**Transcription from Observational Walk notes**

Route in Santo Domingo: Tetl and community centre to Aztecs

Duration: 30 minutes

Date and time: November 11, 2022 . From 11:15 to 11:46 a.m.

Observer: A

I arrive at Metro CU at 11:15 and walk along Tetl. The street is still crowded and busy, with cars and trucks carrying people.

I turn left onto Casa Street. On this street I see a sign on a house that says "ill person at home. 24 hour check out. Please respect". This type of sign is common in the neighbourhood and refers to houses with driveways. This type of sign serves to prevent other people from blocking driveways when parking. I find it interesting that the reference is to the fact that there is a sick person there, and that 24-hour entry and exit is needed. On many signs of this style, on this and other streets, there are also phrases like "respect my driveway and I'll respect your car", or "free flat tyres". This also speaks of the street as a space that, although shared, is easily a source of disputes between neighbours, grounds for conflict, or competition for parking spaces. This also makes me think of a continuity that exists between houses and homes.

On this same street I see a catholic religious altar to the Virgin Mary, with a statue. Next to this altar, I can see a house with a neighbourhood alarm sign. I take a picture of this confluence of image and sign. Interestingly, both are signs of people's efforts to protect themselves in their daily lives on the streets. Both are signs of security and protection, one religious, the other by government institutions.

On this same street there are new apartment buildings and others under construction. I turn onto Atl, where there is a building under construction as well. There are piles of earth, gravel and sand, construction material placed on the street. I am struck by the fact that the street now becomes a place to leave construction materials, and the fact that I see new flats so far inside the neighbourhood, and not on one of its main avenues. On this same street there is a house with a cactus growing at the entrance and a "kittens for free" sign on the same house. It is interesting to see the role of pets and the non-human in the interaction also between neighbours.

I walk and notice different signs on this street: people looking for a puppy, advertising land for sale, or offering support in regularising the legal status of housing. All these advertisements are part of the daily communication in the neighbourhood.

On Atl Street he also arrived at a water well under construction. I arrived at the well at 11:25 am. Here is the corner with the school, where there used to be a shared tap from which people drank water for their needs. At the well I see seven people working today. There is also a machine that is removing soil. I stop to watch the machine as it moves the earth and puts it on a truck. I think that this well is the result of the organisation and work of the Water Defence Committee, although this time it is SACMEX that is doing the work. This contrasts with the previous experience of modifying and constructing the inhabited space, from the first years when the inhabitants of Santo Domingo arrived in the neighbourhood. In those years, the community work doing faenas (community walk) and shifts to lift stones or lay pipes was crucial, as the government provided the resources but the inhabitants provided the labour to pave the streets or install drainage and drinking water. Now the work is done by other people, although the space continues to be modified by neighbourhood initiative.

The street is almost completely closed off by the people and machinery working on the well. In front of the construction there is a shop selling purified water, like those in other parts of the neighbourhood. I find it interesting that the water infrastructure becomes so visible in the neighbourhood, and that two different logics of satisfying needs are manifested by the lack of water.

I turn left at Fuerza. I see a couple of young men and women carrying a jug of water on a small diablito. I also see and hear the bells announcing a rubbish collection truck passing through this street. At 11:31 I arrive at the mural on the corner of Llave and Fuerza streets. It is the mural of agua para los pedregales ("water for the pedregales"). This time there are people standing in front of the mural. It's a group of women selling or promoting Jehovah's Witnesses material. I walk down Llave street and turn into Colibrí street. On the previous corner I see a water truck in front of a house. The water truck has a hose that enters the house and is filling a water tank. It is an example of the daily lack of water and the need for water in the neighbourhood. The water truck has the logo of the Mexico City government and SACMEX (Mexico City water system). I walk down Colibrí and see a car delivering water bottles to people's homes on this street. There I also hear the delivery man shouting "water!" to announce that he has arrived.

I arrive at the popular community centre, and I see that inside the building there is a neighbourhood bookshop, and on one side there is a community kitchen. In front of the popular community centre there are fruit and vegetable stalls for sale. I walk down that street to the eastern end of the neighbourhood. As I walk I hear a woman asking in front of a shop if they sell coffee.

I go out onto Avenida Aztecas, one of the main streets in this area of the city, which is outside Santo Domingo, and is located between a neighbourhood called Ajusco and another called Santa Ursula. The neighbourhood Ajusco is very similar to Santo Domingo. On Aztecas Avenue I pass by a church that was very important in the activities of the general assembly that opposed the damage to a shallow aquifer in Aztecas 215. In front of this church there are also murals that speak of the history of Santo Domingo and the struggle for water and life.