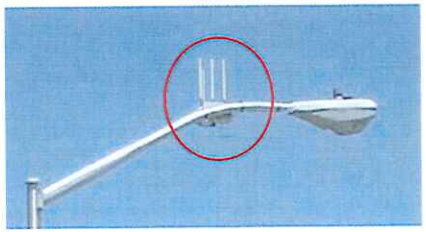
# Element #3 – Technology

- Use technology to improve operations and enhance safety to the roadway system

Milpitas



# Element #4 – Connectivity

- Promote a system of interconnected streets that provide access to all modes to local and regional destinations

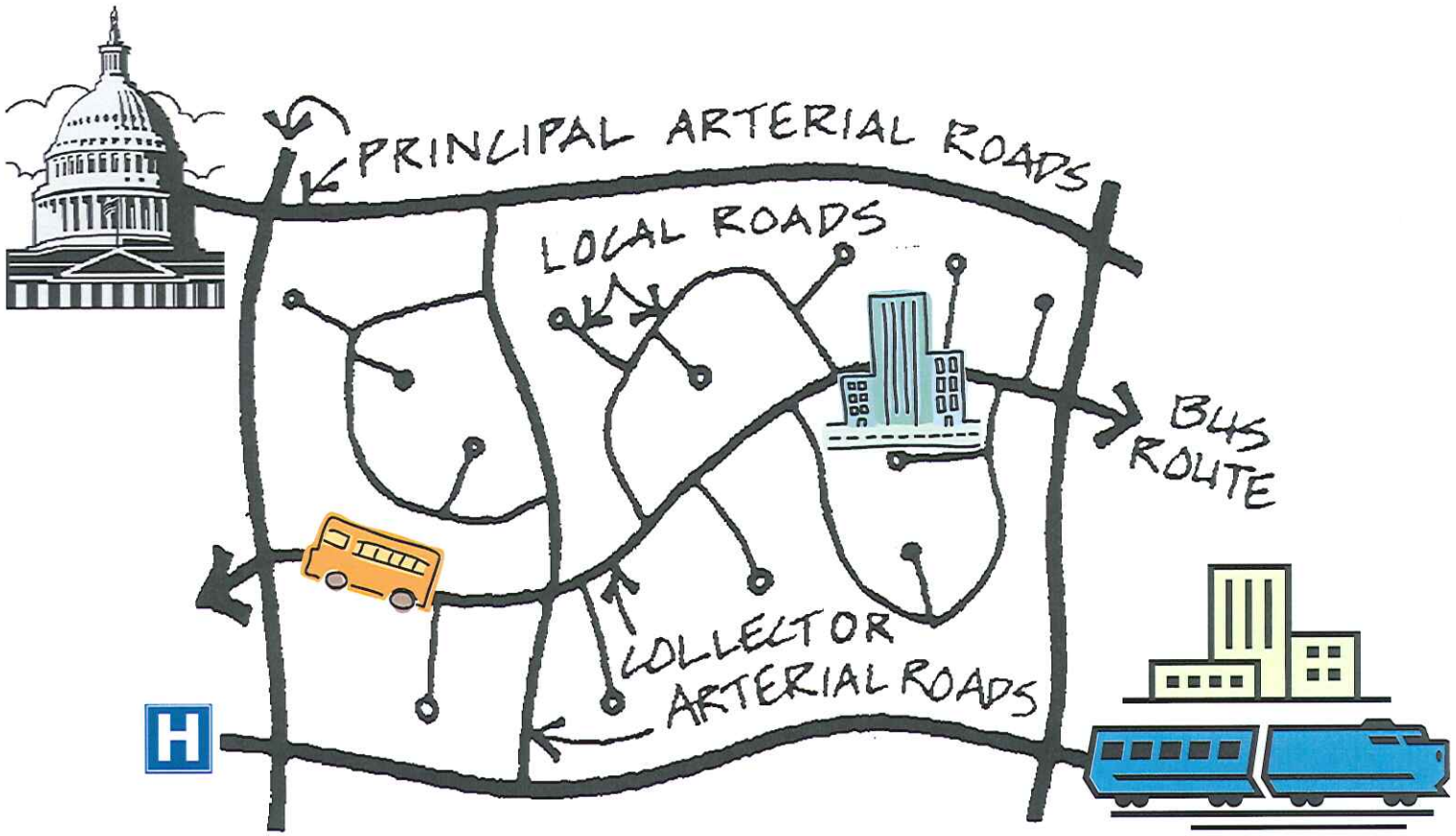
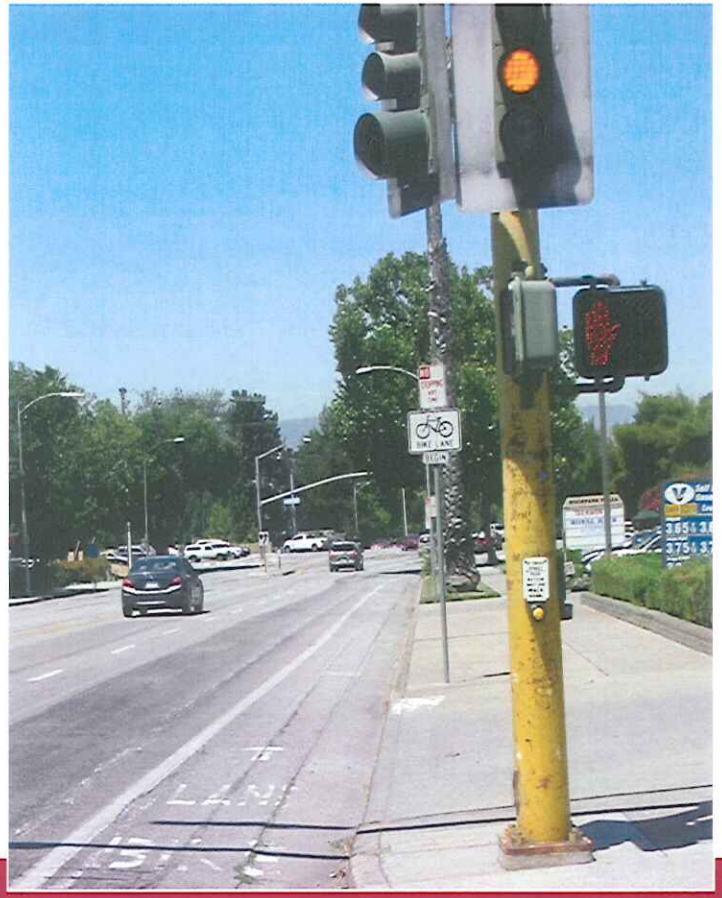



