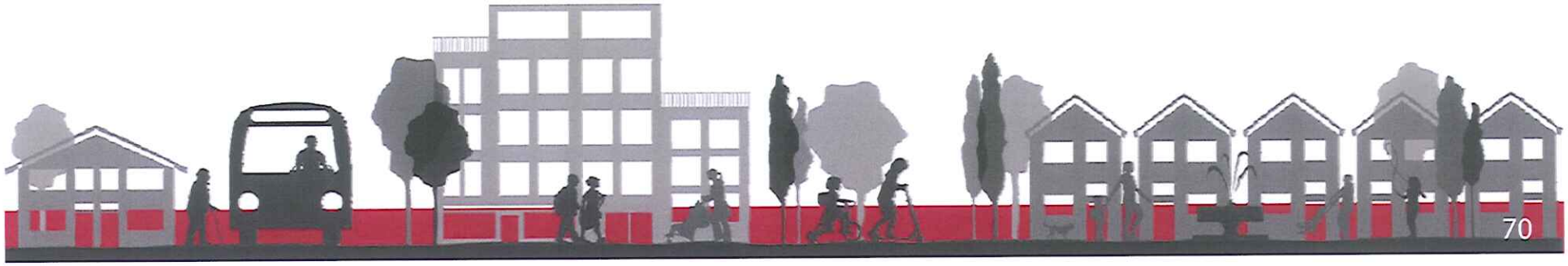
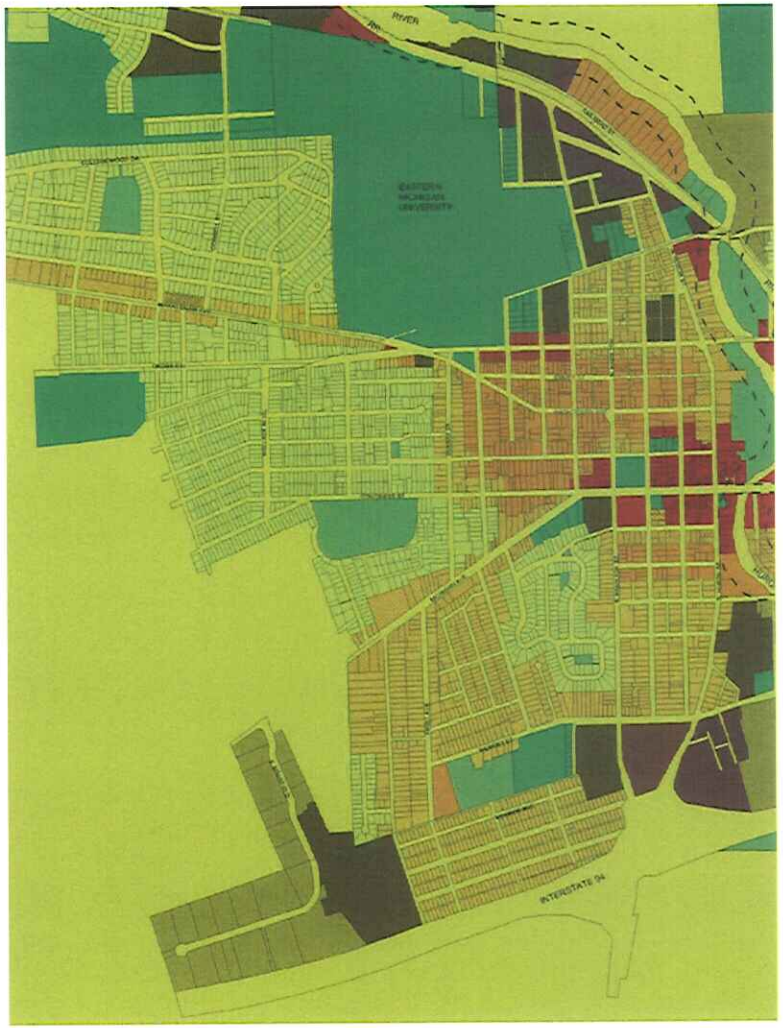
Example: MTC Sample Resolution

Complete Streets infrastructure… shall be incorporated into all planning, funding, design, approval, and implementation processes for any ***construction, reconstruction, retrofit, maintenance, operations, alteration, or repair of streets****…*



5. Plan Consultation

Proposed improvements should be evaluated for consistency with all local bicycle, pedestrian and transportation plans



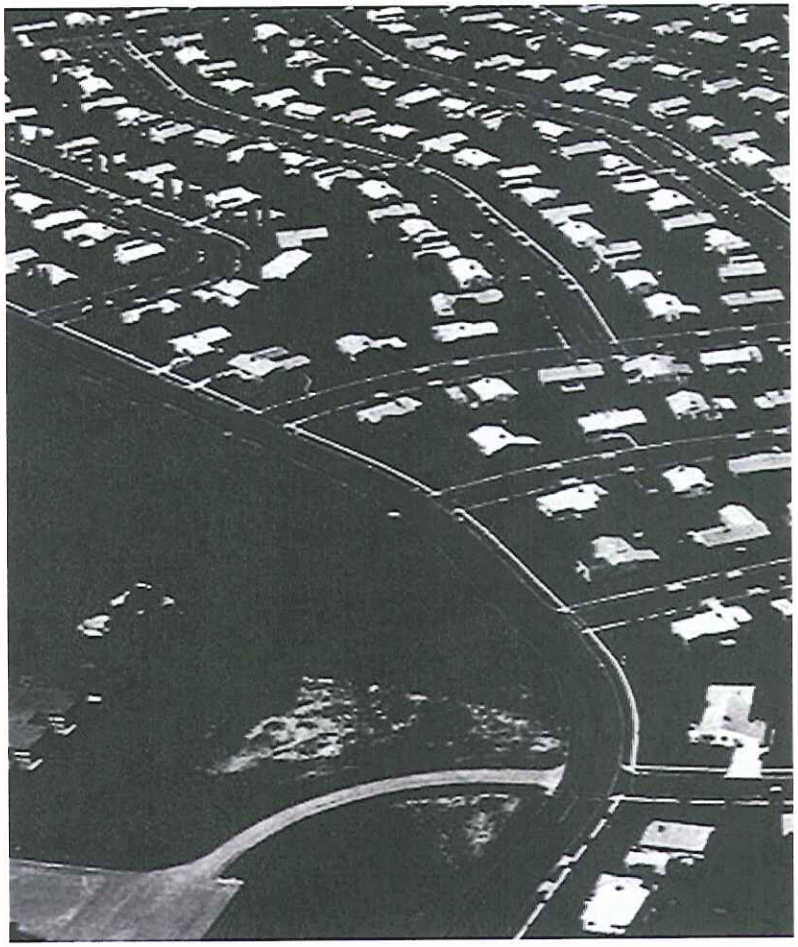
Example: MTC Sample Resolution

Maintenance, planning, and design of projects affecting the transportation system shall be consistent with ***local bicycle, pedestrian, transit, multimodal, and other relevant plans****, except that where such consistency cannot be achieved without negative consequences…*

Implementation tip:
Specify that these and other plans shall also be amended to reflect complete streets approach.

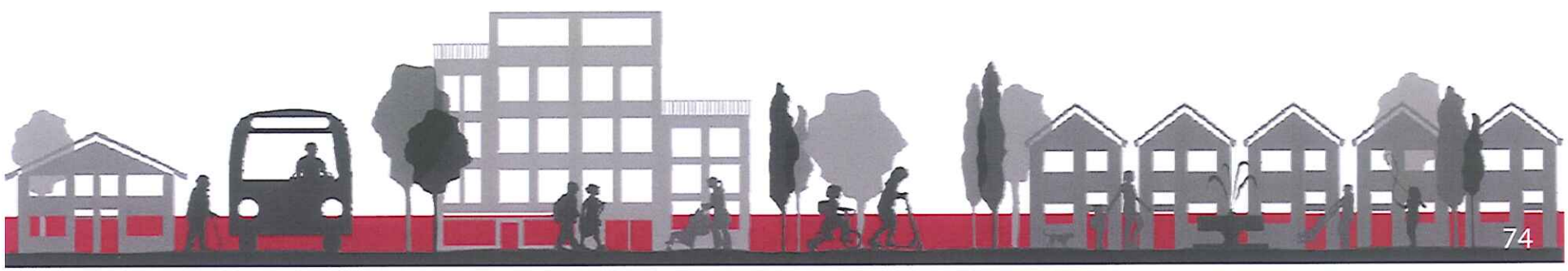
6. Street Network/Connectivity

The transportation system should provide a connected network of facilities accommodating all modes of travel, between popular destinations



Example: MTC Sample Resolution

As feasible, [Jurisdiction] shall incorporate Complete Streets infrastructure into existing streets… with the particular goal of creating a ***connected network of facilities*** *accommodating each category of users, and* ***increasing connectivity across jurisdictional boundaries*** *and for existing and anticipated future areas of travel origination or destination.*

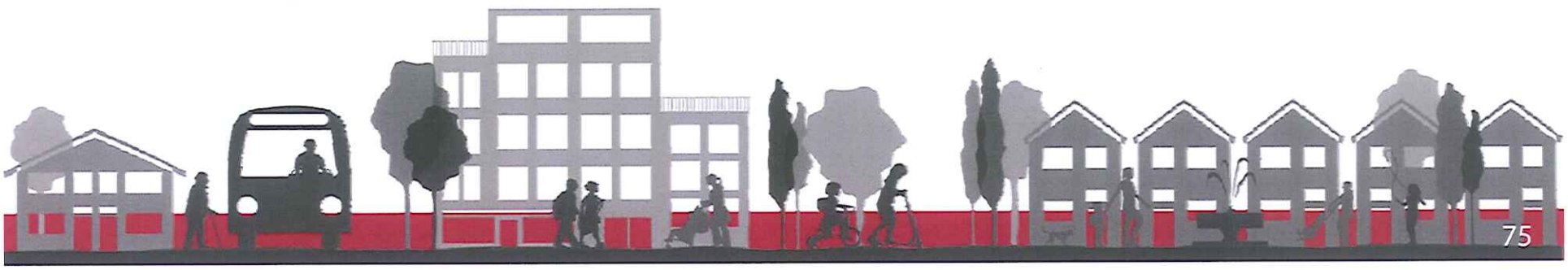


Example: San Diego, CA

General Plan (2008)

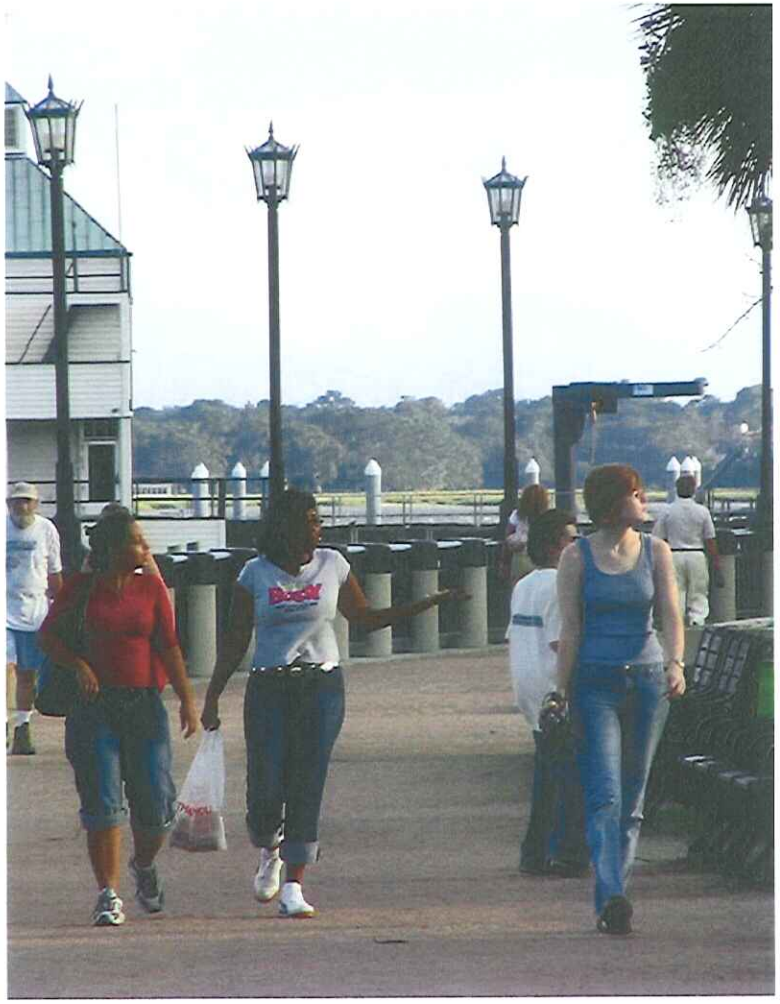
Work toward achieving a ***complete, functional and interconnected pedestrian network.***

