## Street design workshops

The workshop marries lectures, field visits, and team work to yield results-focused dialogue. The key is **facilitated small groups of five to seven people**. Each group works together to address a particular site or subject, the results of which are compared and contrasted against other groups' solutions.

The workshop utilizes content from the National Association of City Transportation Officials' Urban Street Design Guide, which recognizes the need to move from highway engineering to street design. While these disciplines share principles, their application is different. Highways are designed center-line out, while streets are designed building-in. Highways are for driving and streets are for so much more.

The workshop is geared towards adult learning. Through small group work, field visits, and hands-on design, participants gain a more nuanced understanding of the subject and are better prepared to internalize the information. Some have likened it to marriage counseling.

A workshop typically has 20-50 participants, one facilitator per group, and a moderator. It can range from two and a half hours to two and a half days. The site, data, and material are typically provided by the host. A coordinator may document the workshop and prepare a summary report.

### Workshop FAQs

Activities – most participants are comfortable either writing, drawing or speaking, so we draw analyses and solutions, write down observations and recommendations, and present.

Breaks – lunch, coffee/tea and chocolate are provided, otherwise people will wander off.

Format – the audits and presentations can be prepared digitally if each team has a laptop and camera. Large format paper and flip charts also are fine, and often more interactive.

Guests – having the mayor, commissioner, et al participate in the final presentation reinforces the seriousness of the exercise.

Handouts – teams will be given a prompt list, map/diagram for their audit/assessment. Facilitators will have templates for the presentations.

Location – best to take place near the sites or audit locations so that participants can walk to them.

Participants – ideally a cross-section of professionals involved in the design process; lay people or community members who want a deeper understanding.

Press – having the press attend the tactical urbanism exercise will garnish attention to the workshop. It also provides excellent visuals for interviews.

Room - tables for teams of 6-8 people, A/V for lecture, place to hang drawings.

Site(s) selection – ideally an active project so that drawings and data are readily available.

**Workshop Agenda Items**

| Length | Item | 2.5 hours | Half day | One day | 1.5 days | Two days | 2.5 days |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **90 min** | Lecture on principles of street design and traffic calming. | | • | • | • | • | • |
| **1-3 hrs** | Lectures on progressive transportation planning and urban design practices, such as parking policies, transit operations, accessibility, traffic operations, bicycle facilities, place making, analysis techniques, etc. | | | | | • | • |
| **2-3 hrs** | Walking audit and synthesis – teams walk along different routes and take photos and notes as per a prompt list. Facilitators may provide props (bicycle, wheelchair, stop watch). Team prepares a slide show with their photos and notes as per a template. Audits are synthesized by moderator. | | • | | | • | • |
| **2-3 hrs** | Site assessment and synthesis – teams visit site(s) and assess it as per a prompt list. Teams assess the same site from different perspectives (e.g. modes), or assess different sites. Team reports out and findings are synthesized by moderator. | | | • | • | • | • |
| **2-4 hrs** | Design charette – teams work together to redesign a particular location. Teams develop detailed solutions for one location, or generate ideas for multiple locations. Teams present both analysis and solutions, which are synthesized by moderator. | • | | • | • | • | • |
| **1 hr** | Where the site is an active project, the designs can be presented to interested parties such as community, staff, officials, mayor, press, etc. This can occur in a final presentation or during the tactical urbanism exercise. | • | | • | • | • | • |
| **2-3 hrs** | Tactical urbanism exercise – one or more of the designs developed during the workshop are explored through tactical urbanism at the site. Participants reconfigure the roadway with traffic cones and observe how drivers react. The exercise is best filmed with a drone, see https://www.trafficcalmer.com/tactical-urbanism. | | | | • | • | • |
| **1-2 hrs** | Data collection exercise – participants collect observational data (tracking survey, sitting survey, video or time-lapse, speed survey, measurement, etc.) to better understand the site and inform the design process. | | | | | • | • |
| **1-3 hrs** | Project delivery process – teams work together to diagram the process by which projects are scoped, funded, planned, designed, managed, and maintained. This will identify roadblocks and potential changes. | | | • | • | • | • |
| **2-3 hrs** | Best practice site visit to a nearby exemplary project and/or http://www.streetfilms.org viewing party. | | | | | • | • |

**Workshop materials and data list**

| Item | Description | Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Aerial of site** | Scale: 1:500 / 1"=40' | 1 per team |
| **Area map** | Showing relevant area and adjacent streets which may come up in discussion during the workshop. | 1 per team |
| **Base map/plan** | Scale: 1:500 / 1"=40' | 1 per team |
| | Include: building/property lines, curbs, roadway markings, sidewalks, driveways, curb ramps, building entrances, catch basins, trees, hydrants, other street furniture. | |
| **Drawing** | Tracing paper, markers, colored pencils, scales, tape, scale, rolling ruler | 1 per team |
| **Handouts** | Base map/plan printed on A3 / 11x17 (not to scale) | 1 per participant |
| | Prompt list | |
| **Operations** | Signal timing | 1 per team |
| | Speed limits and other regulations | |
| **Reference** | Truck routes, bike routes, transit routes, land use, zoning, stormwater, historic, proposals, other as available/relevant | 1 each |
| **Site visit** | Clipboards | 1 per participant |
| **Templates** | Site audit/assessment questions | 1 per team |
| | Presentation PPT | |
| **Traffic data** | Daily volumes (vehicle, truck, bicycle, pedestrians) | 1 per team |
| | Turning counts | |
| | Speed surveys (85$^{th}$ percentile and max) | |
| | Crash data (3 years) | |
| | Noise survey (ambient and peak dB) | |
| **Transit** | Frequency and ridership | 1 per team |