Community Design for Safety: Using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design to Strengthen Community Cohesion, Health and Safety

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Topics:

- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Project Examples

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Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Traditional CPTED Planning Principles:
- **Territoriality**: Strategies to telegraph a community's control of its shared open spaces by eliminating litter and other signs of blight/disorder such as through "Clean & Green" projects
- **Surveillance:** Strategies to make potential offenders easier to see and feel seen.
- **Access Control:** Strategies to limit or slow travel/traffic through a community, prioritizing pedestrians over cars and limiting access to more private spaces such as alleys.
- **Organization:** Developing and maintaining a group of community-based leaders and public- and private-sector partners to sustain gains made by implementing CPTED projects.

Territoriality: Examples

- Convert vacant lots to active community spaces thru community-driven design

- Remove or address blight such as thru creative boarding of vacants.

- Remove signs of disorder such as dead street trees, weeds, graffiti and trash!

- Install neighborhood signs at gateways and install historical markers at landmarks

- Beautify front stoops and porches along a full block of residents

- Organize neighborhood social events, not just clean ups (block parties, Neighborhood Watch patrols, Pooches on Patrol, etc.)

- Move restaurant seating out onto sidewalks (Neighborhood Design Center's Design for Distancing)

Upton Pocket Parks

718-728 Brune St, 848 Harlem Ave, 861-871 Harlem Ave, Inner Block of Harlem, Myrtle and Dolphin St, 21217

Surveillance: Examples

- Remove visual obstructions (tree undergrowth, overgrown shrubbery)

- Remove clutter from front windows of storefronts

- Add cameras at strategic locations, including for illegal dumping and license plate reading.

- Improve interior and exterior lighting

  - "Light the Block" sidewalk lighting

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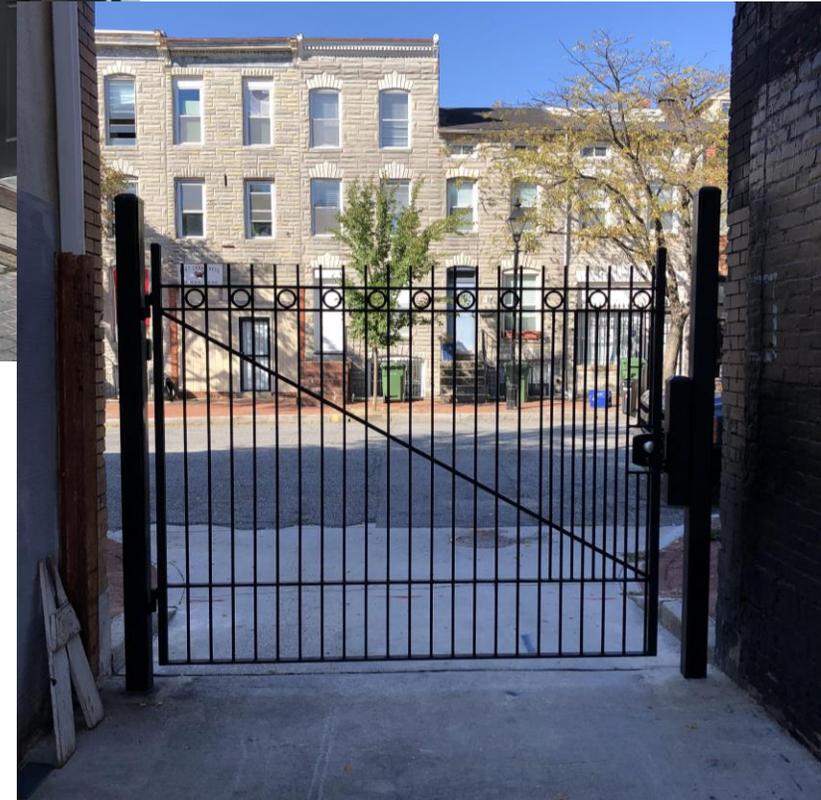   - "Light the Block" sidewalk lighting

Access Control: Examples

- Alley Gating – well designed

- Fencing of open spaces and lots

- "Friendlier" security grates and lighting for storefronts

- Traffic calming to reduce speeding through residential communities and safety for diners and pedestrians.
  - Artistic "Bump Outs" at corners
  - Speed cameras/notices

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Organization / Maintenance:

- Create a Community-driven Clean & Green Committee

- Raise funds for beautification and lighting improvements

- Raise funds for ongoing litter removal, graffiti removal and weed removal.

- Install cameras to catch illegal dumpers in coordination with local government.

- Regular community social events (for fun not just trash pick-up)

- On-line information sharing networks, for example to promote trash/recycling schedules.

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Four Part Community-driven CPTED Plans:

Surveillance: Watch it!

Access Control: Protect it!

Territoriality: Own It!

Organization: Sustain it!

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