*Illustration: PedShed.net, accessed at http://pedshed.net/?p=227*

# Element #5 – Operations & Maintenance

- Advocate and provide funding for the maintenance and operations of the elements in the roadway network



# Pathways to Complete Streets:
# *MTC Complete Streets Sample Resolution*

Hannah Kapell, Alta Planning + Design

# Disclaimer

The information provided in this discussion is for informational purposes only, and does not constitute legal advice. ChangeLab Solutions does not enter into attorney-client relationships.

ChangeLab Solutions is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization that educates and informs the public through objective, non-partisan analysis, study, and/or research. The primary purpose of this discussion is to address legal and/or policy options to improve public health. There is no intent to reflect a view on specific legislation.

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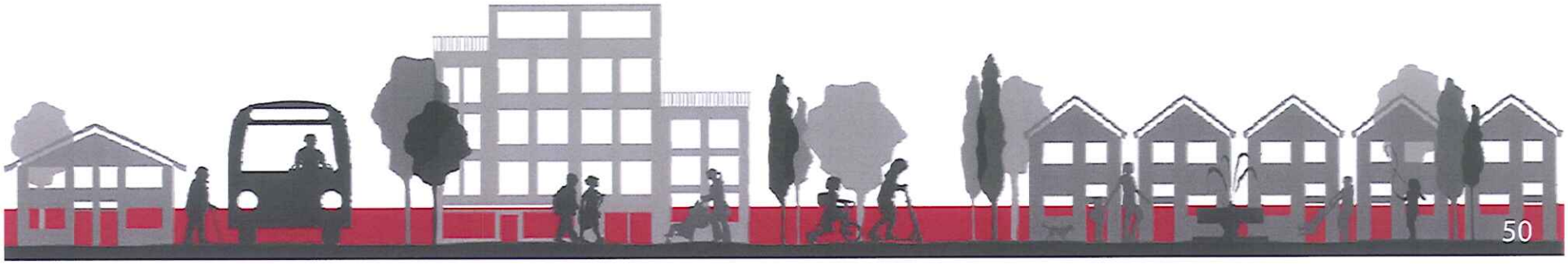
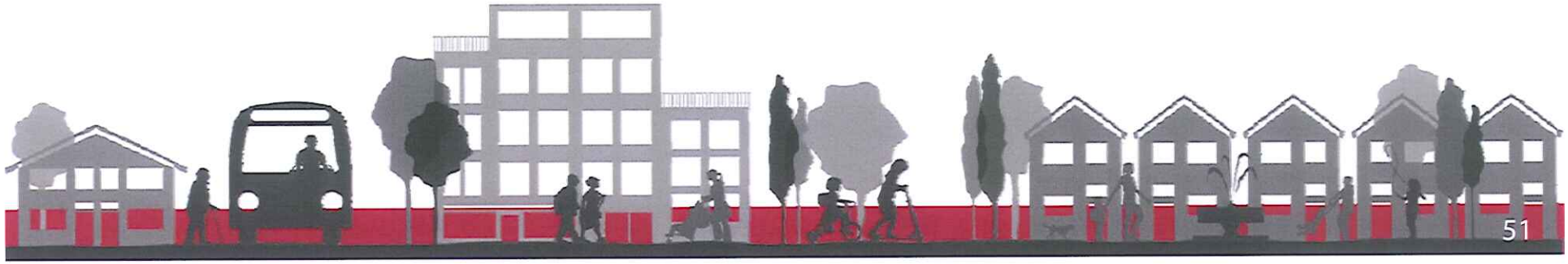
# Today's Roadmap

- What is a model complete streets policy?
- Local policy development:
  Adapting the MTC Complete Streets Sample Resolution
- Resources



# How We Create Model Policy

| Criteria | Process | Features |
| --- | --- | --- |
| • Legally sound<br>• Strong<br>• Realistic | • Survey of existing policies<br>• Analysis of legal issues<br>• Expert review & revision | • Comments<br>• Tailored to community's need |

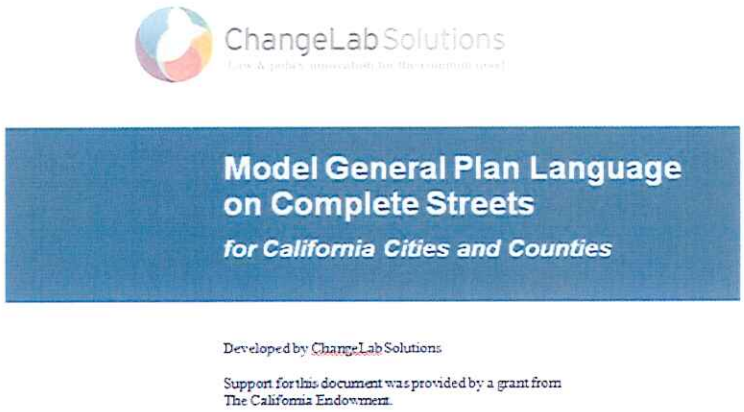


# Policy Approach

- **Flexible**
  Must adapt to many different kinds of streets & communities
- **Forward-Thinking**
  Leverage upcoming project/plan opportunities
- **Strong**
  Require accountability (*WHO* must do *WHAT*)

# Model Policy Language

- CA & National model policies:
  - Findings
  - Resolution
  - Ordinance
  - General Plan language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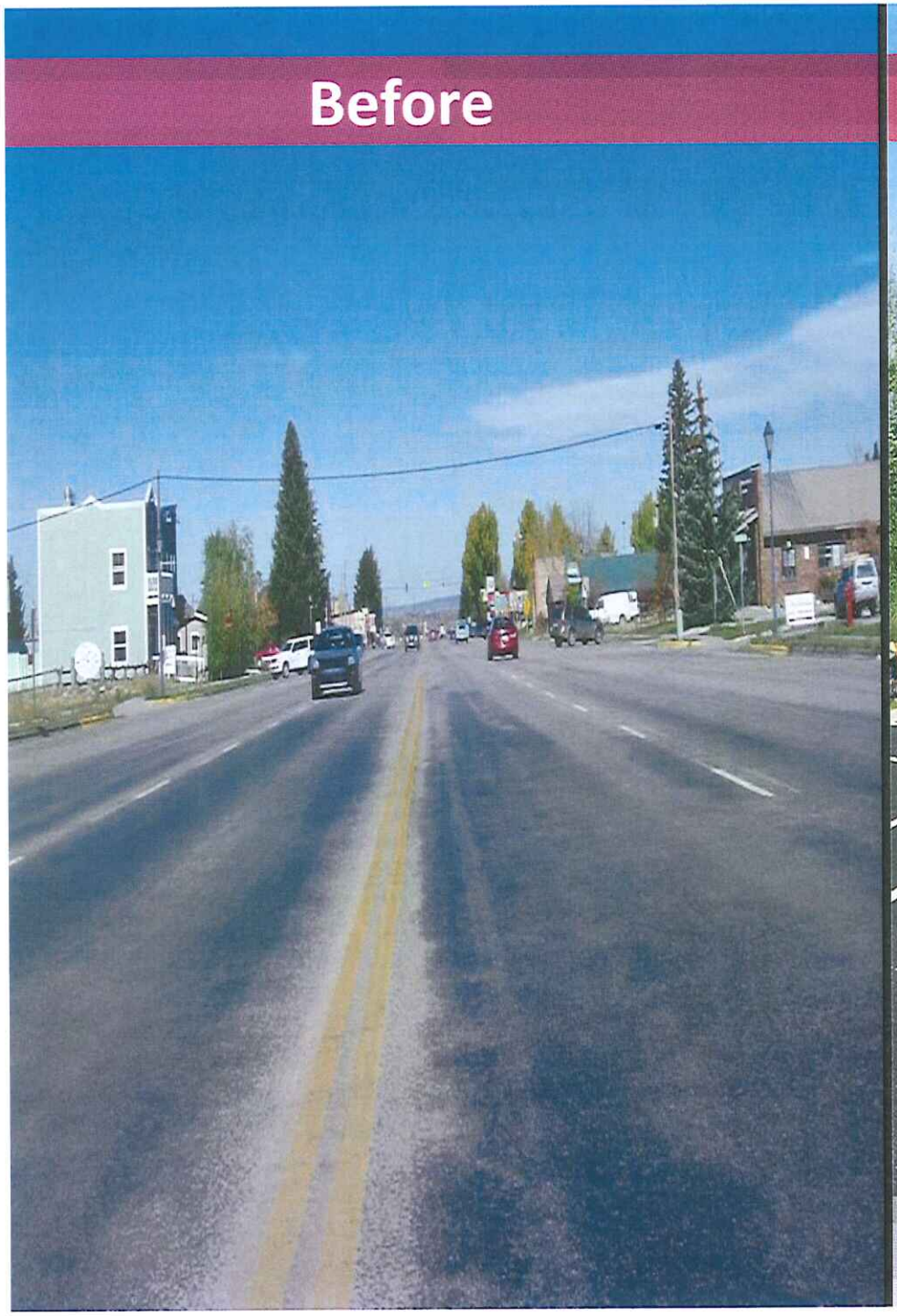
**Model General Plan Language on Complete Streets**

***for California Cities and Counties***

Developed by ChangeLab Solutions

Support for this document was provided by a grant from The California Endowment.

