

Mayor and Common Council

38 Park Avenue
Flemington, NJ 08822

Meeting: 11/18/13 07:30 PM
Department: Clerk of the Borough
Category: Board Policy
Prepared By: Rebecca Newman
Initiator: Rebecca Newman
Sponsors:
DOC ID: 1369

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2013-181

**Establishing a Complete Streets Policy for the Borough of
Flemington**

**BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON**

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are defined as roadways that enable safe and convenient access for all users, including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, children, seniors, persons with physical challenges, movers of commercial goods, and users of public transportation; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Flemington is committed to creating a pedestrian and bikeway system that makes walking and cycling viable alternatives to driving, and that improves bicyclist and pedestrian safety by creating street corridors that safely accommodate many modes and abilities of road users; and,

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation supports complete streets policies and adopted its own such policy on December 3, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, complete streets policies support the goals of the Borough's Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, promoting pedestrian, bicycle, and public transportation travel as alternatives to the automobile promotes healthy living, reduces negative environmental impacts and is less costly to the commuter; and,

WHEREAS, the design and construction of new roads and facilities should anticipate future demand for biking, walking, and other alternative transportation modes and not preclude the provision of future improvements; and,

WHEREAS, the full integration of all modes of travel in the design of streets and highways increases the capacity and efficiency of the road network, reduces traffic congestion by improving mobility options, limits greenhouse gases, improves air quality, and enhances general quality of life.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Flemington that all public street projects, both new construction and reconstruction (excluding maintenance) undertaken by the Borough shall be designed and constructed as "complete streets" whenever feasible to do so in order to safely accommodate travel by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit in addition to motorized vehicles and their passengers, with special priority given to pedestrian safety, and subject to the following conditions:

- a. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities shall not be required where they are prohibited by law.
- b. Public transit facilities shall not be required on streets not serving as transit routes and the desirability of transit facilities shall be determined on a project specific basis.
- c. In connection with any project, should the cost of pedestrian, bicycle and/or transit facilities cause an increase in project costs of 10% or greater as determined by engineering estimates, which cost would be required to be funded with local tax dollars, then and in that event implementation of complete streets on that project must be approved by a majority vote of the governing body prior to bidding of the project.
- d. Significant adverse environmental impacts outweigh the positive effects of the infrastructure.
- e. The character of the particular road shall be considered in connection with the implementation of the complete streets policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the implementation of this resolution does not supersede the ordinances or policies related to pedestrians and cyclists, including those ordinances and policies related to sidewalks, in place at the adoption of this policy.

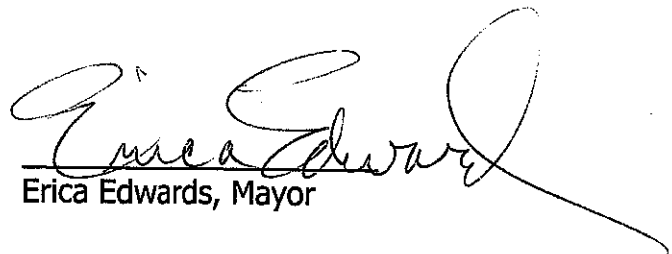
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the planning and engineering consultants to the Borough, and the Borough's Public Works Department staff, should make complete streets practices a routine part of everyday operations, should approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve public streets and the transportation network for all users, and should work in coordination with other departments, agencies and jurisdictions to achieve complete streets ideals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the goals and objectives of the Borough's Complete Streets policy shall be incorporated into the Borough's Master Plan which is proposed to integrate the local and land use development goals and regulations with the transportation policies and investment strategies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that one or more of the following implementation tools may be used in support of this Complete Streets policy:

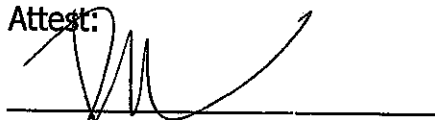
- a. Coordination between departments and provision of training to municipal employees, including Public Works, maintenance, planning and engineering;
- b. Establishment of a checklist for project review;

- c. Institution of performance measures and data collection to evaluate how well the streets are serving all users;
- d. Evaluation of the specific needs of bicyclists and pedestrians on local roadways;
- e. Directing the use of the latest and best design and engineering standards, including paving shoulders and/or narrowing travel lanes to provide striped shoulders on roads for bicycle, pedestrian, farm equipment and emergency use, and avoiding placement of rumble strips that could interfere with the safe operation of bicycles.
- f. Anticipating future bicycle, pedestrian and transit demand, even on bridges and in and around train stations.
- g. Identification of capital improvements that expand the opportunities for safe roadway use by all users.



Erica Edwards, Mayor

Attest:



Rebecca P. Newman
Municipal Clerk

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Edwards explained that adopting this policy will encourage how the Borough looks at existing roads and upgrades concerning all users, not just cars. Ms. Edwards said that pedestrians, cyclists and the handicapped also use our roads.

Ms. Edwards said there are already four other municipalities in Hunterdon County that have adopted this policy, adding the Borough needs to state it's own policy.

Tara Shepherd, of HART, has been aiding the Borough in the process of crafting this Resolution. Ms. Shepherd explained this policy is a holistic way of looking at the community and how we move about.

Council President Velella inquired if this policy will help the Borough when seeking grants.

Mayor Edwards said this is true.

Councilman Novick asked if we are tied to incorporating all aspects of the policy into the master plan.

Attorney Goodman stated adopting this Resolution will only place on record what Council wants.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Phil Greiner, Councilman
AYES:	Swingle, Velella, Fine, Gorman, Novick, Greiner