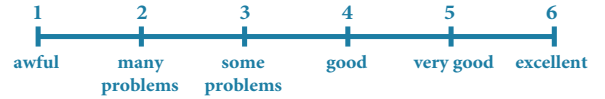


# How walkable is your community?

**Location of walk** Downtown Clinton  
From Frisco Center to 7th Street

**Rating Scale:**



## 1. Did you have room to walk?

- Yes     Some problems:
- Sidewalks or paths started and stopped
  - Sidewalks were broken or cracked
  - Sidewalks were blocked with poles, signs, shrubbery, dumpsters, etc.
  - No sidewalks, paths, or shoulders
  - Too much traffic
  - Something else \_\_\_\_\_
- Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rating:** (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Was it easy to follow safety rules?

### Could you...

- Yes     No    Cross at crosswalks or where you could see and be seen by drivers?
- Yes     No    Stop and look left, right and then left again before crossing streets?
- Yes     No    Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing traffic where there were no sidewalks?
- Yes     No    Cross with the light?
- Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rating:** (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Was it easy to cross streets?

- Yes     Some problems:
- Road was too wide
  - Traffic signals made us wait too long or did not give us enough time to cross
  - Needed striped crosswalks or traffic signals
  - Parked cars blocked our view of traffic
  - Trees or plants blocked our view of traffic
  - Needed curb ramps or ramps needed repair
  - Something else \_\_\_\_\_
- Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rating:** (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Was your walk pleasant?

- Yes     Some unpleasant things:
- Needed more grass, flowers, or trees
  - Scary dogs
  - Scary people
  - Not well lighted
  - Dirty, lots of litter or trash
  - Dirty air due to automobile exhaust
  - Something else \_\_\_\_\_
- Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rating:** (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Did drivers behave well?

- Yes     Some problems: Drivers...
- Backed out of driveways without looking
  - Did not yield to people crossing the street
  - Turned into people crossing the street
  - Drove too fast
  - Sped up to make it through traffic lights or drove through traffic lights?
  - Something else \_\_\_\_\_
- Locations of problems: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rating:** (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
1 2 3 4 5 6 \_\_\_\_\_

## How does the area stack up? Add up your ratings and decide.

1. \_\_\_\_\_    **26-30** Celebrate! This is a great area for walking.
2. \_\_\_\_\_    **21-25** Celebrate a little. This area is pretty good.
3. \_\_\_\_\_    **16-20** Okay, but it needs work.
4. \_\_\_\_\_    **11-15** It needs lots of work. You deserve better than that.
5. \_\_\_\_\_    **5-10** It's a disaster for walking!

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

**Now that you've identified the problems,  
go to the next page to find out how to fix them.**

Now that you know the problems,  
you can find the answers.

# Improving an area's walkability score...

## 1. Did you have room to walk?

Sidewalks or paths started and stopped  
Sidewalks broken or cracked  
Sidewalks blocked  
No sidewalks, paths or  
shoulders Too much traffic

### What you can do immediately

- pick another route for now
- tell local traffic engineering or public works department about specific problems and provide a copy of the checklist

### What you and your community can do with more time

- speak up at board meetings
- write or petition city for walkways and gather neighborhood signatures
- make media aware of problem
- work with a local transportation engineer to develop a plan for a safe walking route

## 2. Was it easy to cross streets?

Road too wide  
Traffic signals made us wait too long or did not  
give us enough time to cross  
Crosswalks/traffic signals needed  
View of traffic blocked by parked cars, trees,  
or plants  
Needed curb ramps or ramps needed repair

- pick another route for now
- share problems and checklist with local traffic engineering or public works department
- trim your trees or bushes that block the street and ask your neighbors to do the same
- leave nice notes on problem cars asking owners not to park there

- push for crosswalks/signals/parking changes/curb ramps at city meetings
- report to traffic engineer where parked cars are safety hazards
- report illegally parked cars to the police
- request that the public works department trim trees or plants
- make media aware of problem

## 3. Did drivers behave well?

Backed without looking  
Did not yield  
Turned into walkers  
Drove too fast  
Sped up to make traffic lights or drove  
through red lights

- pick another route for now
- set an example: slow down and be considerate of others
- encourage your neighbors to do the same
- report unsafe driving to the police

- petition for more  
enforced protected turns
- ask city planners and traffic engineers for traffic calming ideas
- ask schools about getting crossing guards at key locations
- organize a neighborhood speed watch program

## 4. Could you follow safety rules?

Cross at crosswalks or where you could see and be seen  
Stop and look left, right, left before crossing  
Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing  
traffic Cross with the light

- educate yourself and your child about safe walking
- organize parents in your neighborhood to walk children to school

- encourage schools to teach walking safely
- help schools start safe walking programs
- encourage corporate support for flex schedules so parents can walk children to school

## 5. Was your walk pleasant?

Needs grass, flowers, trees  
Scary dogs  
Scary people  
Not well lit  
Dirty, litter  
Lots of traffic

- point out areas to avoid to your child; agree on safe routes
- ask neighbors to keep dogs leashed or fenced
- report scary dogs to the animal control department
- report scary people to the police
- report lighting needs to the police or appropriate public works department
- take a walk with a trash bag
- plant trees, flowers in your yard
- select alternative route with less traffic

- request increased police enforcement
- start a crime watch program in your neighborhood
- organize a community clean-up day
- sponsor a neighborhood beautification or tree-planting day
- begin an adopt-a-street program
- initiate support to provide routes with less traffic to schools in your community (reduced traffic during am and pm school commute times)

## A Quick Health Check

Could not go as far or as fast as we wanted  
Were tired, short of breath or had sore feet or muscles  
Was the sun really hot?  
Was it hot and hazy?

- start with short walks and work up to 30 minutes of walking most days
- invite a friend or child along
- walk along shaded routes where possible
- use sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher, wear a hat and sunglasses
- try not to walk during the hottest time of day

- get media to do a story about the health benefits of walking
- call parks and recreation department about community walks
- encourage corporate support for employee walking programs
- plant shade trees along routes