

RESOLUTION BILL NO. 11-717

RESOLUTION NO. 5672

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE COMPLETE STREETS POLICY FOR THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

WHEREAS, Independence strives to be a sustainable and vibrant city with a dynamic spirit of cooperation among its diverse citizens, businesses, organizations, educational systems and governments; and,

WHEREAS, the City desires to promote public health by encouraging walking and bicycling as a part of active living; and,

WHEREAS, older citizens and citizens with disabilities often rely on transit, mobility aids and walking to meet basic transportation needs and benefit greatly from complete and well-designed streets; and,

WHEREAS, the usual and customary users of the City's roads, streets and bridges include pedestrians, bicyclists and transit passengers of all ages and abilities, as well as drivers and passengers of automobiles, motorcycles, buses and trucks; and,

WHEREAS, the City envisions transportation as a planned, regionally integrated, multi-modal, accessible and well-maintained system that facilitates movement about the city and encourages growth and economic development. This system includes vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, aeronautical, rail and mass transit components. The system provides safe, efficient and sustainable transportation of people, goods, and services to and from places where people live, work, worship, shop, play, learn and seek medical care; and,

WHEREAS, this goal implements the Complete Streets system in conjunction with other policies, regulations and plans, such as the Thoroughfare Plan, Unified Development Ordinance, Parks Master Plan and Public Works Manual;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That this policy shall be known as the "Complete Streets Policy".

SECTION 2. That the purpose of this policy is as follows: Complete Streets Policy sets forth guiding principles and practices to be considered in transportation projects, so as to encourage walking, bicycling and transit use, while promoting safe use and operation for all users.

SECTION 3. That the following definitions shall apply in the policy:

"Complete Street" means a transportation corridor for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, cars, trucks, motorcycles and buses. "Complete Streets" are designed and operated to safely facilitate movement of people of all ages and abilities from destination to destination along and across a continuous travel network.

“Complete Street Elements” means transportation improvements, facilities and amenities that accommodate and/or promote multiple modes of travel, including pedestrian, bicycle and transit in addition to cars, trucks, motorcycles and buses.

“Public Improvement Project” means new roads, trails, sidewalks and facilities or reconstruction thereof, as well as private improvement projects constructed and/or maintained in whole or part with City funds, owned or leased by the City, and/or intended to be dedicated to the City.

SECTION 4. That this Policy applies to the design and construction of Public Improvement Projects and including those in private improvement projects. The City shall consider public plans, standards, regulations and ordinances that further this Policy.

SECTION 5. That the guiding principles and practices of the “Complete Streets Policy” are as follows:

1. “Complete Streets” are designed to serve everyone – including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and motorists – including persons of all ages and abilities.

2. The design and construction of all Public Improvement Projects should include Complete Street Elements identified in and required by:

- a. public plans adopted by the Planning Commission, such as the Comprehensive Plan, Thoroughfare Plan, and Capital Improvement Plan; and
- b. development related ordinances, such as the Unified Development Ordinance and the Public Works Manual.

3. Complete Street Elements should be considered within the balance of mode and context of the community, including, but not limited to, environmental sensitivity, cost, budget, demand, probable use, space and area requirements and limitations, and legal requirements and limitations.


4. The City intends to incorporate Complete Streets principles into all public strategic plans, standards and regulations, including the Unified Development Ordinance, the Public Works Manual, the City’s Comprehensive Plan, the Traffic Code, and other relevant ordinances, practices and policies, upon subsequent updates. The Complete Streets principles, where applicable and appropriate, should be incorporated into other City plans, manuals, rules, practices, policies, training, procedures, regulations and programs as directed by the City Manager.

5. It is a goal of the City to foster partnerships with the State of Missouri, Jackson County, Cass County, school districts, citizens, businesses, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), neighboring communities, any other pertinent agency or group, and neighborhoods in consideration of functional facilities and accommodations in furtherance of the City’s Complete Streets Policy and the continuation of such facilities and accommodations beyond the City’s borders or maintenance.

6. The City recognizes that Complete Streets may be achieved through elements incorporated into a single project or incrementally through a series of improvements or activities over time.

SECTION 6. That this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage, unless subsequently amended or repealed.

PASSED THIS 6 DAY OF JUNE, 2011, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the City Council  
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Counselor

REVIEWED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager