

THE BOROUGH OF ELIZABETHTOWN,
LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF ELIZABETHTOWN,
LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING A COMPLETE
STREETS POLICY TO BETTER INTEGRATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
INTO THE DAILY LIVES OF THOSE WHO LIVE IN AND VISIT
THE BOROUGH OF ELIZABETHTOWN THROUGH AN INCREASED
EMPHASIS ON VARIOUS ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION MODES WHICH
WILL ULTIMATELY CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVED HEALTH, REDUCED
TRAFFIC CONGESTION WHICH WILL IMPROVE AIR QUALITY, REDUCE
HARMFUL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND CREATE AN ECONOMICALLY
VIBRANT TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are streets within the Borough of Elizabethtown that are safe and convenient for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and motor vehicle drivers of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Elizabethtown recognizes that streets are a key factor in the way people experience the public realm and play a vital role in promoting economic development, public safety, health, recreation, community connectivity, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the design and function of streets has often favored the motorist over the needs and safety of other users of the transportation network, particularly pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Elizabethtown is committed to providing increased mobility choices and improved safety for all its residents, as embodied in the goals and policies of the Borough of Elizabethtown's most recent Comprehensive Plan, Official Maps, Downtown Master Plan and Regional Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, investments in pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure will help promote "active transportation" and bring physical activity into the daily lives of the citizens of the Borough of Elizabethtown which will improve their health, reduce the incidence of diseases related to inactivity such as obesity and heart attacks, improve air quality and limit and or reduce negative impacts on the environment from traffic congestion; and

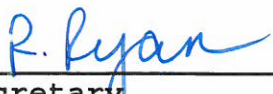
WHEREAS, the Borough of Elizabethtown seeks to create an interconnected network of transportation facilities that accommodate all modes of travel in a manner consistent with the community context and goals and that incorporate green infrastructure measures where appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania commits to a Complete Streets Policy that will incorporate Complete Streets into the planning, design and operation of all future municipal street, sidewalk, trail, pedestrian and bicycle pathway[s] and other transportation projects, whether new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or pavement maintenance; and

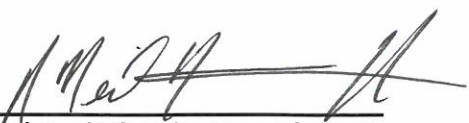
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania hereby directs municipal staff to review and update, as needed, language in the Elizabethtown Borough Code of Ordinances which shall include the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance, Existing Structures and Property Maintenance Code and other applicable codes. Staff shall incorporate the intent of the Complete Streets Policy in all recommended revisions to any code as set forth in the attached Elizabethtown Complete Streets Policy, known as "Attachment A," which shall be effective immediately upon the enactment by the Borough Council of the Borough of Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, assembled in open session this 7th day of August 2014.

THE BOROUGH OF ELIZABETHTOWN

ATTEST:



Secretary

By: 

Council (Vice) President

ATTACHMENT A

ELIZABETHTOWN BOROUGH COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

COMPLETE STREETS POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Borough of Elizabethtown to establish an interconnected network of streets that is planned, designed and maintained in a manner that provides safe and convenient access for users of all modes of travel, including pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

Purpose

The Borough of Elizabethtown seeks through this Complete Streets Policy to create an interconnected network of streets, sidewalks, trails and pathways that accommodate users of all ages and abilities within all modes of travel, including pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users, in a manner consistent with community context, comprehensive plan, Downtown Master Plan, community goals and the most current edition of the Regional Strategic Plan and Official Maps. Furthermore, the intent of this Policy is to better integrate physical activity into the daily lives of those who live in and visit the Borough of Elizabethtown through increased emphasis on active transportation modes which will contribute to improved health, reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality and reduce negative impacts on the environment, and create a more economically vibrant twenty-first century community.

Goals

- A. Create an efficient and interconnected multi-modal transportation system that ensures that the safety and convenience of all users of the transportation system are accommodated
- B. Support the Borough of Elizabethtown Comprehensive Plan, Official Maps, Downtown Master Plan, and Regional Strategic Plan, and, in particular, its transportation elements, and efforts to create a more walkable, livable community
- C. Incorporate the principles in this Policy into all aspects of the transportation project development process, including project identification, scoping procedures, design and all phases of construction
- D. Ensure the use of the latest and best design standards, policies and guidelines

- E. Provide flexibility for different types of streets, areas, and users
- F. Ensure that the Complete Streets are designed to be context-sensitive and meet the values and design of the communities in which they are located

Directives

1. This Complete Streets Policy applies to all street, sidewalk, trail and pathway projects, including new construction, reconstruction or rehabilitation projects to accommodate users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders and other road users. It applies to all street projects whether public or private and all improvements regardless of funding sources.
2. Accommodations for all users of the surface transportation network shall be in accordance with the latest and best "Complete Streets" standards, principles, policies and guidelines and shall be consistent with the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environment and enhance the appearance of such.
3. Roadways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, street crossings, pedestrian signals, signs, street furniture, transit stops and facilities and all connecting pathways shall be designed, constructed, operated and maintained so that all users of the surface transportation network can travel safely, reliably and independently.
4. Complete Streets will be designed, built and maintained in accordance with accepted federal, state and local standards and guidelines that represent state-of-the-art design standards and best practices innovative and/or non-traditional design options will also be considered, as appropriate.
5. Reasonable efforts shall be made to identify adjacent alternative routes and or methods of travel to provide a safe, reliable and interconnected surface transportation network where accommodations for all users cannot be made.

Implementation

The Borough of Elizabethtown will establish a Complete Streets Program that includes the following elements:

1. Borough staff will review and update, as needed, language in the Borough of Elizabethtown comprehensive plan, regional strategic plan, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance and other codes to incorporate the intent of this Complete Streets Policy. The Borough of Elizabethtown will update the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that will provide the financial mechanism and commitment to support Complete Streets projects.
2. Design Guidelines on how to build Complete Streets will be adopted and implemented.
3. Workshops will be designed and offered to Borough Council members, Planning Commission members and Borough staff to provide information on the design and implementation of Complete Streets.
4. A system of performance measures will be implemented and data collected and analyzed to determine the increased use of active transportation modes and the success of this policy.
5. The Borough of Elizabethtown Planning Commission, in coordination with Borough staff, shall prepare and provide to the Borough Council of the Borough of Elizabethtown an annual report on the Borough's consistency with this Complete Streets Policy with respect to all street construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and pavement maintenance projects.

Exemptions

Exemptions from the directives and design guidelines within the Complete Streets Policy are reviewed and approved by Borough Officials. Borough officials shall include Borough Council and staff. Exemptions shall not include modifications or waivers from the Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances and other applicable Borough ordinances. Exemptions shall be considered by Borough Officials under the following conditions:

- Written justification, to be reviewed and approved by Borough Officials, that inclusion of such new facilities would create a public safety risk for users of the public right-of-way;
- Written justification, to be reviewed and approved by Borough Officials, that there is insufficient space within the right-of-way to safely accommodate such new facilities;
- Borough Officials determine that pedestrians and bicyclists are prohibited by law from using the facility;

- The project is deemed by Borough Officials to be limited to routine or seasonal maintenance activities such as mowing, sweeping or spot pavement repairs.

The Borough of Elizabethtown Complete Streets Policy shall be in effect immediately upon adoption by the Borough Council of the Borough of Elizabethtown. Surface transportation projects in the final stages of design or under construction at the time of adoption are exempt from this Policy.

Adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Elizabethtown, duly assembled in lawful session via Resolution 2014-12 dated August 7, 2014.