

Safety Audit Evaluation Criteria

Lighting

- Is the lighting too bright or too dark in any specific area?
- How well does the lighting illuminate the area?
- How clearly does the lighting illuminate directional signs?

Sightlines

- Can you clearly see what is ahead?
- Is your visibility obstructed by: pillars, sharp corners, walls, bushes, advertisement panels, snow-banks, ditches or other obstruction?
- What would make it easier to see ahead?

Isolation

- Can you see and hear people around you and do you feel you could be seen and hear by others?
- Do you feel the nearest emergency service such as an alarm, or emergency phone is close at hand?

Possible assault sites

- Are there any areas where someone could hide from view?
- Are there any specific areas in and around the building where you feel more vulnerable?

Maintenance

- Is there litter lying around?
- Is there evidence of vandalism?
- Are there any broken items?

Signage

- Is the lettering on signs easy to read and large enough?
- Can you see signs directing you to emergency assistance?
- Are there visual symbols to represent important information such as emergency telephones, stairwells, etc.?
- Are the signs easy to understand for a person whose first language is neither English or French?

Animals

- Are there any domestic animals in the area?
- Is this area dirty due to animals?

Accessibility

- Are the wheelchair access ramps appropriate?
- Is the area/building easily accessible for persons with mobility disabilities?
- Are peepholes, mailbox, information shelves etc., located at an appropriate height?

Safety Audit Evaluation Criteria

Stairwells

- Is the lighting level comfortable?
- How do you feel using the stairs?
- Would you use the stairs at night?
- Could someone hear you if you called for help?

Elevators

- Is the lighting level comfortable?
- What atmosphere do the elevators project?
- Do you know how to call for assistance when in the elevator?
- Are there visual symbols to represent important information?
- Is the lettering on the signs tactile, raised, in Braille?

Crisis Prevention & Intervention

- Is there reception staff available and trained to handle different situations?
- Is there and are you aware of policies/plans designed to deal with unsafe behavior?
- Are there adequate security measures in place after hours?
- Are you aware of policies/plans in place to deal with safety issues for rental agreements to outside organizations?

Parking garage and parking lots

- Does the color of the walls in the parking garage allow lighting to be used efficiently?
- Are the exits and main routes clearly signed, using distinctive colors and symbols?
- How far is the nearest person to hear a call for help?
- Is the parking garage presenting any entrapment?

Lobby – Main Entrance – Waiting Room

- Is access easily available to people from outside?
- Do you feel threatened by people waiting in the lobby alone at night?
- Do you have any concerns when the common room is rented?

Overall Design

- If you were not familiar with the area would it be easy to find your way around?
- Is it easy to access the building?
- Is the building accessible for a person with mobility impairment?
- Are signs located within visual range for a person seated or within range for a person with visual impairment?