

APPENDIX II. Survey Methods

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University _ College of Architecture and Urban Studies
Department of Landscape Architecture _ Advisor: Professor Patrick Miller
Monica Montero

A Social Behavioral Study of Urban Plazas in Maracaibo - Venezuela *Interview script for users*

Interview #	Plaza	Interview hour	General weather conditions
		() Morning () Noon () Afternoon () Night	() Sunny () Cloudy () Breeze / cool () Hot- humid Other:

Frequency of use

1. How frequently do you come to this plaza?	2. How much time do you usually spend in the plaza?
1.a () 1-2 times a year 1.b () 1-2 per month 1.c () 3 – 5 times a month 1.d () More than 5 times per month 1.e () 1-2 times per week 1.f () 3-5 times per week 1.g () More than 5 times a week	2.a () Less than ½ hour 2.b () ½ hour to 1 hour 2.c () 1 to 2 hours 2.d () More than 2 hours

3. What time of day do you generally come to the plaza?	3.1 Why:
3.a () Morning 3.b () Noon 3.c () Afternoon 3.d () Night	

Uses and activities

4. What do you usually do in this plaza?
4.a () Look at other people 4.b () Interact with friends 4.c () Interact with strangers 4.d () Relax 4.e () Sport / Skate 4.f () Jog / Walk 4.g () Watch special events 4.h () Think / mediate 4.i () Eat 4.j () Other:

Accessibility

5. How did you arrive to this plaza?
5.a () Own vehicle 5.b () Public Transit 5.c () Carpool 5.d () Walk 5.e () Other:

6. How far do you live from this plaza?
6.a () Very far more than 15 blocks
6.b () Far 10 to 15 blocks
6.c () Relatively close 10 to 5 blocks
6.d () Very Close less than 5 blocks

Sociability / perception of others

7. How would you describe the main users of this plaza?

8. Do you interact with others when using this plaza?	
8.a () Yes	8.b () No
8.1 If so, with whom and in what way?	

9. Do any other user of this plaza make you feel uncomfortable?	
9.a () Yes	9.b () No
9.1 If so, who and why?	

User's preferences and needs

10. What attracts you to this plaza?

11. How important are each of the following in attracting you to this plaza?

Conditions	Not important	Moderate important	Very Important	Comments
11.1 Solitude/ peace/ relaxation				
11.2 Design / Physical arrangement				
11.3 Landscaping / trees / vegetation				
11.4 Proximity to Food and Retail				
11.5 Social interaction				
11.6 Feeling safe / surveillance				
11.7 Good maintenance / lack of litter / neatness				
11.8 Special events / entertainment/ TV show				

Conditions	NI	MI	VI	Comments
11.9 Proximity to public transportation				
11.10 Opportunity to sport / jog / walk				
11.11 Places to sit				
11.12 Watch other people				
11.13 Parking space				
11.14 Others				

12. Could you think of anything that could be added or deleted to improve this plaza?	
12.1 Things to be added	12.2 Things to be deleted
a.	a.
b.	b.
c.	c.

13. Do you visit other plazas?	
13.a () Yes 13.1 If so, which ones and why?	13.b () No

14. What are the things that you like best about this plaza?	14.1 Why?
a.	
b.	
c.	

15. What are the things you like best about this plaza?	15.1 Why?
a.	
b.	
c.	

16. Do you have a favorite spot in the plaza?	
16.a () Yes 16.1 If so, where and why?	16.b () No

Comfort

17. How comfortable do you feel in this plaza?

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 17.a () Very comfortable | Scale 1 - 10 |
| 17.b () Comfortable | |
| 17.c () Uncomfortable | |

Follow up questions if safety and climatic issues are not addressed by the user

Microclimatic Comfort

18. Alt_ Does the climate affect your comfort in this plaza?

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 18.a () Yes | 18.b () No |
| 18.1 If so, how? | |

19. Alt_ If you had the chance to do so, would you come at noon to this plaza?

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 19.a () Yes | 19.b () No |
| 19.1 If so, why? | 19.2 If not, why? |

20. Alt_ Would you visit this plaza if it had no trees?

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 20.a () Yes | 20.b () No |
| 20.1 If so, why? | 20.2 If not, why? |

Security comfort

21. Alt_ Do you feel secure when you visit this plaza? If not, why?

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 21.a () Yes | 21.b () No |
| 21.1 If so, why? | 21.2 If not, why? |

22. Alt_ Do you generally come alone to this plaza or with other people?

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| 22.a () Alone | 22.b () With other people |
|----------------|----------------------------|

23. Alt_ Under what conditions would you not feel secure visiting this plaza?

(Under what conditions you would not visit this plaza?)

24. Alt_ Would you feel comfortable visiting this plaza at night?

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 24.a () Yes | 24.b () No |
| 24.1 If so, why? | 24.2 If not, why? |

User Profile

25. What is your age?

25.a () Less than 18

25.b () 18-29

25.c () 30-39

25.d () 40-49

25.e () 50-59

25.f () More than 60

26. What is your gender?

26.a () Male

26.b () Female

27. What is your occupation?

27.a () Clerk

27.b () Business

27.c () Professional

27.d () Student

27.e () Unemployed

27.f () Retired

27.g () Other:

28. What is the highest grade of education you have completed?

28.a () Less than high School

28.b () High School

28.c () Some college

28.d () Completed college

28.e () Graduate studies

28.f () Other: