



Safety Audit Checklist

There are many resources available on SafeGrowth and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. The following is one helpful tool developed by AlterNation LLC, used by practitioners in a number of LISC cities in collaboration with CSI: a “Safety Audit”. This tool is helpful for CPTED/SafeGrowth practitioners seeking to assess physical design liabilities and perception of fear and crime at a specific location.

Further study of CPTED will allow new practitioners to learn more about best-practices for implementation, but below are some brief tips on how to use and conduct a safety audit in your community.

A successful *Safety Audit* should always:

- Be completed at night
- Be conducted in a small team with members who represent a relative sampling of the neighborhood (e.g. seniors, youth, both women and men, residents, etc.)
- Be conducted by one objective/silent facilitator who records participants’ comments and reactions throughout the survey.
- Focus on a reasonably sized area, such a series of lots, the perimeter of a building and its parking lot, etc. Too large of an area makes survey administration too cumbersome and will result in sacrificing specific commentary on design elements at your target location.

Remember: *Your role in the audit is just to facilitate. During the safety audit it is important for you to take off your “CPTED hat” and let the survey do the talking.*

Please contact LISC CSI for more tips or technical assistance with implementation.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Safety Audit Checklist

Area Description

Outdoors

Indoors

General Area:

Specific Location:

Date:

Day:

Time:

General Impressions (Your gut reactions)

Which 5 words best describe the place?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Lighting

Lighting is: (Circle the most appropriate)

Very Poor

Poor

Satisfactory

Good

Very Good

Too Dark

Too Bright

Is the lighting even?

Yes

No

How many lights are out?

What proportion of lights is out?

Are you able to identify a face 25 yards away?

Yes No

Do you know where/whom to call if lights are out, broken, not turned off, etc?

Yes No

Outdoors: Is the lighting obscured by trees or bushes?

Yes No

How well does the lighting illuminate pedestrian walkways and sidewalks?

Very Poor Well
Poorly Very Well
Satisfactory

How well does the lighting illuminate directional signs or maps?

Very Poor Well
Poorly Very Well
Satisfactory

Other Comments:

Signage

Is there a sign (ie: room number, building name) identifying where you are?

Yes No

If no, are there directional signs or maps nearby that can help you identify where you are?

Yes No

Are there signs that show you where to get emergency assistance if needed?

Yes No

Are there signs that direct you to wheelchair access?

Yes No

Impressions of overall signage:

Very Poor Good
Poor Very Good
Satisfactory

What signs should be added?

Sight Lines

Can you clearly see what is up ahead?

Yes

No

If not, why?

Indoors:

Sharp corners

Walls

Pillars

Outdoors:

Bushes

Hill

Fences

Other

Are there places where someone could be hiding?

Yes

No

If yes, where?

What are changes you would provide for better sight lines?

Transparent windows

Angled corners

Trimmed bushes

Vehicles moved

Security mirrors

Snow cleared

Other comments/suggestions: