Public Space
90 days of rain on average from Nov to March
Rain Protection Analysis

No protection from the rain in places where people most like to stay

Most rain protection is not directly associated with 13th Avenue

Many building entrances that could activate spaces don’t have rain protection

Legend:
- Covered outdoor spaces
- 13th Ave. corridor
- Building entries
- Transit stops
Gehl 12 Quality Criteria

Protection

- Protection against traffic & accidents — feeling safe
  - Protection for pedestrians and cyclists
  - Eliminating fear of traffic
  - Safe crossings

- Protection against crime & violence — feeling secure
  - Lively public realm
  - Allow for passive surveillance
  - Diversity of functions
  - Well lit / lighting in human scale

- Protection against unpleasant sensory experiences
  - Wind/draft
  - Rain/leak
  - Cold/heat
  - Pollution
  - Dust, noise, glare

Comfort

- Opportunities to walk/cycle
  - Room for walking
  - Interesting facades
  - No obstacles
  - Good surfaces
  - Accessibility for everyone

- Opportunities to stop & stay
  - Attractive & functional edges
  - Defined spots for staying
  - Objects to lean against or stand next to
  - Facades with good details that invite staying

- Opportunities to sit
  - Defined zones for sitting
  - Pleasant views; people watching
  - Good mix of public and café seating
  - Resting/waiting opportunities

- Opportunities to see
  - Reasonable viewing distances
  - Unhindered views
  - Interesting views
  - Easy orientation
  - Lighting (when dark)

- Opportunities to talk & listen
  - Low noise levels
  - Public seating arrangements conducive to communicating, ‘talkscapes’

- Opportunities for play & exercise
  - Allow for physical activity, exercise, play & street entertainment
  - Temporary activities (markets, festivals, etc)
  - By day and night
  - In summer and winter

- Dimensioned at human scale
  - Dimensions of buildings & spaces in observance of the important human dimension in relation to senses, movements, size and behavior

- Opportunities to enjoy the positive aspects of climate
  - Sun/shade
  - Wind/shelter
  - Shelter from wind/breeze

- Aesthetic qualities + positive sensory experience
  - Good design and detailing
  - Good materials
  - Fine views/listas
  - Rich sensory experiences: trees, plants, water

Enjoyment

Must have these... without these, no one will stay...

...these are the difference between good and great places
Spatial Quality Along 13th Avenue

- West Gateway
- Lundquist Courtyard / Lillis
- Campus Heart
- EMU Plaza
- Hamilton/Jaquar

Quality:
- Good
- OK
- Poor
- Under Construction
Lillis Business Complex Plaza

- Safe to walk and bike - protected from traffic
- Minimal shelter from the rain
- Good enclosure - feels like a room
- Places to sit and people watch
- Good social distances

A welcoming living room, with good edges and invitations to stay

Protection
- Accidents/crashes
- Crime & violence
- Sensory exp.

Opportunities to:
- walk/bike
- Stop & stay
- Sit
- See
- Talk and listen
- Play & exercise

Comfort
- Human scaled
- Good micro-climate
- Nice aesthetic qualities

Enjoyment

Protection against:

13th Avenue
University St.
Kincaid St.
13th at Campus Heart (University St.)

- Protected from traffic, but prone to crowding and conflicts with bikes
- Some shelter from the rain and sun
- Space has unclear boundaries
- People-watching gold! Without many opportunities to stay and do so.

A movement heart and a key junction, needs more invitations to stay

Protection against:
- Accidents/crashes
- Crime & violence
- Sensory exp.

Opportunities to:
- Walk/bike
- Stop & stay
- Sit
- See
- Talk and listen
- Play & exercise

Comfort:
- Human scaled
- Good micro-climate
- Nice aesthetic qualities

Enjoyment:
- Nice aesthetic qualities
Hamilton Hall / John E. Jaqua Academic Center

• Space is not well defined or activated by architecture
• Almost no protection from elements
• Few opportunities to stop and stay - just in front of Jaqua (barely)
• Heavier presence of vehicles in the space

Introverted architecture and a landscape that prioritizes vehicles
Facade Quality Analysis

Vibrant
- Small units with many doors
- High transparency
- No vacant or passive units
- Lots of Character
- Good articulation, materials and details

Active
- Relatively small units
- Some transparency
- Few passive units
- Some articulation and detail

Dull
- Large units with fewer doors
- Low transparency
- Some passive units
- Few or no details

Inactive
- Large units with few doors
- Very little or no transparency
- Uniform facades with no details or nothing to look at
Facade Quality Analysis

13th Ave does the hard work of service access as well!

