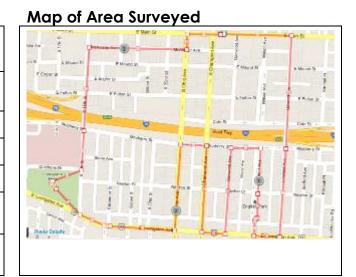
Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



Study Information

Study Information	
Community Name	Central Community House – Near Southside & Olde Towne East
Date of Walk Study:	Friday, March 30, 2012
Participants:	City Staff: 1
	Adults: 4
	Children: 1
Distance Walked:	3.32 miles
	(ex.1.78 miles)
Weather Conditions:	Warm, Sunny, low 70's
	(ex. Partly Cloudy, low 50's)



General Comments:

Overall, there was great infrastructure for walking throughout the neighborhood. One of the greatest issues for walkability is pocket-concentrations of housing vacancy throughout the area walked, and the aesthetic and safety issues associated with vacancy. Strengths for walkability in the area include a large number of community gathering spaces and spaces for recreation and play.

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



Playability/Recreation

Playgrounds where these conditions were obs	served:					
Available shade.	Livingston Park and Livingston Elementary School					
Benches or tables for seating.	The Childhood League Center					
Water Fountains.						
Play equipment appropriate for young children.						
Smooth asphalt playground.						
Regularly mowed open spaces.						
Lack of available shade.	There were many vacant lots, even in commercial areas, which could be key play opportunities if cared for, but serve as deterrents to play.					
No benches or tables for seating.						
No working water fountain.						
Unsafe playground equipment.						
Deteriorated asphalt.						
Open spaces that are not mowed.						
Overall, how would you rate the recreational opportunities in your neighborhood?	Rating: (bold one) 1 2 3 4 5 Few Many					
	wonderful places for children to play. The new Livingston Park is a wonderful ed concerns that they did not feel uniformly safe walking to Livingston Park					

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



Neighborhood Streets and Sidewalks

Sidewalks are wide with room to pass other walkers or walk with a friend.	Livingston at 18 th , Main Street from Champion to Linwood, most of Linwood, Wilson, and Oakwood Avenues Mooberry Ave. has very narrow sidewalks that make it difficult even to walk a dog.						
Sidewalks are continuous throughout the walk.							
Sidewalks are uneven, cracked or broken.	Livingston at Ohio Ave and Linwood Ave intersections. Livingston Ave. east of Ohio Ave. sidewalks are in disrepair as well as the sidewalks on Gilbert north of Livingston. McAllister in between 18 th and Ohio						
Overall, how would you rate the sidewalks within your	Rating: (bold one)	1	2	3	4	5	
neighborhood?	Few Ma		Many				

Photos:



Comments: Connectivity was generally good throughout the walk study area. There were very few places with completely missing sidewalks. However, there were quite a few areas where the condition of the sidewalks was deteriorated – especially along highly trafficked streets, discouraging pedestrians from walking. Many of the

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



sidewalks on residential streets were not wide enough for two people to walk side by side.

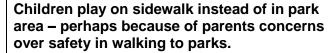
Safety						
Streets and addresses where these condition						
Lighting is bright.	People were about walking and on porches throughout the area.					
Neighbors are outside.	Most talked with us and inquired what we were doing – indicating community concern and a sense of eyes on the street, which is important for safety.					
Dogs are secured.						
Traffic is calm.						
Drivers obey stop signs and crosswalks.						
No one else is outside.						
Dogs are intimidating or not secured.	Walkers identified homes with "terrifying dogs" along Champion Ave between Mooberry and Newton and behind unstable fences on Mooberry between Champion Ave. and Wilson Ave. and on Newton between Champion Ave. and Wilson Ave.					
There is no lighting.						
Drivers ignore stop signs and crosswalks.						
Traffic is fast or unsafe.						
Overall, how safe do you feel walking in your	Rating: (bold one)	1 2 3 4 5				
neighborhood?		Few Many				
Photos:						

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH







This area has a Block Watch



Area is lit, but wires hang from the electrical poles in many places.

Comments: Some of the biggest safety concerns were over the speed of traffic along major streets and a lack of features to shield pedestrians for the traffic (especially on Main, Livingston, Champion, and Ohio). Almost all of the residential streets are narrow and feature either a grass median or cars parked along the streets, making it feel more comfortable for walking.

> The area bounded by N:Mooberry Street, S: Livingston Avenue, E: 22nd Street, and W: Carpenter Street was identified as making walkers feel most unsafe – due to perceptions of gang and crime activity concentrating in that area.

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



Housing & Aesthetics

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Houses are well-kept and yards are mowed.

There are some beautifully maintained homes throughout the area walked, with a particular concentration in the Old Oaks area

There is no excessive noise.

There is a pleasant feeling about the street.

Houses are not well maintained.

Many of the vacant homes all have similar appearances (overgrown lawns, evidence of break-ins, deteriorating conditions, and concentrations of litter)

1

Few

Excessive noise comes from houses.

Criminal activity may be taking place.

Overall, how would you rate the housing environment in your neighborhood

Rating: (bold one)

2 3

4

Many

5

Photos:



Bushes are overgrown in many places throughout the walking area



Vacant commercial buildings on Main Street



Open, vacant lots in commercial areas bring crime elements

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH



There are some beautifully maintained homes next to vacant homes that have fallen victim to arson



Vacant, city-owned buildings are distinguished by their plywood windows



Litter found throughout all areas, empty alcohol bottles fuel perceptions of crime

Comments:

While much of the area is connected, condition of housing creates an environment that is perceived as unsafe for walking and attracts potential criminal activity. Litter is another major issue in the neighborhood, with concentrations of it found throughout – but predominantly within 1-2 residential blocks of commercial areas. Poor quality housing seems to be concentrated in a similar pattern throughout.

Where Should I Walk: Walk Study Checklist



Community Gathering Places

Streets and addresses where these conditions were observed:

Neighbors can buy food and groceries.

Sav-A-Lot grocery store on Main Street, with many corner stores, farmers markets, and community gardens throughout the area

The area is served by many churches

Neighbors can gather with friends. Neighbors can worship together.

Overall, how would you rate the opportunities for community building in your neighborhood?

Rating: (bold one)

2

1

Few

3

5

Many

Photos:



Linwood Pocket Park represents a well-cared for area where the community can gather



Central Community House serves the area as a community gathering space

Comments: There are many places where the community can walk to and gather – and many of them are aesthetically pleasing and offer a variety of community services, beyond space to congregate.