

PEDESTRIAN AUDIT SURVEYS

Overview

The Problem

Cities across the country have long channeled limited roadway improvement funds to projects that prioritize automobile usage while giving very little consideration to the needs of pedestrians. Lack of maintenance and pedestrian-friendly streets discourage people from being active in their communities and contribute to the increasing obesity epidemic. Roadway improvement projects should accommodate all users of the roadway and there is much we can do on a local level to make sure our cities promote safe walking conditions. Here's where you come in!

Solution

The **Pedestrian Audit Surveys** are designed to help citizens and urban professionals alike analyze pedestrian segments of streets, specifically sidewalks and intersections, and facilitate prioritized redevelopment and revitalization in our cities. There are three separate survey tools including:

- Survey 1. **Sidewalks**. This survey is intended to highlight problem areas in specific street segments (from one intersection at the beginning of one block to the next) that are in need of renovations. Note that each survey should be used for one side of one street segment and you will need to perform two surveys if you intend want to cover both sides of one street segment.
- Survey 2. **Signalized Intersections**. This survey is intended to measure the efficiency and overall performance of signalized intersections by examining the signals and crosswalk features to evaluate clarity, safety, and pedestrian usability.
- Survey 3. **Non-Signalized Intersections**. This survey is intended to determine overall performance of intersections without signals to evaluate pedestrian safety and usability.

These surveys assign a score to each street segment and / or intersection that can be used as a basis for objective comparison.

Getting Ready

1. Map out a walking route in your community. Determine which street segments and intersections will be surveyed. A street segment is one block of one street – or in other words, one street bounded by the closest two intersecting streets.
2. Gather the following material:
 - ☐ Street maps
 - ☐ Clipboards, notepaper, pens, and a disposable or digital camera (crucial for documenting what needs to be improved)
 - ☐ Comfortable walking shoes, water, and sunscreen
3. Print out and bring surveys. Be sure to bring enough surveys to cover the whole area – remember that the Sidewalks Pedestrian Survey is for one side of one street segment only.

Conducting the Survey

You will be asked to answer questions about the condition of the street you are observing. Based on your answers, you will then assign point values will then be assigned, leading to a final score of the street segment. **Please note that only the questions need to be answered in the field. It is recommended that you wait to assign point values and perform calculations until you are back indoors.**

Scoring

Streets can obtain up to a score of 4. The following rubric should be applied after you have the final score.

3.0 < score ≤ 4.0	Street segment is in fair to good condition.
1.5 < score ≤ 3.0	Street segment is in fair condition, improvements needed
score ≤ 1.5	Street segment is in poor condition, improvements needed urgently to address pedestrian safety.