



clearstory

WAYFINDING +
PLACEMAKING

Los Medanos College

Wayfinding Analysis
26 September 2023



AGENDA

Introductions

Pre-Journey

Vehicular Experience

Pedestrian Experience

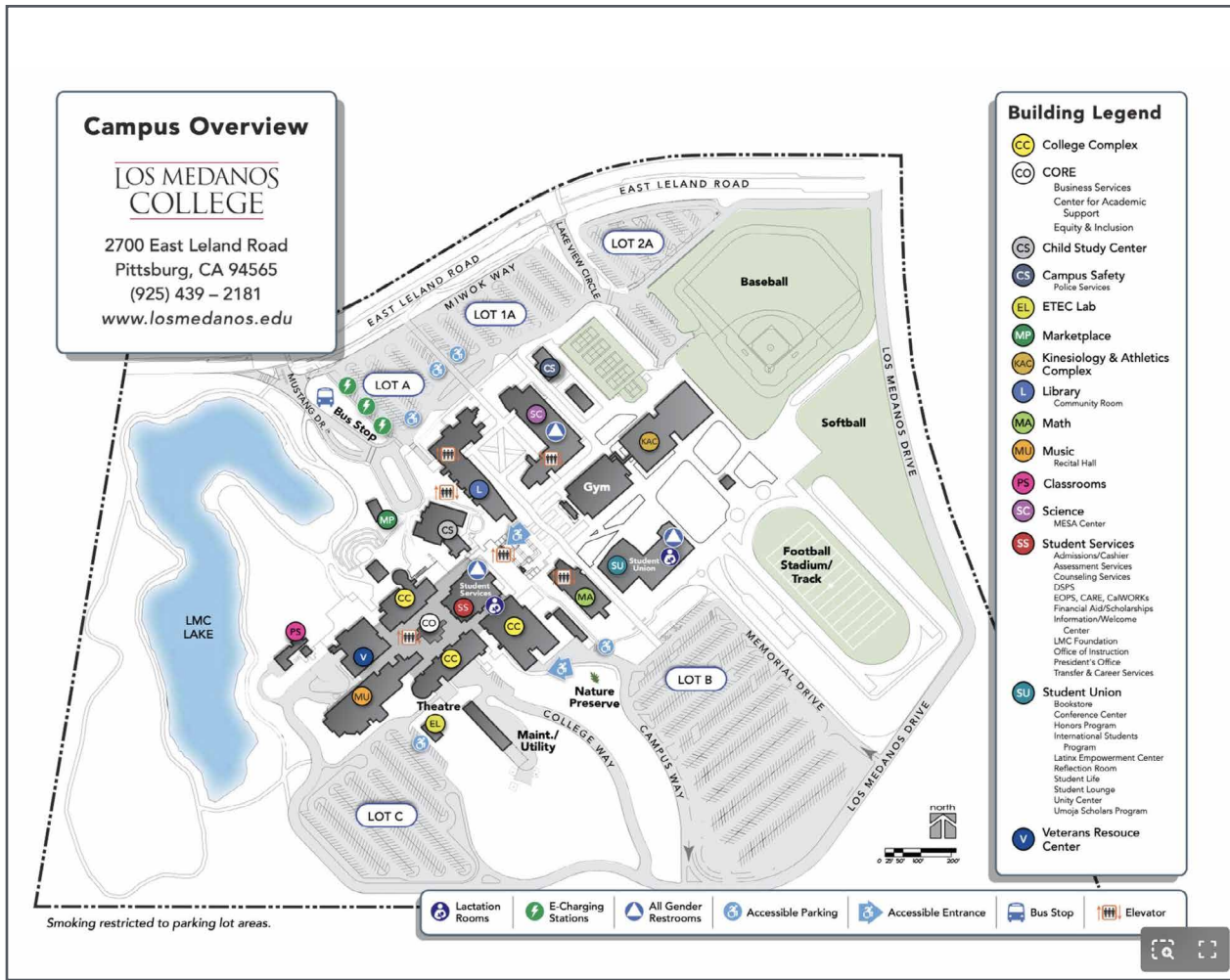
Next Steps



INTRODUCTIONS



PRE-JOURNEY



Parking Permit Process

For the fall semester 2023 parking permit fees are \$48 for a student semester permit and \$3 for a daily permit. Both semester and daily permits can be obtained through [InSite](#) or [MyCampusPermit.com](#).

Student semester permits and staff permits must be displayed in plain view with all numbers and markings clearly visible. Daily permits are virtual and are not required to be printed or displayed.

Failure to obtain and display a valid parking permit will result in a citation. For help with your permit, call 1-800-700-4417 or visit [MyCampusPermit.com](#).

Students, staff, and faculty will need to provide their vehicle license plate number, make, and color of the vehicle. If you will be driving a different vehicle during the FALL TERM, you will need to [update your vehicle information HERE](#) or call 1-800-700-4417 **BEFORE** parking on campus.

