Resolution Establishing and Adopting a Complete Streets Policy

Whereas, the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation defines a complete street 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, 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 emission; 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, Freehold Borough has previously prepared a Local Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan with grant funding from the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation; and,

Whereas, significant accomplishments have already been achieved by incorporating pedestrian safety and traffic calming measures when public streets are improved; and,

Whereas, Freehold Borough supports this “Complete Streets” initiative and wishes to reinforce its commitment to creating a comprehensive, integrated, connected street network that safely accommodates all road users of all abilities and for all trips; and,

Whereas, Freehold Borough will 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 shoulder for consideration in each project and land use application where municipal jurisdiction applies.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, and in the State of New Jersey that the Borough of Freehold hereby recognizes the importance of creating Complete Street that enable safe travel by all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and drivers, emergency vehicles
and people of all ages and abilities, including children, youth, families, older adults, and individuals with disabilities.

Be it further resolved that the Borough of Freehold affirms that Complete Streets infrastructure addressing the needs of all users should be incorporated into all planning, design, approval, and implementation processes for any construction, reconstruction, or retrofit of streets, including pavement resurfacing, restriping, and signalization operations if the safety and convenience of users can be improved within the scope of the work; however, such infrastructure may be excluded upon written approval made publically available by the Freehold Borough Business Administrator with input from the Freehold Borough Governing Body and Engineer, where documentation and data indicate that:

1. Use by non-motorized users is prohibited by law;
2. The cost would be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable future use over the long term;
3. Significant adverse environmental impacts outweigh the positive effects of the infrastructure.

Be it further resolved that the Freehold Borough Municipal Clerk is directed to forward certified copies of this action to Freehold Borough’s New Jersey State legislative delegation, the State of New Jersey, Commissioner, Department of Transportation, the Monmouth County Engineer, the Freehold Borough Engineer, and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders.