

CITY OF CONCORD

In the year of our Lord, two thousand and ~~fifteen~~

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION POLICY

The goal of the City of Concord is to have a complete multi-modal transportation system that serves residents, employees, visitors and businesses, and achieves the overarching goals of safety, economic vitality, enhanced quality of life, community health and environmental and fiscal sustainability.

~~**PREAMBLE:** The overall goal of this comprehensive transportation policy is to plan and promote the development, operation, and maintenance of a complete, multi-modal transportation system serving the community, inclusive of its residents, businesses, employees, and visitors.~~

~~The transportation network serves to accommodate the needs of the community while improving connectivity of Concord's neighborhoods. This is in the context of the overarching goals of economic vitality, enhanced livability, quality of life, and environmental and fiscal sustainability.~~

It shall be the policy of the City of Concord to proactively:

~~In the effort to promote a transportation infrastructure that primarily focuses on quality of life and mobility for Concord residents, proactively assesses traffic operations and safety, and improves the experience of visitors, it shall be the policy of the City of Concord:~~

1. Plan, design, build and operate its network of roads and streets to provide users of all ages and abilities with multiple choices of safe transportation modes – the so called “Complete Streets” ~~To design, build and operate its roads and streets to safely accommodate all users and modes of transportation—the so called “complete streets”~~ initiative by:
 - a. Fully integrating pedestrians, including people requiring mobility aids, into the transportation system with walkable neighborhoods and promoting improvements to sidewalks and trail systems ~~into the transportation system with walkable neighborhoods, and to promote improvements to sidewalks and trail systems throughout the community~~ that provide safety and convenience.
 - b. Fully integrating bicyclists into the City’s transportation system, via improvements as incidental parts of street building and resurfacing projects as well as separate projects for that specific purpose.
 - c. Fully integrating public transit into the City’s transportation system to serve the needs of the community and provide transportation choice; and ~~To develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive Neighborhood Traffic Management Program that focuses on enhancing livability in residential neighborhoods by lessening the adverse impacts associated with increased traffic volume, cut through traffic and speeds.~~
 - e-d. Continuing to provide for motorized travel, including automobiles, commercial vehicles, and emergency vehicles to provide safe, efficient and cost-effective motorized mobility for residents and visitors, including commercial vehicle operators.
2. To develop, implement, and maintain appropriate measures that encourage through travel along the collector and arterial street network rather than along residential streets. Enhance neighborhood livability by promoting:

- a. Connectivity between neighborhoods via local streets;
- b. Motor vehicle through-travel along arterial and collector streets; and
- c. Traffic management measures that lessen the adverse impact of traffic.

~~2.3.~~ Plan, promote and support public transportation to enhance mobility for Concord residents and visitors, including those who cannot or choose not to rely on personal vehicles.

~~4.~~ Use the best applicable standards and guidelines to devise solutions that balance modal and user needs and that are sensitive to the context of surrounding neighborhoods and commercial districts. ~~To promote a comprehensive public transportation system that responds to and serves the needs of the community.~~

~~5.~~ Apply Complete Streets principles in reviewing and approving transportation improvements within the public right of way that may be developed by the private sector, the State of New Hampshire or the Concord or Merrimack Valley School Districts.

~~6.~~ Inform and update city staff and community leaders on Complete Streets principles and best practices through workshops and other appropriate means. Coordinate across departments to promote the most responsible and efficient use of resources for activities within public ways. Ensure this comprehensive transportation policy informs land-use planning and decision-making.

~~7.~~ Seek appropriate sources of funding and grants to implement the components of this policy.

~~3-8.~~ Monitor the success of this policy using performance measures such as miles of bike lanes, transit ridership and crash history.

~~4-9.~~ ~~To e~~ Cooperate with state and regional transportation organizations (such as the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and the Central New Hampshire Planning Commission) and promote Complete Streets solutions in projects of state and regional significance that benefit or impact Concord residents. ~~in projects of state and regional significance that benefit or impact Concord residents.~~

~~5-10.~~ ~~To p~~ Partner with community programs, the Concord School District, and the Merrimack Valley School District, to improve safety while encouraging more children to walk and bicycle to school. ~~and encourage more children to safely walk and bicycle to school by supporting the initiatives of the National Safe Routes to School Program.~~

Exceptions to this policy are allowed only where it is documented that rigid implementation would be inappropriate, such as accommodating users where they are prohibited; where the cost is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable public value; in the absence of current or future need; or for routine maintenance that does not change mobility, safety, street geometry or operations.