

Neighbourhood Safety in Saskatoon Safe Growth and CPTED

Implementation in a Municipal Context – The City of Saskatoon

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- Population of approximately 270,000+
- Potash, uranium exports, major crop exporter, agriculture biotechnology
- Major employers are Saskatoon Health Region, Cameco (Potash), City of Saskatoon
- Growing very rapidly
- Influx of people, money, and jobs

Key Existing and/or Emerging Crime Issues

1. Increased Drug Trafficking: more drugs coming in from other provinces (AB & BC). East African (Somalian) groups especially active.
2. Increasing theft from construction sites including building materials, appliances, and tools.
3. Perceptions of Youth on the street are poor.
4. Potential for movement of crime with the gentrification of riverside neighbourhoods.

Where Did We Come From?

- 2 planners trained in CPTED in 1996;
- CPTED applied sporadically and mainly on Planning & Development projects;
- Solid support for CPTED within Planning & Development.



Elsewhere???



Neighbourhood Safety
Planner and LAP
Planners ... in the
trenches

First, set the direction.

Second, gain support for direction.

Momentum Starts to Build

- 1998 the City of Saskatoon started the Local Area Planning (LAP) Program;
- Comprehensive, community-based long term planning at the neighbourhood level... and with the community;
- Neighbourhood safety always identified as a top priority;



The Tipping Point

1st CPTED Training Course in Saskatoon (2001).

The Tipping Point

- Post course discussion established an informal group that saw the advantage and long term benefits of applying CPTED to civic projects.....their projects;
- Group agreed to meet to increase knowledge and skills and get input on various projects.



What Are Your Challenges?

Our Challenges

- Convincing some Senior Management that this would add minimal time or money to projects;
- Getting management to “see” that applying CPTED at the design stage will save resources in the long run...perhaps not for your department but for another department and **WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM!!!**
- Getting people to realize that one requirement does not “trump” another; it all needs to work together....Get out of your box!!



Internal Creep

- CPTED started to permeate the language and more requests and questions came in;
- Unfortunately more education needed to be done as the “Let’s CPTED that” started to become a perceived solution to a number of problems...particularly for City Councilors that were being questioned by constituents.



Working Together

Different departments can see:

- the value of working together
- the impact on other departments (serious and costly);
- e.g. new underpass...IS done at construction but poor design can have a significant impact on the community, Police and Fire (calls for service), Community Development (complaints from community) etc.



Making Progress

- Neighbourhood Safety Program seen as a good way to engage the community;
- In 2005 the Neighbourhood Safety Capital Budget was established to help implement the safety related recommendations from the approved LAPs and Neighbourhood Safety Reports;
- This established a consistent resource for implementation;



How Would You Approach Challenges? What Would YOU Do Personally??

What We Did

- Safety has been adopted, by City Council, as a fundamental value in the Official Community Plan;
- Safe Growth and the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) have been embedded in the OCP as the main tools to achieve this.



The Details

Council directs Planning and Development to formalize CPTED in the City of Saskatoon OCP:

1. Amend Section 2.1 – Fundamental Values - Saskatoon as a Sustainable Community to **add a new clause:**
 - “f) Community safety through the application of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) as identified in the Official Community Plan.”

The Details

2. ADD NEW SECTION.....Section 3A.0 Safe Growth

Section 3A.1 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

3A.1.1 Objective:

To build a safe and sustainable community by:

- a) applying the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), as identified in Section 3A.3.0, to development in the community; and
- b) maintaining a rational and effective system to review new designs and developments.

3A.2.0 Policies:

- a) civic structures and developments shall comply with the principles of CPTED as identified in Section 3A.3.0;
- b) civic structures and developments shall be reviewed in accordance with Administrative Policy A09.034 – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Review Committee;
- c) Sector and Neighbourhood Concept Plans and Amendments shall be reviewed for compliance with the principles of CPTED through the existing plan approval process; and
- d) private developments will be encouraged to incorporate the principles of CPTED into design and development.

