

Women's Safety Assessment Tool

Date:	Start time:
Location of walk:	End time:
Number of participants:	Weather conditions:

Use your senses to describe your first impressions of the space:

Vision

Hearing

Smell

Touch

Feelings (e.g., does the area feel busy? isolated? comfortable? safe?)

Know where you are and where you're going

Are there signs or signals that:

- Identify where you are (e.g., street signs, signs indicating main routes)
- Identify transit stops (e.g., where to wait, numbers to call)
- Identify nearby crosswalks
- Identify entrances, exits or paths that are wheelchair accessible

Are signs easy to understand, regardless of your language or reading ability? (e.g., uncomplicated language, visual symbols, etc.)

Are signs visible? (e.g., in good condition, well located, etc.)

What signs should be added and where? (if necessary)

If you weren't familiar with the place, would it be easy to find your way around? Why or why not?

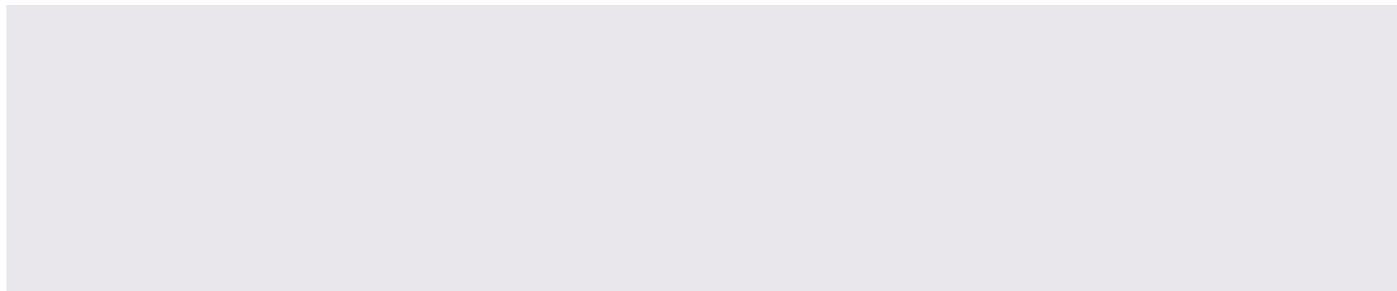


Overall impression of signage in the space:

- very poor
- poor
- satisfactory
- good
- very good

See and be seen

Are there built or natural elements that could be used as hiding places?

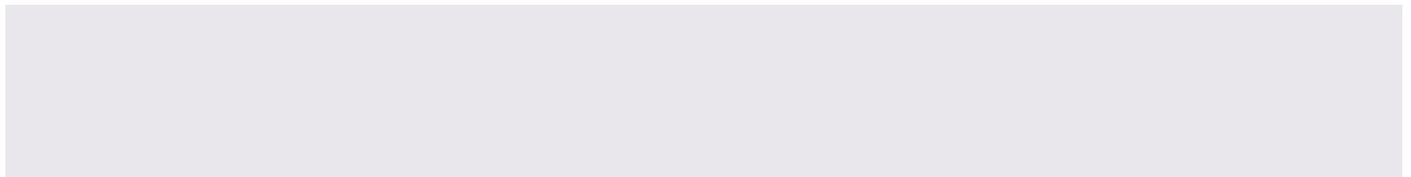


Hear and be heard

Who is the nearest person who would hear a call for help? (e.g., a nearby business, nearby homes, etc.) **How far away are they?**



Is it easy to predict when people will be in the space?



Who is likely to be around:

In the early morning-

During the day-

In the evening-

Late at night-

Being able to escape and get help

How easy would it be to escape if you were in danger? (e.g., are there multiple entrances and exits? clearly indicated paths? etc.)

If you needed help, who could help you?

- Passers-by
- Community or neighbourhood safety program/network
- Businesses/vendors
- People in nearby houses
- Community organizations (e.g., friendship centres, places of worship, non-profits, etc.)
- First responders (e.g., police, paramedics, fire services)
- Security personnel
- Emergency telephone or alarm
- Other

Are there culturally relevant resources in the area that would be sensitive to your needs in the case of an emergency or danger?

Are there surveillance cameras in the area?

Inclusion and accessibility

Are routes well-maintained and physically accessible? (e.g., are sidewalks and paths in good condition? is the ground even? are routes accessible to people using mobility devices and strollers?)

Who might feel included in this space? Who might not feel included? (i.e., think of people of diverse genders, sexualities, races, ethnicities, abilities, income levels, ages, languages)

Are there materials, tones or colours that do (or would) improve your sense of safety?

Do you have any other recommendations for inclusion and accessibility in this space?

A clean and welcoming environment

How is this space maintained?

- well-maintained
- there is some maintenance, but it needs to be improved
- poorly maintained

From your experience, how long do repairs generally take?

- within a day
- within a week
- between one and three weeks
- more than three weeks
- not sure

Are there places to dispose of garbage? Compost? Recycling?

Is there litter or debris in the space?

What makes this space inviting? What would make it more inviting?

Working together

Do you/your community feel involved in decisions about this space? Why or why not?

What ways does community use this space?

What would help you/your community feel more connected to this space?

Debrief

What do you like most about the space? What's working well?

What were the most important challenges/concerns you observed?

What are your top recommendations for change in this space?