

Working Together to Shape a Healthy Future Facilitated by the UC San Diego Center for Community Health

# **SAN DIEGO COUNTY WALK AUDIT**

### **AUDITOR NAME & ORGANIZATION**

## **AUDIT LOCATION**

## **AUDIT DATE**

Maritza Chavarin, RLA Otay Mesa Blanca Rodriquez, RLA Otay Mesa Becky Lowe, RLA Otay Mesa Otay Mesa, San Diego

02/29/2024

### **MAP OF AREA AUDITED**



Otay Mesa Rd between Caliente Ave & Sea Fire Point

Primary focus on a small segment on Otay Mesa Rd

Otay Mesa is situated east of San Ysidro in the southeastern part of San Diego near the US-Mexico border

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

- Otay Mesa Rd is a concern for the community because students from San Ysidro High School walk to and from school through Otay Mesa Rd
- Starting at the corner of Otay Mesa Rd & Caliente Ave and heading toward Sea Fire Point, there are no sidewalks and students are forced to walk on the street







Students walking home from school in the street on Otay Mesa Rd between Caliente Ave & Sea Fire Point



No accessible sidewalk for pedestrians walking on Otay Mesa Rd from Caliente Ave

 At the intersection of Otay Mesa Rd & Caliente Ave, the crosswalks are faded and not properly labeled, which does not help to control the speed of traffic



Crosswalks on intersection between Caliente Ave & Otay Mesa Rd need to be repainted

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#### **NOTES AND PHOTOS**

- Otay Mesa is split from San Ysidro by the I-805 and is home to the Otay Mesa Port of Entry
- The community of Otay Mesa is characterized by its industrial and commercial development, with extensive warehouse and distribution facilities, manufacturing plants, and business parks
- While Otay Mesa is well-connected to major highways such as the I-805, SR 905, and SR 125, it's residential development is generally less dense with more open space and undeveloped land
- San Ysidro High School is located off the SR 905 on a spacious piece of land that includes several trails
- Due to a majority of residential neighborhoods being on the other side of the SR 905, some San Ysidro High School students walk long distances to and from school
- Otay Mesa Rd is a popular route that many San Ysidro High School students take to and from school, however, a segment of Otay Mesa Rd does not contain a proper sidewalk
- This segment on Otay Mesa Rd heading towards Sea Fire Point is just an extension of the road and what would be the sidewalk is covered by dense shrubs
- Rather than taking a longer alternative route, students are subject to walking on the road alongside cars heading toward them without a buffer
- By having well-designed streets and fixing existing active transportation infrastructure, the Otay Mesa community would be safer when driving or walking in this area

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Install a proper sidewalk that connects the rest of Otay Mesa Rd to Caliente Ave
- Adding traffic-calming measures as vehicles on Otay Mesa Rd approach Caliente Ave
- Repaint crosswalks on the intersection of Otay Mesa Rd & Caliente Ave