1. *Close gaps in the sidewalk network.*
2. *Provide convenient pedestrian connections between land uses, including shortcuts where possible.*
3. *Design grading plans to provide convenient and accessible pedestrian connections from new development to adjacent uses and streets.*



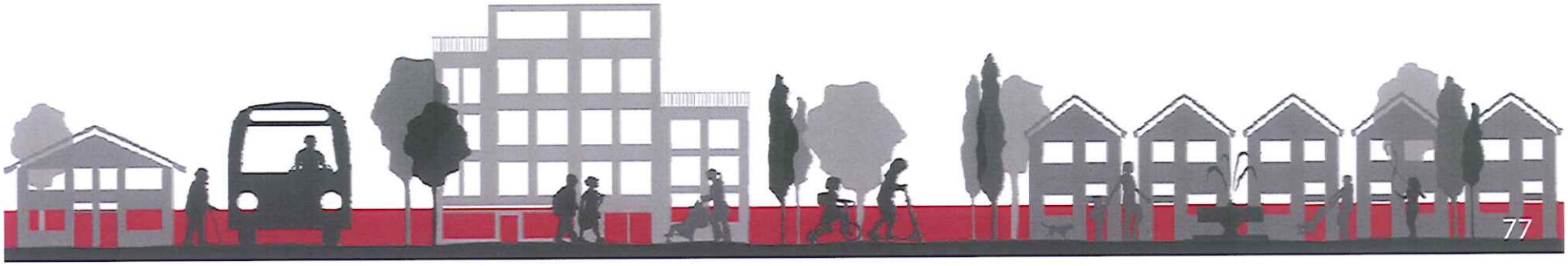
7. BPAC Consultation

Input shall be solicited from local bicycle and pedestrian advisory committees (BPACs) or similar public advisory group in an early project development phase to verify bicycling and pedestrian needs for projects



Example: MTC Sample Resolution

... Transportation projects shall be reviewed by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee early in the planning and design stage, to provide... an ***opportunity to provide comments and recommendations*** *regarding Complete Streets features to be incorporated into the project.*

