Contacts

Who to contact about improving your neighborhood’s walkability

WalkSanDiego  858-650-4671 / mail@walksandiego.org
San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)  619-699-1900 / webmaster@sandag.org
America Walks  617-367-1170 / info@americawalks.org
City of San Diego**  619-527-7500 / Street_Service@sandiego.gov
County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use  858-694-3900 / susie.vaughn@sdcounty.ca.gov

Websites

WalkSanDiego  www.walksandiego.org
San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)  www.sandag.org
America Walks  www.americawalks.org
Walkable Communities, Inc.  www.walkable.org
Local Government Commission Center for Livable Communities  www/lgc.org/center/index.html
Fehr & Peers Traffic Calming Group  www.trafficcalming.org
Institute of Transportation Engineers Traffic Calming Page  www.ite.org/traffic
Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center  www.walkinginfo.org

* When contacting city or county governments, ask to speak with the Planning or Traffic Engineering departments.

** For phone numbers of other jurisdictions, refer to the blue Government Listings in the front of your phone book.

Walkability Checklist

How safe is your neighborhood?

Take a walk around your neighborhood and evaluate the pedestrian environment using the walkability checklist inside.
Dear Neighbor:

WalkSanDiego believes every resident or visitor to the San Diego region should be able to walk to most destinations without risking life or limb. Most residents we talk to would like to make their neighborhood more pedestrian-friendly, but don’t know where to begin. A good start is to evaluate current conditions.

The Walkability Checklist (inside) will help you do just that. So grab a friend or group, and take a walk. Note what’s working and what’s missing.

At right, we suggest actions you can take in the short run or the long term to improve your community’s walkability. If you want our help, contact Education Chairman Andy Hamilton at (858)650-4671 or andy.hamilton@sdcounsel.ca.gov, or write to the address above.

Thank you for helping make the San Diego region more walkable!

Jamie Moody
President

Things to do to improve your neighborhood’s walkability

- Tell your local traffic engineering department or city council member about specific problems and request street and pedestrian improvements.
- Organize a neighborhood speed watch program and invite a city traffic engineer.
- Order “Slow Down! Taming Neighborhood Traffic” at www.walksandiego.org and utilize traffic calming resources.
- Set an example by slowing down and being considerate of others and encourage your neighbors to do the same.
- Start a crime watch program in your neighborhood.
- Sponsor a neighborhood beautification or tree-planting day.
- Inform your community planning group of neighborhood concerns and speak up at community meetings.
- Ask schools to place crossing guards at key locations and apply for “Safe Routes to School” grants.
- Trim your trees or bushes that block the sidewalk and ask your neighbors to do the same.
- Take the time to cross only at safe intersections.
- Avoid blocking the sidewalk with your car and ask your neighbors to do the same.
- Be a visible part of your neighborhood by spending time on your front porch or in your yard.
- Take a walk with a trash bag.
- Interact with your neighbors.

Join Walk San Diego today!
**Sidewalks**

- Were sidewalks in place on both sides of the street?
- Were sidewalks continuous (no missing segments)?
- Were sidewalks smooth, flat and unbroken?
- Were sidewalks free of obstructions (poles, signs, shrubs)?
- Were sidewalks at least five feet wide?
- Were sidewalks separated from traffic by a parkway?

**Notes:**

**Crossings**

- Were there safe places to cross every 300 feet?
- If a street had more than two lanes, was there a median?
- Were there curb ramps at all crossings?

**Signalized Crossings**

- Was the wait at the signal reasonably short?
- Did you have enough time to cross?

**Unsignalized Crossings**

- Did you wait long for a gap in traffic?
- Did you have time to cross safely?

**Notes:**
Traffic

- Did you feel motorists were driving at reasonable speeds?
- Did you feel you were sufficiently separated from moving traffic?
- Did drivers yield when appropriate?
- Were drivers paying attention to pedestrians?
- In crossing areas, was your view of traffic free of obstructions (parked cars, trees, signs)?

Notes:

Ambience

- Were there other people out walking?
- Was your route clear of litter?
- Was the sidewalk area interesting (street art, landscaping, etc.)?
- Was the overall walking environment pleasant?

After Dark

- Was your entire route lit enough to navigate easily?
- Was lighting adequate at crossings?
- Did you feel safe walking at night?

Notes: