



Developing Facilities to Support Proximity Community

CCI Canada National Conference 2024 - Steve Archibald



Introduction

- ▶ Unconscious Value
- ▶ Intentionality Declared
 - ▶ harnessed for even greater effectiveness
 - ▶ community lenses as a teaching, training, development tool
- ▶ Definitions:
 - ▶ “Proximity Community” (physical)
 - ▶ The physical attributes that cause people to be in proximity with each other.
 - ▶ “Relational Community” (social)
 - ▶ The culture that is present when people are together for a period of time.

Facility Design - General

- ▶ We will consider proximity community in all that we design.
- ▶ Will people naturally gather here?
- ▶ What could be done to increase people gathering?
- ▶ What could be done to increase duration?

Facility Design - Buildings

- ▶ Will this design bring people together?
- ▶ What can be added to encourage people coming together?
- ▶ How can we make it easy?
- ▶ Will it cause disbursement?
- ▶ Will it cause exclusion?
- ▶ Will it create a socially uncomfortable situation?
- ▶ Is there a natural area that could be developed to increase proximity.

Facility Design - Outdoors

- ▶ How much gathering area do we have?
- ▶ Are they of optimal size?
- ▶ Is this a waiting area?
- ▶ Is it a central location?
- ▶ Is there some natural attraction?
- ▶ Is it on a route or is it a destination?
- ▶ Is there flexibility for community size?
- ▶ When landscaping, can it be designed to be a gathering place?
- ▶ Benches, benches, benches...

Facility and Design - Activities

- ▶ How do we make use of wait times?
- ▶ How do we design activity areas so that participants are kept in close proximity especially in "one or two at a time activities".

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