Alternative Forms of Transportation

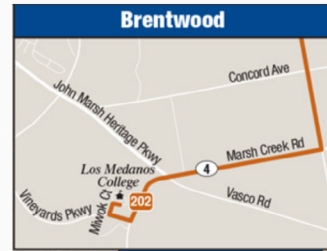
Buses

LMC is served by frequent Tri Delta Transit buses to Pittsburg/Bay Point BART and local communities. Buses numbered 380, 381, 387,388 and 391 all serve LMC Monday-Friday. Schedules are available at the Student Life Office.

Route 381 is the quickest ride between the Pittsburg campus as downtown Pittsburg.

To get to the LMC Brentwood Center the weekday Route 202 will get you there.

The Tri Delta Transit web site also offers a "Trip Planner" link where you can enter origin and destination and the web site will provide you with transit options and times. For more information on this, routes, fees, and other information, please visit: www.trideltatransit.com. Or call Tri Delta Transit at: (925) 754-6622.



BART

Tri Delta Transit Buses connect LMC to BART, which services Pittsburg, Concord, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek and other cities throughout the Bay Area. For specific Tri Delta Transit buses that service Los Medanos College, please see "Buses", or call Tri Delta Transit at: (925) 754-6622

Carpooling

Carpooling to school is a healthier and faster commute option with 9 miles of High Occupancy Vehicle lanes on Highway 4, between Port Chicago Highway and Railroad Avenue.

Bicycle

Secure bike racks are available at various locations on campus. Bikes can be transported by BART or bus as well. See the above numbers for more information.

The De Anza bike trail intersects the South end of the Los Medanos College campus. The bike trail can be accessed from the West of LMC at Leland, Crestview Drive Railroad Avenue, Harbor Street, Loveridge Road. The bike trail can be accessed from the East of LMC at Somersville Road, Delta Fair Blvd and GentryTown Drive and James Donlon Boulevard. Free trail maps can be obtained by visiting 511 Contra Costa at <http://www.511contracosta.org> or by calling (925) 969-0841.

ONLINE INFORMATION

- The parking and transportation information found online provides visitors and new students with helpful options and clearly identifies specific arrival points, depending on one's selected destination.
- The map found online is not consistent with wayfinding maps on campus.
- The interactive digital map is not as functional or useful as it could be. More in-depth directory listings would provide users with necessary information prior to their arrival on campus.

VISITORS + FIRST TIME DESTINATIONS



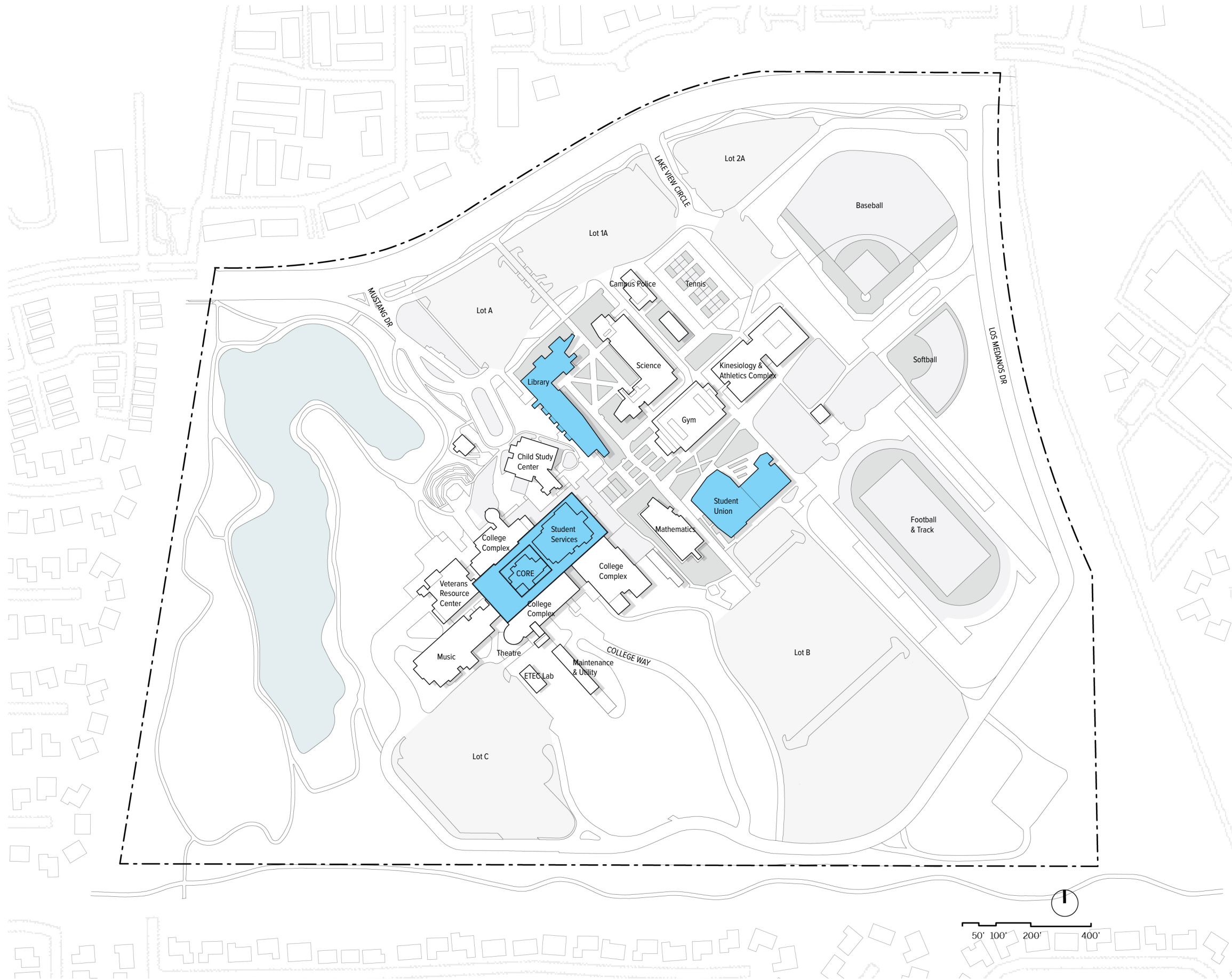
- Visitors and prospective students may visit Student Services and Student Union on their first visit.
- One-time visitors are likely to visit the campus for events at the Theatre/Music building and the Gymnasium/Athletic Complex.
- Interviewees and new staff access HR staff and hiring/onboarding services in the CORE.
- *Are any destinations especially difficult for first-time visitors to find?*