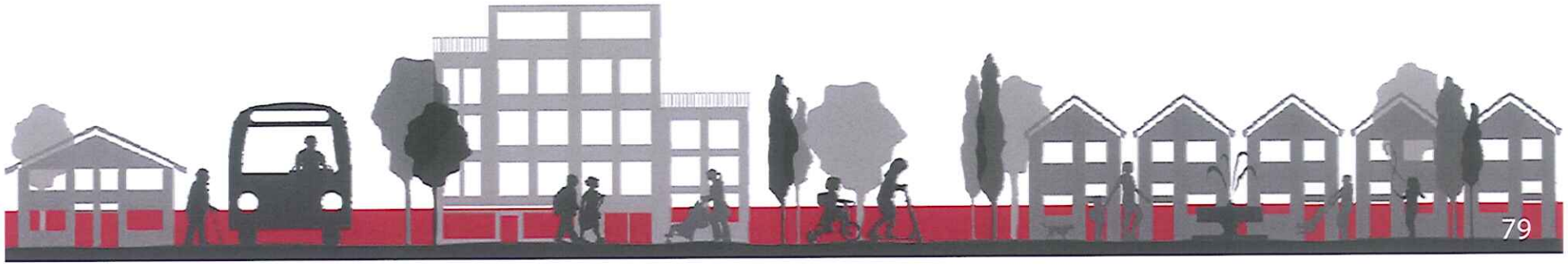


8. Evaluation

The jurisdiction will establish a means to collect data and indicate how the jurisdiction is evaluating implementation of complete streets policies

Example: MTC Sample Resolution

All relevant agencies or departments shall perform evaluations of how well the streets and transportation network of [Jurisdiction] are serving each category of users by ***collecting baseline data and collecting follow-up data on a regular basis.***

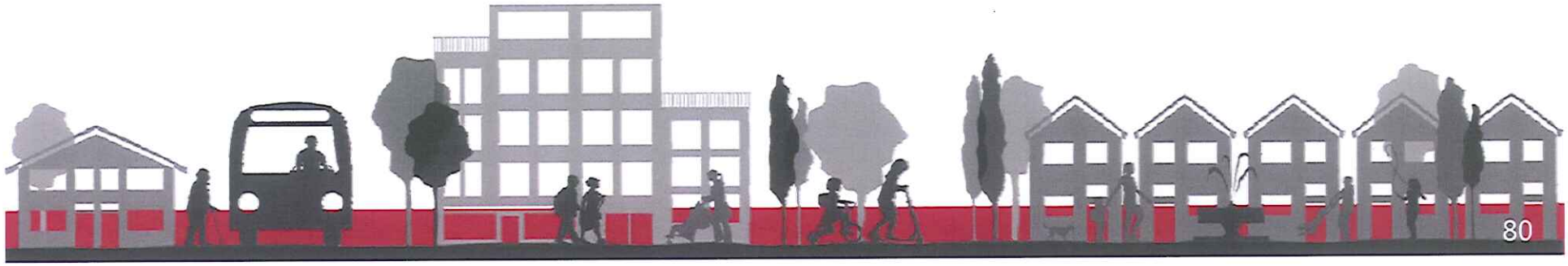


Example: Baldwin Park, CA

Administrative Policy (2011)

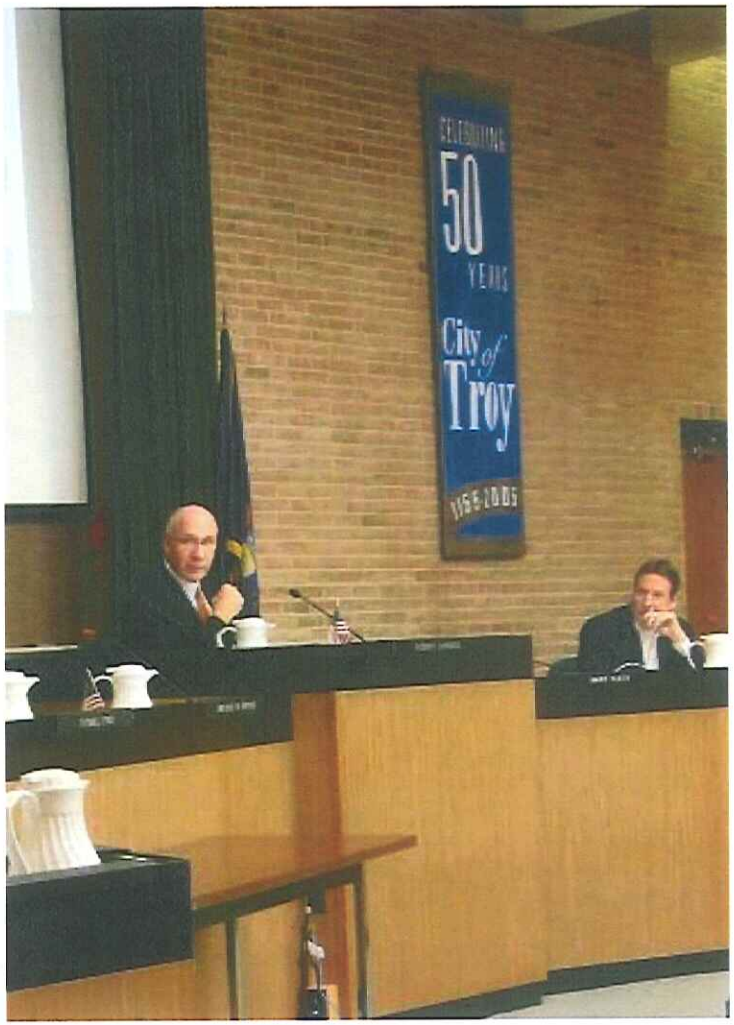
The City will evaluate this Complete Streets Policy using the ***following performance measures****:*

