

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design



Cuyamaca College

900 Rancho San Diego Pkwy, El Cajon, CA 92019

CPTED Inspection: 4/26/18

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Crime Prevention Unit



Building Partnerships and Safer Communities

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design

INTRODUCTION

CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) is a crime prevention tool whose goal is to minimize the potential for crime occurring at a particular location as a result of improvements in the overall physical design and environment. CPTED is a system that is successful; due to the fact it makes the criminal element feel uncomfortable in the target environment, while enhancing the feelings of safety and security for the residents, neighbors and surrounding community.

The CPTED process relies on the following four overlapping strategies:

- Strategy I Natural Surveillance
The placement or improvement of physical features, activities, and people in ways that maximize their ability to see what is occurring in a given space.
- Strategy II Territorial Reinforcement
The use of buildings, fences, signs, pavement, and lighting to express or display that the property is under ownership.
- Strategy III Access Control
The physical guidance of people utilizing enclosed or specific space (in this situation access control is emphasized to college campus). This is frequently accomplished with the strategic placement of entrances, exits, fences, side-walks, landscaping, locks, and other barriers.
- Strategy IV Maintenance and Upkeep
The maintenance and the "image" of an area can have a major impact on whether crime is an issue. A well-tended area indicates that someone cares, someone uses the area, and someone is watching.

A Crime Prevention through Environmental Design site assessment was recently conducted at Cuyamaca College to determine the safety factors, access control, landscape maintenance and design application (territorial reinforcement).

During the site assessment, the topics of concern were discussed and are mentioned below. Although the recommendations provided are voluntary and not mandatory; such suggestions are provided to address each listed concern.

- There are no signs of No Trespassing signs or No Soliciting in un-inhabited areas, (surrounding area where homeless congregate). Once this area is cleaned and the landscape has been removed, this problem will be resolved.
- Removing all lockers, with the exception of gym lockers and ceramic lockers is suggested, since the campus is open to the public. Having available lockers will entice homeless to use them for their personal use. An alternative approach would be to post (signage), stating to clear out lockers with-in 24 hour period.
- Installing cameras in hall ways or in areas where there is high pedestrian traffic is suggested. (Installation of surveillance cameras is currently being discussed at the district level, which is highly suggested for the campus).
- Adding signage (DO NOT Leave Lap-tops or personal items UNATTENDED), in the Student Center is highly recommended. There have been reports of stolen lap-tops, cell phones, personal items, etc.. Due to the enrollment of international students, some students might not be aware that this takes place on campus. This could reduce this type of crime taking place, when students walk away or use the rest-room.
- Adding posters or signage of Crime Stoppers or Students Speaking Out is suggested.
- Shutting off Wi-Fi access after 10:30PM, to eliminate any public use once the campus is closed.

Improved areas utilizing Natural Surveillance and Maintenance

The North side of Building B has improved greatly from the last inspection that took place on 11-15-16. The red box in the picture shows where the shrubbery needed to be trimmed. Picture B clearly shows the improved and well-trimmed landscape.

A. Same side of Building B. (Before picture 11/15/16).
Shrubs needed trimming and thinning.



B. Shrubs and trees have been well trimmed 4/26/18. Shrubs were trimmed and thinned out. Landscape looks great!



A. Older picture shows how easy someone can hide behind the shrubs, especially at night.



B. The exterior of the building shows much improvement with removing the shrubs and adding small flower plants. Excellent job!



A. Older picture from 11/15/16 inspection; shrubs were a little bit over-grown.



B. Pictures from 4/26/18: in this section, the shrubs NEED to be trimmed. Building A. Sections 200, 100 and 112.



The college has exterior landscape and trees on the outside perimeter of the campus. This rural property is owned by the campus, although this unoccupied land is being illegally inhabited by homeless. At times the homeless walk into the open-campus and occupy the showers or student facilities. The homeless have built living/camping accommodations on the land. Their behavior involves littering, urinating, defecating, drinking, and loitering in the near-by student parking -lot. The college will be initiating clean-up and removal of all the landscape and shrubs with-in 2018. Once the clean-up is completed, this problem will be resolved.





The RED Stars show the areas where homeless have left behind trash and other debris. Clean-up and bull-dozing this area will benefit the campus in not allowing a hiding space for the homeless. Another major concern with the homeless inhabiting this land is the fire hazard, due to all of the dry debris and trash left behind.



Call the Sheriff's Department if you see something suspicious.

Emergency Call 9-1-1

Non-emergency (858) 565-5200

www.sdsheriff.net

Information about the Sheriff's Department, Megan's Law and Who's In Jail

www.ariis.org

Crime Maps in San Diego County

www.ncpc.org

Safety tips and Brochures

www.nnwi.org

Local website to order signs. (Neighborhood Watch Signs, No Trespassing, No Loitering, etc.)

Building Safer Communities.....One concept at a time

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our recommendations, please feel free to contact Crime Prevention Specialist Nancy Ortiz (619) 660-7009 or Jose Ortiz (619) 660-7011- Rancho San Diego Sheriff's Station.