

**RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH
TO ESTABLISH A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY**

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth is committed to creating street corridors and intersections that safely accommodate all users abilities; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation supports Complete Street policies and adopted its own policy on December 3, 2009, which policy encourages municipalities to provide complete streets; and

WHEREAS, a Complete Street is defined as means to provide safe access for all users by designing and operating a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network of transportation options.

WHEREAS, the benefits of Complete Streets include the following:

- Improve 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;
- Provide connections to bicycling and walking trip generators such as employment, education, residential, recreation, retail centers and public facilities;
- Promote healthy lifestyles;
- Create more livable communities;
- Reduce traffic congestion and reliance on carbon fuels thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- Make fiscal sense 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, significant accomplishments have already been achieved by incorporating pedestrian safety measures when public streets and intersections are improved; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth wishes to implement the Complete Streets Policy through planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of new and retrofit transportation facilities, enabling safe access and mobility of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users of all ages and abilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the City of Elizabeth that the City of Elizabeth adopts a Complete Streets Policy with the following goals and objectives:

1. City of Elizabeth public street projects, both new construction and reconstruction, shall be designed and constructed as "Complete Streets." The "Complete Street" accommodates all modes of transportation, including but not limited to, travel by pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, and other motorized vehicles and their passengers.
2. Create a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network by providing connections to bicycling and walking trip generators such as employment, education, residential, recreational and public facilities, as well as retail and transit centers.
3. Provide safe and accessible accommodations for existing and future pedestrian, bicycle and transit facilities.

4. 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 City jurisdiction applies.
 5. As all streets are different, evaluate resurfacing projects for complete 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 accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.
 8. Design bicycle and pedestrian facilities to the best currently available standards and practices including the New Jersey Roadway Design Manual, the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, AASHTO's Guide for the Planning, Design and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
 9. Stay abreast of and support new technologies in improving safety and mobility.
 10. Make provisions for pedestrians and bicyclists when closing roads, bridges or sidewalks for construction projects as outlined in NJDOT Policy #705 – Accommodating Pedestrian and Bicycle Traffic During Construction.
 11. Improvements should also consider connections for Safe Routes to Schools, Safe Routes to Transit, Transit Villages and areas or population groups with limited transportation options.
 12. Improvements shall comply with Title VI/Environmental Justice, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and should complement the context of the surrounding community.
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13. Update the City's Design Standards to provide guidance for private developers to follow when private development affects elements of a complete street, such as sidewalks, crosswalks, handicapped ramps, street furniture, street lighting, street landscaping and roadway surfaces.
 14. Exemptions to the Complete Streets policy shall be presented for final decision to the Director of Public Works in writing and documented with supporting data that indicates the reason for the decision and are limited to the following:
 - a) Non-motorized users are prohibited on the roadway.
 - b) Insufficient space in an existing right-of-way to design a Complete Street.

- c) Scarcity of population, travel and attractors, both existing and future, indicate an absence of need for such accommodations.
 - d) Detrimental environmental or social impacts outweigh the need for these accommodations.
 - e) Cost of accommodations is excessively disproportionate to cost of project.
 - f) The safety or timing of a project is compromised by the inclusion of Complete Streets.
 - g) An exemption other than those listed above must be documented with supporting data and must be approved by the Director of Public Works.
15. This policy shall be incorporated into the next Master Plan Reexamination report and the adoption.

ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL OF
 ELIZABETH, NJ. AT MEETING
 MAR 25 2014

 YOLANDA M. ROBERTS
 CITY CLERK

Mayer	Police Dir.	Personnel	Bd. Adjust.
Bus. Admin.	Pub. Works Dir.	Judge	Plan. Bd.
City Atty.	Electricity Dir.	Inspector	Chief Fin. Off.
Finance Dir.	Treasurer	Engineer	Policy & Plan. Dir.
Fire Dir.	Director	Ed. Dir.	High Care Dir.
IRMH Dir.	Purchasing		

Others _____

Date _____ City Clerk