Working Draft **of the**
Scorecard for Neighbourhood Sustainability

City of Pickering Planning & Development Department

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Attribute 1: Complete & Connected

What we mean by Complete & Connected

- The neighbourhood offers a choice of housing types suitable for all types of households and all ages of residents.
- The neighbourhood contains homes, shops, and workplaces.
- Residents have many choices for getting around (walking, cycling, transit, private car) and many choices of routes.

Characteristics to consider in evaluating Complete & Connected

- Is there variety in the housing types and tenures (such as housing for seniors, affordable housing, rental housing, condos, live-work options)?

- Is there a variety of workplaces within the neighbourhood?

- Are the blocks fairly short, so that you have a choice of routes to any given destination?

- Can most residents walk from their homes to shops and services such as banks, hairdressers, recreation facilities, schools, and workplaces?

- Is there transit, trails, bike paths and bike lanes within a convenient distance of residents' homes and local businesses?

- Are parks and greenspaces easily accessible from the neighbourhood?

Attribute Score

Using a scale of 0 to 10, where "0" means "the neighbourhood has none of these characteristics" and "10" means "the neighbourhood has all of these characteristics," insert a score for the attribute **Complete & Connected:**

Score:_____

Attribute 2: Land-Efficient & Transit-Friendly

What we mean by Land-Efficient & Transit-Friendly

- Shops, services, and other land uses are clustered together, and close to where many people live and work, so walking to them is easy and transit can serve the neighbourhood conveniently.
- The neighbourhood contains plenty of jobs and/or residents compared to the amount of land the neighbourhood occupies.

Characteristics to consider in evaluating Land-Efficient & Transit-Friendly

- Are there more than 50 jobs and residents per hectare in the neighbourhood? (Planning staff can help provide this information).

- Are there more than 30 dwelling units per hectare in the neighbourhood? (Planning staff can help provide this information).

- Are non-residential uses clustered together or located along main roads?

- Are there shops in a variety of sizes in the neighbourhood?

- Does the neighbourhood have transit service? Does it run fairly frequently?

- Are there bus-only rights-of-ways on the main roads?

- Do most people in the neighbourhood live within a short walk of a transit stop?

Attribute Score

Using a scale of 0 to 10, where "0" means "the neighbourhood has none of these characteristics" and "10" means "the neighbourhood has all of these characteristics," insert a score for the attribute **Land-Efficient & Transit-Friendly:**

Score:_____

Attribute 3: Safe & Comfortable

What we mean by Safe & Comfortable

- People want to walk in the neighbourhood because the area feels safe, there are interesting things to look at, there are other people around at all times, there are public benches to rest on, and walkways are sheltered from rain, wind, or sun.
- Development is designed on a scale that does not overpower pedestrians and in a way that allows for people to see and be seen, which contributes to safety.

Characteristics to consider in evaluating Safe & Comfortable

- Are there sidewalks on the street?

- Do the buildings that you see as you walk make you feel enclosed and sheltered?

- Are there other pedestrians on the street, and do you have a sense of other people around when you walk?

- Does traffic move at a pace that makes you feel safe?

- Are there laneways for garages, so that people don't have to park in front of the houses?

- Are public areas well-lit during the evenings?

- Are parks and open spaces clearly visible from public streets?

- Are there open fences or hedges that you can see through (rather than solid walls) to separate properties or different land uses?

- Are there lots of windows facing the street, so people inside the buildings can watch the passing pedestrians and traffic?

Attribute Score

Using a scale of 0 to 10, where "0" means "the neighbourhood has none of these characteristics" and "10" means "the neighbourhood has all of these characteristics," insert a score for the attribute **Safe & Comfortable:**

Score:_____

Attribute 4: Adaptable & Resilient

What we mean by Adaptable & Resilient

- The neighbourhood is likely to age gracefully over time, adding new uses, residents, and workers while keeping the best of its heritage.

Characteristics to consider in evaluating Adaptable & Resilient

- Are there properties available on main roads that could accommodate new shops and services?

- Do the uses at the main intersections create places that attract pedestrians and many users?

- Does the layout of the neighbourhood include land that could accommodate buildings of varying sizes?

- Does the neighbourhood contain buildings of different ages?

- Are there heritage buildings or properties in the area?

- Do plans for the neighbourhood allow for the addition of new buildings and services?

Attribute Score

Using a scale of 0 to 10, where "0" means "the neighbourhood has none of these characteristics" and "10" means "the neighbourhood has all of these characteristics," insert a score for the attribute **Adaptable & Resilient:**

Score:_____

Attribute 5: Energy- & Resource-Efficient

What we mean by Energy- & Resource-Efficient

- The neighbourhood is designed to help residents and workers minimize the use of water and non-renewable energy sources every day.
- Buildings are designed so that they don't need as much air-conditioning in summer or heating in winter, and are built with sustainable materials.
- A reduced use of energy from non-renewable sources means reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Characteristics to consider in evaluating Energy- & Resource-Efficient

- Are many driveways, walkways, and open areas designed without hard surfaces, so rainwater soaks in instead of running off into storm sewers?

- Are most of the plants in parks and gardens the kind that need little watering?

- Are the hard surfaces in the area light-coloured, to deflect away the sun's heat in the summertime and reduce the need for air-conditioning?

- Are any of the buildings made with recycled materials such as recycled certified wood or recycled plastic or glass?

- Is there a district energy system in the neighbourhood, or plans for one?

- Are there any LEED-certified buildings in the neighbourhood? Are there any other "green buildings" (buildings specially designed to use less energy and water and generate fewer greenhouse gas emissions) in the neighbourhood?

- Are there any buildings with green roofs or roof-top gardens?

- Do any buildings have solar panels or wind turbines on the roof?

Attribute Score

Using a scale of 0 to 10, where "0" means "the neighbourhood has none of these characteristics" and "10" means "the neighbourhood has all of these characteristics," insert a score for the attribute **Energy- & Resource-Efficient:**

Score:_____

Attribute 6: Green & Healthy

What we mean by Green & Healthy

- The neighbourhood contains protected natural features and green areas.
- The neighbourhood is designed to maintain good water quality in neighbouring rivers and streams.
- The neighbourhood protects the health of humans, animals, and plants.

Characteristics to consider in evaluating Green & Healthy

- Are there parks and trails that allow residents and visitors to the neighbourhood to walk and bike in green areas?

- Are the natural areas in good condition (plants are thriving, birds and animals live there)?

- Are important natural features (such as a stream, a special landform, or a shoreline) protected from destruction or pollution?

- Are measures in place to protect water quality, such as stormwater management ponds?

- Is the air quality good in the neighbourhood (for example, there are few or no places where people tend to idle cars)?

Attribute Score

Using a scale of 0 to 10, where "0" means "the neighbourhood has none of these characteristics" and "10" means "the neighbourhood has all of these characteristics," insert a score for the attribute **Green & Healthy:**

Score:_____

Neighbourhood Score

Insert total score for Neighbourhood by tallying scores from each attribute

***Neighbourhood* Score:_____/60**