- ***Miles of on-street bikeways*** *defined by streets with clearly marked or signed bicycle accommodation.*
- *Miles of streets with* ***pedestrian accommodation*** *(goal – all)*
- *Number and severity of pedestrian-vehicle and bicycle-vehicle* ***crashes****.*
- *Track* ***Fitnessgram data*** *of Baldwin Park Unified School Dist. Students*



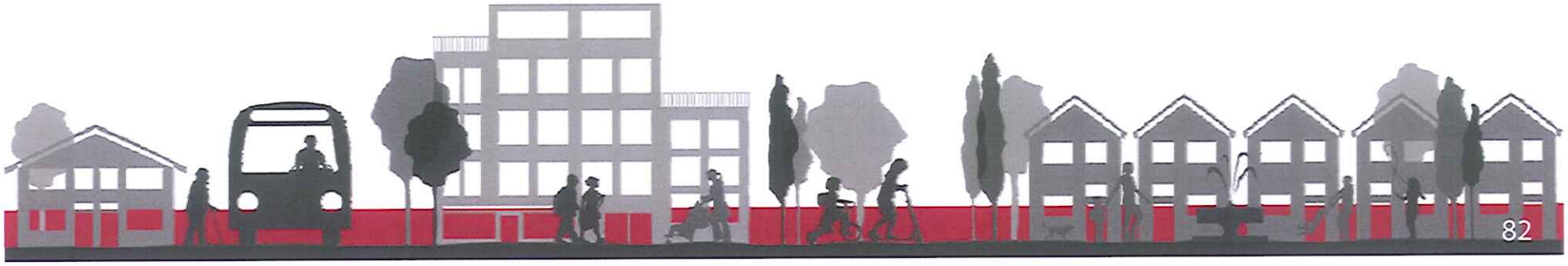
9. Leadership Approval for Exemptions

Plans/projects that seek exemptions from complete streets approach must provide documentation on why all modes were not included in the project, to be signed off by the Public Works Director or equivalent



Example: MTC Sample Resolution

Projects that seek Complete Streets exemptions must provide ***written finding*** *of why accommodations for all modes that were not included in the project and* ***signed off*** *by the Public Works Director or equivalent high level staff person. Projects that are granted exceptions must be* ***made publically available for review.***



Exceptions Provide for Flexibility and Accountability

- **Flexibility**

  Exceptions are very broad

- **Accountability**

  Exceptions can only be exercised where there is written approval by a senior manager

Implementation Tip:
Specify that data and documentation supporting the need for the exception are required.

