



# 1 STREET DESIGN





# 01 NEIGHBOURHOOD EXPLORATION

45 mins

**Quick Tip:**

Consider making the research task competitive by dividing chapter members into small groups and rewarding the group that can identify the most findings in 30 minutes with a prize (eg. 1UP sticker)!

**Mobility in transportation planning refers to the ease and efficiency of moving between destinations. It includes various transportation modes such as walking, cycling, transit, and driving. Ensuring both accessibility and safety for all modes of transportation is a key consideration in this planning process.**

**Accessibility** ensures all individuals, including those with disabilities, can easily and affordably use transportation systems. It involves inclusive infrastructure and seamless travel across different modes.

**Safety** ensures transportation systems protect users from accidents and injuries through well-maintained infrastructure, effective traffic management, and emergency protocols.

*Your chapter's challenge is to redesign the school's neighbourhood streetscape based on your observations and evaluations to enhance safety.*

**Explore your school's neighbourhood!**

Take a stroll around your school's neighbourhood and identify one (1) street that could use improvements. Pay special attention to aspects related to transportation, focusing particularly on the different modes of transportation and how they can be made safer and more accessible for everyone.

Take a notepad and pen to record your observations, then transfer it over to Google Docs.

\* Organize your observations and ideas into a T-chart, showcasing 'Strengths' and 'Weaknesses' of the current street design (this will be beneficial later on).

| Strengths   | Weaknesses  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protected bicycle lanes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No safe pedestrian crossing</li> </ul> |



# 02 EVALUATION

*30 mins*

Review the identified strengths and weaknesses of your school's current streetscape. What worked and what did not? Based on this, come up with ideas to enhance pedestrian safety as well as the safety of other travellers as well.

### What to consider:

- Are all modes of transportation safe based on the current design of the street?
- Is there appropriate infrastructure to foster accessibility and safety?
- What are the potential implications that may arise as a result of traffic flow?
- Each municipality has best practices in place to better travel, are they currently being used?
  - To find these answers, look on your municipality's official websites for documentation of transportation-related projects and practices, including strategic plans, meeting minutes for city council sessions, and updates from the local department of transportation.
- Are there any measures to reduce vehicular speed around your school? E.g., speed bumps, speed limit signs, speed radar, etc.
- How does the street foster visibility? Lights? Signage?



# 03 STREETMIX REDESIGN

45 mins



**Streetmix is a free, user-friendly urban design tool professionals use to reimagine streetscapes. It allows users to adjust lane widths, incorporate greenery, and establish borders between different modes of transportation, among numerous other customizable options for enhancing a street.**

Drawing from your streetscape improvement ideas of the previous task, use [Streetmix](#) to bring these concepts to life.

*Create 'before' (current street design) and 'after' (proposed street design) visuals of your chosen street. Then, briefly describe how you've addressed the deficiencies in the existing design.*

### Tips for using Streetmix:

- Sign up for free using your school email (or any email) to be able to save your work.
- Experiment with Streetmix for 10 minutes to familiarize yourselves with the various tools and functions. If you need assistance, check out [tutorials online](#).
- Incorporate sustainable design practices into your streetscape.
  - For example, street trees and other native plants, energy-efficient street lighting, bicycle lanes, etc.
- Keep in mind the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, transit users, and residents while designing.

**Bonus:** Review your city's or neighbourhood's urban design principles. While not mandatory, aligning your cross-section with local guidelines can result in a more comprehensive design.

- Here are some City of Toronto examples to guide your research:
  - [Complete Streets Guidelines](#)
  - [Streetscape Manual User Guide](#)



# 04 SUBMISSION

Submit your improved street design by October 31st for a chance to win some awesome prizes!

## Share Your School's Redesign!

- How to be eligible to win prizes:
  - Post on your chapter's Instagram account:  
Share photos of the existing and redesigned street showcasing how the improved streetscape fosters accessibility and safety.
  - Be sure to tag [@urbanmindsTO](#) and [@1uptoronto](#) in your post to be eligible to win awesome prizes.

## Winner Selection

Urban Minds' Program Coordinators will review all submissions and select a winning chapter based on the following criteria:

- Clarity of information
- Quality of redesign

\* Don't forget to join the [1UP Connect Webinars](#) for deeper insights into this topic and valuable tips on enhancing your Activity Sheet submissions!