



NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Together We Make The Difference

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RESOLUTION 10-05

A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING COMPLETE STREETS GUIDELINES FOR NIRPC-PROGRAMMED TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) promotes an effective multimodal, regional land use/transportation system that is safe, energy and fiscally efficient, maximizes regional connectivity, serves the mobility needs of all citizens, and is environmentally sensitive; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC promotes transportation improvements that encourage walking, bicycling and transit use while promoting safe operations for all users; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are roadways that accommodate safe and efficient access for all users by law including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are achieved when transportation agencies routinely plan, design, construct, re-construct, operate, and maintain the transportation network to improve travel conditions for all users of the roadway in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets principles have been, and continue to be, adopted nationwide at state, regional, and municipal levels in the interest of adherence to federal regulations that promote multimodal transportation options and accessibility for all users; and

WHEREAS, development of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure offers long term cost savings and opportunities to create safe and convenient non-motorized travel; and

WHEREAS, increasing active transportation (e.g., walking, bicycling and using public transportation) offers the potential for improved public health, economic development, a cleaner environment, reduced transportation costs, enhanced community connections, social equity, and more livable communities; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets improvements include, but are not limited to marked bicycle lanes on the roadway, paved shoulders, wide outside lanes, signed bike routes, safe access to bus stops, shared use paths, sidewalks, bicycle parking facilities, marked or raised street crossings (including over- and under-passes), and pedestrian signals and signs; and

WHEREAS, providing access for people with disabilities is a civil rights mandate that is not subject to limitation by project costs, levels of use, or "exceptional circumstances" where the Americans with Disabilities Act requires pedestrian facilities that, when newly constructed or altered, be accessible; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC is responsible for planning and programming transportation projects that utilize federal grants which adhere to goals and objectives from previously adopted documents such as the *Connections 2030 Regional Transportation Plan* and the *Regional Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan of 2005 (Ped & Pedal Plan)*; and other applicable documents; and

WHEREAS, it is NIRPC's vision to undertake bold planning initiatives that positively impact Northwest Indiana's future to create a strong, accessible, safe, clean and high-quality environment in which to live, work and play.

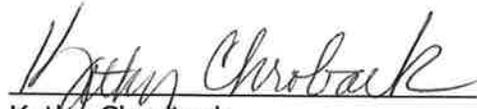
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NIRPC supports the concept of Complete Streets, and hereby establish the attached Guidelines to incorporate Complete Streets facilities to the most practicable extent as proposed by the project sponsor in all transportation projects using NIRPC-attributable federal funds;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Complete Streets Guidelines are hereby established wherein project sponsors need to provide in the written request for federal funding documentation providing for the inclusion of Complete Streets facilities in the proposed project seeking NIRPC-attributable funds and application materials must include a description of the facilities;

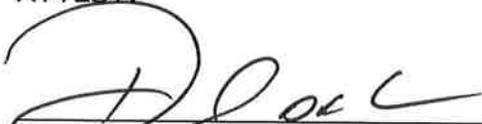
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that sponsors using other local, state, or non-NIRPC-attributable federal funds be encouraged to accommodate practicable Complete Streets facilities, in the planning and design of all proposed transportation projects;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NIRPC-based stakeholder committees responsible for various funding priorities utilize these Complete Street Guidelines and review proposed project descriptions to account for Complete Streets adherence, and providing exemptions to projects where deemed appropriate.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this 20th day of May, two thousand and ten.


Kathy Chrobak
Chair

ATTEST:


David Uran
Secretary