Exceptions Process

Complete Streets infrastructure "may be excluded upon written approval by [Senior Manager], where documentation and data indicate that…"

Exceptions Process

- Bicyclists or pedestrians barred by law
- Disproportionate cost
- Documented absence of current **and** future need
- Significant adverse effects outweigh positive effects of the infrastructure

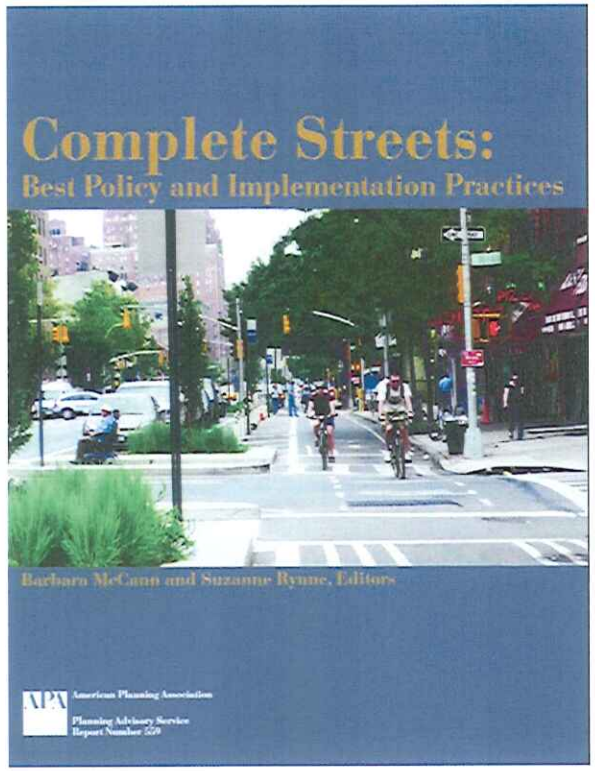
Example: Bloomington/Monroe County, IN

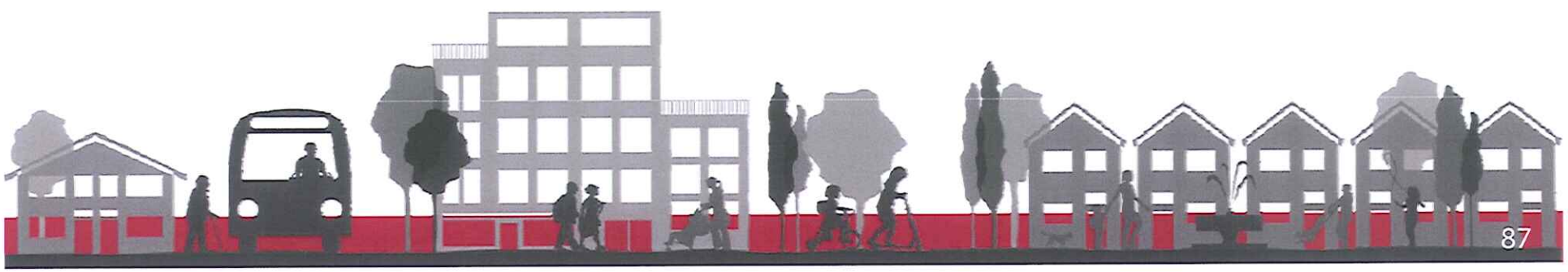
MPO Policy (2009)

The Policy Committee may allow such an exemption under certain circumstances, including the following:

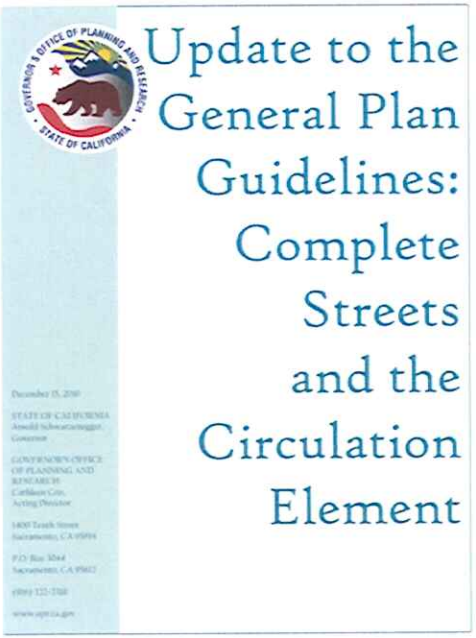
1. *The project involves a roadway that bicyclists and pedestrians are* ***prohibited by law*** *from using*
2. *There are extreme* ***topographic*** *or* ***natural resource*** *constraints*
3. *When other available means or factors indicate an* ***absence of need*** *presently and in the 20-or-more year horizon*
4. *A* ***reasonable and equivalent alternative*** *already exists for certain users or is programmed in the TIP as a separate project*

