

Getting more involved

If you would like more information go to:
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If you want to get more involved in the planning for a local development project, contact your local community association at:

How Might This Development Affect People's Health?



A Checklist About Health, Well-Being and Development



**For Mixed
Large Housing/
Commercial
Developments**

Produced by the Social Planning Council of Ottawa for the
Centretown Community Health Centre

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Every One Matters. | Chaque personne compte.

Introduction

This checklist is for mixed large housing and commercial developments. It is one of a series of checklists intended to help you think about how developments planned for your neighbourhood will affect your health or the health of your neighbours.

We hope you will use the checklist to ask questions about how the planned development will affect health. You can also use the checklist to start a conversation with friends or neighbours about health and development.

Using the Checklist

Review each health and well-being statement and evaluate the impact of the development using this scale:

For each question, choose one of the following scores:

- A** = The development will improve this issue
- B** = The development could be changed to improve this issue
- C** = The development will make this issue worse

This checklist is for mixed large housing and commercial developments, such as a high-rise with housing and retail spaces. The official zoning designations for these types of developments would be “General Mixed Use” (GM) or “Mixed Use Centre Zone” (MC) or “Mixed Use Downtown Zone” (MD). Other checklists are available for other types of developments, such as small housing developments.

Summary — Mixed Large Housing/Commercial Development

What grade will you give for each section?

- A** = The development will improve this issue
- B** = The development could be changed to improve this issue
- C** = The development will make this issue worse

| | Grade |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Supporting Healthy Lifestyles | |
| Safety | |
| Improving the Local Environment | |
| Encouraging a Mix of People | |

What are the most important steps that would improve the impact of this development on people’s health?

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What actions do you recommend?

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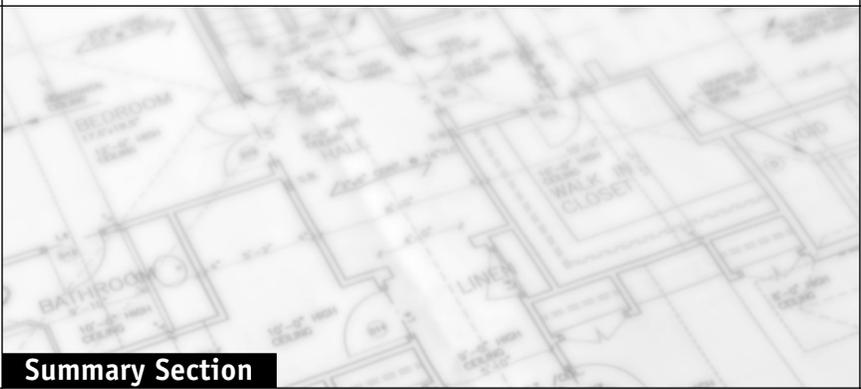
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What things about this development will be good for people’s health?

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Summary Section

Record your final scores for each section, e.g. Supporting Healthy Lifestyles.

What are the four most important issues to improve this development's impact on people's health? You can also recommend specific actions to address the priorities.

Think about the issues you gave an "A". What are the most important things about this development which will be good for people's health?

1 Supporting Healthy Lifestyles

This section looks at how the planned development can support people to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Will there be a well lit path across the site for walking and cycling? A B C

Will walking and cycling paths connect to public transportation? A B C

Will the development add or improve a park or playground? A B C

Will the development add or improve a swimming pool, a tennis court or a gym? A B C

Will there be space for a store or restaurant selling healthy food? A B C

Will there be space for growing food outside, on the roof or on balconies? A B C

Will there be space for compost bins? A B C

2 Safety

This section looks at how the development increases safety and plans to reduce injuries.

Will there be slopes instead of stairs to make it easier for people to walk in and out of the building? A B C

Will there be no steep slopes on paths and sidewalks? A B C

Will people walking or cycling to the building have to cross a parking lot or too many driveways? A B C

Will people have a clear view of what is going on when they are outside and when they go in and out of the building? A B C

Will this development improve a property which was run down or unsafe? A B C

Will there be a space for shovelled snow to be piled safely? A B C

3 Improving the Local Environment

People's health can be harmed by the environment around them. This section looks at how the development will affect the air, land and water around the site, including pollution.

Will the development add or improve green spaces or natural areas in the neighbourhood? A B C

Will trees and other natural vegetation will be kept or added? A B C

Is there a plan to control smells or fumes which might come from the development? A B C

If the development will likely increase traffic, is there a plan to avoid congestion? A B C

Will materials used for landscaping, walkways and driveways absorb rainwater instead of letting it run into the sewer system? A B C

Will the development create a pond where mosquitoes could breed? A B C

Will the development block the sunlight to nearby housing? A B C

If the development will have a rooftop air conditioner, will it be installed in a way that will limit noise? A B C

Will night lighting around the building shine into people's homes? A B C

Will the development have a place for recycling and garbage storage and pick up that will not interfere with neighbours? A B C

4 Encouraging a Mix of People and Ways for Neighbours to Connect

People's health is better overall if they feel welcome and a part of their neighbourhood. This section looks at how the development can help create a neighbourhood where everyone can feel welcome and neighbours can connect.

Will the development create affordable housing? A B C

Will the development increase the number of housing units for seniors? A B C

Will the development increase the number of housing units for families? A B C

Will the development provide space, such as a courtyard, where neighbours can connect with each other? A B C

If the development will increase the number of people living in the area, is there space nearby for additional services, such as childcare centres or schools? A B C

Will the development create jobs for local residents? A B C

Will the development create a space for cultural or arts activities? A B C