



Place-based strategies for school safety within a community context

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Comprehensive School-Based Approaches to Youth Violence Prevention (CYVP) Grant Program

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Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED): Place-based strategies for school safety

CYVP Goals:

- Reduce the incidence of school violence through accountability efforts for offenders
- Respond to victimization, exposure to violence, and trauma as a result of violence that occurs in the school, community, or family
- Improve school safety and climate
- Prevent violence, delinquency, and victimization in your designated community

Achieving those goals are dependent upon school administrators, staff and community partners able to identify:

- CPTED principles
- Opportunities to collectively use CPTED principles to assess and prioritize physical parts of the school which may have an impact on youth fear, aggressive behavior, and/or increase opportunities for violence & victimization.
- Opportunities to collectively use CPTED principles and strategies to create a safer physical and learning environment for students, teachers and staff.

Situational Crime Prevention

Importance of Place

- Myths of displacement
 - Proximal or distal/near or far?
- Diffusion of benefits
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)





Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Principles of CPTED

1. Surveillance
2. Access Control
3. Territoriality
 - 3a. *Image and Maintenance*
4. *Capable Guardianship*
 - 4a. *Policies and practice*

The Ultimate in CPTED Technology

Good for control...



...not so good for community life
(and there is still crime)



2nd Generation CPTED and SafeGrowth

Fitting CPTED into community context

- Not just creating sterile places but places for positive activity
- Recognizes legitimate uses or the reasons for uses we do not want
- Do I trust my neighbors? (Collective Efficacy)
- Am I a part of my neighborhood? (Social Cohesion)
- Do rules reflect my values? (Legitimacy)
- “Broken Windows” – fact and fiction
- CPTED as part of problem solving



Surveillability

- Who sees? Who can be seen?
- Eyes on the street and the eyes of the street
- CCTV: What do you hope to get out of it and is it monitored?

Bryant Park, NYC, 1980's (L) and today



Surveillability: Maintain focus on the principles



Access Control and Placemaking



Access Control and Placemaking



Access Control and Placemaking



Access Control and Wayfinding



Territoriality



Territoriality

- Transition of space
 - Public
 - Semi-public
 - Semi-private
 - Private
- Image and Maintenance
 - What to do with [problem public spaces](#)
- Policy and Procedure