Available at changelabsolutions.org

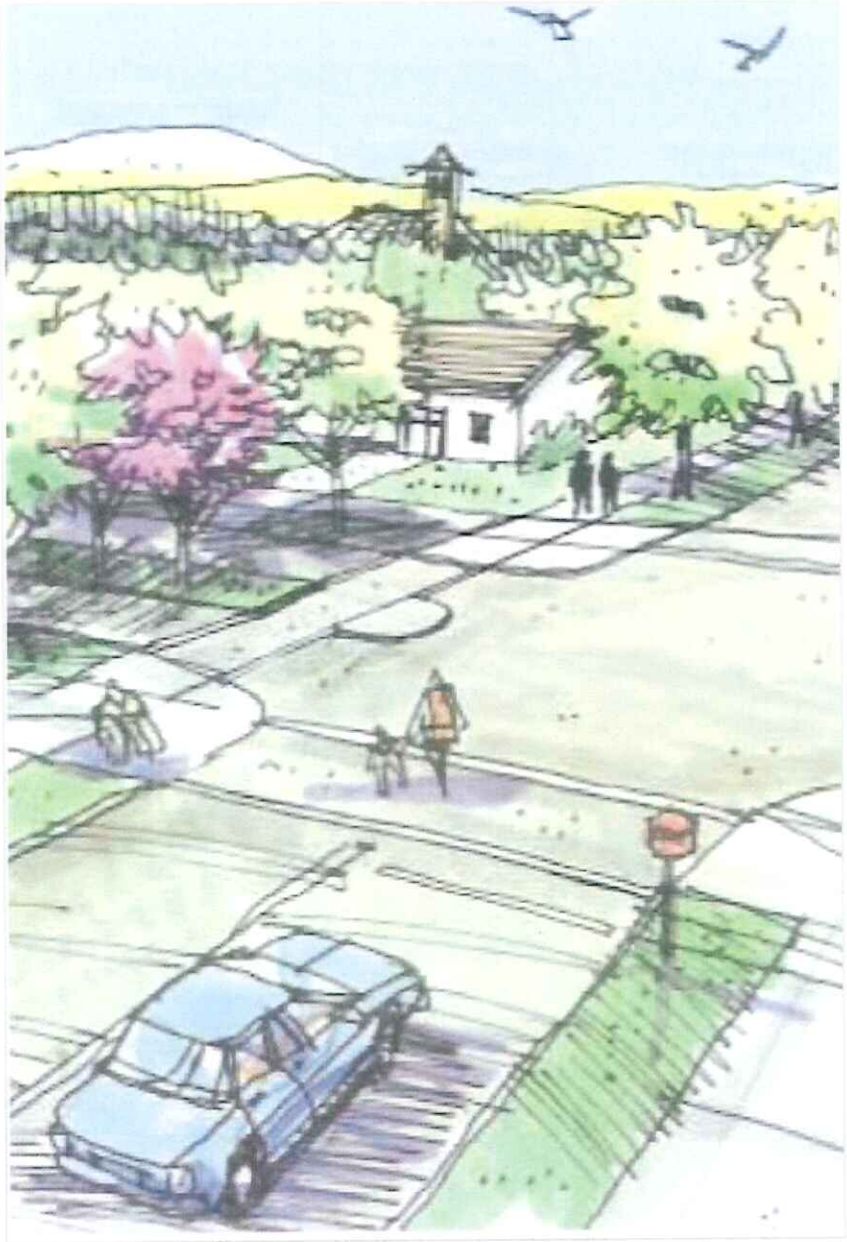


**Victor, ID Main Street Improvements**

*Source: Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities*

# Preamble: Findings Section

- Presents data on community needs & context
- Illustrates why policies are needed
- Protects against political/legal challenge