■ Visitor Destinations

PRIMARY STUDENT DESTINATIONS

- Students may spend most of their time in classes or in the College Complex/CORE and Library.
- Students who need information or participate in campus activities will frequent the Student Services and Student Union buildings.
- *Are there other destinations used by students that are difficult to find?*



■ Student Destinations



VEHICULAR EXPERIENCE

VEHICULAR SITE PLAN



Analysis

- The gateway entrance experience is lacking and campus monuments appear outdated.
- Campus monuments are the only vehicular signs upon entry to campus. Visitors need more guidance to specific destinations.
- Directional signage is weighted toward the back of campus. More frequent directionals throughout campus would reassure visitors.
- *What percentage of visitors come to Campus from each direction?*
- *Should eastbound traffic on Leland Road heading to the southern half of Campus enter at Los Medanos Drive in order to reduce pedestrian conflicts?*
- *What are common problems that first-time visitors have with parking and locating intended destinations?*
- *Do users find it challenging to navigate the one-way routes in Lot B?*

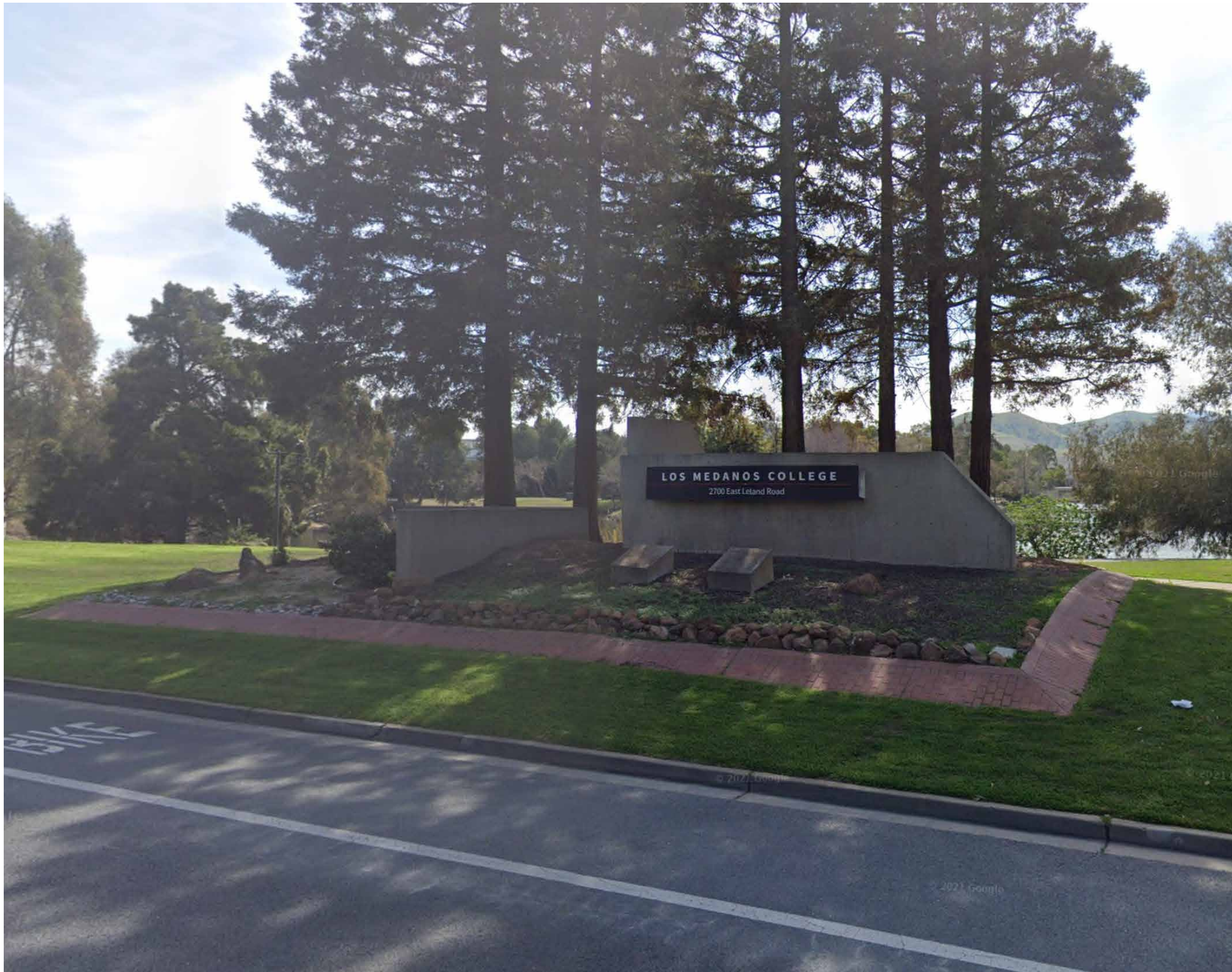
Wayfinding Group Comments

“Wayfinding is difficult for deliveries to the Student Union.”

“Lack of wayfinding brings unwanted people to the Child Studies Center”

EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Campus Entrance
- ⊙ Campus Monument
- ⊙ Secondary Monument
- ➡ Primary Vehicular Directional
- ➡ Secondary Vehicular Directional



GATEWAY MONUMENTS: EAST LELAND ROAD

- The primary monument is located on East Leland Road before the entrance to campus.
- Easily missed due to parallel orientation to road.

**GATEWAY MONUMENTS:
LOS MEDANOS DRIVE**

- A legacy monument is located after the turn-in from East Leland Road onto Los Medanos Drive near the athletic facilities.



VEHICULAR SIGNAGE



- Existing signage directs to parking lots, back-of-house locations, and select major public destinations (theater/music), but not all (athletic facilities).
- Destinations are listed by proximity.
- Messages observed include:
 - Parking lots (A, 1A, 2A, B, C)
 - Music/Theatre
 - Maintenance & Receiving
 - Deliveries
- Messages are relevant but the sign design is not scaled appropriately for legibility. The text is difficult to see and read in an moving vehicle.
- *More signage is needed near campus entries and along Lot A.*
- *Do students and visitors understand which parking lots are in closest proximity to their desired destination?*

PARKING + DROP OFF

- Students can park and get dropped off in all lots.
- Lot identifications are only located in Lot A and Lot 1A. Lots B & C have directional signs at each entry.
- *Additional lot identification signs in Lots B and C could be useful to reinforce the wayfinding system in such large lots.*
- *Updating the Lot A numbering to Lot A1, A2, and A3 would assist intuitive wayfinding.*
- *Has the College considered reserved visitor parking in Lot A/1A?*

