**Public Spaces Tool**

Record the place you visit (name/identification)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Lake**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Day and time visited: \_\_\_\_\_\_**2 p.m., November 7, 2016**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To assess your public space, use these categories to analyze the different aspects, and respond as indicated.

1. Places to sit
   1. How many chairs/benches/tables? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**2 Benches**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. Are they spread out throughout the space, or clustered together? \_\_\_\_\_\_**Spread out**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. Height
      1. No higher than average waist? **No**
   4. Barriers to seating
      1. Any stones or slants? **No**
      2. Is there a way to adapt to the barrier? **N/A**
   5. Width
      1. Is there space for people on either side of the seating areas?\_\_**Yes**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   6. Are there movable seats? **No**
      1. Do people willingly move the seats? **N/A**
      2. How many people can sit in the moveable seats? **N/A**
2. Water
   1. Is it permissible to play in the water? **Yes**
   2. Is it permissible to wade in? **Yes**
   3. Does it provide a soothing “sound effect?” **No, it is a still lake that is rather quiet.**
3. Public art **None**
   1. Is it interactive? **N/A**
   2. Are you able to sit on it / touch it? **N/A**
   3. Is it accessible? **N/A**
      1. Is it no more than 3 feet elevated or recessed by stairs from ground level?
4. Open Space
   1. Is there a fair amount of open space? **Yes**
   2. Is there lots of green space/ hard space? **Yes, the whole lake front is green, natural space.**
      1. Some people may be drawn for certain activities in certain areas **Yes**
   3. Are there areas for sporting? **Yes, in the lake (i.e. fishing, paddle boarding, boating, etc.)**
   4. Are there areas for picnicking? **Yes**
   5. Are there areas for small children? **No**
5. Trees: Rate each on a scale from 1-10.
   1. Are they older? **4 (most are fairly small and young)**
   2. Do they provide shade and cover in hot weather? **No (2)**
   3. Are they organized into groves or bunched haphazardly? **Groves**
   4. Aesthetically pleasing? **Yes (10)**
   5. How much of the space is shaded by trees? **2**
6. Food / Vendors during most usage periods?
   1. Absent Present for “events” Present seasonally Mostly present
   2. Seating for the vendor? **N/A**
   3. Seating (formal and informal) for the public (whether purchasing food or not)? **N/A**
7. Accessibility
   1. Is it easily accessible to the public? **No, only to residents of the neighborhood.**
   2. Can you walk to the public space? Is transportation nearby? Bike accessibility?
      1. **Yes, you can walk or bike to it. No other transportation nearby.**
   3. Is it a high traffic area? **Yes**
   4. Is it easily visible? **Yes**
   5. Is the public space occupied by people? **Not often**
      1. People like to go where other people are
8. Sociability. Rate on a scale from 1-10.
   1. Can you enjoy the space either alone? **8, yes it can be enjoyed alone**
   2. Can you enjoy the space in groups? **6, yes but the space is not very large.**
   3. Are people socializing? **Yes**
   4. Do groups of people tend to stay close to each other or are they far apart? **8, close together**
   5. Are you drawn to the public space? **8, yes it is a pretty spot**
   6. Do people seem to be meeting one another in the space? **No (3)**
   7. Is it accepting of many different groups? (Children, elderly, varying social classes, race, etc.) **8, yes**
9. Time of Day
   1. When are people most likely to be in the public space?
      1. Night (after dark) or daytime? **During light hours, there are no lights.**
      2. Morning, Afternoon, or Evening?
   2. Does the public place “close” **No**
10. Vicinity
    1. What is around the space? Classify (circle) and Describe.  
       Houses Apartments Small Businesses School Factory/Big shopping ctr  
       Church Public Bldgs Private land without houses Warehouses  
       \_\_\_\_\_**There is one house bordering the public space, but otherwise it is surrounded by land owned by the HOA.**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. Are there areas to play and exercise?
    1. Large grassy areas? **No, the area is mostly grass but not large enough to play or exercise.**
    2. Play equipment? **None**
       1. Interactive: basketball courts, tennis courts, chess boards, other\_\_\_**N/A**\_\_\_\_\_.
       2. Solo: areas to run, fitness “trail,” ? **No**
12. Cleanliness: Rate on a scale from 1-10.
    1. Is the place clean? **10, very clean and maintained**
    2. Is it being actively cleaned (do you see people cleaning it)? **10, Yes**
    3. How accessible are the trash cans? **0, There are no trash cans.**
    4. How bad a problem is litter? **0, there is almost never litter to be seen.**
13. Decorations within public space?
    1. Banners, flags, flowerbeds, etc? \_\_\_**None**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
14. Threats and problems diminishing use? (homeless, gang, or threatening people using it? Dangerous or unpleasant spaces, etc.) \_\_\_\_**None**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
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