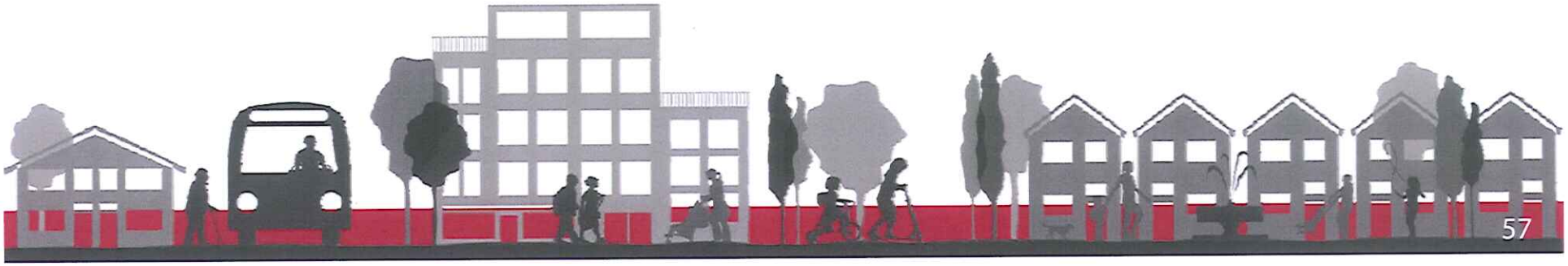
# Whereas…

- *…benefits and value for the **public health** and welfare of **reducing vehicle miles traveled**…*
- *…planning and coordinated development of Complete Streets infrastructure provides benefits for local governments in the areas of **infrastructure cost savings; public health**; and **environmental sustainability**…*

# Whereas…

Complete Streets Resolution (2010)

- *…Promoting pedestrian, bicycle and transit travel as an alternative to automobiles reduces* ***negative environmental impacts, promotes healthy living and is less costly*** *to the commuter.*
- *…****About 1/3 of Americans and 30% of Washingtonians do not drive****, including low-income Americans…, school age children, and older adults.*
- *…40% of adults ages 50 and older reported* ***inadequate sidewalks*** *in their neighborhoods.*



# OBAG Complete Streets Elements

## MTC's Sample Resolution

### Complete Streets Principles

1. Complete Streets Serving All Users
2. Context Sensitivity
3. Complete Streets Routinely Addressed by All Departments
4. All Projects and Phases

### Implementation

5. Plan Consultation and Consistency
6. Street Network/Connectivity
7. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Consultation
8. Evaluation

### Exemptions

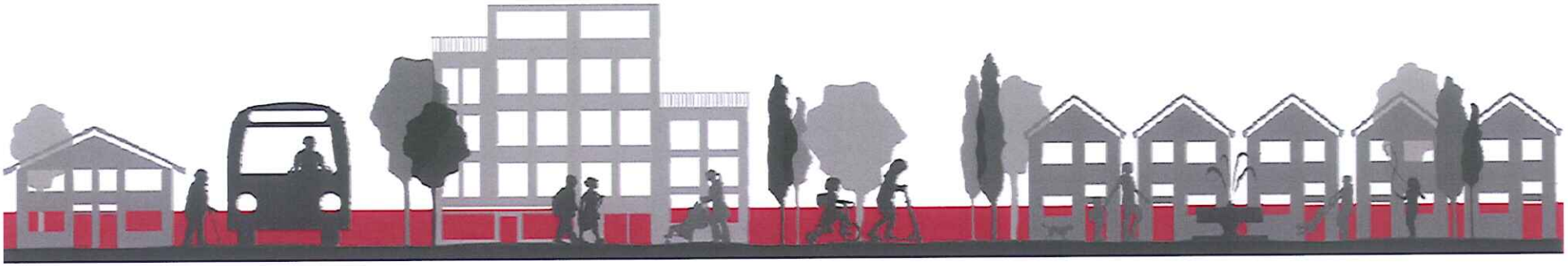
9. Leadership Approval for Exemptions

# 1. Complete Streets Serving All Users

Transportation improvements will be planned, designed, constructed, operated and maintained to support safe and convenient access for all users

