

# UPTOWN

## Recap from Walk Audit #4

SEPT  
2018

10  
Participants

Artesia &  
Ramona Park



On September 22, 2018, Long Beach community members participated in an in-the-field “walk audit” to discuss conditions in Ramona Park, and along Artesia Blvd between Indiana Ave and Downey Ave. Participants responded to a series of thematic and location-specific questions regarding public space, land-use, neighborhood character, safety, and accessibility. This summary reflects participants’ written feedback about existing conditions, along with their suggestions for improvements.



The following key themes emerged from participant comments:  
Full-service community, pedestrian-oriented streets, lighting & security, and park programming & improvements.



# KEY THEMES:

## PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED STREETS

Participants mentioned pedestrian safety & accessibility issues 76 times. Speeding cars, narrow sidewalks, and a lack of safe crossing opportunities make Artesia Blvd dangerous, inaccessible, and unwelcoming for pedestrians. Participants also expressed a desire for more activated ground floors.



\*Number of related comments



## FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY

Participants mentioned a desire for small, community-serving businesses and facilities 37 times. Artesia does not currently offer healthy products or have necessary services for neighborhood residents, especially seniors. Commercial properties primarily contain fast-food chains and parking lots; whose drive aisles and drive thrus make pedestrians feel unsafe. The corridor also feels less accessible due to wide streets, fast traffic and lack of sufficient crossing locations.

## PARK PROGRAMMING & IMPROVEMENTS

Participants mentioned park programming and improvements 37 times. While the park is activated by youth sports on the weekend, it could better meet its potential as a neighborhood gathering space if it had more programming for families and seniors, and updated amenities such as a stage/performance space, newer play equipment, more seating, and an improved picnic area.



## LIGHTING *THE* WAY

Participants mentioned lighting issues 14 times. Auditors observed lack of light in Ramona Park and along Artesia Blvd and residential streets. Participants reported that the area was dark at night and expressed a desire for increased security and extended park hours.

# COMMENTS

At each stop, participants wrote down location-specific comments in response to thematic questions about land use, design, and accessibility.

## 1 PARK AND COMMUNITY CENTER

### Observations

- Youth Sports Programming 3
- Mostly Families & Children 3
- Low Evening Activity 1

### Desired Improvements

- Updated Sports/Play Facilities 7
- Additional Lighting 5
- Family Programming 4
- Stage / Performance Space 3
- Senior Programming 2
- Trash Management 2
- Updated Picnic Area 2
- Shade 1
- Seating 1
- Wider Sidewalks 1

## 2 FACADES AND FRONTAGES

### Observations

- Unwelcoming Frontages 4
- 3-Story Height is Appropriate 3

### Desired Improvements

- Shade & Landscaping 4
- Activated Ground Floor 2
- Artwork 1
- Building Signage 1
- Trash Management 1