Some building entrances orient towards quads rather than 13th Ave.
It’s not all about active facades!
Students need a variety of open spaces
The campus landscape can also create invitations to stay - but it needs some key ingredients
Campus landscape quality

- Spatially Defined
  - Defined by landscape
  - or
  - Defined by architecture

- Spatially Undefined
  - Fewer Invitations to Stay
  - More Invitations to Stay
Spatially Defined
More Invitations to Stay

Fewer Invitations to Stay
Spatially Undefined

More Invitations to Stay

Spatially Defined

Fewer Invitations to Stay
12 Quality Criteria Along 13th Avenue

Campus ‘rooms’ on 13th can be defined by either landscape or architecture, and both need invitations to stay to be well-used.
The spaces people like are not necessarily the spaces where they spend time (and vice versa).

My Campus Survey
Spring 2015

Students were asked:
‘What are your favorite outdoor spaces?’

13th Avenue
Public Life
Public Life is the social activity that takes place in everyday public spaces -- on streets, in parks and plazas, and in spaces between buildings.

Its what a people create together when they live their lives outside of their home, school, workplace and car.
Studying
Staying Warm
Bonding
Saying Goodbye
Being alone
There are lots of activities on campus. Is anything missing from public life?
Public life is dynamic

How does the design of 13th Ave support the pulses of activity?
At U of O it is resilient

People are moving on 13th no matter what. Are they being invited to stay?
Training Day, October 17th: How to Study Public Life
### AGE + GENDER OF PEOPLE MOVING

**Name:** N/A  
**Date:** 11/16  
**Time Start:** 5:10 PM  
**Time Step:** 5:12 PM  
**MICROCOUNT:** UNKN  

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<th>AGE</th>
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<th>FEMALE PRESENTING</th>
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</tbody>
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*Notes:* N/A

**Location:** 6150 Ave at Kinard St

### MODE OF PEOPLE MOVING

**Name:** N/A  
**Date:** 11/16

**Time Start:** 5:10 PM  
**Time Step:** 5:12 PM  
**MICROCOUNT:** UNKN

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<td>Walking with Bike</td>
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*Notes:* N/A

**Location:** 6150 Ave at Kinard St

### MAPPING STATIONARY PEOPLE - INDIVIDUAL COUNT

**NAME:** N/A  
**DATE:** 11/16  
**TIME:** 5:15 PM  
**MICROCOUNT:** UNKN  

**Location:** 6150 Ave at Kinard St

*Notes:* N/A
People Moving
Total moving counts on 13th

13th Avenue is a street for people!
Moving counts by location

Weekday:
- 80% walking

Weekend:
- 61% walking

Pedestrians dominate everywhere on 13th Avenue...

...and volumes are much higher on the west end
### Moving counts vs. space

13th at University St.

13th at Huestis Hall

13th at Hamilton Hall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Design</th>
<th>Use</th>
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<tr>
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<td>13th at Hamilton Hall</td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*...but the corridor’s design doesn’t match its use*
The Gateway at Kincaid has more of an “urban” pattern of activity... less about class schedule.
Further into campus, movement patterns are dominated by the class schedule.
E 13th Ave at University St

Movement in the campus heart is more steady and sustained

Lunch spike

Show lets out

Weekday

Weekend

Walking / Running
Skateboard
On Bike
Scooter
Walking with Bike
Vehicle [any type]
Supported [wheelchair / stroller / crutches]
More people in 10 minutes than the whole rest of the hour

Baseline x 8!
Surge volumes are similar to some of the world’s busiest pedestrian spaces!

wow! Could 13th be a world-class pedestrian space?
E 13th Ave at University St - Surge Counts

But bikers moving at higher speeds add conflicts especially during peak times.

Threshold for reducing walking speed due to crowding @ 2800 ppl/hr.
The challenge:

Function well as one of the world’s busy pedestrian streets several times per day.
The challenge:

...and equally well as a quiet place to stay with enough edges to be comfortable.
Much fewer people moving, overall.