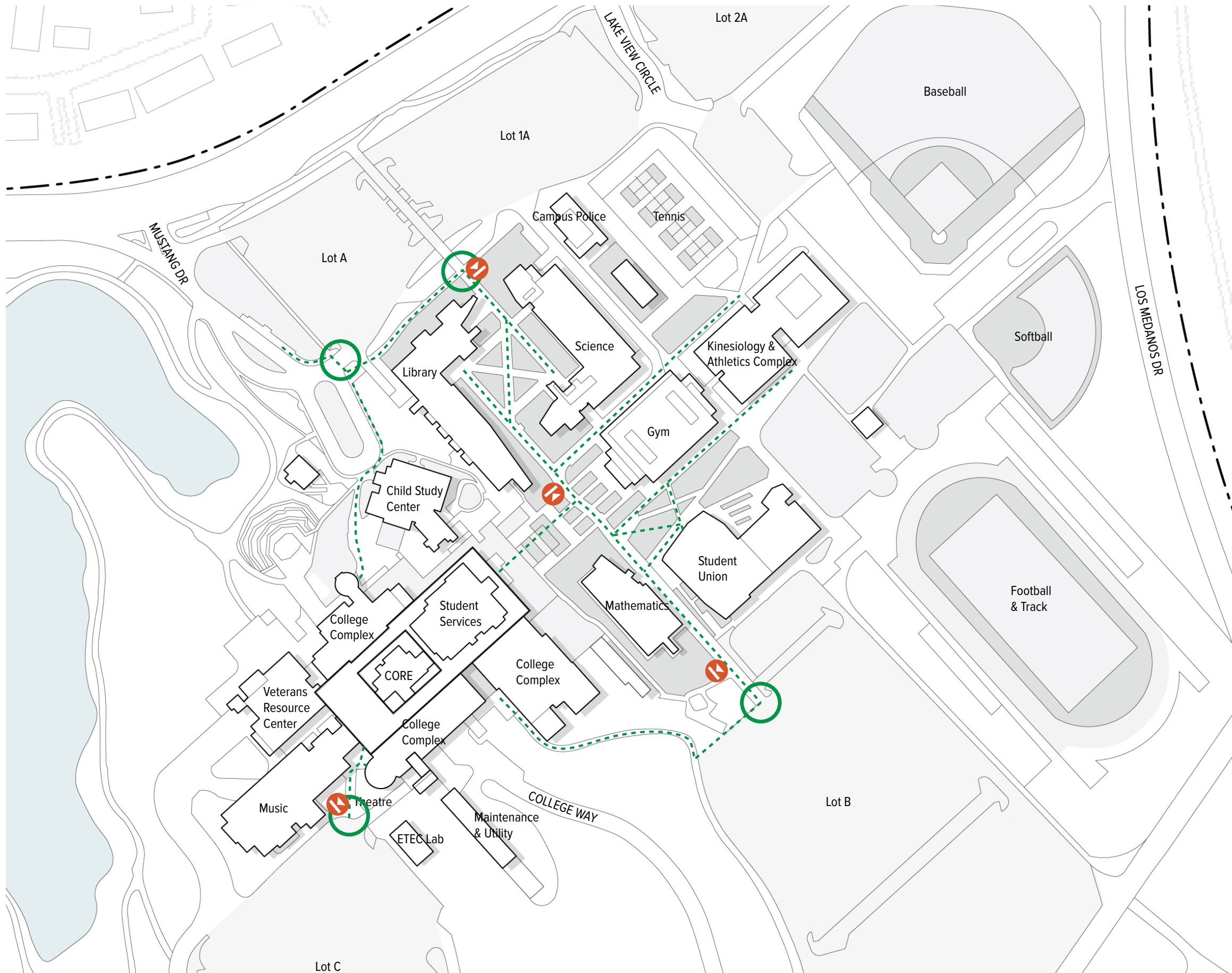


- Student Parking
- Drop-Off Locations
- Bus Stop



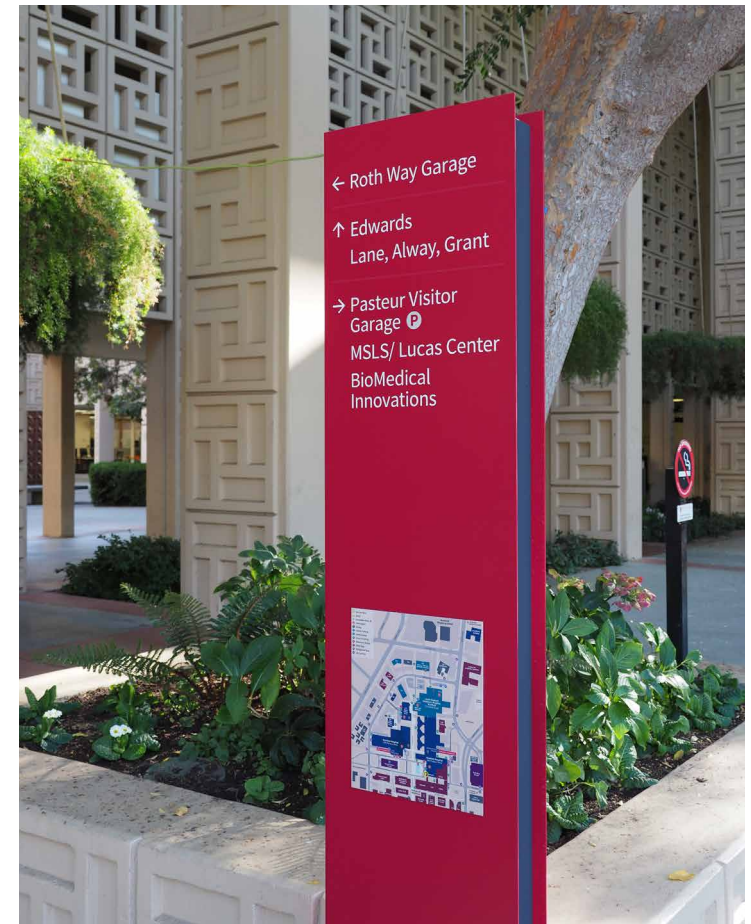
PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE

PEDESTRIAN SITE PLAN



Analysis

- No pedestrian signage system is currently in place except for campus maps located on the perimeter of campus and in the main quad.
- Adding a system of maps and directional signs will support pedestrian navigation and a positive visitor experience.



EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Pedestrian Entrance
- Ⓜ Campus Map

