City of San Diego:

Child and Teen-Friendly City

Coalition Meeting #5: Child and Teen Friendly City InitiativeMeeting Summary Report

August 27th, 2025

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.

Table of Contents

1. **Roundtable Meeting #5 ..... 3**

Meeting Objectives and Agenda 3
Project Team Present at the Meeting 3
Summary 4

Welcome and Gradtitude 4

Reflections from our last Coalition 4

*Our Placemaking Pathway ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.***

Looking Ahead 5

Closing Message 5

2. **Appendix A: Presentation 6**

Roundtable Meeting #5

Meeting Objectives and Agenda

- Inform the Coalition about the federal funding cuts that supported the Child and Teen Friendly City Initiative and that the initiative will be put on hold until further notice.

Agenda
Section
Welcome and Gratitude
Reflections From our Last Coalition
Our Placemaking Pathway
What We've Achieved Together
Looking Ahead
Closing Message

Project Team Present at the Meeting

Facilitator: Kusum Mamtani, Associate Planner, City of San Diego's Planning Department

- City Planning Department Project Team
  - Sameera Rao, Assistant Deputy Director
  - Breanne Busby, Senior Civil Engineer
  - Christopher Carrillo, Associate Planner
  - Myles San Agustin, Planning Intern
- County of San Diego Team
  - Elizabeth Cooper, Community Health Program Specialist
  - Alondra Estrada-Lam, Community Health Promotion Specialist I
- Consultant Project Team: Alta Planning+ Design
  - Kristin Haukom, Senior Planning Associate
- Participants
  - Shana Wright, UC San Diego Center for Community Health
  - Carlos Cristiani, Fleet Science Center
  - Tara Ryan, Office and Child and Youth Success
  - Tony Figueroa, Ocean Discovery Institute (ODI)
  - Sarah Tuakli Cooper, Elementary Institute of Science
  - Julian Villegas, Copley-Price Family YMCA

Summary

Welcome and Gratitude

City and project staff expressed sincere gratitude to Coalition members for their valuable input, unique perspectives and commitment to the Child and Teen Friendly City initiative. Over the course of five coalition meetings this past year, contributions from the coalition have helped shape a shared vision. Unfortunately, members were informed that due to significant federal SNAP funding cuts, the grant supporting this initiative will end with the close of the 'CalFresh Healthy Living' program, fiscal year at the end of September.

Reflections from our last Coalition

During the last Coalition meeting, members discussed what does and doesn't work for children and teens, ages 0 to 18. Common responses of what works well included elements like water play, flexible seating, shaded areas for rest, access to food vendors and clean restrooms- all of which help create active, family-friendly environments.

On the other hand, concerns were raised about lack of dedicated spaces for youth- particularly teens as well as the dominance of parking lots, limited walkability and insufficient public transit options, all of which were identified as barriers to access.

We also heard from the Urban Innovation Division, who shared their vision for connecting downtown parks via greenways and how to activate underutilized spaces. Gathering inputs helped their team put together a conceptual design idea for North Central Park.

Our Placemaking Pathway

A core part of this initiative has been reimaging public spaces through the eyes of children and teens. Through previous Coalition activities, several placemaking opportunities were identified, leading to the development of a mobile placemaking project. In collaboration with the Fleet Science Center, a pop-up activation will be held during Summer Movies in the Park at Heritage Country Park, Old Town on September 19th, 2025.

What we've achieved together

City staff briefly shared a summary of the initiative's engagement efforts; which included five coalition meetings, four youth engagements and outreach reaching over 1400 people. The Existing Conditions Report was developed based on the data analysis, community engagement and constant interaction between Coalition members and project staff.

Looking Ahead

While the grant will conclude at the end of the CalFresh Healthy Living program fiscal year, City Planning staff assured Coalition members that they remain committed to the vision. The City Planning Department is actively exploring new funding opportunities to continue

the initiative's work. All materials, ideas and meeting summaries will remain available on the initiative's website for continued access and reference.

Closing Message

In closing, City staff extended heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to shaping this initiative. Their passion and commitment to making San Diego a safer, more vibrant and more inclusive city for all ages will continue to inspire future efforts.



CHILD & TEEN FRIENDLY CITY

Coalition Meeting #4

August 27th, 2025

CalFresh HEALTHY LIVING

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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Agenda

- Welcome and Gratitude
- Reflections from our last Coalition
- Our Placemaking Pathway
- What we've achieved together
- Looking Ahead
- Closing Message

Reflection from our last Coalition meeting

What works for ages 0-18?