Rushing in...

Staff commute home?
People seem to be choosing the Promenade instead of 13th Avenue where 13th is least interesting.
Even at the east gateway, people walking dominate on weekdays.
People Staying
Who is staying?

Gender

Women and men are balanced throughout 13th, suggesting that most places feel safe

Staying activities, all locations combined
How are people using the space?

Postures

- 68% Sitting or Lying down
- 75% Standing
Who's there and what are they doing?

Lots of women!

Where are all the men?
Engaged in Conversation

38%
Doing any kind of active recreation (play or exercise) on 13th
What other types of public life are **missing** on 13th?

- Exercise
- Studying
- Outdoor Learning
- Conversation
- Phone time
- Tabling
- Hanging out
- Performing
- Playing
- Buying / Selling
- Moving
- Lying down
How might we invite more people to stay?

- Exercise
- Studying
- Outdoor Learning
- Conversation
- Phone time
- Tabling
- Hanging out
- Performing
- Playing
- Buying / Selling
- Moving
- Lying down
How many people stop and stay in open spaces?

Density of people staying and ‘Stickiness’

13th at Jaqua & Hamilton

Lundquist Ctyd & 13th

13th at Campus Heart

EMU Plaza

Scale Reference:
Two Bas

Victor S. Park, Pike Place, Seattle

Robson St., Vancouver

Amager Torv @ Stroget, Copenhagen

Global Precedents
How many people stop and stay in open spaces?

Density of people staying and ‘Stickiness’

13th at Jaqua & Hamilton
~ 2 per 10k sf (peak, 1pm)

Lundquist Ctyd & 13th
~ 9 per 10k sf (peak, 1pm)

13th at Campus Heart
~ 13 per 10k sf (peak, 11am)

EMU Plaza
~ 22 per 10k sf (peak, 1pm)

“Stickiness”:
Of those moving, 0.87% stay

Scale Reference:
Two Basketball Courts

Victor S. Park, Pike Place, Seattle
~ 38 per 10k sf (hourly average)

Robson St., Vancouver
~ 48 per 10k sf (hourly average)

Amager Tov @ Stroget, Copenhagen
~ 100 per 10k sf (hourly average)

University of Oregon

Least dense ← Global Precedents → Most dense
It’s a gateway, but underperforming as a place (1 in 50 people stays)

What invitations to stay could be added to a gateway with Downtown?

On the phone
Chatting
Buying and selling
Lundquist Courtyard

Acts like a living room: Welcoming when full or empty

(studying)

(on their phones)

(chatting)

(crickets...)

(Eating / Drinking)

(Active Recreation - Exercise)

(Engaged with Cultural Activity)

(Passive Recreation)

(Engaged with Commerce)

(Engaged in Conversation)

(Eating / Drinking)

(Active Recreation - Play)

(Reading / Writing / Teaching)

(Civic Work / Working Public)

(Soliciting)

(Other)
ERB Memorial Union Plaza

Functions well socially and solo - its a place to stop, watch and connect

WOW! This is definitely the place to stay!

Something for everyone here
Friendly Hall to Volcanology Hall at E 13th Ave

this is the campus heart?

More phones, less conversation = a space of movement, not socializing

Compare to 4PM at EMU Plaza...how can these spaces help each other out more?
Plenty of seating but not much to do or see

Campus tours

Eating / Drinking  Engaged with Cultural Activity  Active Recreation - Play  Reading / Writing / Teaching
Engaged with Commerce  Passive Recreation  Engaged in Conversation  Civic Work / Working Public
Active Recreation - Exercise  Using Electronics  Soliciting
Other
Hamilton Hall at E 13th Ave

There’s a huge concert happening right next door?

No spillover…
Key Takeaways
For Public Life
13th is good at moving people—but doesn’t have a lot of invitations to stay.
Design it to function like a room, not just a hallway.

Peak flows on 13th are extraordinary.
Accommodate peak flows while making it a inviting and comfortable place to be.

Low flows are very low.
13th is dead at night and on the weekends. Make it feel welcoming and safe at all times.

13th is bustling during classes but misses an opportunity to also support student life and academics.
Invite more activities so it is always active.