3A.3.0 Principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) are: Listed in the Development Plan

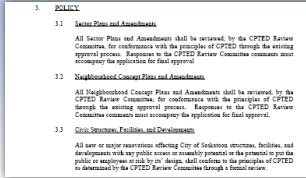
How Does It Get Done?

- The CPTED Review Committee Administrative Policy identifies the roles and responsibilities in the reviews, the approving authority, how it will be done, and who leads the processes.

CITY OF SASKATOON ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY			NUMBER A09.034
POLICY TITLE Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Review	ADOPTED BY Senior Management	EFFECTIVE DATE September 18, 2008	
ORIGIN AUTHORITY Clause 6 Report No. 17-2007 of the Executive Committee October 22, 2007	CITY FILE NO. TC 55860 and TC 54862	PAGE NUMBER 1 of 9	
1. PURPOSE			
1.1 To ensure that the built environment in the City of Saskatoon reduces the opportunity for crime to occur and increases residents' perceptions of their safety.			
1.2 To establish the process for implementing the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).			
2. RESPONSIBILITIES			
2.1 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) users a collaborative, multi-agency approach to reducing opportunities for crime.			

How Does It Get Done?

- All new, and major renovations of, structures, facilities, and developments must be submitted to the CPTED Review Committee and shall comply with the principles of CPTED as identified in the Development Plan.



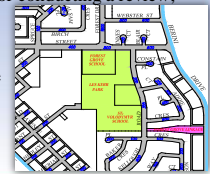
Principles of CPTED

- Natural Surveillance
- Access Control
- Image/Maintenance
- Territoriality
- Conflicting User Groups
- Crime Generators
- Activity Support
- Land Use Mix
- Movement Predictors
- Displacement
- Community Capacity
- Community Cohesion
- Community Culture

What Strengths and/or Weaknesses Can You Identify?

Strengths

- City of Saskatoon leads by example;
- CPTED review is mandatory;
- No misunderstanding of what needs to be considered;
- Established policy and process for conducting a review;
- Departments work together: resources, funding, solutions;
- Interdisciplinary groups produce stronger solutions.



Weaknesses

- Only civic projects, with the exception of neighbourhood concept plans, require the reviews at the moment;
- Hard work bringing all departments on side but worth it;
- Important to have a champion at the senior management level;
- Difficult to include the community in some reviews.



How Would You Include the Community?

Is That Important?

How It All Fits Together



City of Saskatoon's Neighbourhood Safety Program?

Five Components:

1. Creation of neighbourhood safety plans in conjunction with LAP program;
2. Neighbourhood Safety recommendation implementation;
3. CPTED Review Committee;
4. Ad hoc requests; and
5. Program Support.



Creation of New Neighbourhood Safety Plans

- Comprehensive, neighbourhood based, community lead Local Area Plans (LAP);
- Typically safety is one of the top issues identified in neighbourhood Local Area Plans;
- Working with the community to help them address safety issues in their neighbourhood using the process of Safe Growth and the principles of CPTED.



Neighbourhood Safety Recommendation Implementation

- Implemented through the Neighbourhood Safety budget;
- Range from short term strategies (< 1 year) to medium term, to long term (5-10 years) strategies;
- Estimated 250+ recommendations with over half completed;
- \$75,000+ requested in Capital Budget for implementation annually.



CPTED Review Committee

- In general, all new and major additions to civic structures, facilities, and buildings shall conform to the principles of CPTED as determined by the CPTED Review Committee through a formal review
- Projects must include... public access or assembly potential or the potential to put the public or employees at risk by its' design

100+ Capital Budget Projects on the list;



CPTED Review Committee

Committee consists of trained staff from:

- Community Services (Planning, Community Development, Leisure Services, Land);
- Infrastructure Services (Parks, Municipal Engineering);
- Saskatoon Police Service;
- Saskatoon Light and Power;
- Utility Services (Transit);
- Fire and Protective Services.





Reason for Being

Poor design and performance leads to:

- increased safety concerns
- increased potential for crime to occur
- increased workloads

Address issues and change design when development is at the concept stage.