Capable Guardianship



Access Control: Managing Flow



Access Control: Managing Flow



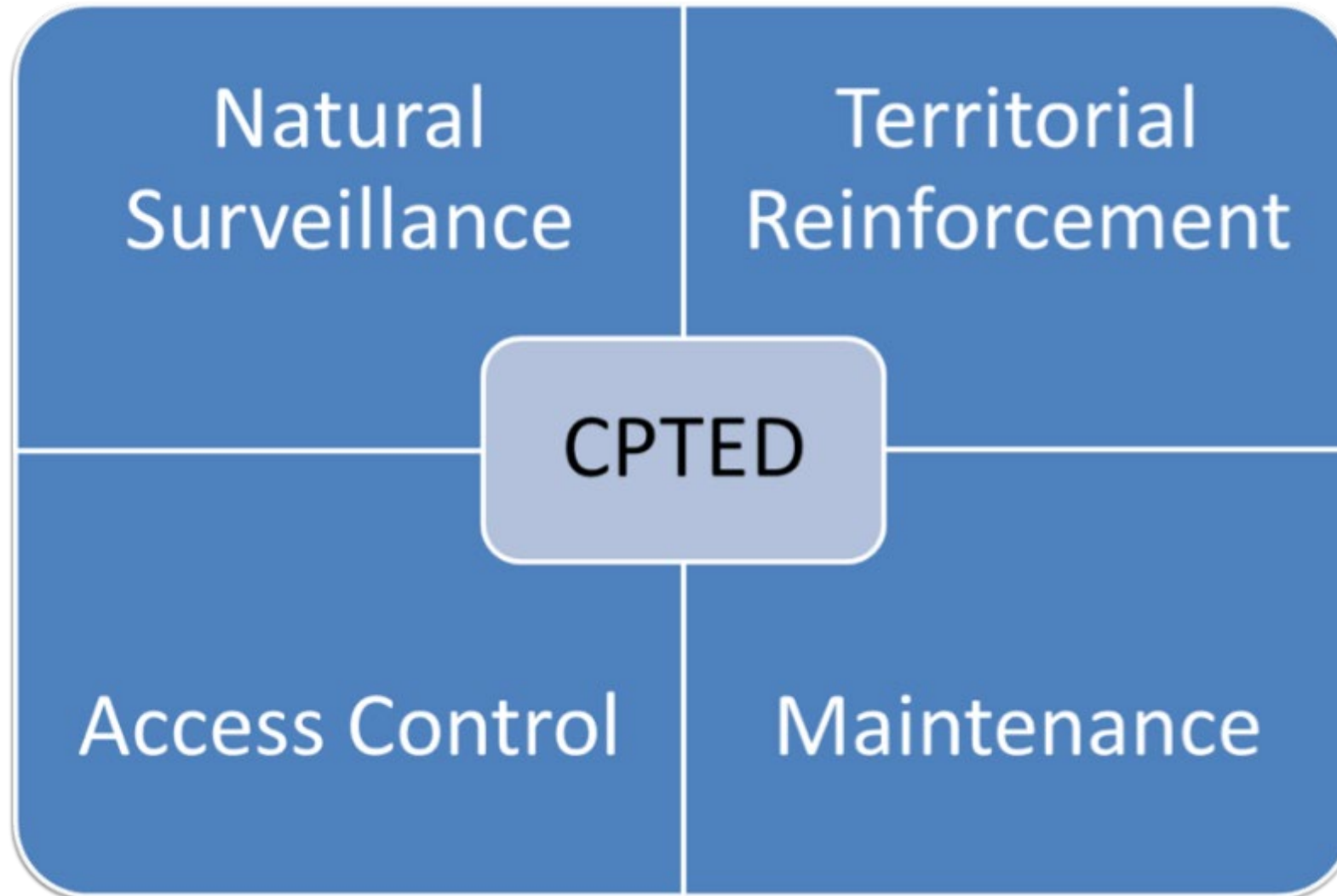


Tom Wyatt

A native of Flint, Michigan, Tom Wyatt is the current Executive Director of the Neighborhood Engagement Hub, a community development corporation in Flint, MI. Since 2017, Tom has also been the Principal of Connected By Design, LLC. This organization provides neighborhood planning and public safety consulting services to communities. Tom has worked with nonprofit organizations in community development, neighborhood revitalization, public safety, and capacity building for nearly 15 years. From 2015-to 2020, Tom served as Director of Neighborhood and Community Services at Kettering University. In this role, Tom managed \$1.2M in federal grants to support public safety, placemaking, real estate, and economic development activities in the University Avenue Corridor. During this time, the University Avenue Corridor experienced over \$100M in investment.

Tom is on the Board of Directors for the US CPTED Association and is teaching faculty for the National Institute of Crime Prevention. He is certified in CPTED, Placemaking, Neighborhood Revitalization, Community Economic Development, and Urban Design Charrettes. As part of his CPTED efforts, Tom has consulted with several schools to assess opportunities to include CPTED principles in the design or revisioning of space within those schools to improve student safety and school environment.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

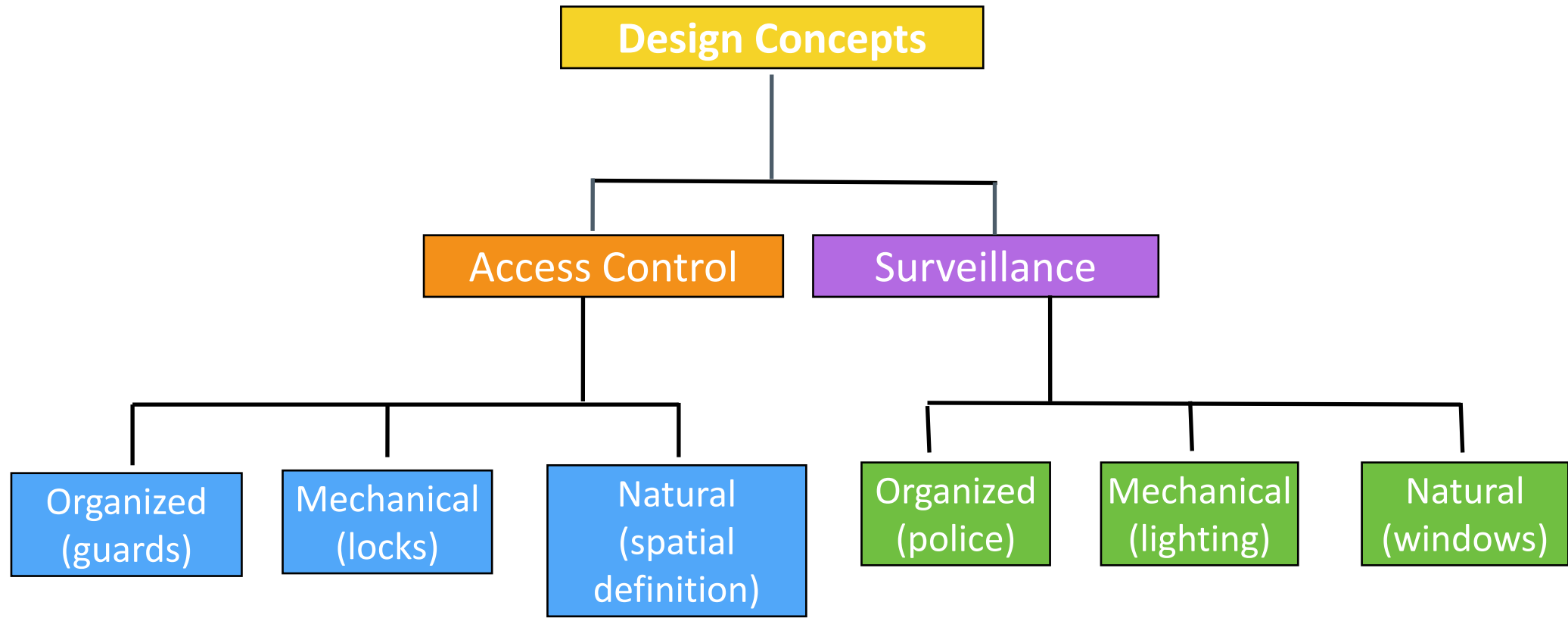


CPTED Examines:

