

LAS CRUCES METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION NO. 08-10

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY, STATING GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES SO THAT TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS ARE PLANNED, DESIGNED, CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED TO INTEGRATE WALKING, BICYCLING AND TRANSIT USE WHILE PROMOTING SAFE AND EFFICIENT OPERATIONS FOR ALL USERS. THIS RESOLUTION ALSO ENCOURAGES THE CITY OF LAS CRUCES, TOWN OF MESILLA, DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ADOPT A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY.

WHEREAS, the Las Cruces Metropolitan Planning Organization 2005 Transportation Plan encourages walking, bicycling and transit use as safe, convenient, energy efficient, and widely available well connected modes of transportation for all people; and

WHEREAS, Las Cruces MPO Complete Streets guiding principle is to plan, design, operate and maintain the transportation network to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users - pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motor vehicle drivers - as well as people of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, streets constitute a large, increasingly valuable portion of public space. They should be corridors for all modes of transportation, with a particular emphasis on pedestrian safety, and useable public open space corridors with generous landscaping and lighting; and

WHEREAS, streets should be designed as a whole, cognizant of the adjoining land uses, facing buildings, and all users; such that the resulting street environment is of appropriate scale and character; and

WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple uses - including safe, active, and ample space for pedestrians, bicycles, and public transit - are more conducive to the public life of an urban community and efficient movement of people and goods than streets designed primarily to move automobiles. Decisions regarding the design and use of the limited public street space should integrate facilities for pedestrians, bicycles, public transit, and automobiles; and

WHEREAS, encouraging non-motorized transportation can have considerable positive health impacts for our community during a time when obesity, diabetes, and heart diseases are at epidemic proportions; and

WHEREAS, transportation improvements should include an array of facilities and amenities that are recognized as contributing to Complete Streets, including but not limited to: street and sidewalk lighting, street trees, landscaping, street furniture, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, access improvements in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and pedestrian access improvements to public transit facilities; and

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions and agencies nationwide have adopted Complete Streets legislation, including the United States Department of Transportation, numerous state transportation agencies, San Francisco, Sacramento, San Diego, Boulder, Chicago, Seattle and Portland; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee approved resolutions in September and November 2005 encouraging their member jurisdictions to adopt policies and design standards supporting the full integration of all travel modes within the transportation network; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee has determined that it is in the best interest of the MPO for this resolution to be APPROVED.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Policy Committee of the Las Cruces Metropolitan Planning Organization:

(I)

MPO staff will consult and cooperate with all member and contributing agencies to implement this Complete Streets policy by planning the transportation network and adjoining land uses to improve travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit and motorists in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding community. This may include consulting on policies and procedures addressing the planning, design, construction, reconstruction or other changes of transportation facilities on arterial streets to support the creation of Complete Streets, including capital improvements, major maintenance, and roadway re-striping, recognizing that all streets must balance user needs.

(II)

THE Las Cruces Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will incorporate Complete Streets principles into: the Long Range Transportation Plan, Major Thoroughfare Plan, Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plans, Intelligent Transportation System Regional Architecture, Transportation Improvement Program, and other MPO plans, manuals, rules, regulations and programs as appropriate.

(III)

THE Las Cruces MPO will work with City, County, and Town community development and public works departments, other transportation planning organizations, and related advisory committees to collaboratively designate common Complete Streets specifications that are consistent across jurisdictions for thoroughfares.

(IV)

EXCEPT in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, Complete Streets principles will not apply to maintenance activities designed to keep assets in serviceable condition (e.g., mowing, cleaning, sweeping, and spot repair, or interim measures on detour or haul routes).

(V)

COMPLETE Streets may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. It is the Policy Committee's intent that all available sources of transportation funding be drawn upon to implement Complete Streets.

(VI)

THAT MPO staff are hereby authorized to take appropriate and legal actions to implement this Resolution.

DONE and **APPROVED** this 14th day of May, 2008.

APPROVED:

Chair Evans

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary

VOTE:

Chair Evans:	_____
Vice-Chair Cadena:	_____
Councilor Archuleta:	_____
Councilor Jones:	_____
Councilor Thomas:	_____
Commissioner McCamley:	_____
Commissioner Perez:	_____
Trustee Bernal:	_____
Trustee Arzabal:	_____

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney