

Audited Area:

Date:

Note taker:

Safety Audit Evaluation Criteria

Lighting

Is the lighting too bright or too dark in any specific area?

How well does the lighting illuminate the area?

How clearly does the lighting illuminate directional signs?

Do I know where/whom to call if lights are out, broken, not yet turned on?

Am I able to identify a face 25 metres (75 feet) away?

Is the lighting obscured by trees or bushes?

How well does the lighting illuminate pedestrian walkways and sidewalks?

Sightlines

Can you clearly see what is ahead?

Is your visibility obstructed by: pillars, sharp corners, walls, bushes, advertisement panels, snow-banks, ditches and others?

What would make it easier to see ahead?

Isolation

Can you see and hear people around you and do you feel you could be seen and heard by others?

Do you feel the nearest emergency service such as an alarm, emergency phone is close at hand?

Is there a monitor or surveillance system?

Is there a place nearby where I can get help from someone who is culturally sensitive to my needs? (e.g. Friendship Centre, Settlement Agencies, Mosque)

Is the area patrolled by a community neighbourhood watch program, security guards, police, or other?

Possible assault sites

Are there any areas where someone could hide from view?

Are there any specific areas in and around the building where you feel more vulnerable?

Maintenance

Is there litter lying around?

Is there evidence of vandalism?

Are there any broken items?

Signage

Is the lettering on the signs easy to read and large enough?

Can you see signs directing you to emergency assistance?

Are there visual symbols to represent important information such as emergency telephones, stairwells, etc.?

Are the signs easy to understand for a person whose first language is neither English nor French?

Are they within visual range for a person seated person with visual impairment?

Is there information posted describing the hours the building is open?

Animals

Are there any domestic animals in the area?

Is this area dirty due to the animals?

Accessibility

Are the wheelchair access ramps appropriate?

Is the area/building easily accessible for persons with mobility disabilities?

Are peepholes, mailbox, information shelves etc., located at an appropriate height?

Stairwells

Is the lighting level comfortable?

How do you feel using the stairs?

Would you use the stairs at night?

Could someone hear you if you called for help?

Elevators

Is the lighting level comfortable?

What atmosphere do the elevators project?

Do you know how to call for assistance when in the elevator?

Are there visual symbols to represent important information?

Is the lettering on the signs tactile, raised or in braille?

Crisis Prevention and Intervention

Are there reception staff trained to handle different situations?

Is there or are you aware of the policy/plan to deal with unsafe behavior?

Are there adequate security measures in place after hours?

Are you aware of policies/ plans in place to deal with safety issues for rental agreements to outside organizations?

Parking Garage

Does the color of the walls in the parking garage allow lighting to be used efficiently?

Are the exits and main routes clearly signed, using distinctive colours and symbols?
How far is the nearest person to hear a call for help?
Is the parking garage presenting any entrapment sites?

Lobby/main entrance/ waiting room

Is access easy available to people from outside?
Do you feel threatened by people waiting in the lobby alone at night?
Do you have any concerns when the common room is rented?

Overall Design

If you were not familiar with the area would it be easy to find your way around?
Is it easy to access the building?
Is the building accessible for a person with a mobility impairment?
Are signs located within visual range for a person seated or within range for a person with visual impairment?

8. MOVEMENT PREDICTORS

How easy is it to predict a woman's movements (e.g. her route)?
 very easy somewhat obvious no way of knowing
Is there an alternative well-lit and frequently travelled route or path available?
yes no don't know
Can I tell what is at the other end of the path, tunnel, or walkway? yes no

9. POSSIBLE ENTRAPMENT SITES

Are there small, confined areas where I would be hidden from view?
 between garbage bins unlocked equipment or utility shed
 alley or laneway doorway construction site
 isolated parking lots or bus stops other(s)

Are there areas that should be locked, fenced or barricaded?
 vacant lots abandoned houses building entrances
 parking lots other(s)

10. ESCAPE ROUTES

How easy would it be for a victim to get away?
Is there more than one exit? yes no
If yes, are they: unlocked level
 very easy
 don't know
 easily opened

11. NEARBY LAND USES

Can I identify who owns or maintains nearby land?

Impressions of nearby land use:

Is the surrounding or nearby land used for?

stores offices restaurants/bars residential houses and streets school park
 garage church heavily treed/wooded area parking lots vacant lot factory
 farms • busy traffic street river bank • campus buildings don't know other(s)

13. FACTORS THAT MAKE THE PLACE MORE HUMAN

Does the place feel abandoned? yes no

Why?

Is there graffiti on the walls? yes no

In my opinion, are there racist or sexist slogans/signs/images?

yes no

Are there signs of vandalism? yes no

Would other materials, tones, textures or colours, signs and symbols, improve my sense of safety?

yes no

Is there a security presence? yes no

14. OVERALL DESIGN

If I weren't familiar with the place, would it be easy to find my way around? yes no

Is the place too spread out? yes no

Are there a confusing number of levels? yes no

Are there benches strategically placed for rest stops? yes no

Are there curb cuts at crosswalks and corners? yes no

Is there a level route from the street level building? yes no

If no, is there an exterior ramp? yes no

Are there handrails on the ramp and stairs? yes no

Do the glass doors have decals on them so that a person with a visual impairment won't walk into them? yes no

Does the entrance door have an electric door opener? yes no

If there are stairs, is there a ramp available as well nearby? yes no

Is there a detectable indicator denoting stairway or escalators for people with a visual impairment?

yes no

Is the area free from obstacles or protrusions? yes no

If no, are they easily detectable by colour or protected by railings? yes no

(This is imperative for a person with a visual impairment)

Impressions of overall design:

very good good satisfactory poor very poor

Now that I have completed my safety audit walk, do I still have the same general impressions as I did at the beginning of this process?

yes no

15. SUMMING UP YOUR FINDINGS

What improvements would you like to see?

Do you have any specific recommendations?

In your opinion, who should be responsible for making these changes?

Problems Solutions Recommendations

Safety Checklist

Lighting Signage Visibility Possible

Assault Sites

Maintenance Accessibility Behaviour Others

Specific concern

Why is this a safety issue?

.....

.....

Exact location:

.....

Your recommendation:

.....

.....

Lighting Signage Visibility Possible

Assault

Sites

Maintenance Accessibility Behaviour Others

Specific concern

Why is this a safety issue?

.....

.....

.....

Exact location:

.....

Your recommendation:

.....