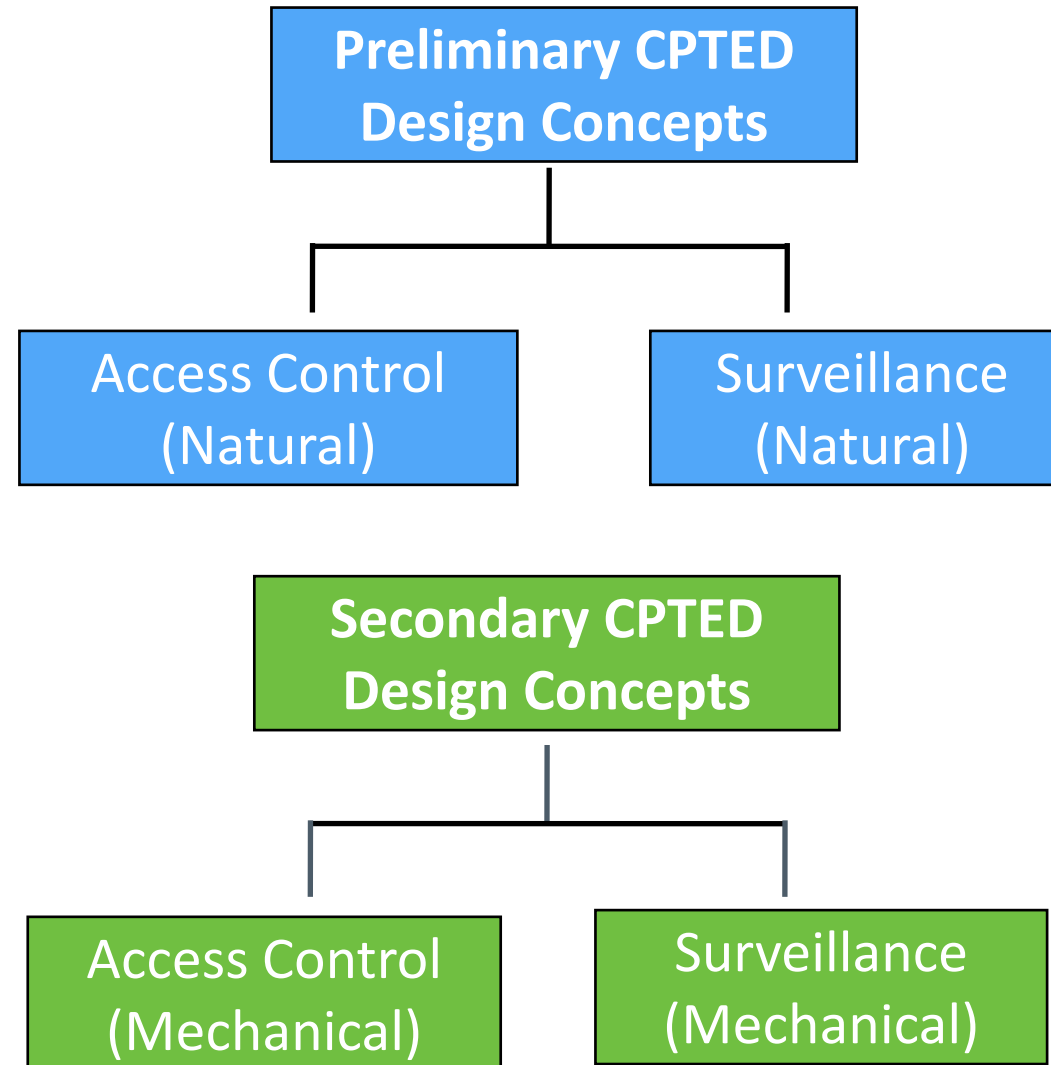


- Landscaping, fencing and walls
- Lighting
- Planning & Zoning
- Traffic Calming
- Planned Development
- Effect of color on human behavior
- Parks Planning
- Restroom Design
- Schools
- Terrorism
- Public Transportation

Security Strategies



Security Strategies

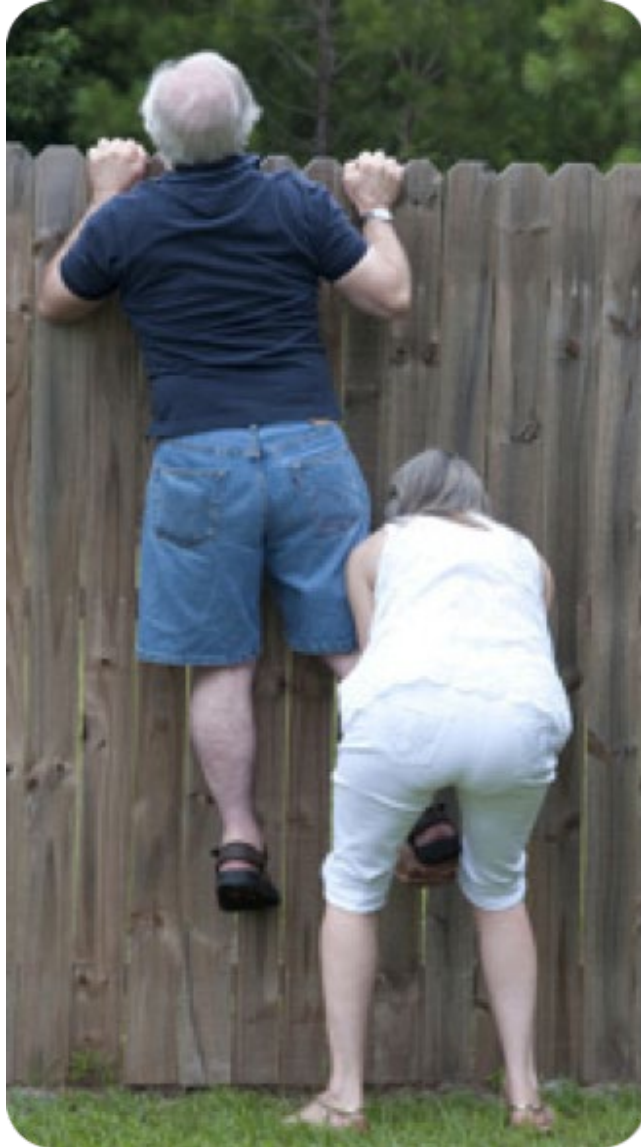


The Three D's of CPTED

- All space has some **DESIGNATED** purpose.
- All human space has social, cultural, legal, or physical **DEFINITIONS** that prescribe the desired and acceptable behaviors.
- All human space is **DESIGNED** to support and control the desired behaviors.



CPTED Actors



Normal Users

Abnormal Users

Observers

Normal
Users

Observers

Abnormal
Users

People you desire
to be in a certain
place

People who have to
be a space to observe
human function

People you do not
desire to be in a
certain space

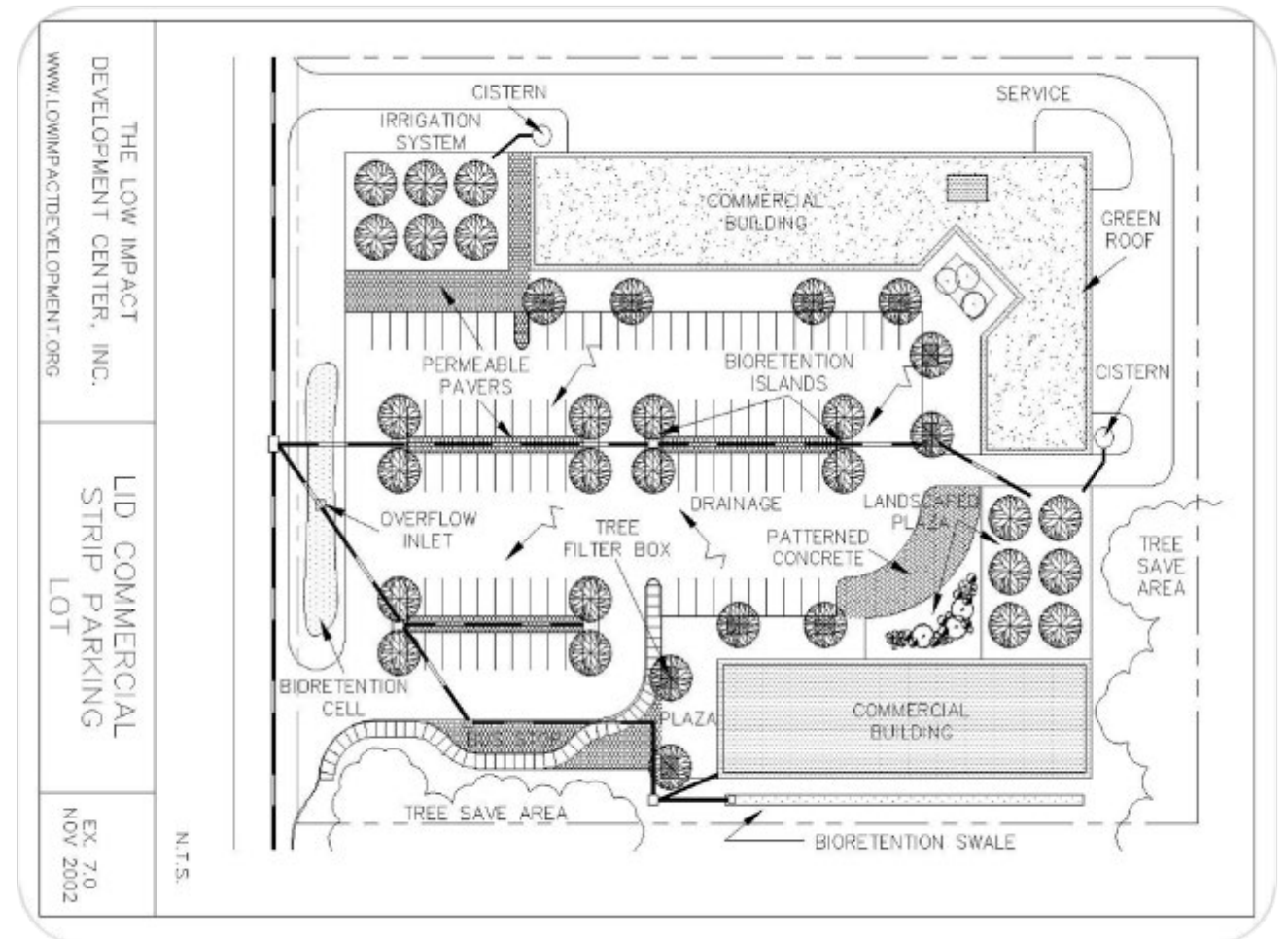
Environmental Cues

- Assist criminals by helping them to locate targets in time and space.
- Individual cues can be associated with “safe” / “good” or “unsafe” / “bad” targets.
- Criminals learn to recognize potentially “good” and “bad” sites and situations.



