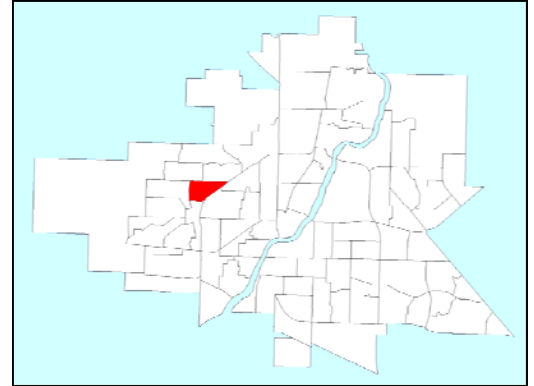


Massey Place



The **Smart Cities, Healthy Kids** research project looks for solutions to childhood obesity by investigating how neighbourhood design affects children's ability to be physically active. Research suggests that safety from traffic and crime, the presence of destinations and built features supporting an active lifestyle (eg. parks, playgrounds, and bike lanes), a neighbourhood's attractiveness, and its accessibility are all very important in determining whether people will be active there. To determine which Saskatoon neighbourhood designs are the most supportive of active living, researchers walked each neighbourhood in Saskatoon in the summer months of 2009/2010, collecting data on these areas using two research surveys: the Neighbourhood Active Living Potential (NALP) and the Irvine-Minnesota Inventory (IMI).



Massey Place in Saskatoon

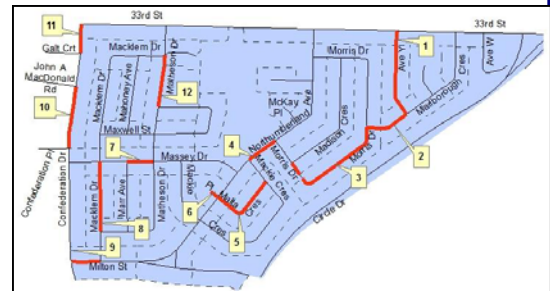
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NALP Route Map

NALP consists of 22 items within four areas: Activity Friendliness, Safety, Density of Destinations, and Universal Accessibility. Using this method, observers rated each item on a 6-point scale after walking a pre-defined route in each neighbourhood that connected 10 randomly-selected street segments. The route, typically 4 to 5 kilometres in length, is shown in red on the map.

IMI consists of a 229-item inventory of neighbourhood features within five areas: Attractiveness, Diversity of Destinations, Pedestrian Access, Safety from Traffic, and Safety from Crime. Twenty percent of street segments in each neighbourhood were randomly selected and observed. Each segment is the two facing sides of a street block and is indicated by a numbered flag on the map.



IMI Segments Map

The NALP tool is more subjective in nature and takes into account the impression of the entire neighbourhood based on the systematic observations of the researchers. In contrast, the IMI is more objective in nature and is based on observations of each individual segment. The following report will discuss how the characteristics of Massey Place compare to Saskatoon neighbourhoods in general.

Smart Cities Healthy Kids

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Massey Place Overview

Massey Place is bordered by 33rd Street, Confederation Drive, Milton Street, and Circle Drive.

Massey Place was designed under the First Zoning Bylaw, which was in effect from 1930—1966. This Bylaw marked the beginning of a formal land use classification system that separated land use types into more defined

categories for the purposes of controlling land uses and protecting property values. This Bylaw also marked the beginning of a street classification system that separated volumes of traffic into classes (local, collector, and arterial). Neighbourhoods developed under the First Zoning Bylaw include early forms of curvilinear streets, where grid patterns give way to crescents linked by a collector street. Indeed, the streets in Massey Place are an early form of the crescent design.



Inviting pedestrian pathway

Safety

We rated each neighbourhood according to the presence or absence of certain neighbourhood elements that increase or detract from a feeling of personal security. Observing both the physical and social characteristics of the neighbourhood, security was measured both in terms of traffic and crime. These ratings suggest whether safety concerns affect an individual's physical related active living decisions in their neighbourhood.