NAVIGATION & PLACEMAKING



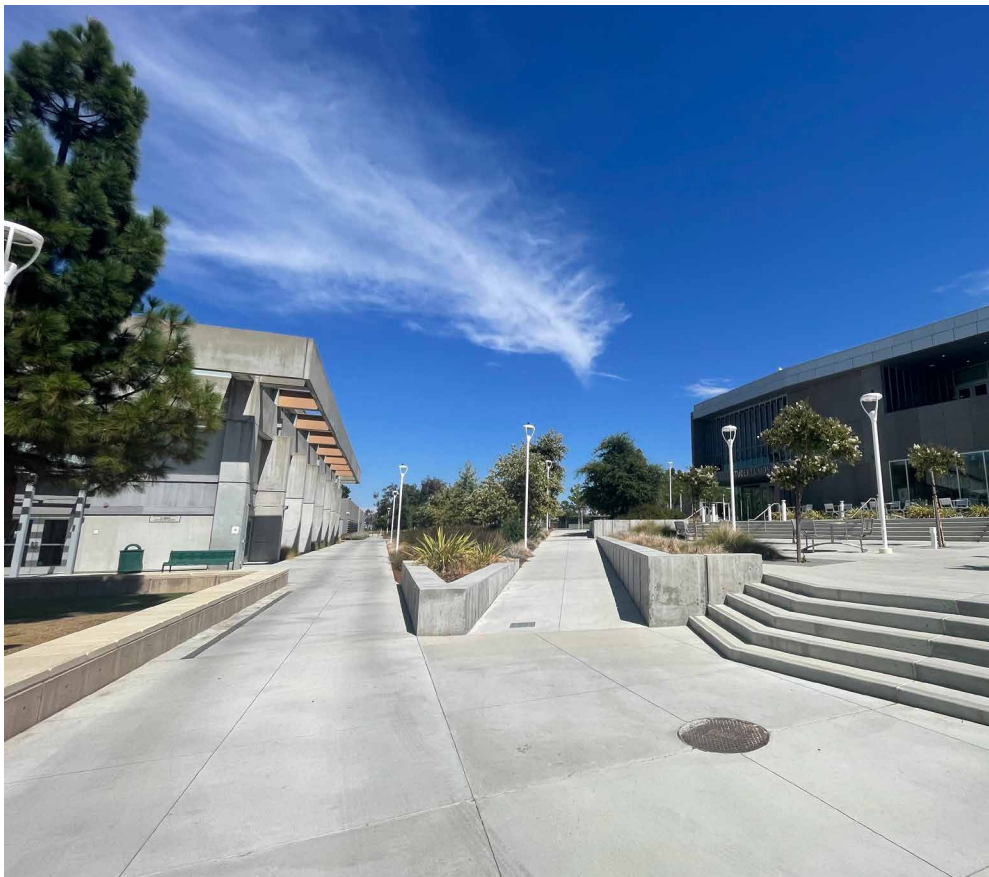
Analysis

- Several areas of campus have large plazas where there is no orientation or directional signage, even when there are multiple paths to choose from.
- The similarity of site furnishings, architectural styles, and plaza sizes presents a major challenge for wayfinding. Integrating memorable landmarks (branding, art, etc.) and adding wayfinding will assist in self-orientation and navigation.

Wayfinding Group Comments

“Humanize the campus, see images of students, faculty, artwork, artifacts, different cultures”

“Reflect the culture of campus, bring in color and less “chilly and institutional”





NAVIGATION & ORIENTATION

- Campus buildings have very similar architectural and identification styles, making wayfinding and orientation challenging.

Wayfinding Group Comments

“Can signage be placed on/around the Student Union to bring awareness to the different centers located inside (banners, signs in windows)”

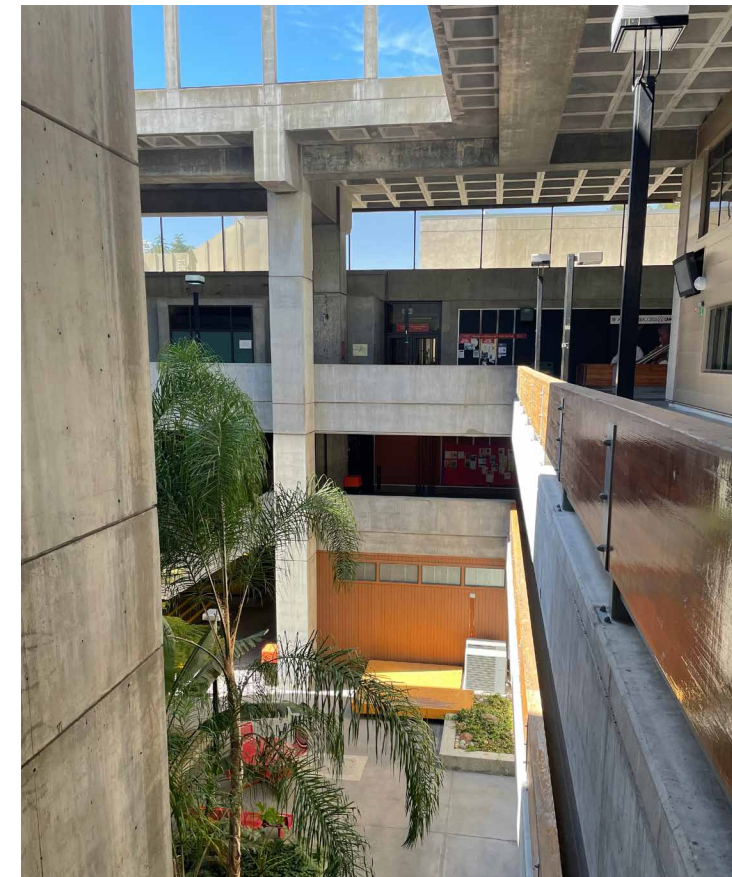
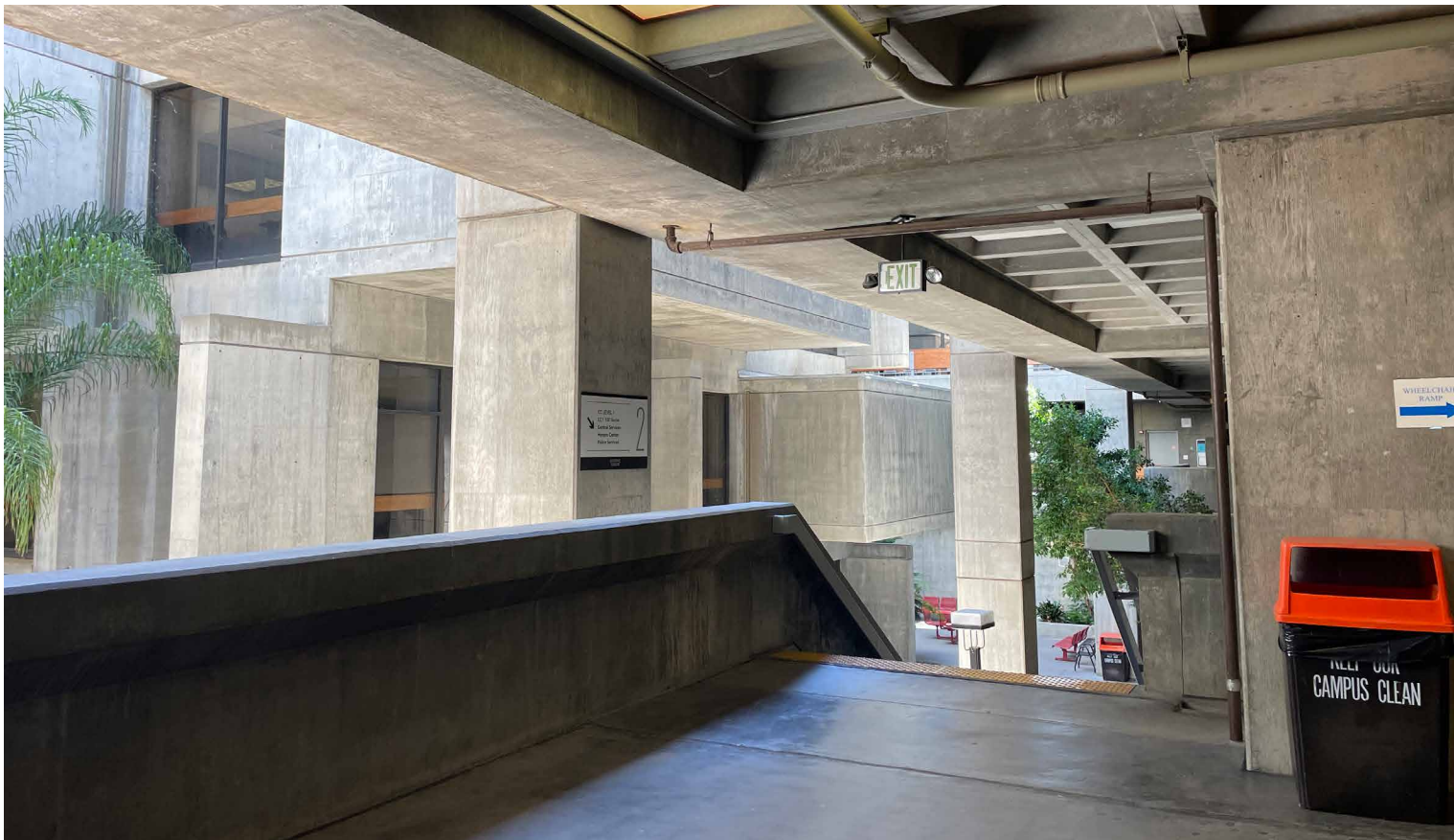




