



Safety Assessment

San Fernando Gardens



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Safety Assessment

On October 1, 2020, San Fernando Gardens- Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was tasked with completing a safety assessment of the housing development regarding concerns over quality of life issues in the area. CSP officers, as well as site managers from the development, completed the survey. During this survey, HACLA site management was briefed on the concept of **CPTED, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**. This concept utilizes basic safety measures which prevent crime, such as trimming hedges and trees, lighting, pedestrian awareness, traffic control, etc. The goal is to prevent crime by designing a physical environment that positively influences human behavior. The theory is based on four principles: natural access control (Walkways and pathways), natural surveillance (Community having the ability to have a line of sight to an open area), territoriality (A sign, to identify as a landmark for the community), and maintenance (This principle is constantly being done by the HACLA maintenance team).

Below listed are some examples of areas of concern we were directed to focus on.

- Missing or faded LAMC 41.23 signs on every building or public gathering space.
- Missing or broken lights.
- Dark walkways or under-lit areas
- Missing or cut/broken fencing or barriers
- Gates or doors with broken locks
- Vandalized cameras, windows, signs, buildings
- Areas of large group or gang group congregation where no cameras currently exist
- Areas where stop signs could be placed
- Areas where speed bumps can be placed
- Areas where street signs can be placed (ped crossing, speed limit, cross walk, etc.)
- Curb lines that need to be painted red or handicapped

LAPD Community Safety Partnership-San Fernando Gardens conducted their assessment during the work shifts of October 5th- 8th. SFG CSP Officers conducted foot beats and extra patrol of the area, met with several SFG residents and HACLA site manager Janet Brumley for the purposes of this safety assessment.

SFG CSP Officers met with HACLA manager Janet Brumley and members of the SFG Resident Advisory Council (RAC) regarding this assessment. All parties involved were asked what the major concerns were and or quality of life issues in the SF Gardens they wanted addressed as soon as possible. The following are recommendations made by members of the RAC and HACLA site manager....

- Not enough parking spaces for residents inside the housing developments
- No weekly street cleaning along major streets in the Gardens (Lehigh and Carl)

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- Flooding during rainy season at the intersection of Pala Ave/Carl St.
- Speed bumps along Lehigh Ave. (between Van Nuys Blvd/Pierce St.)
- More Department of Transportation (DOT) involvement inside the SF Gardens
- Gang activity from midnight- 0200 hrs. inside the housing developments and David Gonzalez park.

RAC members also advised they would like to see HACLA parking permits issued for public streets on Lehigh Ave and Carl St. to provide residents more parking spaces. SFG CSP Officers have issued numerous HACLA parking violation cites to combat the parking issue in the Gardens. The speed bumps along Lehigh Ave. would help in reducing speeding vehicles down that street. For now, CSP Officers usually park their black and white police vehicle on that street whenever conducting a foot beat, meeting with residents or using the Community Center for CSP related issues. This tactic usually helps in preventing vehicles from speeding in that area. DOT officers are usually conducting enforcement outside the housing developments.

SFG CSP personnel regularly meets with Foothill GED supervisors and officers regarding gang activity in the area. CSP team has a great relationship with Foothill GED, Champions in Service (SFG CSP gang intervention partner) El Nido/GRYD (SFG CSP gang prevention partner) and are in constant communication with all parties. This partnership has assisted in reducing gang graffiti inside the housing development and reducing negative interactions between CSP Officers and members of the Pacoima Project Boys gang.

San Fernando Gardens CSP Officers conducted a foot beat in the area and addressed some quality of life issues they observe daily during their work shift. They took photographs of the locations of these concerns.

SFG HACLA cameras:

It is respectfully requested HACLA puts up cameras in the following locations:

- A few cameras along Norris Ave between Van Nuys Blvd and Pierce St. Norris Ave is the street that divides the SF Gardens from David Gonzalez park and Pacoima Charter School. Illegal activity is frequent in this area due to quick access to the park and school from the SF Gardens.
- Pala Ave between Van Nuys Blvd and Pierce St.
- East/West alley between Lehigh Ave and Pala Ave. just south of Van Nuys Blvd.

Lighting assessment:

Most areas of concern regarding lighting have been addressed in the photographs depicted in this report. However, after conducting foot beats in the SFG during hours of darkness, most parking lots, playgrounds, alleys and buildings require more lighting. More lighting will deter any possible illegal activity in the area during the hours of darkness.

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The San Fernando Gardens CSP team will continue to address quality of life issues (drinking in public, illegal dumping, gang activity, parking violations, speeding, etc...) during each work shift. CSP Officers will continue to work with HACLA management and residents to improve the overall quality of life in the area.

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A painted crosswalk at this intersection of Lehigh Ave/Carl St (**view of Lehigh Ave.**) The SFG community center is directly in front. Right next to it is a daycare and Guardian Angel preschool.



A painted crosswalk at this intersection of Lehigh Ave/Carl St (**view of Carl St.**) The SFG community center is directly in front. Right next to it is a daycare and Guardian Angel pre-school

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A clearly posted stop sign at this intersection of Carl Place/Lehigh Ave. Photo depicts facing eastbound on Carl Place approaching Lehigh Ave.