Ad Hoc Requests

Requests may come from the community, administration, senior management, or Council:

Some examples are:

- Walkway Closures;
- Neighbourhood parks;
- Steering Committees.



Program Support

Activities that ensure information is easily accessible and understandable.

Some examples are:

- Safe at Home Booklet
- Safety Audit Booklet;
- Neighbourhood Safety Fair;
- Safe Growth/CPTED Training Courses (annually); and
- Safe Growth/CPTED Guidelines publication.



A More Targeted Approach to Crime Prevention in that:

- Best possible understanding of the actual crimes, perceptions of safety, and other activities occurring at that point in time in that area
- A clearer picture of exactly what crimes, against what targets, where, and by whom
- With limited resources City is able prioritize what issue and in what way an issue will be targeted effectively and efficiently



Planning and Safe Growth

The Neighbourhood Safety program has helped Saskatoon become a safer and more sustainable community.

The program adds value to the work that the City of Saskatoon already does. Each project reviewed becomes a safer and more sustainable project.



Planning and Safe Growth

Neighbourhood safety activities help forge stronger communities and build a community's ability to "do" for themselves.

The sum of the program, and the individual activities, is a safer community in which to live, work, play, and visit.



What Is Next ?

- Greater inclusion of the private sector;
- Incorporating CPTED review into the building permit review process similar to the neighbourhood review process.
- Neighbourhood Safety Community Grant for communities to take on recommendations that are a priority for them. This would be a cost share grant that would include “in lieu” contributions from the community.

Questions???

Thank You

What Are the Key Safety Concerns of Your Community?

For citizens, the most common key contributors to safety concerns are:

- Neighbourhood image and maintenance;
- Lighting issues in parks and on streets;
- Incivilities in the neighbourhood;
- Vandalism (graffiti vandalism & other);
- Conflicting user groups
(i.e. youth and seniors);
- Land use conflicts;
- Poor police response; and
- A lack of capacity in the neighbourhood to deal with issues on their own and a feeling of no control over what to do.



What Do You Think Are The Recurring Issues Identified by the CPTED Review Committee?

Major recurring issues identified by the CPTED Review Committee are:

- Poor physical connections to existing areas for pedestrians and cyclists;
- Poor integration (traffic safety lead to poorly designed pedestrian underpasses);
- Poor natural surveillance and sightlines;
- A disconnect between the physical plan and the activity support needed to support a safe area;
- Poorly planned activity nodes that may actually generate crime because of their physical location or the manner in which they draw users to the site;
- Conflicting land uses or placing conflicting users in the same space;
- Poor location of buildings on site or poor design of buildings themselves that lead to entrapment zones or movement predictors;
- Poor understanding of the capacity of different areas to carry multiple uses in close proximity (e.g. bars, pawn shops, increased density, etc.); and
- Lack of research beyond the specific requirements for completion of a project.

What is Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)?



- An understanding that certain “cues” in the physical environment can prompt or prevent undesirable, or crime-related behaviours
- It is thoughtful design features, effective use of physical space, and community involvement that can lead to reduced opportunities for crime and a lessening of the fear of crime



- 1997 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) arrives in Saskatoon;
- 2001 Civic staff set up an informal CPTED Working Group to help improve the safety of projects;
- 2008 City Council adopts the philosophy of Safe Growth and the principles of CPTED into the Official Community Plan;
- 2008 CPTED Design Review Administrative Policy approved.

The Tipping Point

- Planning & Development Branch was the driving force;
- Parks Branch saw the benefits to their projects and became our staunchest supporters;
- Other departments and branches followed;
- Important to note that most of these people were front line workers...planners, landscape architects, transit planners, transportation and design engineers, etc.;
- BUT.....many are now in supervisory or management positions!!!



Where Are We Now?

- Neighbourhood Safety activities (meetings, audits, surveys, etc) completed inside all LAPs if applicable;
- Single resource ongoing;
- 10 CPTED courses offered since 2001;
- 200+ civic employees trained
- 80+ external participants trained, including private sector planners, landscape architects, facilities managers, and architects, etc.

