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TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township of Berkeley Heights ("Township") 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 as roadways that enable safe and convenient access for all users, including children, persons with disabilities, bicyclists, motorists, seniors, movers of commercial goods, pedestrians, and users of public transport; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of Complete Streets include:

- a. Improving safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, children, older citizens, families, nondrivers, the mobility-challenged and other non-vehicular users of the roadway, as well as those who cannot afford a motor vehicle or choose to live motor vehicle-free;
- b. Providing connections to bicycling and walking trip generators such as employment, schools, residential, recreation, transit, retail centers, public facilities;
- c. Promoting healthy lifestyles and increasing social connectivity and sense of community belonging;
- d. Creating more livable and walkable communities;
- e. Reducing traffic congestion and reliance on carbon fuels thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality, water quality and storm water management;
- f. Saving money by incorporating sidewalks, on-streets bicycle facilities, safe and convenient crossings and transit amenities into the initial design of a project, thus sparing the expense of retrofits later; and
- g. Stimulating economic prosperity through enhanced access to local businesses, increased property values and employment, and private investment, especially in retail districts, downtowns and tourist areas, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council fully support these initiatives and wish to reinforce their commitment to creating a balanced, flexible, comprehensive, integrated, connected street network that accommodates all road users of all ages and abilities and for all trips. Implementation efforts of a Complete Streets policy will ensure the fair treatment, equitable funding and resource distribution, and meaningful involvement of all communities in all phases from selection, planning, and design to construction and long-term maintenance; and

WHEREAS, a Complete Streets policy will be implemented through the planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of new and retrofit transportation facilities for the entire right-of-way.

WHEREAS, the full integration of all modes of travel in the design of streets and highways will increase the capacity and efficiency of the road network, reduce traffic congestion by improving mobility options, limit greenhouse gases, improve air quality, and enhance the general quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the design and construction of new roads and facilities should anticipate future demand for biking, walking, and mass transit and provide accommodation for pedestrians, bicyclists and mass transit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights, that all public street projects, both new construction and reconstruction (excluding maintenance) undertaken by the Township of Berkeley Heights, shall be designed and constructed as "Complete Streets" where practical and safe in order to accommodate travel by pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, and motorized vehicles and their passengers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Township Engineer should make Complete Streets practices a routine part of everyday operations, should approach every 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;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Redevelopment Entity, along with their respective planning and engineering professionals, shall incorporate this Complete Streets policy into its reviews and recommendations of major site plan and development/redevelopment projects; that all initial planning and designing studies, environmental reviews and other project reviews for projects requiring funding or approval by the Township should (1) evaluate the effect of the proposed project on safe travel by all users, and (2) identify measures to mitigate any adverse impacts on such travel that are identified.

BE IT FURHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall remain on file in the Township Clerk's office and a copy be provided to the Union County Freeholders, Union County Division of Public Works, New Jersey Department of Transportation and New Jersey Transit.

APPROVED this 26th day of June, 2018.

ATTEST:

Ana Minkoff

Township Clerk

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