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Place a clearly posted stop sign to replace this temporary one at this intersection of Lehigh Ave/Carl St.

All playground turfs need to be replaced due to wear and tear and place additional lighting at all playgrounds.





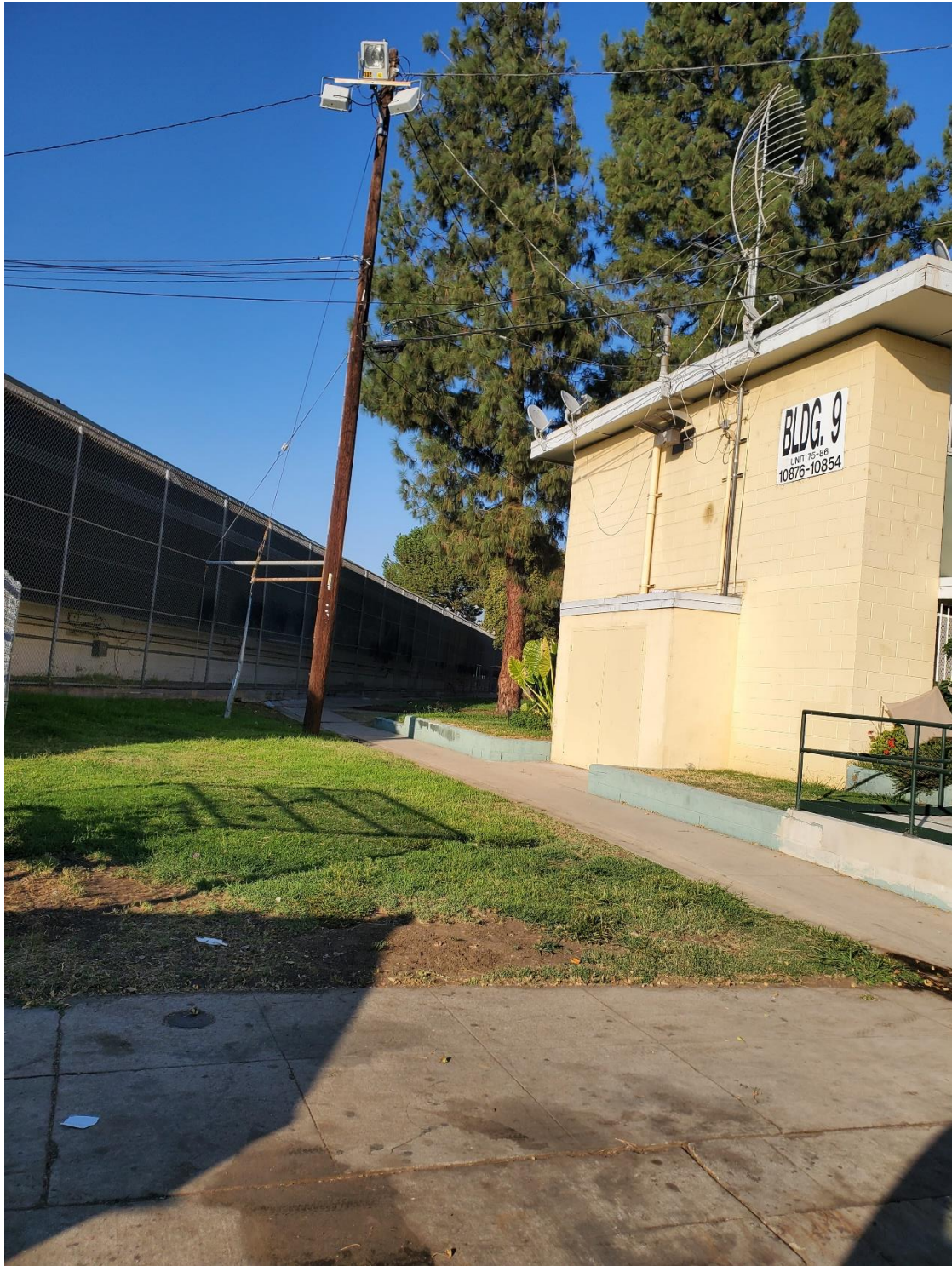
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Street light on south curb of **Pierce St/ West of Norris Ave** does not work. Several 311 requests have been submitted by CSP Officers as well as residents of [REDACTED] B/O light creates a hazard to both peds a and vehicle traffic due to lack of lighting.



Pedestrian pathway between building 9 and Guardian Angel church/school needs immediate lighting. On several occasions, this pathway has been used as an access from the Gardens to David Gonzales Park by gang members, narcotics and 211 suspects.

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Add lighting between buildings 46 and 47. This is a short pathway, very dark during night hours. Location is known for gang hangout and vandalism.

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Area with dry dirt. Residents have complained of the wind picking-up and dirt causing allergies. Residents have also mentioned concerns of the area becoming muddy and slippery when neighbors water their grass. (Lehigh Ave N/Carl St)