

**Borough/Township Complete Streets Resolution and Policy**  
**June 2014**

WHEREAS “Complete Streets” are streets that are safe and convenient for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and motor vehicle drivers of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, [Municipality] recognizes that streets are a key factor in the way people experience the public realm and play a vital role in promoting economic development, public safety, health and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the design and function of our streets has often favored the motorist over the needs and safety of other users of the transportation network, particularly pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, [Municipality] is committed to providing increased mobility choices and improved safety for all its residents, as embodied in the goals and policies of the Municipality’s Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, investments in pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure will help promote “active transportation” and bring physical activity into the daily lives of the citizens of [Municipality] which will improve their health, reduce the incidence of diseases related to inactivity such as obesity and heart attacks and improve air quality and limit greenhouse gas emissions by reducing traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, [Municipality] seeks to create an interconnected network of transportation facilities that accommodate all modes of travel in a manner consistent with the community context and goals and that incorporate green infrastructure measures, where appropriate;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that [Municipality], Pennsylvania commits to a Complete Streets Policy that will incorporate Complete Streets into the planning, design and operation of all future street, sidewalk, trail and other transportation projects, whether new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or pavement resurfacing and restoration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that municipal staff are directed to review and update, as needed, language in the [Municipality] Comprehensive Plan, SALDO, zoning ordinance, other codes and Capital Improvement Plan, to incorporate the intent of this Complete Streets Policy and use best practice design guidelines as set forth in the attached Municipality Complete Streets Policy, which shall be effective immediately upon the enactment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson [City Council/Borough Council  
Board of Supervisors]

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Council Member/Supervisor

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Council Member/Supervisor

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Council Member/Supervisor

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Council Member/Supervisor

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Enacted this (day) of Month, (Year)

**Borough/Township Complete Streets Policy**  
**Draft Model by LCPC, June 2014**

**Complete Streets Policy Statement**

It is the policy of [Municipality] to establish an interconnected network of streets that is planned, designed and maintained in a manner that provides safe and convenient access for users of all modes of travel, including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit, and all ages and abilities.

**Purpose**

The [Municipality] seeks through this Complete Streets Policy to create an interconnected network of streets, sidewalks, pathways and other transportation facilities that accommodate users of all ages and abilities and modes of travel, including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users, in a manner consistent with community context and goals. The intent of this Policy is to better integrate physical activity into the daily lives of those who live in and visit [Municipality] through an increased emphasis on active transportation modes which will contribute to improved safety, health, reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality, reduced emissions of greenhouse gases and more economically vibrant communities.

**Goals**

- A. Create an efficient and interconnected multi-modal transportation system that ensures that the safety and convenience of all users of the transportation system are accommodated
- B. Support the Municipality Comprehensive Plan, and, in particular, its transportation elements, and efforts to create more walkable, livable communities

- C. Incorporate the principles in this Policy into all aspects of the transportation project development process, including project identification, scoping procedures, design and all phases of construction
- D. Ensure the use of the latest and best design standards, policies and guidelines
- E. Provide flexibility for different types of streets, areas and users
- F. Ensure that the Complete Streets are designed be context-sensitive and meet the values and design of the communities in which they are located.

### **Directives**

1. This Complete Streets Policy applies to all municipal street, sidewalk and trail projects, including new construction, reconstruction or rehabilitation projects to accommodate users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders and other road users. It applies to all street projects whether public or private and all improvements regardless of funding source.
2. Accommodations for all users of the surface transportation network shall be in accordance with the latest and best design standards, principles, policies and guidelines and shall be consistent with the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments and enhance the appearance of such. Innovative and/or non-traditional design options will also be considered, as appropriate.
3. Roadways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, street crossings, pedestrian signals, signs, street furniture, transit stops and facilities and all connecting pathways shall be designed, constructed, operated and maintained so that all users of the surface transportation network can travel safely, reliably and independently.
4. Reasonable effort shall be made to identify adjacent alternative routes and/or methods of travel to provide a safe, reliable and interconnected surface transportation network where accommodations for all users cannot be made;

### **Implementation**

The [Municipality] will establish a Complete Streets program that includes the following elements:

1. Municipal staff will review and update, as needed, language in the [Municipal] comprehensive plan, SALDO and zoning ordinance and other codes to incorporate the intent of this Complete Streets Policy. The municipality will update and/or create a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that will provide the financial mechanism and commitment to support complete street projects.
2. Design Guidelines on how to build Complete Streets will be adopted and implemented.

3. Workshops will be designed and offered to Municipal decision makers, planners and engineers to provide information on the design and implementation of Complete Streets.
4. A system of performance measures will be implemented and data collected and analyzed to determine the increased use of active transportation modes and the success of this Policy.
5. The [Municipal ] Planning Commission shall prepare and provide to the [City or Borough Council or Board of Supervisors] an annual report on the municipality's consistency with this Complete Streets Policy with respect to all street construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and pavement maintenance projects.

### **Exemptions**

Exemptions from the Complete Streets Policy shall be considered under the following conditions:

- The Municipal Engineer or Director of Public Works determines and provides written justification that establishing such new facilities would require an excessive and disproportionate cost;
- The Municipal Engineer or Director of Public Works determines and provides written justification that inclusion of such new facilities would create a public safety risk for users of the public right-of-way
- he Municipal Engineer or Director of Public Works determines and provides written justification that there is insufficient space within the right-of-way to safely accommodate such new facilities;
- Pedestrians and bicyclists are prohibited by law from using the facility;
- The project is limited to routine or seasonal maintenance activities such as mowing, sweeping or spot pavement repairs.

The [Municipality] Complete Streets Policy shall be in effect immediately upon adoption by the [City Council/Borough Council or Board of Supervisors]. Surface transportation projects in the final stages of design or under construction at the time of adoption are exempt from this Policy.

Adopted by the City Council/Borough Council/Board of Supervisors

Date \_\_\_\_\_