Well marked pedestrian crossing

- Out of a possible highest rating of 10, Massey Place rated **6.04** for Safety from Traffic, below Saskatoon's average rating of **6.06**. (IMI)
- Out of a possible highest rating of 10, Massey Place rated **9.86** for Safety from Crime, above Saskatoon's average rating of **8.46**. (IMI)

- Out of a possible highest rating of 6, Massey Place rated **3.63** for Safety, below Saskatoon's average rating of **3.81**. (NALP)

Massey Place's safety ratings suggest that pedestrian and vehicular travel areas are fairly well defined and safe to navigate and that there are only a few elements that reduce feelings of personal security. For example, very few areas were marked for pedestrian crossing. Our observers felt some of the busier streets were unsafe to cross without such assistance. In terms of safety from crime, a low amount of graffiti and plenty of opportunities for casual surveillance of the street by home owners contribute to the perception of personal security. However, we observed some poorly maintained homes and some spaces in alleyways or concealed by bushes that could be used for lurking.



Trees obstruct the view and limit the opportunity for passive surveillance of the street

Destinations

We rated each neighbourhood according to the number, diversity, and density of its destinations. These ratings suggest whether destinations in a neighbourhood can motivate deliberate, localized active living choices by



Convenience Store

providing a place to go and a means to interact with others.

- Out of a possible highest rating of 10, Massey Place rated **5.00** for Diversity of Destinations, below Saskatoon's average rating of **6.26**. (IMI)
- Out of a possible highest rating of 6, Massey Place rated **3.81** for Density of Destinations, below Saskatoon's average rating of **3.92**. (NALP)

Massey Place's destination ratings suggest that there are few destinations of a moderate variety. For example, observed destinations in Massey Place include a convenience store, a gas station, two schools, a park, a restaurant and pub, and a strip mall with some services.



Strip Mall services

Activity Friendliness

We rated the activity friendliness of each neighbourhood based on specific features that encourage or present barriers to an active lifestyle. These ratings suggest whether a neighbourhood assists or limits the opportunities for physical activities such as walking, cycling, or skateboarding.



Wide streets provide room for cyclists

- Out of a possible highest rating of 10, Massey Place rated **5.45** for Pedestrian Access, above Saskatoon's average rating of **5.08**. (IMI)
- Out of a possible highest rating of 6, Massey Place rated **3.92** for Activity Friendliness, above Saskatoon's average rating of **3.67**. (NALP)

These activity friendliness ratings suggest that Massey Place has both supports and obstructions for pedestrians. For example, most streets have a sidewalk on both sides of the street. Most sidewalks are in good condition and well maintained.

Further, wide streets provide adequate room for cyclists and bike parking located at some destinations increases bike friendliness. However, the street pattern can be confusing and difficult to navigate. Pedestrian access ways located in some areas of the neighbourhood provide additional connection where streets are otherwise disconnected.



Pedestrian access ways

Attractiveness

We rated each neighbourhood based on specific features that could potentially increase or decrease the attractiveness of the neighbourhood. This rating suggests whether the level of attractiveness for each neighbourhood itself can encourage or discourage individuals to participate in an active lifestyle.

- Out of a possible highest rating of 10, Massey Place rated **5.15** for Attractiveness, above Saskatoon's average rating of **4.80**. (IMI)



John A. MacDonald Park

Massey Place's attractiveness rating suggests that both attractive and unattractive features are present in the neighbourhood. For example, sidewalk amenities, such as benches and well-kept garbage cans, were absent from all observed streets. Street trees observed on some streets provide partial shade for some of the sidewalks. Further, some architectural variety and pleasant landscaping in some areas considerably increase the attractiveness of the neighbourhood.

Universal Access

We rated the universal accessibility of each neighbourhood according to the presence or absence of specific features that help or prevent safe movement for those with mobility, visual, or hearing impairments. These ratings suggest whether people with reduced mobility are able to travel in the neighbourhood safely without assistance.

- Out of a possible highest rating of 6, Massey Place rated **2.33** for Universal Accessibility, above Saskatoon's average rating of **2.19**. (NALP)



Curb cut

This universal accessibility rating indicates that Massey Place has some elements that enable safe movement for those with reduced mobility. For example, some sidewalks in Massey Place are mountable, and curb cuts are present at some intersections. However, none of the observed pedestrian crossings are adapted for individuals with visual or hearing impairments.

The principal investigator for this project is Nazeem Muhajarine, PhD. For a complete list of contributing researchers, partner organizations, project staff, and more information, please visit our website: www.smartcitieshealthykids.com

If you have any further questions about the project, please contact our research co-ordinator tracy.ridalls@usask.ca or call 966-2237.