

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WALK AUDIT

AUDITOR NAME & ORGANIZATION	AUDIT LOCATION	AUDIT DATE
Guillermina Rice, HHSA Marlin Rice, City Heights Resident	City Heights, San Diego	02/15/2024

MAP OF AREA AUDITED



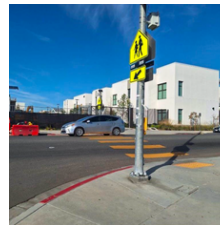
Orange Ave between 37th and Central Ave in City Heights, San Diego 92105

Primary area in front of Wilson Middle School and Central Elementary School.

Central Elementary and Wilson Middle are located at the heart of City Heights, a culturally diverse and densely populated neighborhood in San Diego.

WALKING ASSETS: WHAT IS HELPFUL TO PEDESTRIANS?

- There is a flashing pedestrian crosswalk warning sign close to the exit of an alley on Orange Avenue, between 37th and 38th Street.



WALKING CHALLENGES: WHAT MAKES IT DIFFICULT OR UNSAFE TO WALK?

- Orange Avenue is a busy street. When a dedicated bus lane was created on El Cajon Blvd, it seems that more drivers choose to use Orange Avenue as an alternative to El Cajon Blvd.
- Cars seem to be going faster than the posted speed limit of 25 MPH.
- There is no crossing sign in front of Central Elementary School.
- On the sidewalk on the I-15 overpass, pedestrians must go out into the street as tents are taking up the sidewalk space. Electrical outlets built into the overpass are used by unsheltered people.
- One end of the handicap ramp on Orange Avenue in front of the schools needs maintenance/repair.



Handicap ramp needs repair in front of Central Elementary on Orange Ave between 37th St & 39th St

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NOTES AND PHOTOS

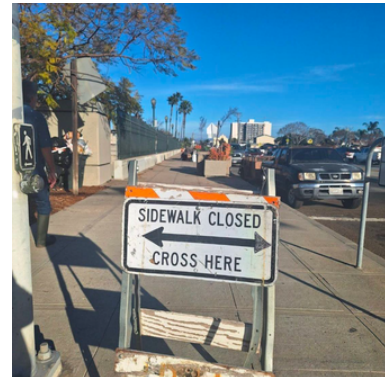
- A new dual campus for Wilson Middle School and Central Elementary School opened August 2023. Nearly 1300 students in grades TK-8 go to school here and most live in the surrounding neighborhoods.
- About 85% of Central Elementary students are English learners with non-English speakers at home. The community surrounding the school is densely populated with older, single-family houses, apartments, and small businesses.
- The schools are also located a block away from the Teralta Neighborhood Park that sits on top of the Interstate-15 freeway and serves as an important green and multicultural space for the residents of City Heights. Due to its proximity to the Interstate-15 freeway, Central Elem. and Wilson sit between two very busy and traffic-prone streets, Orange Ave and El Cajon Blvd.
- The observation time was the time students are typically released but on this date school closed early so it was not as busy as usual.
- During two one-minute timed periods, 20 cars and 16 cars were observed passing the schools on Orange Avenue.
- There are barriers in front of the schools for some repair work, and some of the barriers have fallen over. Some sidewalk repair work requires pedestrians to go out into the street.



Construction barriers knocked down at the corner of Orange Ave & 39th St



Construction blocking sidewalk at the corner of Orange Ave & Central Ave



Sidewalk closed and tents on bridge overpass at the corner of Orange Ave & 40th St

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Include more crosswalk infrastructure support/signals on Orange Ave between 37th and 38th St.
- The flashing pedestrian warning sign is helpful, but this is not enough for a busy street, especially when students are arriving to and leaving school each day.