

# 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.*

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

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” 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 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 by 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
  - 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. 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.
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.
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.
8. Monitor the success of this policy using performance measures such as miles of bike lanes, transit ridership and crash history.
9. 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.
10. 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.

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.