

# WALKABILITY

WALKABILITY REFERS TO THE EASE, PLEASANTNESS AND SAFETY OF WALKING WITHIN YOUR ENVIRONMENT ON A REGULAR BASIS. AN ENVIRONMENT OR NEIGHBOURHOOD REQUIRES CONSIDERATION ON FOUR MAIN POINTS TO GET PEOPLE OUT WALKING MORE OFTEN IN ORDER TO POSITIVELY EFFECT THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH. AN OPTIMAL COMBINATION OF THE BELOW INFLUENCES THE WAY IN WHICH WALKABILITY MAY BE SCORED.

## QUIZ YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

### \_DESTINATIONS & DISTANCES

1. Can you reach most essential destinations by walking 500 meters?
2. Can you reach destinations by walking a relatively direct path?
3. Are there cul-de-sac or dead end streets that block your route?
4. What local destinations would get you walking more?

### \_MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

1. Are there overgrown trees, sign poles or other obstacles blocking footpaths?
2. Is there graffiti and vandalism along walking paths?
3. Do the footpaths have a smooth and consistent surface for prams and wheelchairs? or are they cracked and missing segments?

### \_SAFETY PERCEPTION

1. How many places could someone hide along footpaths?
2. Is there good surveillance of the areas in which you walk?
3. If there is street art in your neighbourhood, do you think it would be seen as 'graffiti', challenging and representing 'loss of social order' or 'artistic', benign, welcoming - and could there be differences for different groups in how this might contribute to a perception of safety?
4. How safe would the environment be for someone with vision impairment?

### \_AESTHETICS & AMENITIES

1. Do you find walking within your neighbourhood enjoyable?
2. Are there seating options through popular pedestrian routes?
3. Do footpaths feel wide enough that you can walk comfortably, at any pace?
4. Do you experience a journey by seeing small portions of it at a time?
5. Do streets feature interesting facades, greenery, active street frontages, architectural detailing and rhythmic design elements?

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