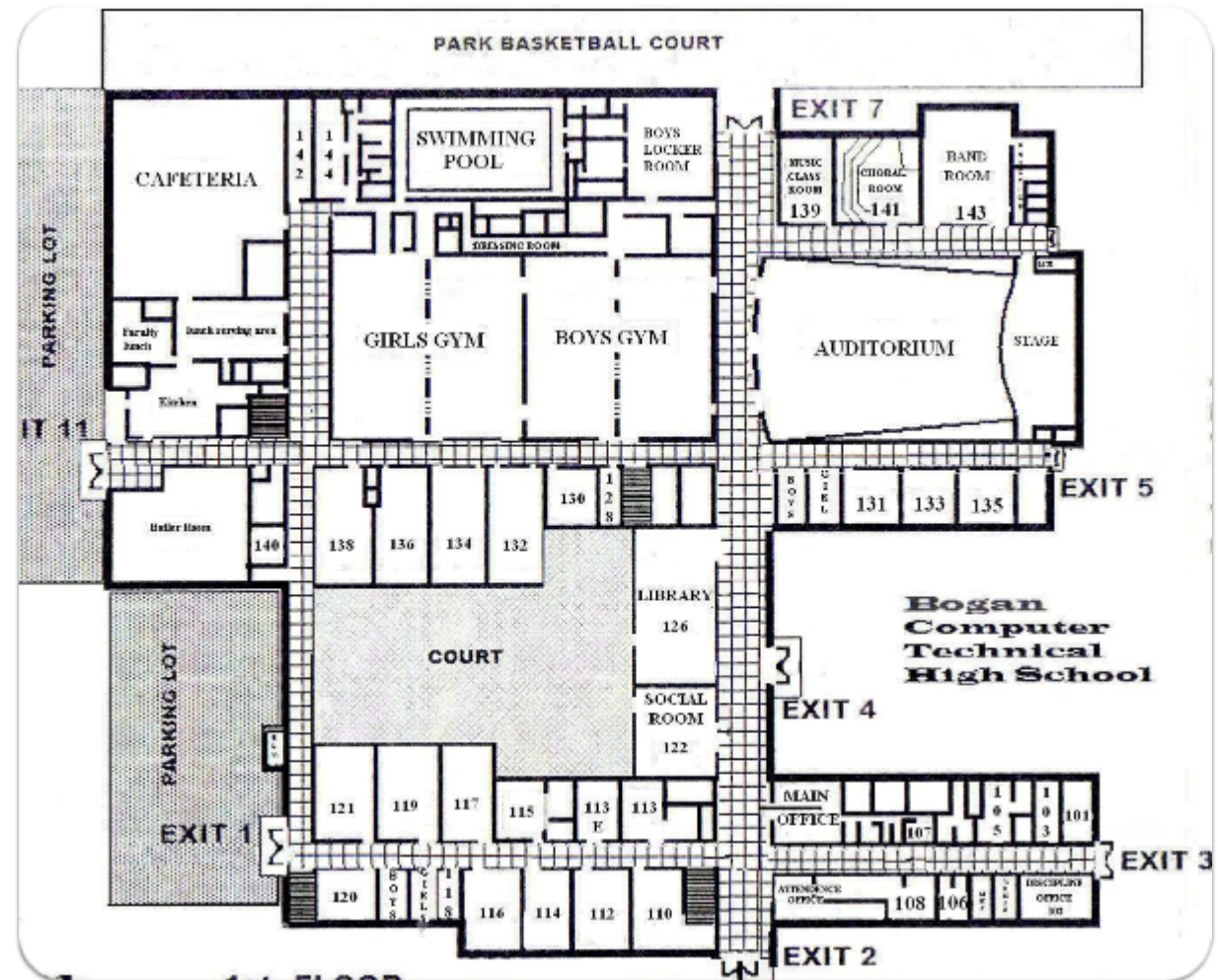
CPTED & Architecture

- Stairs & ramp design
- Interior and exterior lighting
- Parking lot designs
- Elevators
- Blind spots or ambush points
- Restrooms
- Building circulation patterns
- Doors and windows



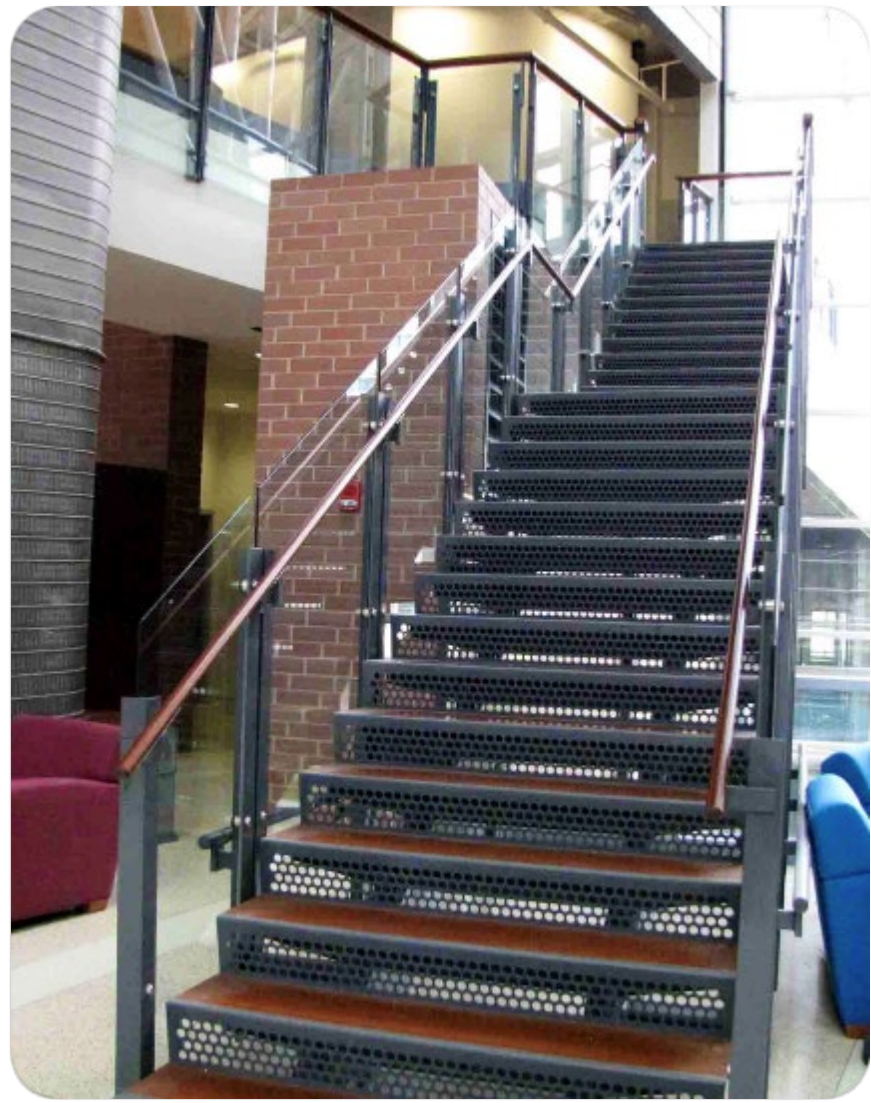
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Cities and Counties throughout the country are adopting CPTED ordinances requiring site-plan reviews with crime prevention and safety in mind.





CPTED & Architecture





CPTED & Architecture





CPTED & Architecture



CPTED Concepts

- Natural Access Control
- Natural Surveillance
- Territorial Reinforcement
- Maintenance



Access Control



Access Control



Access Control



Hostile Vegetation



Natural Surveillance

Natural surveillance includes the placement of physical features, activities, and people in a way that maximizes visibility.



Exterior Walls



Natural Surveillance



Natural Surveillance



Natural Surveillance



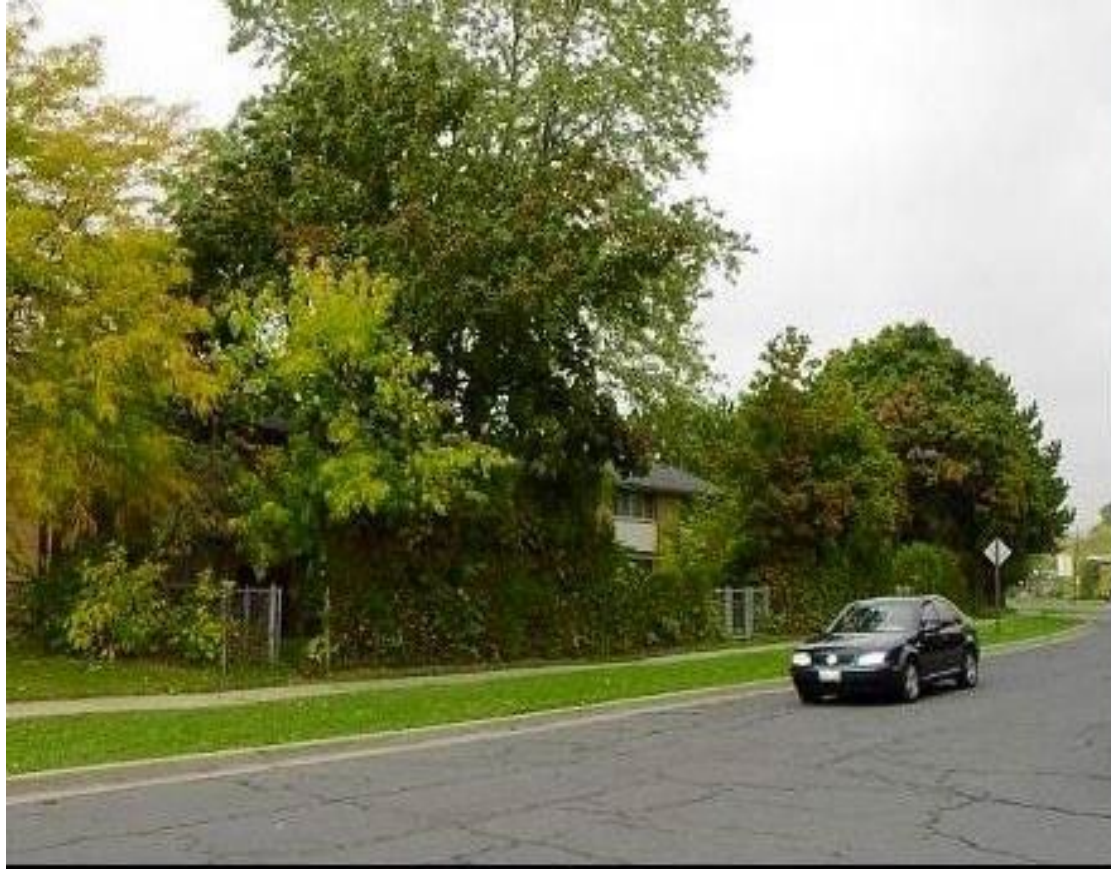
Natural Surveillance



Natural Surveillance



Natural Surveillance



BEFORE



AFTER

Three D's of Security Lighting



- Deter

- Disable

- Detect

Territorial Reinforcement

Territorial Reinforcement is the use of physical attributes to express ownership such as fencing, pavement treatments, signage, and landscaping.



