

Resolution: Complete Streets Policy

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

WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple uses, including safe space for pedestrians, bicycles, and public transportation, are more conducive to the public life and efficient movement of people than streets designed primarily to move automobiles and trucks; and

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

WHEREAS, many studies show that when roads are better designed for bicycling, walking and transit use, more people do so; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets enhance safe walking and bicycling options for school-age children, in recognition of the objectives of the National Safe Routes to School Program and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Physical Activity Guidelines; and

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

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are supported by the Institute of Traffic Engineers, American Planning Association, American Association of Retired Persons and many other transportation, planning and public health professionals and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of Complete Streets will help the Town of Lewisboro to achieve its goals as a Climate Smart Community; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Department of Transportation encourages States, local governments, professional associations, community organizations, public transportation agencies, and other government agencies, to adopt policy statements expressing their commitment to accommodating bicyclists and pedestrians as an integral element of the transportation system [Ref: United States Department of Transportation Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation, May 11, 2010].

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Town of Lewisboro Town Board does hereby establish a Complete Streets Policy that provides as follows:

Purpose and Intent

- A. The Town of Lewisboro seeks to enhance the safety, access, convenience and comfort of all users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians (including people requiring mobility aids), bicyclists, transit users, motorists and freight drivers. This can be accomplished through the design, operation and maintenance of the Town's transportation network, so as to create a connected network of facilities that accommodate each mode of travel, consistent with and supportive of the local community and recognizing that all streets are different and that the needs of various users will need to be balanced in a flexible manner.

Bicycle, Pedestrian and/or Transit Improvements

- A. For the purposes of this Policy, the term "bicycle, pedestrian and transit improvements" include those facilities and amenities that are recognized as contributing to Complete Streets, which may include, but are not limited to, street and sidewalk lighting; sidewalks and pedestrian safety improvements; median refuges; crosswalks; improvements that provide ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant accessibility; transit accommodations including improved pedestrian access to transit stops and bus shelters; bicycle accommodations including bicycle storage, bicycle parking, bicycle routes, shared-use lanes, enhanced shoulders or bike lanes; street trees; landscaping; signage; street furniture and adequate drainage facilities.

Applicability

- A. Bicycle, pedestrian and/or transit facilities shall be considered in the design of the following activities, except as provided under subsection B below:
 - 1. Construction of any new public or private road.
 - 2. Paving, re-paving, re-construction, or widening of roads.
 - 3. Land development or re-development projects, as determined applicable/appropriate by the Town of Lewisboro Planning Board.
- B. Bicycle, pedestrian and/or transit facilities may not be warranted under one or more of the following conditions:
 - 1. A project involving only ordinary maintenance activities designed to keep assets in serviceable condition, such as emergency road repair, mowing, cleaning, sweeping, spot repair, concrete joint repair, pothole filling, or when interim measures are implemented on temporary detour or haul routes.
 - 2. The approving agency, in consultation with the Town Engineer, determines there is insufficient space to safely accommodate new facilities.

3. The approving agency, in consultation with the Town Engineer, determines there are relatively high safety risks.
 4. The approving agency, in consultation with the Town Engineer, exempts a project due to the excessive and disproportionate cost of bicycle, pedestrian and/or transit facilities as part of a project.
 5. The approving agency, in consultation with the Town Engineer, determines that the construction is not practically feasible or cost effective.
- C. In determining the extent or appropriateness of bicycle, pedestrian and/or transit improvements, the approving body shall consider the following:
1. Whether the corridor provides a primary access to a significant destination, such as a school, a hamlet center, a shopping/commercial area, or a park or recreational area.
 2. Whether the corridor provides access across a natural or man-made barrier such as a river or highway.
 3. Whether the corridor is in an area where a relatively high number of users of non-motorized transportation modes can be anticipated.
 4. Whether the corridor provides important continuity or connectivity links for an existing or proposed trail or path network.
 5. Whether nearby routes that provide a similar level of convenience and connectivity already exist.
- D. The design of new or reconstructed facilities shall anticipate the likely future demand of bicycling, walking and transit facilities and should not preclude the provision of future improvements. [For example, under most circumstances bridges (which last for 75 years or more) should be built with sufficient width for safe bicycle and pedestrian use in anticipation of a future need for such facilities].
- E. The Town of Lewisboro shall generally follow accepted or adopted design standards when implementing improvements intended to fulfill this Complete Streets Policy and will also consider innovative or non-traditional design options, when appropriate.
- F. The Town should develop implementation strategies and tools that may include evaluating and revising manuals and practices, developing and adopting network plans, identifying goals and targets, and tracking measures such as safety and modal shifts to gauge success.

This Policy shall become effective as of _____, 2011.