

ASSESSING ELDERLY MOBILITY NEEDS in an ETHNIC ENCLAVE: A Case Study of Little Tokyo

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95% LITTLE TOKYO vs. LOS ANGELES (CITY)

Projected increase of older adults in the U.S. between 2012 and 2050

73% Minority Population **50%**

17% Elderly Population **10%**

HOW DID I ASSESS MOBILITY NEEDS?



LTSC Senior Resident Surveys



Focus Groups and Interviews



Collision Data



Site Observations

FINDINGS

Outreach

- Language is barrier to using Metro Rail system
- Unfamiliar with train system, scheduling, and destinations

Pedestrian Concerns

- Signal crossing time is too short
- 3rd Street is problem area for personal safety and crossing times
- Uneven and narrow sidewalks

Interested in rideshare services but face technological barriers

Overall satisfaction with bus affordability, ease of boarding/alighting, personal safety. **Complaints:** Inadequate bus shelters, more off-peak service

RECOMMENDATIONS



More Robust Outreach

- Partnerships between transit agencies (e.g. Metro) and community organizations to hold targeted workshops
- Improve wayfinding to better cater to non-native English speakers



Improve Pedestrian Infrastructure

- Increase signal crossing times
- Repair and maintain uneven sidewalks
- Install bus shelters



Explore Voucher System of Transportation

Allows users to repay volunteer drivers for gas and auto costs