Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

RVP Conference September 2016

LISC
Helping neighbors build communities
About CPTED

• Originated in the 1970’s

Philosophy:
“Proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime as well as an improvement in the quality of life”

• Understanding our responsibility
The physical structures and areas we create as a society have lasting effects and repercussions.
Roots and Research Base

C. Ray Jeffery (1971) – *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design*

Oscar Newman (1972) – *Defensible Space*

Ronald Clarke (1980) – *Situational Crime Prevention*


Timothy Crowe (1994) – *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design*

Greg Saville and Gerry Cleveland (1998) – *Second Generation CPTED*
Goals

- Reduce opportunities for crime to occur
- Reduce fear
- Improve quality of life
- Provide opportunities for positive social interaction
Getting Started

• In order to be effective, CPTED cannot serve as an afterthought

• The best results come from rigorous planning and conceptualizing what features or activities can assist in creating safe spaces

• Should be a data driven process
Data Driven Process

• Having a good understanding of the past, present, and future

- What is the history of the property or area
- What is currently taking place in and around the property or area
- What do you want or envision for the future
- What partners do you need at the table to accomplish you objectives
Basic Principles
Minimize opportunity for crime to occur in a given place

Natural Surveillance:
A design concept which is utilized to keep people (visitors or intruders) under observation by having features which increase visibility…

- Increases the opportunity for a crime to be deterred by creating areas where activity is more noticeable
- Increasing the likelihood that a passerby, patrolling officer, or security officer would observe suspicious activity
Basic Principles

Access Controls:  
*Structures or elements which convey a message of denied admission and establish the area, building, or unit as a “risky target” for criminals…*

- Examples include planted trees, shrubs, gates, or fencing.
- Items should be strategically (not haphazardly) placed in locations determined by research and data.
Territorial Reinforcement:

*Design elements which help convey the message that the property is cared for and owned by a private entity or person (extends a sphere of territorial influence….*

- This concept helps distinguish between public and private ownership

- Items such as sidewalks, porches, decorative emblems, and landscaping exhibits signs of ownership and sends a message of “hands off”
Basic Principles

Upkeep and Maintenance:
Statistics show that areas struggling with issues of blight, vacancies, and trash are more likely to attract criminal activity and or lawlessness…

• Neglected neighborhoods send a message of greater tolerance of disorder

• Proper maintenance sends a message of pride, ownership, protection, and concern
“Second Generation” Principles
Minimize social conditions that generate crime opportunities

Cohesion
Creating events and opportunities for neighbors to know each other and solve problems together.

Capacity
Planning for land use and density that promotes safety.
CPTED Methodology

(1) Problem analysis
- Are diverse data sources being mined to understand the problem?
- Are multiple viewpoints being heard?
- Are the long-range goals clear?

(2) Strategy identification
- Are both owners and users of the space at the decision-making table?
- Are the experiences of comparable communities informing decisions?

(3) Implementation
- Are people with relevant authority or resources part of the process?
- What steps need to be taken to secure the support of key decision-makers?
Resources

COPS Problem-Solving Tools Guide
http://www.popcenter.org/tools/cpted/

International CPTED Association
www.cpted.net

Peel CPTED (2002, January) Advisory Committee Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principle:
http://www3.cutr.usf.edu/security/documents%5CCPTED%5CPeele%20Canada.pdf


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