

Town of Auburn, Massachusetts



COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

I. VISION & PURPOSE

The purpose of Auburn's Complete Streets policy is to accommodate all road users by creating a road network that meets the needs of individuals utilizing a variety of transportation modes. The Town of Auburn will, to the maximum extent practical, design, construct, maintain, and operate all streets to provide for a comprehensive and integrated street network of facilities so that they are safe for all users of all ages and abilities, including children, families, older adults, and individuals with disabilities, as a matter of routine. This policy directs decision-makers to consistently plan, design, and construct streets to accommodate all anticipated users including but not limited to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, emergency vehicles, and freight and commercial vehicles.

II. CORE COMMITMENT:

A. Definition

"Complete Streets" are streets that are designed and operated to provide safety and accessibility for all users of roadways, trails and transit systems, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, motorists, commercial vehicles, and emergency vehicles and for people of all ages and of all abilities. Furthermore, Complete Streets principles contribute toward the safety, health, economic viability, and quality of life in a community by providing accessible and efficient connections between home, school, work, recreation, and retail destinations by improving the pedestrian and vehicular environments throughout communities.

B. Scope of Applicability

- (i) Complete Streets practices will become a routine part of the everyday operations for the Department of Public Works and the Planning Board, and these agencies should approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve the public right-of-way, private development projects and the transportation network for all users.
- (ii) The Town of Auburn recognizes that all projects, new construction, maintenance, or reconstruction, are potential opportunities to apply Complete Streets design principles. The Town will, to the maximum extent practical, design, construct, maintain, and operate all streets to provide for a comprehensive and integrated network of facilities for people of all ages and abilities.
- (iii) Complete Streets design recommendations shall be incorporated into all publicly and privately funded projects, as appropriate. All transportation, infrastructure and street design projects requiring funding approval by the Town of Auburn, as well as projects funded by the state and federal government, such as the Chapter 90 funds, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the MassWorks Infrastructure Program, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Capital

Funding and other state and federal funds for street and infrastructure design shall adhere to (comply with) the Town of Auburn Complete Streets Policy. Private developments and related street design components or corresponding street-related components shall adhere to (comply with) the Complete Streets principles. The Town of Auburn recognizes the importance of working with these Federal, State, local and private development entities to achieve a Complete Streets network to the greatest extent practicable.

- (iv) In the event that the existing right-of-way does not allow for the accommodation of all users, alternatives will be explored such as obtaining additional right-of-way (if economically feasible), use of revised travel lane configurations, paved shoulders, signage, traffic calming, education or enforcement to accommodate all potential users.
- (v) Transportation projects may be excluded from application of Complete Streets elements when costs are excessively disproportionate to future use or would be inappropriate in light of the scope of the project, as determined by the Town Manager in consultation with the DPW Director.

III. BEST PRACTICES

A. Context Sensitivity

Implementation of this Policy should reflect and adapt to the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments, and enhance the appearance of such. This policy recognizes that transportation needs vary and must be balanced in a flexible, safe, and cost effective manner.

B. Design Standards

The latest design guidance, standards, and recommendations available will be used in the implementation of Complete Streets, including:

- The Massachusetts Department of Transportation Project Design and Development Guidebook
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Street Design Guide
- The U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
- The latest edition of American Association of State highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) A Policy on Geometric Design of Highway
- The Architectural Access Board (AAB) 521CMR Rules and Regulations
- The U.S. Department of Justice 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- Documents and plans created for the Town of Auburn, such as the Town of Auburn Planning Board Subdivision Rules & Regulations and Town of Auburn Zoning By-Laws

In Recognition of context sensitivity, public input and the needs of many users, a flexible, innovative and balanced approach that follows other appropriate design standards may be considered, provided that a comparable level of safety for all users is present.

C. Performance Measures

Complete Streets implementation and effectiveness should be constantly evaluated for success and opportunities for improvement. The Town Manager will work with the DPW Director each year to

ensure the upcoming year's road projects meet the Complete Streets principles to the most practical extent possible. The Town of Auburn will provide an annual report on transportation projects undertaken within the prior year and the extent to which these projects meet the objectives of this policy.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The Town of Auburn will make Complete Streets practices a routine part of everyday operations, shall approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve streets and the transportation network for all users, and shall work in coordination with other departments, agencies, and jurisdictions to achieve Complete Streets.

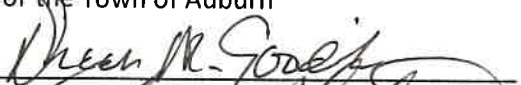
To this end, the Town will implement the Complete Streets principles through the following means:

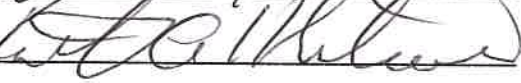
- A. The Town of Auburn shall review and either revise or develop proposed revisions to all appropriate planning documents (master plans, open space, and recreation plans, etc.), zoning and codes, laws, procedures, rules, regulations, guidelines, programs, and templates to integrate Complete Streets principles in all street projects.
- B. Contingent on the availability of funds, pertinent town staff, committee members, and decision-makers will be encouraged to attend professional development and training, conferences, classes, seminars, and workshops on Complete Streets principles and best practices.
- C. The Town will utilize inter-department coordination to promote the most responsible and efficient use of resources for activities within the public way.
- D. The Town will seek out appropriate sources of funding and grants for implementation of Complete Streets policies.


The Town of Auburn recognizes that "Complete Streets" may be achieved through single elements incorporated into a particular project or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time.


Adopted this ~~22nd~~ day of JANUARY, 2018.

For the Town of Auburn









Board of Selectmen