RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN ADOPT A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Complete Streets describes a comprehensive, integrated transportation network with infrastructure and design that allows safe and convenient travel along and across streets for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicle users, emergency responders, motorists, and people of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets have the potential for improving physical and mental health whether directly or indirectly in the following ways:

- i. Incorporating physical activity into our daily lives by increasing pedestrian activity and bicycle use.
- Reducing rates of several chronic diseases related to increases in physical activity from walking and bicycling. Key impacted diseases include diabetes, heart disease, depression, and some cancers.
- iii. Reducing rates of injury and death from decreased traffic crashes and improved road safety for all users.
- iv. Reducing rates of asthma and other respiratory issues due to air quality through emissions reductions and vegetative air filtration.
- v. Multiplying health and wellness benefits resulting from improved access to necessary amenities for vulnerable populations.
- vi. Reducing the risk of illnesses related to water-borne pathogens resulting from improved stormwater infiltration.
- vii. Increasing the sense of social connectivity & sense of community belonging.
- viii. Improving aesthetics through decorative and functional vegetation

WHEREAS, the Township of Voorhees is committed to creating a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal transportation network that accommodate all users of the public right-of-way; and

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 Township of Voorhees recognizes the need for flexibility and that all streets are different, and user needs must be balanced and fit into the context of the community.

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

WHEREAS, the implementation of a Complete Streets policy fulfills the goals, vision, and recommendations outlined in the Township's Master Plan but more specifically, the Township's Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Voorhees affirms that Complete Streets policies, which address the needs of all users of all abilities and all trips, shall be considered in all planning, design, approval, and implementation processes, where feasible and not exempted, for any construction, reconstruction, retrofit, maintenance, alteration, or repair of streets, bridges, or other portions of the transportation network, including pavement resurfacing, restriping, and signalization operations if the safety and convenience of users can be improved within the scope of work; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all initial planning and design studies of complete street infrastructure projects shall consider opportunities to improve public health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that during the development, amendment, and/or adoption of any future plan, ordinance, law, procedures, rule or regulation, the Township, including its Departments, Divisions, Boards, and/or affiliated agencies, will consider integration and/or reference to the Complete Streets Policy as to provide for internal consistency amongst those policies and regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township shall establish a Complete Streets Technical Advisory Committee comprised of a representative from each of the following

Departments: the Department of Engineering & Public Works; the Department of Planning; the Township Administrator; the Township Committee; and the Voorhees Township Police Department - Traffic Safety Unit, for the purpose of assessing applicable projects utilizing the Complete Streets Checklist and provide recommendations on the integration of pedestrian and bicycle facilities to the appropriate jurisdictional agency, where feasible and not exempted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that roadways, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities, shall be designed and constructed, where feasible and not exempted, to the best currently available standards and practices includes 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, the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and others, as deemed applicable by the respective jurisdictional agency and/or its professional consultants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that feasibility and exemptions are determined at the sole discretion of the Technical Advisory Committee and are contingent upon the presence of specific safety concerns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township shall annually assess the impact of the Complete Streets Policy using performance standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Complete Street facilities shall be established in applicable projects unless one or more of the following conditions apply:

- 1) Law from using the roadway prohibits Non-motorized users.
- 2) The cost of accommodations is excessively disproportionate to the cost of the project, as defined at more than twenty percent (20%) of the total cost.
- 3) Scarcity of population, travel and visitors, both existing and future, indicate an absence of need for such accommodations.
- 4) Detrimental environmental or social impacts outweigh the need for these accommodations.
- 5) The safety or timing of the project is compromised by the inclusion of Complete Streets.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Voorhees, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, hereby adopts the Complete Streets Policy as outlined in this resolution and Attachment A: Voorhees Township Complete Streets Checklist.

DATED: APRIL 11, 2016

MOVED:

MR. RAVITZ

AYES: ALL

SECONDED:

MR PLATT

NAYS: NONE

APPROVED BY:

Michael R. Mignogna, Mayor

I, Dee Ober, Clerk of the Township of Voorhees, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Township Committee, at their meeting of April 11, 2016 held in the Municipal Building, 2400 Voorhees Town Center, Voorhees, NJ.

Dee Ober, RMC