What Makes a Great Place?

Place

Sociability

Uses & Activities

Access & Linkages

Comfort & Image

number of women, children & elderly
social networks
volunteerism
evening use
street life
diverse stewardship
cooperative
neighborly
pride
friendly
interactive
welcoming
continuity
proximity
connected
readable
walkable
convenient
accessible
fun
active
vital
local business ownership
land-use patterns
property values
rent levels
retail sales
real
useful
indigenous
celebratory
sustainable
safe
“green”
walkable
sitable
spiritual
crime statistics
sanitation rating
building conditions
environental data
historical
attractive
charming
historic
special
real
special

PPS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating and sustaining public places that build communities. We provide technical assistance, education, and research through programs in parks, plazas and central squares; buildings and civic architecture; transportation; and public markets. Since our founding in 1975, we have worked in over 2,500 communities in the United States and around the world, helping people to grow their public spaces into vital community places.
Rate the Place:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMFORT &amp; IMAGE</th>
<th>POOR</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall attractiveness</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeling of safety</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness/Quality of Maintenance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfort of places to sit</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments/Notes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESS &amp; LINKAGES</th>
<th>POOR</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visibility from a distance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ease in walking to the place</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit access</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity of information/signage</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments/Notes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USES &amp; ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>POOR</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mix of stores/services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency of community events/activities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall busy-ness of area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic vitality</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments/Notes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOCIABILITY</th>
<th>POOR</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of people in groups</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of volunteerism</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sense of pride and ownership</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence of children and seniors</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments/Notes:

Identify Opportunities

1. What do you like best about this place?

2. List things that you would do to improve this place that could be done right away and that wouldn't cost a lot:

3. What changes would you make in the long term that would have the biggest impact?

4. Ask someone who is in the “place” what they like about it and what they would do to improve it. Their answer:

5. What local partnerships or local talent can you identify that could help implement some of your proposed improvements? Please be as specific as possible.