

Fraseropolis.com Urban Villages Index

West End Vancouver June 24 2012

Approximate number of walkable storefront blocks = 28.

Davie Street from Burrard to Denman, and Denman from English Bay to Georgia, are shown on the street banners to be three segments of a single business area.

Robson Street is in the same geographic area, but locals see most of Robson east of Cardero strictly as a tourist strip, although it does offer clothing stores.

Criterion	Points available	Points scored	Comments
Availability of housing choices within walking distance, including seniors' housing; housing in village core	20	16	A wide variety of rental, condo and seniors' housing; an almost complete lack of townhomes and lowrise apartments for sale, so many families will stay away; rising rents are beginning to exclude lower-income groups.
Transit hub with frequent service (i.e. ≤ 15 minutes) along diverse routes	12	9.5	Bus connections to Skytrain, community shuttles, "a bit sparse at night."
Area plan or strategy; municipal policies to promote mixed-used development; incentives or mechanism to create mixed-use development; funding for infrastructure and beautification	12	9	A long history of mixed-use development, a well-maintained waterfront and parks; a perception in the community that city consultations on new development are not responsive to community input
Everyday services for residents e.g. food market, drug store, clothing, dry cleaning	10	9	2 supermarkets, drug stores, clothing stores
Access to trails, walkable waterfront or heritage neighbourhood	8	8	Stanley Park
Public amenities: arts centre, recreation, library, museum, seniors' or community centre	8	7	Library, community centre, recreation including a skating rink, play areas at Stanley Park
General aesthetic appeal/ambience	6	4.5	Very fine residential streets. The commercial architecture is typical for the region i.e. low-end functional; heavy vehicle traffic on Denman Street
Variety of modest-cost dining for employees, families	5	4	Area may be losing lower-end small businesses
Office space for local professional services	4	2.5	Most buildings are one story only; or else upstairs space is occupied by restaurants

Quick access (walk, bike or transit) to next village	4	4	An easy walk to downtown Vancouver
Sidewalks to standard	3	2.5	Some trippable lips
Effective business improvement association	3	3	Website is current, diverse, engaged; quarterly newsletter covers a variety of local subjects
Availability of pre-school care	2	1.5	Lots of doggie daycare; may be a bit light for the human population
Outlets for local artists and craftspeople	2	.5	Some restaurants display local art
Bicycle racks or bicycle parking	1	1	
Bonus points: parking meters	2	2	
TOTAL	100	84	