NAVIGATION & ORIENTATION: COLLEGE COMPLEX & CORE

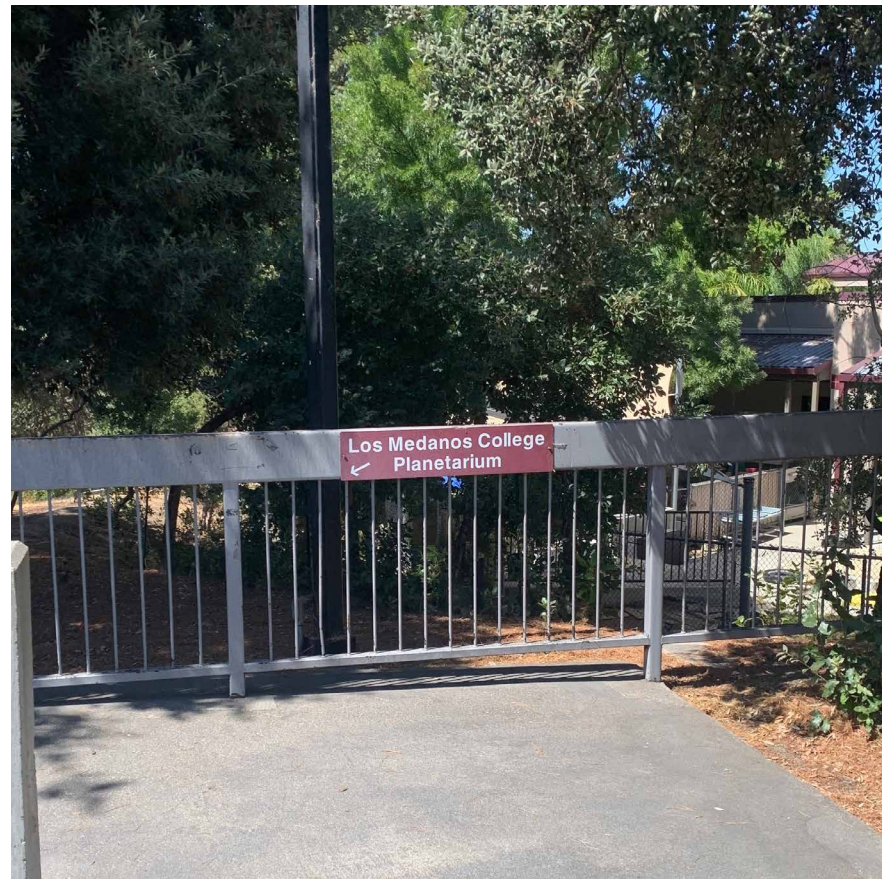
Analysis

- Services in the College Complex and CORE are not clearly identified or directed to, despite being major destinations.
- Multiple generations of wayfinding signage in the College Complex and CORE lack cohesion and appear outdated.
- *Adding directionals and directories with departmental destinations would improve the visitor experience.*
- *There is an opportunity to create distinction between stairways using landmarks, color, material etc. as an orientation device within the College Complex.*



Wayfinding Group Comments

- “Students don’t know where they need to go once they are inside the College Complex”
- “No signage to tell students what down each corridor in the College Complex”
- “Hard to find tutoring services in the College Complex and know they’re there”
- “HR staff and hiring/onboarding is located in the core of the College Complex, most complicated and hard to find place on campus with little wayfinding with many people unfamiliar with the campus/building needing to find it”
- “Common for interviewees to be late and come flustered to interview because they got lost”



EXISTING PEDESTRIAN SIGNAGE

Analysis

- Campus maps are too small and inconsequential relative to the scale of campus and plazas.
- The map lists departments and services within buildings, but text is small and difficult to read.
