

## **GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT**

Complete Streets are facilities designed, operated and maintained to assure safe mobility for users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders and motorists, appropriate to the function and context of the facility. Wherever possible and practical, the Village of Mokena seeks to create a comprehensive, integrated, and connected transportation network where every roadway user can travel safely and comfortably and where sustainable transportation options are available to everyone by planning, designing, operating and maintaining a network of Complete Streets.

The Village of Mokena shall endeavor to evaluate all future street infrastructure construction and maintenance projects to determine what additional improvements might be necessary to encourage a variety of travel modes by users of all ages and abilities. As part of this evaluation, the Village of Mokena m a y utilize a group of interdisciplinary experts at its disposal including, but not limited to, the Village's staff and consultants, and appropriate representatives from the State of Illinois, Will County, Metra, Pace and local school districts. As appropriate, the Village will update and design bicycle and pedestrian facilities to the best currently available standards and practices including the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, the AASHTO Guide for the Planning, Design and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, the AASHTO Green Book: A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Highway Capacity Manual (HCM), the FHWA Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and others as related.

Complete Streets can be achieved through network-level improvements, through integration into single location projects or incrementally through a series of small improvements or maintenance activities. Decisions regarding the Public Right-of-Way shall promote use by pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit and motor vehicles, in a safe and effective manner, taking into account the surrounding community context and land uses. The Village shall strive to create a comprehensive, integrated and connected network of transportation options for all modes of conveyance, designed and operated to enable appropriate and safe access for all users.

## **POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**

The Village shall implement a Complete Streets policy as follows:

- a. The Village of Mokena will provide training opportunities to staff tasked with implementing the Complete Streets policy.
- b. Staff shall incorporate Complete Streets into the budgeting process, work plans and staffing projects, and consider Complete Streets as one of the priorities in roadway



planning and funding decisions.

- c. To the extent that relevant roadways are under the jurisdiction of an agency other than the Village (IDOT, Will County or various surrounding municipalities), Staff shall provide such Complete Streets technical assistance as is accepted by the other agency.
- d. The Village shall cooperate with neighboring jurisdictions to encourage street connectivity with a specific emphasis on regional corridors.
- e. Staff shall prioritize the safe movement of pedestrians, bicycle, and public transportation traffic in decisions regarding the use of limited Public Right-of-Way, with consideration given to roadway context and land use.
- f. Staff will review and revise, as necessary, plans, manuals, policies, processes and programs to encourage the implementation of Complete Streets on roadways not under the jurisdiction of the Village, subject to financing, regulation of or otherwise involving an action by the Village. Such projects shall include, but not be limited to, privately built roadways and projects on non-Village-owned roadways funded in part or entirely by Village funds.
- g. Staff shall apply the Complete Streets Policy in all instances when feasible. It is understood that there may be circumstances in which it may not be practical or feasible to apply the Complete Streets Policy. Such circumstances may include, but not limited to, the following:
  - i. The scope of the project is limited to maintenance activities intended to keep the roadway in serviceable condition.
  - ii. There is sufficient documentation that there is no feasible way to accommodate improvements for non-vehicular traffic within the project's scope.
  - iii. There is no documented, current or anticipated, need for accommodation of non- motorized roadway users, or the road is not a current or planned transit route.

## **BENEFITS**

Complete Streets provide the following benefits:

a. <u>Increased Transportation Choices</u>: Streets that provide travel choices can give people the option to avoid traffic congestion and increase the overall capacity of the



transportation network.

- b. <u>Improved Safety</u>: Design and accommodation for bicyclists and pedestrians reduces the incidence of crashes.
- c. <u>Quality of Place</u>: Increased bicycling and walking are indicative of vibrant and livable communities.
- d. <u>Economic Development</u>: Complete streets can reduce transportation costs and travel time while increasing property values and job growth in communities.
- e. <u>Improved Return on Infrastructure Investments:</u> Integrating sidewalks, bike lanes, transit amenities, and safe crossings into the initial design of a project spares the expense of retrofits later.
- f. More Walking and Bicycling: Public health experts are encouraging walking and bicycling as a response to the obesity epidemic. Streets that provide room for bicycling and walking help people of all ages get physical activity and gain independence.

## **POLICY**

The Village's Complete Streets policy shall:

- E valuate resurfacing projects for complete streets inclusion according to length of project, local support, environmental constraints, total available right-of-way, funding resources and bicycle and/or pedestrian compatibility.
- b. Address the need for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross corridors as well as travel along them. Even where bicyclists and pedestrians may not commonly use a particular travel corridor that is being improved or constructed, they will likely need to be able to cross that corridor safely and conveniently. Therefore, the design of intersections shall accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians in a manner that is safe, accessible and convenient.
- c. Consider connections for Safe Routes to Schools, trail crossings, and areas or population groups with limited transportation options.
- d. Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- e. Complement the context of the surrounding community.





f. Identify all current and potential future sources of funding for street improvements