

El Cajon Boulevard Safety Improvements Workshop



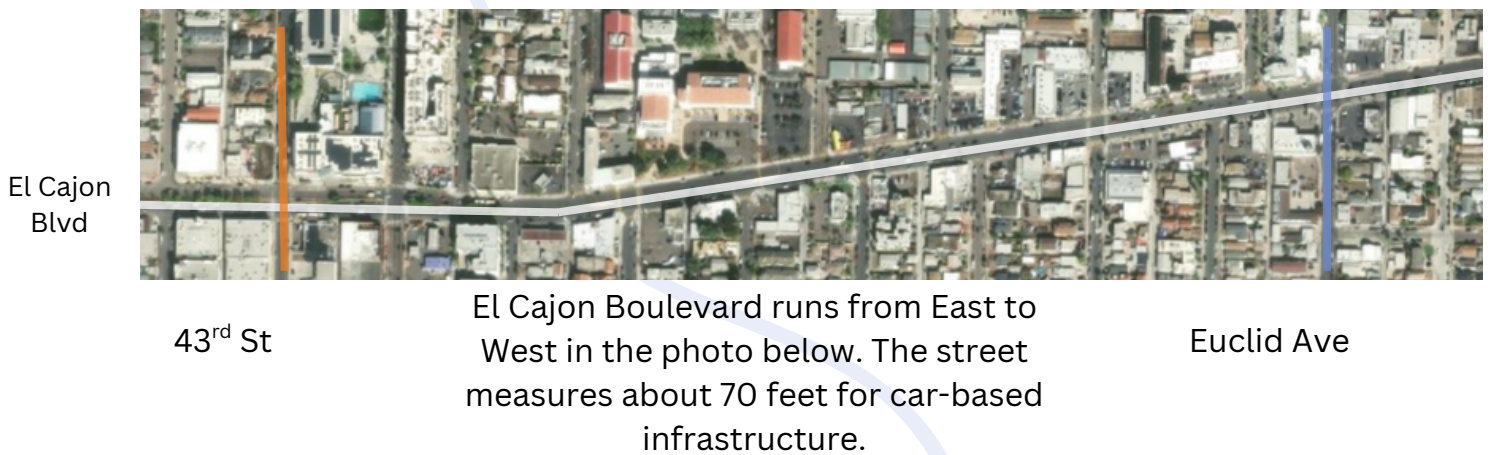
Reimagine a safer and
more vibrant
El Cajon Boulevard



Context

El Cajon Blvd is an east-west corridor that has a high rate of traffic-related incidents and a high level of stress of cyclists and pedestrians alike, stemming from disconnected neighborhoods, poor infrastructure, and unsafe conditions.

BikeSD hosted a community workshop styled to brainstorm street improvements for El Cajon Blvd between 43rd St and Euclid Ave in San Diego, CA. The event brought together students and community members to collaboratively design solutions.



This section shows the Hoover High School located along El Cajon Blvd; some infrastructure improvements have been implemented, such as a flashing crosswalk which allows students to request passage.



El Cajon Blvd contains minimal greenery or pedestrian focused infrastructure. The palm trees do not offer shade or carbon sequestration for pedestrians and are not native to our region.

Acknowledgements & Gratitude

BikeSD would like to extend our appreciation to America Walks for trust and fiscal support that made this project possible as well as provide resources for a successful community event.

Thank you to Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera and Community Representative Diana Frias for participating in our event by having a conversation about community needs and safety regarding streets/roads/boulevards.

Thank you to those who attended and participated.

Collaborating with a diverse community allowed for a richer conversation and a more inclusive final product.

Special thanks to El Cajon Boulevard Business Investment District for letting us use their office and GEM Coffee for contributing refreshments.

Outreach to local organizations, committees, and businesses.

We visited the Kensington-Talmadge CPG and City Heights Planning Group, as well as nearby businesses, to notify community leaders and members about the workshop.



El Cajon Blvd Hackathon

A Community Workshop inspired by the Hackathon model

During a Hackathon, people team up and compete to find a creative solution to a pressing problem.

We need a diverse group of community members to draft a map with recommendations for improvements, such as safety, art, and infrastructure along El Cajon Boulevard between Euclid Avenue and 43rd Street.

While only one team will receive small prizes, all who attend will be able to present their ideas for what would make for a safer El Cajon Boulevard

Our day will include

1. Overview
3. Team work and share-out
4. Awards/closing remarks

Light refreshments will be provided!

Scan for more information and to RSVP



Saturday Aug. 27th

4660 El Cajon Blvd

10am - 2pm



Contact Us: talk@bikesd.org

On top of this, we hung flyers along El Cajon Blvd and shared on social media.

The Process

Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera and Community Representative Diana Frias attended the beginning of our event and spoke with us about the community they represent, the issues they hear about El Cajon Blvd from residents, and how we can all make a difference and advocate for safety implementations.



Participants split into teams and used a collaborative, hands-on design process:

They received:

Base Map: A large (approx. 3-foot) birds-eye-view map of the target section of El Cajon Blvd.

Tracing Paper: Overlaid on the map for sketching ideas.

Tools: Rulers, colored pencils, and markers to detail proposed improvements.

The goal:

Envision an El Cajon Boulevard that is safer, more inviting, and more vibrant for all San Diegans.



Group Work - Brainstorm

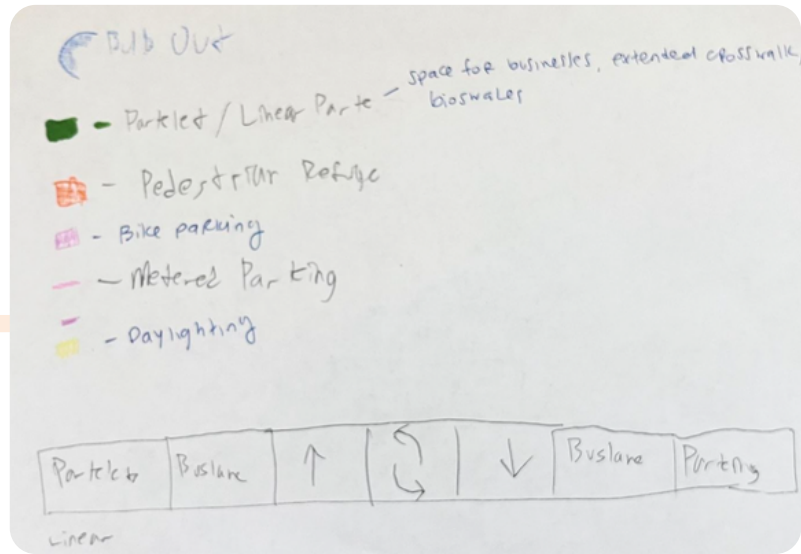
Along the whole corridor

- ★ No right turn on red
- ★ LPIs
- ★ Metered parking along corridor (1% goes to mobility projects)
- ★ Preserved center lane + green spaces + pedestrian refuges
- ★ Linear Park (Curb extensions, Parklets, Bike Parking, Pop ups, walkways)

Slow!

Placemaking

Community/ecosystem services



Teams had 10 minutes to brainstorm what they would like to focus on for their improvements.

Ideas included pedestrian refuge, metered parking for infrastructure improvements, and linear parks to make the pedestrian experience better.

Group Work - Activity

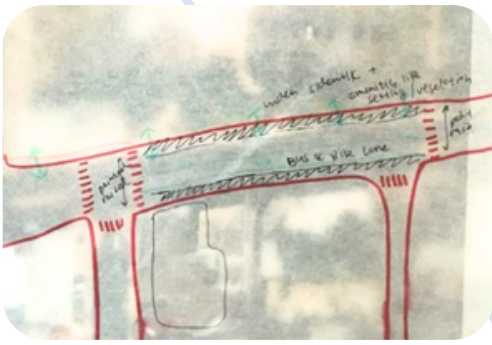


Teams then used the provided materials to draft improvements.

Common recommendations were about pedestrian safety and comfort.

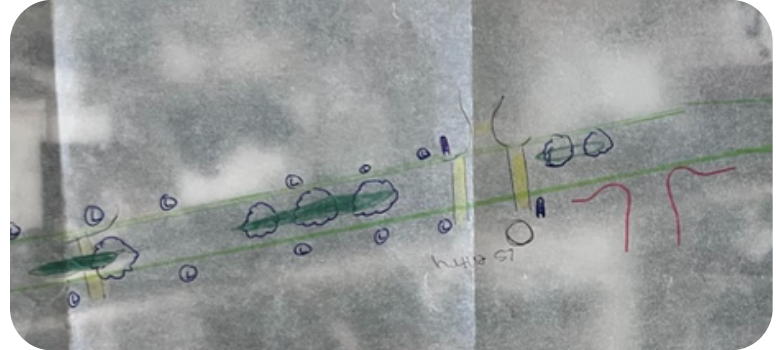


Others include:
Cleaner Air
Greenery
Bike/Bus Infrastructure
Art and Culture
Wayfinding



Recommendation to widen sidewalk and add vegetation.
A dedicated bike/bus lane is added.
Painted sidewalks suggested to promote better visibility.

Circles along the street mark street lights.
Clouds and green markings in the center of the street mark greenery
Red curbs mark bulb-outs
Yellow rectangles are crosswalks with more active signage



A street-level drawing of suggested changes, such as trees, benches, sidewalks, and art.



An illustration of an entry sign for Little Saigon.



Teams presented their projects!

Main Concerns

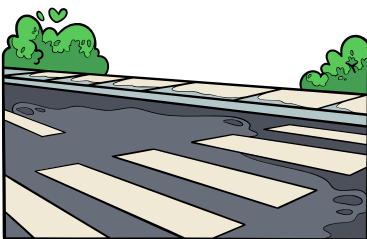


Pedestrian Safety & Comfort

Widen narrow sidewalks, add bulb-outs (curb extensions), Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPIs), raised crosswalks, more benches, water fountains, pedestrian refuges in medians.

Traffic Calming & Street Design

Implement a "Road Diet" (narrowing the road), lower speed limits (esp near schools), "No Turn on Red" restrictions, peak-hour bus-only lanes throughout.

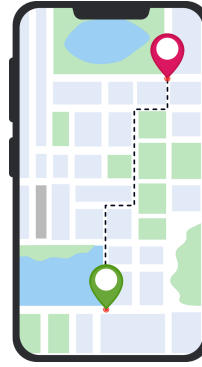


Placemaking & Community

Use crosswalks as community-building art projects, add cultural art, create a "Little Saigon" sign for wayfinding, install placemaking architecture.

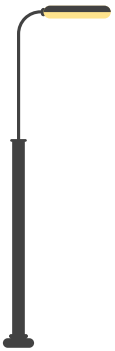
Technology & Parking

Implement digital wayfinding or QR codes for local directories. Use metered parking with revenue dedicated to mobility projects.



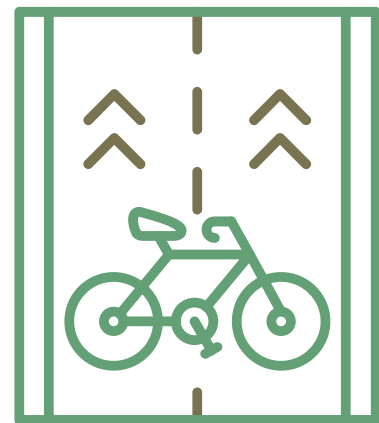
Safety & Accessibility

Improve lighting (overhead and along crosswalks), ensure all sidewalks are ADA compliant, enhance safety in front of the local high school and YMCA.