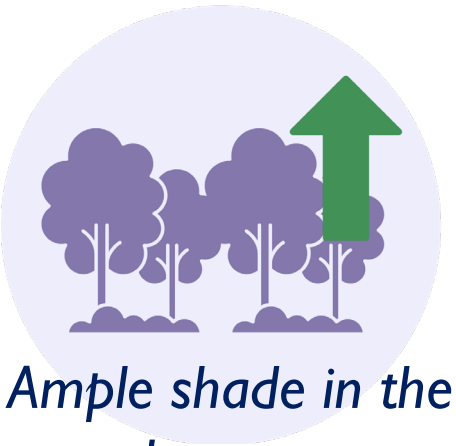
Spaces to run, climb, jump and swing



Water Play



Colorful play spaces



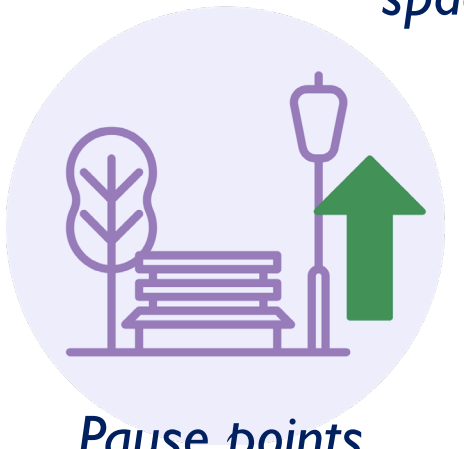
Ample shade in the play areas



Flexible seating



Food stalls around



Pause points



Door step play

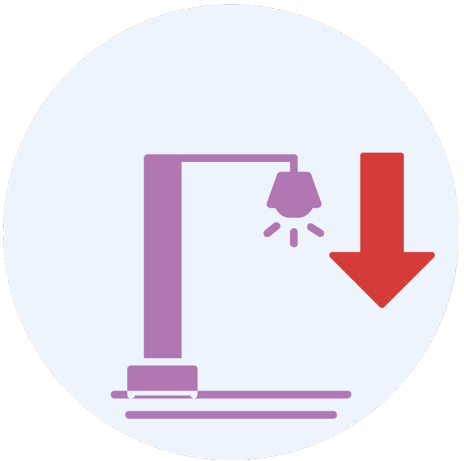


Clean Restrooms

What doesn't work for ages 0-18?



Parking lots, busy streets



Unsafe spaces



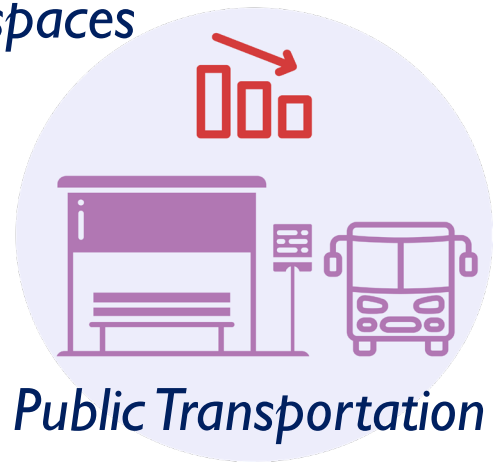
Open spaces without snacks and bathrooms



No dedicated spaces for kids and teens



Height of sinks and toilets



Public Transportation



Lack of Walkability to parks

The City of SAN DIEGO

Development Services
Urban Innovation Division

Creating "America's Outdoor Downtown"
Play Everywhere!





North Central Park

Schematic Design



LEGEND

1. Music Themed Children's Play Area Enclosed with 4'-0" Height Fence
2. Two Pickleball Courts with 42" Fence
3. Synthetic Turf Dog Run with 5'-0" Fence
4. 42" Dog Run Privacy Wall with 18" Fence Above
5. Signature Civic Music Sign 10'-0" Tall Fabricated 1/8th Note
6. Music Themed Shade Structure, Typ.
7. Running/Walking Path (575 ft.)
8. Street Trees, Typ.
9. Dog Run Entry Gate
10. Music Play Elements in ROW
11. Shade Tree in Raised Planters, Typ.
12. Future Kiosk/ Restroom Location
13. Pickleball Paddle Rack
14. Piano Key Bench at Pickleball Courts



The Shape of Sound

North Central Park

Schematic Design

MUSIC DESIGN ELEMENTS

















Our Placemaking Pathway

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Developing a mobile placemaking project







Mobile Installation



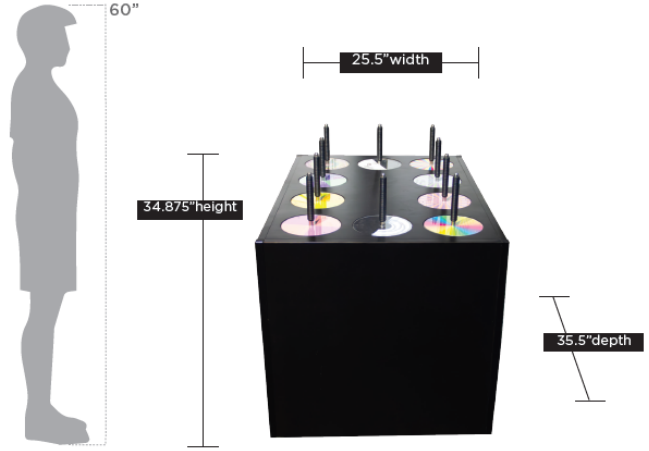
In Collaboration With Fleet Science Center

When?

