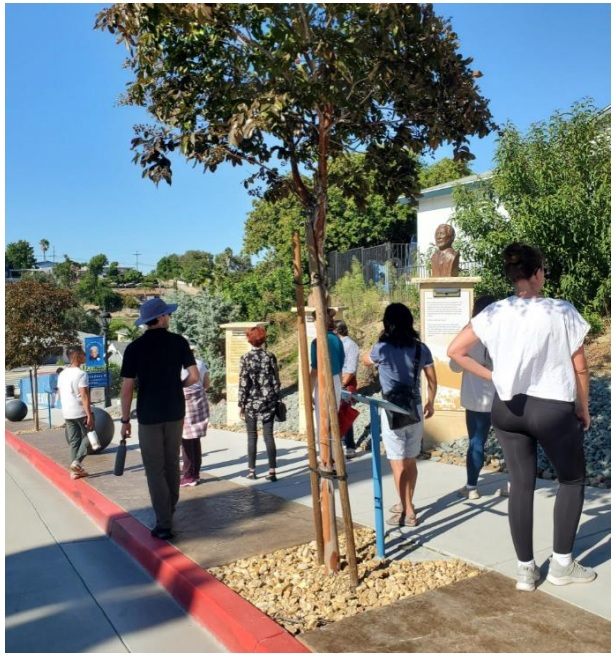
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Playful learning opportunities

Playful learning opportunities in public spaces are activities or features that encourage exploration, creativity, and interaction while also promoting learning.









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Safe and Enjoyable Spaces

Encouraging independence is important in public spaces.







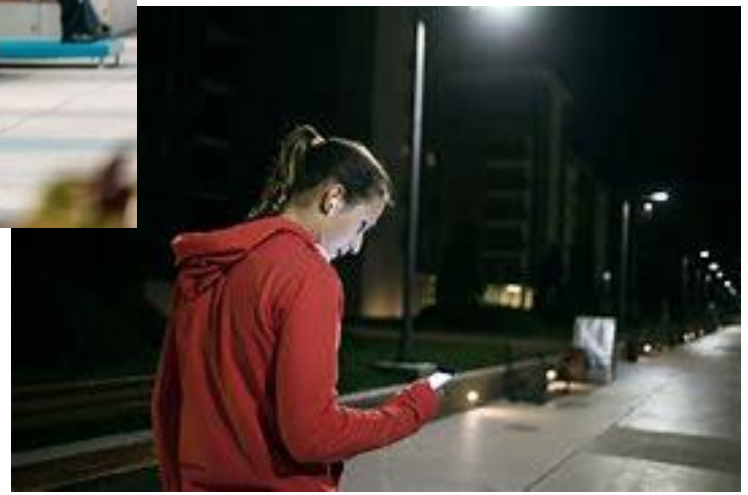


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Space for Young Women and Girls

A comfortable space is simply one where it feels easy to spend time. – Katherine Peinhardt





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Case Studies

The Beach at Campus Martius Park, Detroit, MI



Case Studies

Jamison Square, Portland, OR



Case Studies

Trampoline Sidewalk, Copenhagen, DE



Case Studies

Klyde Warren Park, Dallas, TX



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Our Purpose as a Coalition is to:

- Guide the development of the City of San Diego's first-ever Child + Teen-Friendly Public Spaces Design Manual.
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Sharing Circle

Next Steps

- Anticipate a Minimum of 7 Coalition Meetings
- Resident Leadership Academy Training Opportunity
- Existing Conditions Report
- Take a group photo!

Paola Boylan, AICP
Senior Planner, City Planning Dept.
pmboylan@sandiego.gov

The Child and Teen-Friendly City initiative is a County of San Diego CalFresh Healthy Living program implemented by the City of San Diego. This work supports the Live Well San Diego vision for healthy, safe, and thriving communities. Funded by USDA SNAP, an equal opportunity provider.

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