# Example: MTC Sample Resolution

*[Jurisdiction] expresses its commitment to creating and maintaining Complete Streets that provide* ***safe, comfortable, and convenient travel****... through a comprehensive, integrated transportation network that serves all categories of users, including* ***pedestrians, bicyclists, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, users and operators of public transportation, seniors, children, youth, and families****.*



# Example: Redwood City, CA

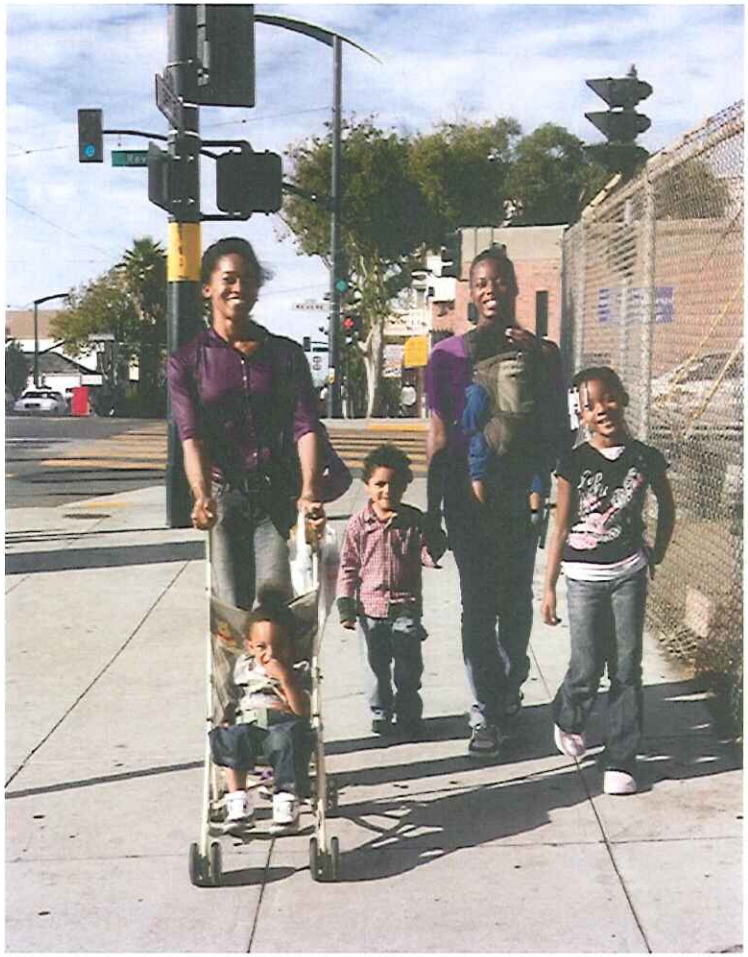
## General Plan (2010)

*Support using the concept of complete streets to design, construct, operate, and maintain City and private streets to enable safe, comfortable, and attractive access and travel for* ***pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users of all ages, abilities, and preferences****.*

# 2. Context Sensitivity

Planning and implementation of transportation projects shall:

- Reflect conditions within and surrounding the project area
- Include working with residents and businesses



STOP

ONLY

# Example: MTC Sample Resolution

*In planning and implementing street projects, departments and agencies of [Jurisdiction] shall maintain sensitivity to local conditions* ***in both residential and business districts as well as urban, suburban, and rural areas…***

*…and shall work with* ***residents, merchants, and other stakeholders*** *to ensure that a strong sense of place ensues.*

# Example: Charlotte, NC

## Roadway Design Standards Six-Step Planning Process

1. *Define the existing and future land use and urban design context*
2. *Define the existing and future transportation context*
3. *Identify deficiencies*
4. *Describe future objectives*
5. *Recommend street classification and test initial cross-section*
6. *Describe trade-offs and select cross-section*