37. Urban Plaza

**Definition**
An open space for public use defined by surrounding buildings or streets.

**Size**
Less than 1 acre. Actual size could be dependent on programmatic requirements and context.

**Possible Activities**
Seating, group gatherings, shopping, dining, organized activities, special events. An urban plaza may provide an energized center of activity, an open space for ornamental or interactive art or music, a live performance setting, an active setting for social gatherings or a commemorative or historical setting, contemplative in nature for rest and reflection or study.

**Location**
Integrated with development; convenient to mass transit.

**Design Criteria**
Visibility from adjacent sidewalks, streets and buildings is desirable.
Primarily hardscape - should consider pervious surfaces if feasible.
Include trees for shading and limited landscaped areas.
Provide a variety of seating options.

### Supply Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tots</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Teens</th>
<th>Young Adults</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Plaza</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Columbia Heights Civic Plaza, Washington, DC*
Examples of Urban Plazas

From top:

Thurgood Marshall Memorial Plaza,
Lawyers Walk,
Annapolis, MD

Pitkin Avenue Plaza, Yoga Class,
Brooklyn, NY

Marsupial Bridge,
Urban Plaza,
Milwaukee, WI