

**NEIGHBORHOOD EVALUATION**

An open space project will have an effect not only on the participants in the program, but also on almost every individual who sees it. For this reason, it is a good idea to take an objective look at your neighborhood – it's needs and its resources.

**THE STREET**

Who uses the street – when, where and for what?

---

---

What is the width of the street?

---

The sidewalk?

---

Are there sufficient playgrounds in the area?

---

Is there a park?

---

Type of traffic on the street?

---

Is it two-way?

---

Speed

---

Congested?

---

At what times of the day?

---

Would lead, carbon monoxide and noise levels be high enough to make use of lot prohibitive during key traffic hours?

---

Is your lot near a bus, train or subway stop?

---

Would it be possible for a neighborhood resident to become involved with the development and use of the lot?

---

How will the lot activities affect the street?

---

Are police seen regularly in the neighborhood?

---

What is the crime rate?

---

Are residents afraid to walk on the street alone?

---

At night?

---

Is the area safe for children's activities?

---

How often, if ever, is the street cleaned?

---

Is there regular garbage collection?

---

Are there trees or other types of vegetation on the block?

---

Is there a tree-maintenance program?

---

What is the condition of the following? Check:

	Maintained	Neglected
Street surfaces (pot holes, tar)		
Hydrants		
Sewers		
Street signs		
Removal of abandoned cars		
Lighting		
Deserted buildings		
Other vacant lots		

**DESIGN OPTIONS**

In considering the end use of your vacant lot project, what activities is POSSIBLE? What activities is MOST NEEDED? For example:

Vegetable plot gardening

---

Neighborhood composting

---

Sand box

---

Amphitheatre

---

Mud-pie box

---

Benches

---

Outdoor movies

---

Herb garden

---

Stage

---

Dome

---

Barbecue pit

---

Grassy area for small children

---

Birdhouse/bird bath

---

Shady, grassy area for story telling

---

Trellis/arbor seating area

---

Volleyball

---

Recycling center

---

Bulb beds

---

Perennial beds

---

Cutting garden

---

Tree Bench

---

Table game area

---

Other

---

---

Will the entire neighborhood have access to the garden, if they wish to?

---

Might there be damage from vandalism?

---

Will your neighborhood benefit from development of the lot?

---

How?

---

---

---