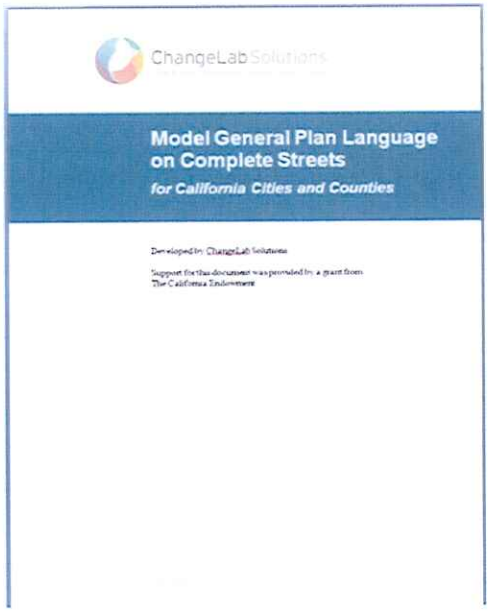
Resources


Complete Streets:
Best Policy and Implementation Practices
Barbara McCann and Suzanne Rynne, Editors
American Planning Association
Planning Advisory Service
Report Number 559



Integrating Complete Streets Policy Language into Plans

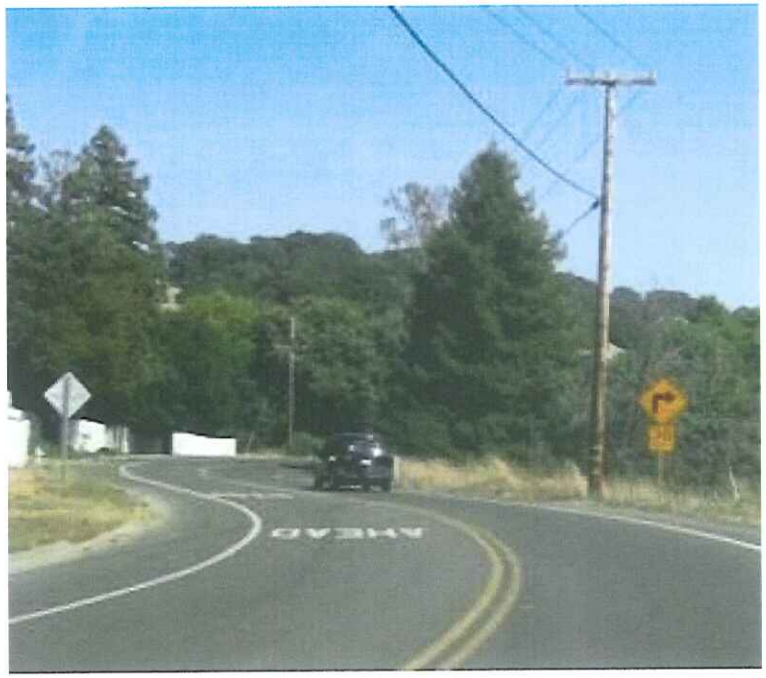




Brett Hondorp, Alta Planning + Design

Why Include CS in a General Plan?

- Promote street design and land use policies improve safety and mobility options
- Provide guidance and specific implementation actions for CS policies
- Required by California law and by MTC for OBAG Cycle 3 eligibility



Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Guidance

- GC 65302(b)(2)(A):

  Commencing January 1, 2011, upon substantial revision of the circulation element, the legislative body shall ***modify the circulation element*** *to plan for a* ***balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of the streets****, roads, and highways for safe and convenient travel in a manner that is suitable to the rural, suburban, or urban context of the general plan.*

- *General Plan Guidelines* Circulation Element updated to reflect Complete Streets