Territorial Reinforcement



Territorial Reinforcement



Territorial Reinforcement



Territorial Reinforcement



Territorial Reinforcement



Lighting



Follow the IES recommendations for lighting. In CPTED, lighting is used to illuminate human activity.

Landscaping



- Defines territory

- Controls access

- Creates ownership

Signage

- Design signs with large bold graphics and simple directions.
- Design signage to eliminate spaces that permit concealment.
- Avoid blocking lines of sight with signage.
- Design lighting to enhance natural surveillance near signage



Signage

- Design lighting to enhance natural surveillance near signage.
- Include signage that directs visitors to main entry and administrative office as well as to an emergency contact point.
- Clearly mark entry with signs indicating to visitors what is expected of them.





Maintenance

- Allows for the continued use of a space for its intended purpose.
- Serves as an additional expression ownership.
- Prevents reduction of visibility from landscaping overgrowth, blight, or inoperative lighting.

Landscaping

- Landscaping can become overgrown.
- Improperly placed landscaping may disrupt access control.
- Poor landscaping can reduce visibility.



Maintenance

Water Street at Stone Street (2008)





Maintenance

Water Street at Stone Street (2015)



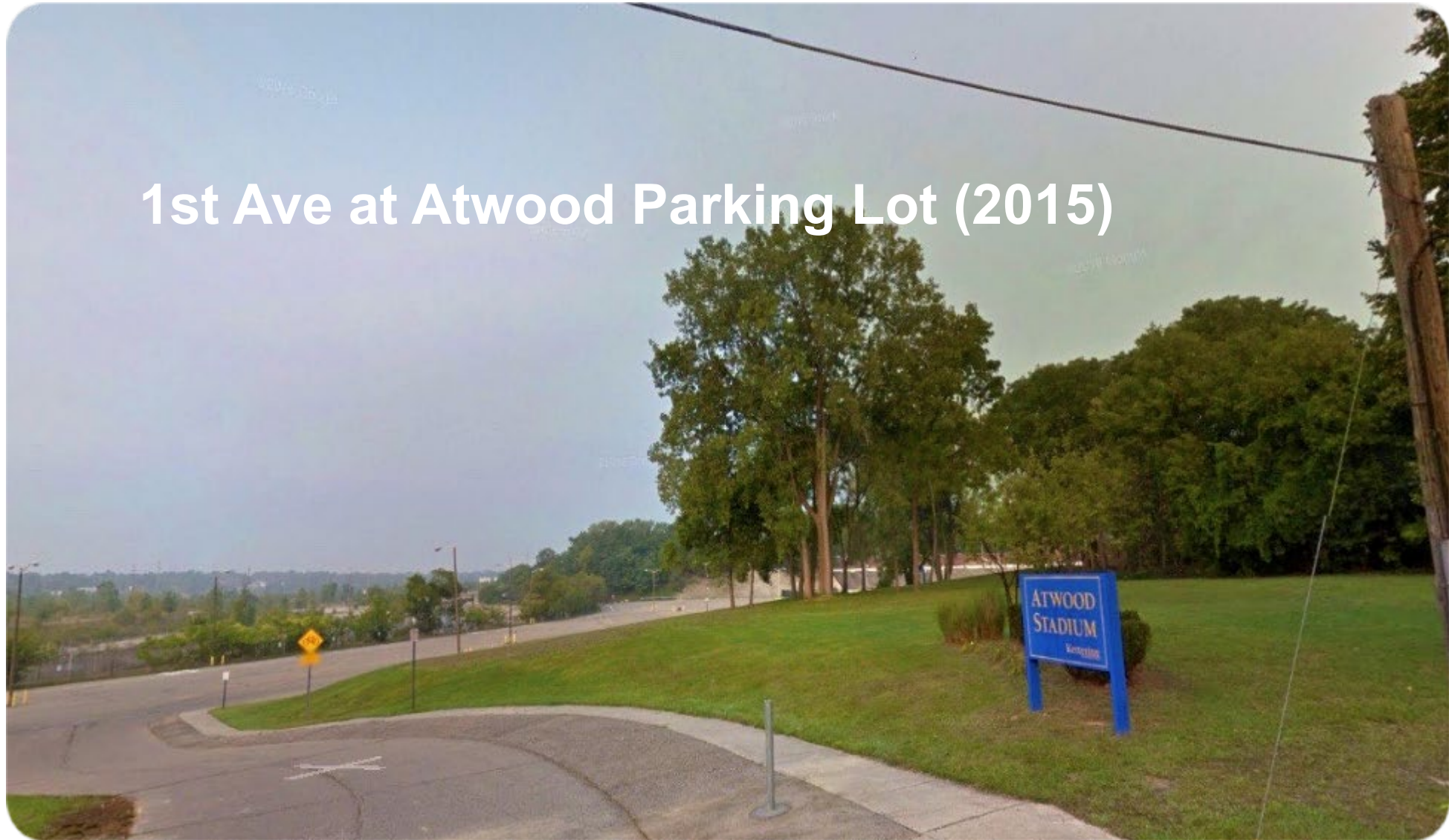
Maintenance



1st Ave at Atwood Parking Lot (2008)

Maintenance

1st Ave at Atwood Parking Lot (2015)



Maintenance

Stevenson and Bluff (2008)



Maintenance

Stevenson and Bluff (2015)



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

The strategic use of color, light, shapes, size, scale, texture, and patterns are tools used in design to influence feeling, behavior, and the perception of space and its use.





Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Dingy Yellow

- Caution
- Decay
- Sickness

Bright Lemon Yellow

- Most fatiguing color
- Babies cry more in yellow rooms
- Couples fight more in yellow kitchens
- More temper tantrums
- More light is reflected by bright colors causing excessive eye stimulation.



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Can elevate blood pressure, respiration, and perspiration
- Excites the brain waves
- The sense of smell heightens
- The automatic nervous system takes over and reactions become automatic.



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Slows down the pulse rate
- Relaxes nervous system
- Lessens sweating
- Eliminates the fight or flight response



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Non-strenuous on the eye
- Said to improve vision
- Neutral effect on human nervous system



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Appetite stimulant
- Similar to red but less pronounced
- Stimulates learning



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Can elevate blood pressure
- Anxiety
- Increases fear and paranoia



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Calming
- Reflects light and stimulates the eyes
- In excess, may cause passivity, lethargy, hypersensitivity, and inhibitions



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Seldom evokes strong emotions
- Tranquility



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Could stagnate or suppress emotions, especially anger



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Dispel mental tension
- Promote the synthesis of serotonin
- Reduce irritability
- Eliminate chronic fatigue



Color, Behavior, & CPTED

Physiological Response

- Saps energy
- Tranquilizing effect
- Where red stirs passion, studies have shown that large amounts of pink can create physical weakness in people.

CPTED & Restrooms



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CPTED & Restrooms



CPTED & Restrooms



CPTED Assessments

1. Crime analysis
2. Demographics
3. Land use
4. Observations
5. Resident or user interviews





Key Assessment Questions

- What risks and opportunities do students encounter between home and school?
- What risks and opportunities are posed in areas directly adjoining school property?
- Can office staff observe approaching visitors before they reach school entry?
- Do staff members have the physical ability to stop visitors from entering?



Key Assessment Questions

- How well can people see what's going on inside the school?
- Do staff members have immediate lockdown capability in classrooms and other locations. Is the overall school climate pro-social?
- Are there identifiable or predictable trouble spots or high risk locations?



CPTED Findings

- Most schools are making their schools safer using CPTED, whether they know it or not.
- CPTED implementation is subjective. The school determines how and what it implements. We want to mitigate risks and unhealthy behaviors, but we also don't want to go so far that we are creating more work and less enriching environments for students. Some schools are more urban, while others are rural. There is no universal model.
- Some solutions may require subject matter experts such as engineers. (Arrival/dismissal/parking)
- I was surprised at how similar the schools were in my findings.

Access Control

- Protecting against possible outside threats
- Light switches require a key to control
- Access into admin offices or school corridors
- Visitor badges

Surveillance

- Lighting uniformity
- Lighting type
- Bubble mirrors and/or cameras

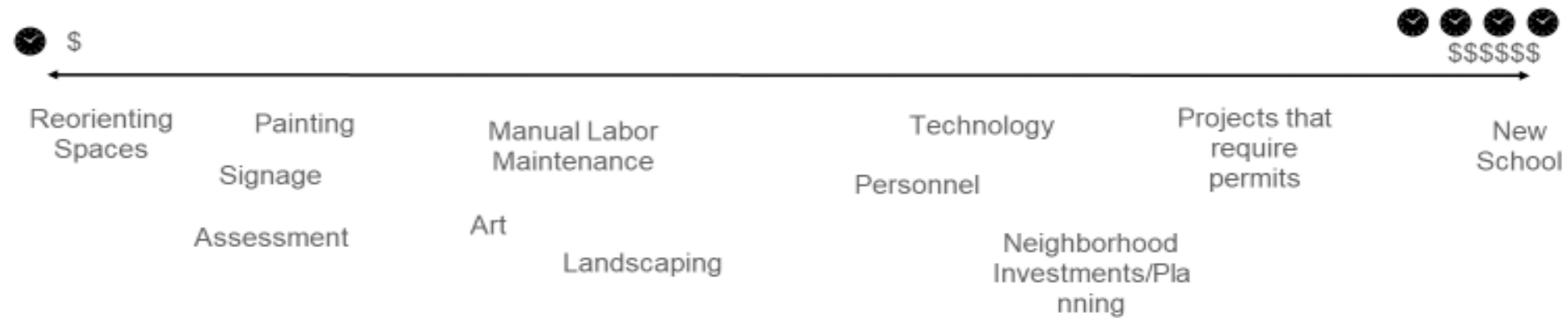
Territorial Reinforcement

- Signage, celebrated entryway, and way-finding, especially for larger campuses connected to or near other schools.
- Art, color, culture (environment)

Maintenance

- Hallways and entrances are clear of items
- Inoperable lighting or outdated equipment
- Not utilizing camera systems

CPTED Implementation



Factors

- Cost
- Scale
- Timeframe
- Scheduling
- Partnerships

- Leveraged resources
- Subjectivity
- Community support
- Sequencing of projects
- “Seasoning” approach



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

CPTED is not the total answer to community problems, but it does provide the community with the means to eliminate or reduce environmental obstacles to social, cultural, or managerial control.

Contact Information



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