September 19th, 2025

Where?

Heritage County Park, Old Town, San Diego



Beam of Light



Revolving Stools

What we've achieved together

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Engagement Summary

5 coalition meetings

4 youth engagement events

370 surveys completed

500 postcards submitted

16 meetings focused on building awareness

1400+ people engaged









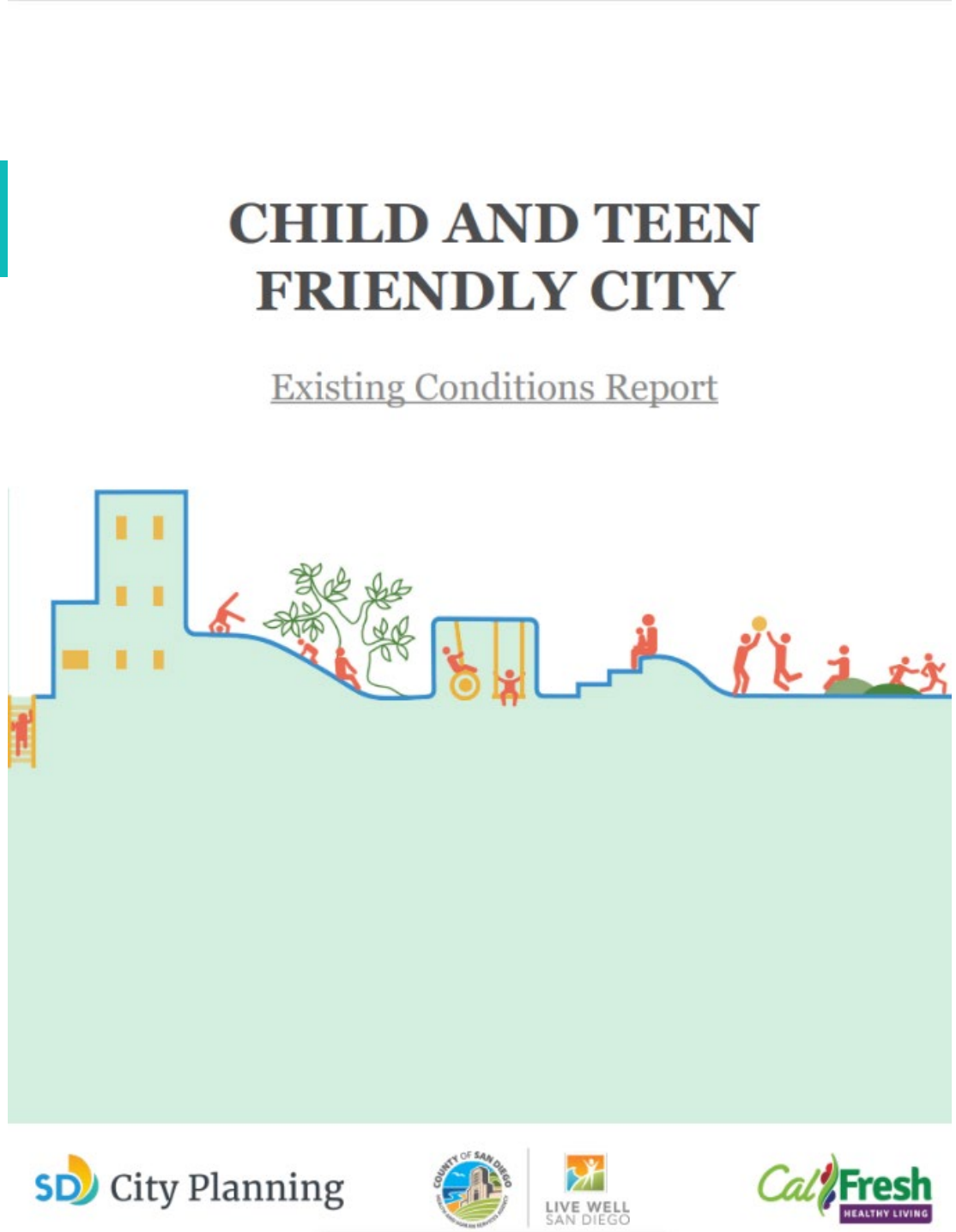
Sites Selected for Observational Surveys

Linda Vista Recreation Center
City Heights Weingart Branch Library
Logan Memorial Educational Campus
Old Town Trolley Center
University Avenue and 50th Street

Bonus Add: San Ysidro Library



Existing Conditions Report



Looking Ahead

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Even if this work pauses, the seeds we planted will grow.

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