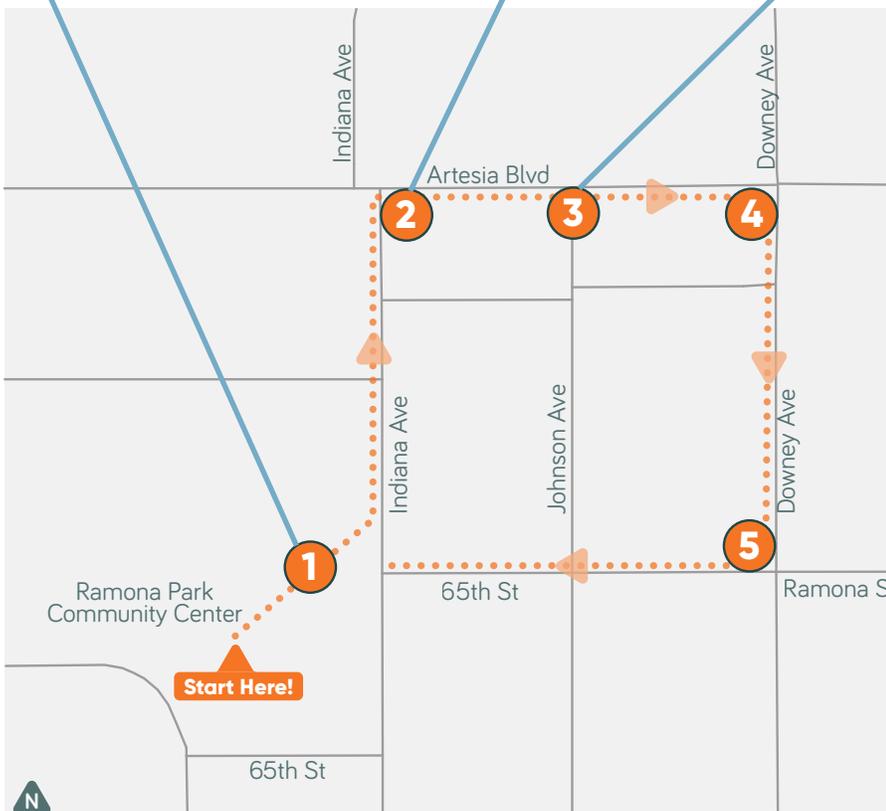
## 3 STREET DESIGN AND ACCESSIBILITY

### Observations

- Fast Speeds 3
- Designed for Vehicles 2
- Wide Street / Long Crossings 2
- Inaccessible for Pedestrians 2

### Desired Improvements

- Crosswalks 8
- Lighting 8
- Shade & Landscaping 6
- Bike Lanes 4
- Wider Sidewalks 4
- Curb Cuts 3
- Trash Management 3
- Wayfinding / Monument Signs 3
- Tree Grates 3
- Parklets / Street Furniture 2
- Bulb-Outs 2
- Bus Shelters 1



# COMMENTS

At each stop, participants wrote down location-specific comments in response to thematic questions about land use, design, and accessibility.

## 4 FINDING A BALANCE

### Observations

Mostly Strip Mall Retail



Car-Oriented Businesses



Inconsistent Building Uses



Multi-Family Residential



### Desired Land Uses

Markets & Healthy Food Choices



Mixed-Use



Casual Dining with Outdoor Seating



Medical Offices / Clinics



Small Businesses



Banks



Post Offices



Gyms



Galleries



### Undesired Land Uses

Fast Food



Drive-Thru



Liquor Stores



Auto / Industrial



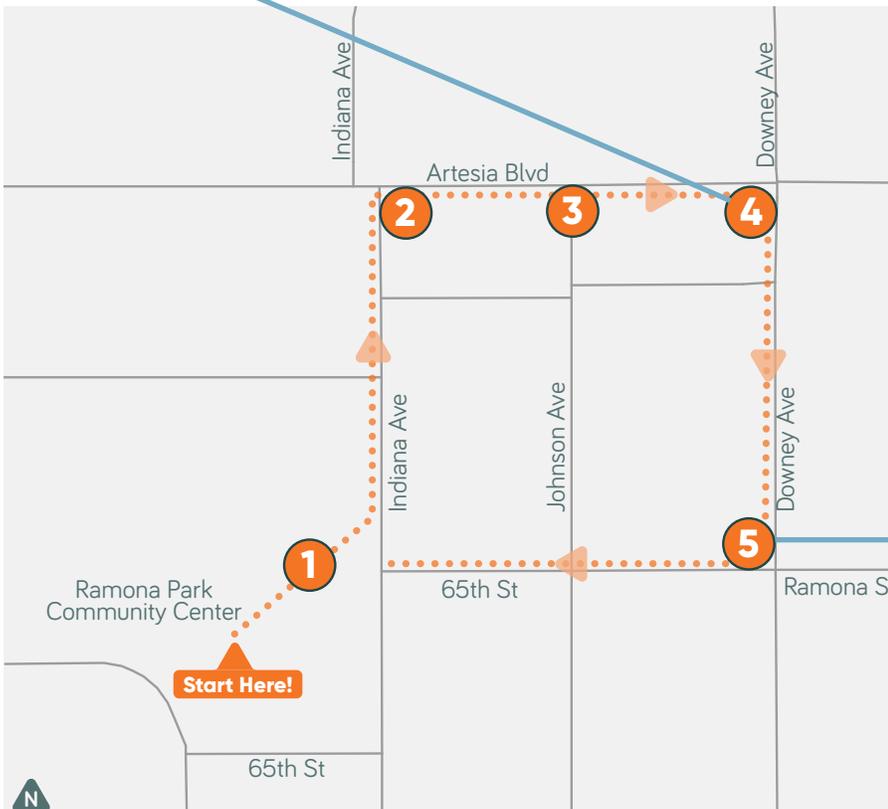
Parking Lots



Strip Malls



Group Homes



## 5 MAKING A NEIGHBORHOOD

### Desired Neighborhood Elements

Single-Family Homes on Interior Streets



Triplex / Quadplex on Arterial Streets



Childcare Center



Homeless Services



Accessory Dwelling Units



Churches



Cultural Center



Mixed-Use Residential on Arterial Streets



### Other Desired Improvements

Traffic Calming



Shade & Landscaping



Crosswalks



Stop Signs



Bulb-Outs



Lighting



Repaving



Bus Shelters



