



THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL
of the
BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE
County of Essex
State of New Jersey

Monday, August 12, 2019

RESOLUTION NO. 123 - 19

Offered By Councilor **MORROW**
Seconded By Councilor

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE
ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY**

WHEREAS, safe, convenient, accessible, equitable, healthy, and environmentally and economically beneficial transportation for all users is a priority of the Borough of Glen Ridge; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Streets is a means to provide a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal network of transportation options through planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of new and retrofit transportation facilities along the entire right-of-way for all users of all ages and abilities. "All users" include pedestrians, bicyclists, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, and transit vehicle users; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Street policies support the goals of the Borough of Glen Ridge master plan and supporting elements; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Streets allow for safe, accessible, and convenient travel, reducing serious injuries and fatalities for all users of the roadway, including pedestrians, bicyclists, children, older adults, people with disabilities, non-drivers, transit riders, residents of Priority Communities, and those who cannot afford a car or choose to reduce their car usage; **and**

WHEREAS, New Jersey is federally designated as a Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Focus State due to high numbers of pedestrian/bicycle-involved fatalities, and New Jersey's pedestrian fatality rate continues to significantly exceed the national average; **and**

WHEREAS, traffic crashes are preventable and the only acceptable number of traffic deaths for the Borough of Glen Ridge is zero; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Streets that incorporate sustainable Green Streets design elements, such as green stormwater infrastructure, traffic calming treatments, shade trees, and the use of recycled materials, protect and create a healthier natural and social environment, improve air and water quality, and reduce localized flooding; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Streets implementation enhances access to local businesses, encourages reinvestment, increases property values and employment, and stimulates private investment, especially in retail districts, downtowns, and tourist areas; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Streets encourage an active lifestyle through increased physical activity, social connectivity, and sense of community belonging, thereby lowering the risk of obesity, reducing chronic disease, improving mental health, and promoting wellness; **and**

WHEREAS, Complete Streets implementation provides the opportunity to enhance the historic character of our communities and our understanding of our shared history in a way that promotes the economic and social vitality of our communities and should be considered in the design of infrastructure improvements; **and**

WHEREAS, procedures should be implemented that ensure fair treatment, equitable funding and resource distribution, and meaningful involvement of all communities in all phases from selection, planning, and design to construction and long-term maintenance; **and**

WHEREAS, a balanced and flexible transportation system where all people can easily and safely walk and bicycle to everyday destinations — such as schools, shops, restaurants, businesses, parks, transit, and jobs — enhances neighborhood economic vitality and livability; **and**

WHEREAS, low- and moderate-income areas, whether in rural, urban, or suburban communities, are typically the least safe for pedestrians and bicyclists, especially children walking and biking to school, due to long-standing infrastructure disparities and higher concentration of streets with faster-moving and higher-volume traffic; **and**

WHEREAS, implementation of the Complete Streets policy should not negatively impact the affordability of the neighborhood for current residents; **and**

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets policy applies to new, reconstruction, retrofit, and resurfacing projects, including design, planning, construction, maintenance and operations, for the entire right-of-way; **and**

WHEREAS, requests for all exceptions must be submitted in writing, with supporting documentation, and made publicly available with a minimum of 30 days allowed for public input;

And

WHEREAS, all initial planning, concept and design studies of infrastructure projects consider design elements that improve public health, environment, economy, equity, and safety.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor & Borough Council, that the Borough of Glen Ridge adopts the Complete Streets Policy attached hereto, and made a part of this Resolution; both new construction and reconstruction (excluding maintenance) undertaken by the Borough Of Glen Ridge shall be designed and constructed as “complete streets” whenever feasible to do so in order to safely accommodate travel by pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, and motorized vehicles and their passengers, with special priority given to pedestrian safety, and subject to the following conditions:

- a. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities shall not be required where they are prohibited by law.
- b. Public transit facilities shall not be required on streets not serving as transit routes and the desirability of transit facilities will be determined on a project specific basis.
- c. In any project, should the cost of pedestrian, public transit, and/or bicycle facilities cause an increase in project costs in excess of 5%, as determined by engineering estimates, that would have to be funded with local tax dollars, then and in that event approval by Council must be obtained for same prior to bidding of the project.
- d. The detrimental environmental or social impacts shall not outweigh the need for these accommodations.
- e. The safety or timing of a project shall not be compromised by the inclusion of Complete Streets.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to all Glen Ridge departments within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this Resolution.

Certified as a true copy of the Resolution adopted by The Council on this 12th day of August 2019.

Michael J. Rohal
Borough Administrator/Clerk

