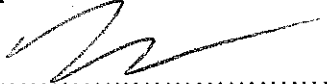


Approved as to Form and Legality

Date



April 26, 2012

Board Counsel

**MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN
FREEHOLDERS SUPPORTS A MERCER COUNTY
"COMPLETE STREETS" POLICY**

WHEREAS, the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders is committed to creating street corridors that accommodate all road users of all ages and abilities for all trips; and,

WHEREAS, a "Complete Street" is defined by the New Jersey Department of Transportation under Policy No. 703, as a "means to provide safe access for all users by designing and operating a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network of transportation options"; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the aforementioned policy, the New Jersey Department of Transportation strongly encourages the adoption of similar policies by regional and local jurisdictions who apply for funding through Local Aid programs; and,

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Clerk to the Board

RECORD OF VOTE													
FREEHOLDER	Aye	Nay	N.V.	Abs	Res	Sec.	FREEHOLDER	Aye	Nay	N.V.	Abs	Res	Sec.
Cannon	X						Frisby	X					
Carabelli	X				✓		Koontz	X					
Cimino	X						Walter	X					
Colavita	X					✓							

X—Indicates Vote Abs.—Absent N.V.—Not Voting
Res.—Resolution Moved Sec.—Resolution Seconded

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WHEREAS, the benefits of complete streets include improving safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, children, older citizens, non-drivers and the mobility challenged as well as those that cannot afford a car or choose to live car free; providing connections to bicycling and walking trip generators such as employment, education, residential, recreation, retail centers and public facilities; promoting healthy lifestyles; creating more livable communities; reducing traffic congestion and reliance on carbon fuels thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and saving money by incorporating sidewalks, bike lanes, safe crossings and transit amenities into the initial design of a project, thus sparing the expense of retrofits later; and,

WHEREAS, the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders wishes to support a "Complete Streets" policy through the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of new and retrofit transportation facilities, enabling safe access and mobility of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users of all ages and abilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders supports to the extent practicable, the application of a Mercer County "Complete Streets" policy that shall apply to all road, bridge, and building projects undertaken by Mercer County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders supports a "Complete Streets" policy with the following goals and objectives as stated in New Jersey Department of Transportation Policy 703, adopted December 3, 2009:

1. Create a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network by facilitating connections to bicycling and walking trip generators such as employment, education, residential, recreational and public facilities, as well as retail and transit centers.
2. Provide safe and accessible accommodations for existing and future pedestrian, bicycling and transit facilities.
3. Establish a checklist of pedestrian, bicycle and transit accommodations such as accessible sidewalks curb ramps, crosswalks, countdown pedestrian signals, signs, curb extensions, pedestrian scale lighting, bike lanes, and shoulders for consideration in each project where county jurisdiction applies.

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Clerk to the Board

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4. Additionally, in rural areas, paved shoulders or a multi-use path shall be included in all new construction and reconstruction projects on roadways used by more than 1,000 vehicles per day. Paved shoulders provide safety and operation advantages for all road users. Exemptions shall be considered for County and State designated routes such as Scenic Roads, and Historic or Cultural Byways. If there is evidence of heavy pedestrian usage then sidewalks shall be considered in the project.
5. Establishment of a procedure to evaluate resurfacing projects for Compete Streets inclusion according to length of project, local support, environmental constraints, right-of-way limitations, funding resources, and bicycle and/or pedestrian compatibility.
6. Transportation facilities constructed for long-term use shall anticipate likely future demand for bicycling and walking facilities and not preclude the provision of future improvements.
7. Designs shall address the need for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross corridors, as well as travel along them, in a safe, accessible and convenient manner; therefore, the design of intersections, interchanges and bridges shall anticipate use by bicyclists and pedestrians.
8. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities shall be designed and constructed to the best currently available standards and practices including the New Jersey Roadway Design Manual, New Jersey Department of Transportation's Smart Transportation Guidebook, the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, AASHTO's Guide for the Planning, Design and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and others as related.
9. Provisions shall be made for pedestrians and bicyclists when closing roads, bridges or sidewalks for construction projects as outlined in NJDOT Policy No. 705 – Accommodating Pedestrian and Bicycle Traffic During Construction.
10. Improvements shall also consider connections for Safe Routes to School, Safe Routes to Transit, Transit Villages, trail crossings and areas or population groups with limited transportation options.

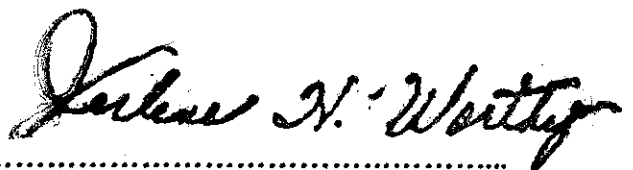
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Clerk to the Board

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11. Improvements shall comply with Title VII Environmental Justice, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and complement the context of the surrounding community.
12. Exemptions to the Complete Streets policy shall be presented for final decision to the County Engineer in writing and documented with supporting data that indicates the reason for the decision and shall be limited to the following:
 - a. Non-motorized users are prohibited on the roadway.
 - b. Scarcity of population, travel and attractors, both existing and future, indicated an absence of need for such accommodations.
 - c. Detrimental environmental or social impacts outweigh the need for these accommodations.
 - d. Cost of accommodations is disproportionate to cost of project.
 - e. The safety or timing of a project is compromised by the inclusion of Complete Streets.
 - f. An exemption other than those listed above must be documented with supporting data and must be approved by the County Engineer.

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Board shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Administration and all thirteen (13) municipalities of Mercer County.



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Clerk to the Board