- No departments or services are listed within the College Complex, despite being an important and popular destination.
- *Who maintains the campus maps? How often is the artwork updated?*
- *How often do destinations/departments change?*

Wayfinding Group Comments

“Food Pantry/Basic Needs Center is far away and difficult to find”

“Students get lost trying to find Student Services in the middle and back of campus”

“Signage of old cafeteria in old bookstore often leads students to the wrong location”

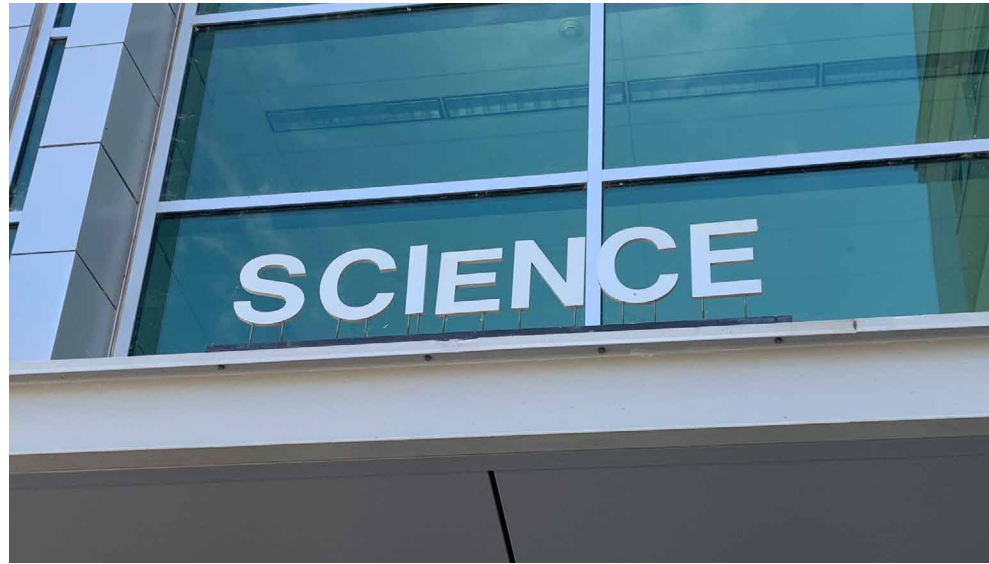


ACCESSIBLE SIGNAGE



- Campus is primarily flat, with not many steep grade changes affecting pathway accessibility.
- The Student Union building has stairs, but no directional signage directing to accessible ramps.
- Student Services also has a staircase, yet no indication of the available elevators as the accessible path of travel.
- *Are there any accessibility challenges that students and visitors commonly have?*





BUILDING IDENTIFICATION

- Most buildings are identified by aluminum or painted gray dimensional letters that are post-mounted above a soffit, pin-mounted to the facade, or panel-mounted above the entrance.
- Aluminum letters on light-colored panels create issues with contrast and legibility (Student Services).
- Many identification letters that are post-mounted have skewed or uneven alignments (Mathematics, Science, Library).





NEXT STEPS



THANK YOU