

## Implementing Complete Streets

Putting Complete Streets into practice requires commitment from a wide range of stakeholders. At the municipal level, it requires cross-departmental cooperation and time. As opportunities arise, communities can incorporate Complete Streets principals into projects and/or through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities.

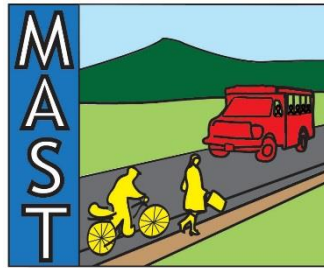


Some Complete Streets initiatives establish a task force or advisory committee to work toward policy implementation. According to the National Complete Streets Coalition, there are four key steps for successful implementation:

- 1) Restructure procedures to consider all users on every project;
- 2) Develop new design policies and guides;
- 3) Offer workshops and other educational opportunities to municipal staff, community leaders, and residents; and
- 4) Institute better ways to measure performance and collect data on how well the streets are serving all users.

## Learn More! Complete Streets Resources

- Rural Design Guide: [www.RuralDesignGuide.com](http://www.RuralDesignGuide.com)
- National Complete Streets Coalition: [www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets)
- Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) NH: [www.healnh.org/index.php/complete-streets-policies](http://www.healnh.org/index.php/complete-streets-policies)
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center: [www.pedbikeinfo.org](http://www.pedbikeinfo.org)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian)



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# COMPLETE STREETS



## Designed With Everyone In Mind



## What Are Complete Streets?

Complete Streets is an approach to transportation planning and design that strives to balance the needs of all users, including people of all ages, abilities, and modes of travel. Simply put, Complete Streets make it easy and safe to cross the street, walk to school, and bike to work.



## What Does A "Complete" Street Look Like?

A Complete Street will look different depending on where it is and what the street is used for. Design elements of a Complete Street in a rural setting may include:

- Paved shoulders or advisory shoulders;
- Paved pedestrian and/or bicycle lanes;
- Frequent & safe crossing opportunities in Village Centers;
- Narrower travel lanes;
- Wayfinding to connect the trail and street network;
- Sidepaths and shared use paths;
- and more!

## How Are Complete Streets Good For My Community?

The streets of our cities and towns are a vital part of our communities. They allow children to get to school, the elderly to get out of the house, and parents to get to work. Streets that are designed with only cars in mind limit transportation choices by making walking and bicycling inconvenient, unattractive, and dangerous.

### COMPLETE STREETS:

- Foster stronger communities
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Boost local economies
- Reduce negative impacts to air and water quality
- Attract younger generations while better serving older generations
- Increase safety for everyone

## What Are Complete Streets Policies?

Complete Streets policies formalize a community's intent to plan, design, and maintain streets so they are safe for people of all ages and abilities. They direct transportation planners and engineers to consistently design and construct the right-of-way to accommodate all anticipated users.

## Elements Of An Ideal Complete Streets Policy

Complete Streets can be formally adopted in a variety of ways, including ordinances, resolutions, agency policies, plans, and design guides. The National Complete Streets Coalition recommends that all policies include these 10 elements:

1. Vision section
2. Definition of 'all users'
3. Applies to new and retrofit projects
4. Specific exceptions
5. Encourages street connectivity
6. Applies to all roads
7. Latest & best design guidelines
8. Considers context of the community
9. Performance standards
10. Specific next steps