Bicycle & Transit Improvements

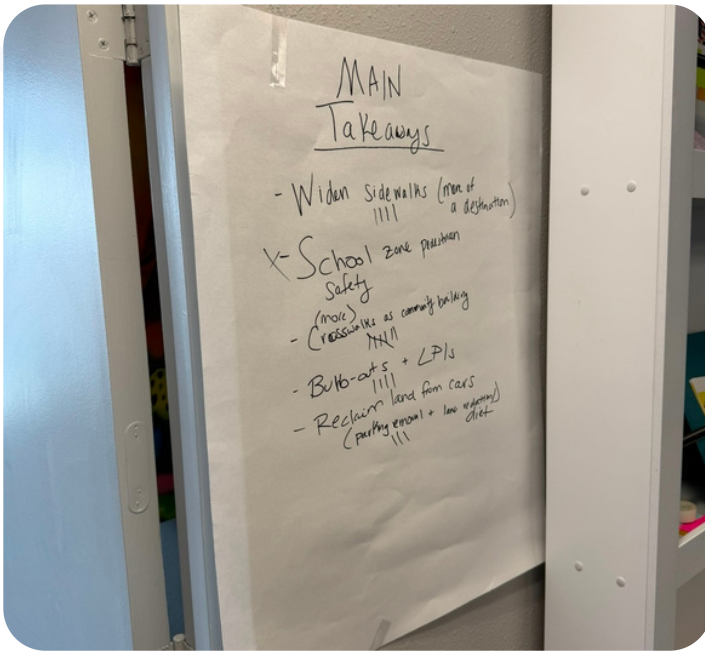
Install protected bike lanes, bike parking, extend bus lanes to San Diego State University, improve bus stop shelters with better lighting and weather protection.



Green Infrastructure & Public Space

Add more trees for shade, create green spaces and linear parks, convert parking lots into community plazas or parklets, preserve center medians for greenery. Ensure trash and recycling receptacles are available along the street.

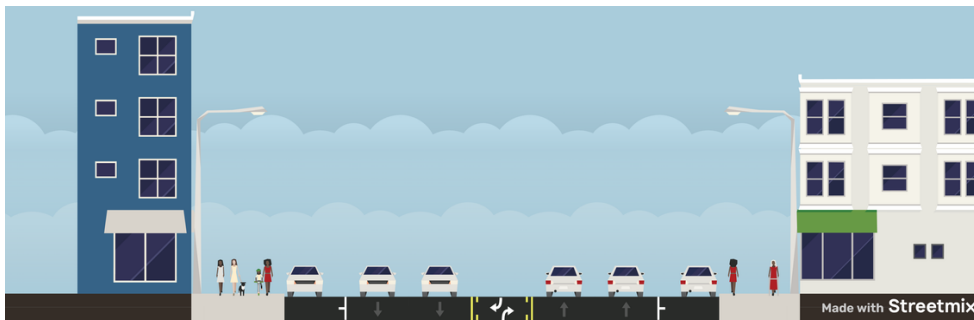




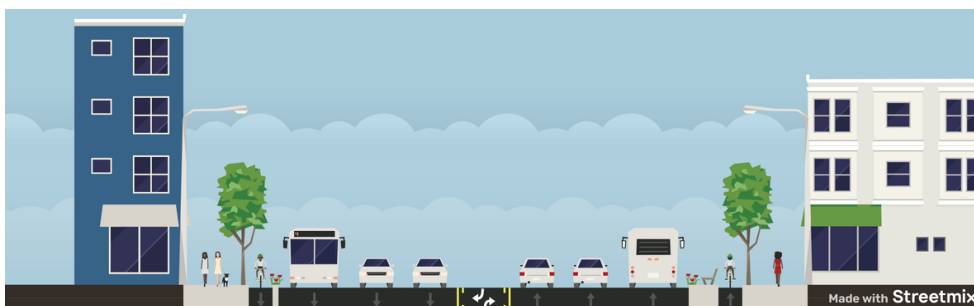
Our main takeaways:

Widen Sidewalks
 School Zone/Pedestrian Safety
 Crosswalks/Crosswalks
 Bulb-Outs
 Leading Pedestrian Intervals

Reclaim the land from cars and for people



Current conditions are seven lanes dedicated to automobiles and sidewalks on either side.



The community would like to see benches, greenery, bike lanes, and bus lanes to be added to accommodate for a more pedestrian and bike friendly environment.

Safety Matters to our community!

Throughout the process, we talked about why we care about making improvements in our neighborhood: **it's because we want to know people we love are getting to and from their destination safely.**

Community members can work with local representatives to implement or advocate for improvements that create safer streets.

About BikeSD



BikeSD is a non-profit working to make San Diego a more bikable and livable city for all!



Our people-powered organization advocates for safe, accessible, and inclusive active transportation networks as critical solutions to the climate crisis.

Our community outreach and innovative programs seek to introduce people of all ages and abilities to the joys and benefits of going by bike.



Contact Information



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[@bikesd.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/bikesd.bsky.social)

