

RESOLUTION #2013 - 43

**APPROVING AND ADOPTING A "COMPLETE STREETS POLICY" IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE CITY'S ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Heights is a Home Rule community pursuant to the State of Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Heights is at the Crossroads of the Nation that benefits from a tradition of well-connected streets; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Heights supports active transportation and strives to create amenities that will enhance the quality of life of its residents, improve the physical and social environment in ways that attract businesses and workers, and contribute to economic development; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Heights recognizes the need to routinely plan and design streets for all users, including people of all ages and abilities, providing for the accessibility, mobility, safety, convenience, and comfort of motorists, freight, cyclists, transit riders, and pedestrians; and,

WHEREAS, integrating pedestrian, bicycle, and transit accommodations along roadways and at crossings into the initial design of street projects can avoid expensive retrofits; and,

WHEREAS, enacting a Complete Streets policy will result in projects that improve the access, safety, quality of life, and encourage non-motorized transportation, support public transit, and promote active living; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Heights recognizes that a complete transportation system requires a comprehensive network of Complete Streets to serve all users, and that while some streets or corridors may not fully satisfy a complete streets environment, the network must serve all destinations, by all modes; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. That the above recitals are incorporated herein as though specifically set forth.

Section 2: That there is hereby adopted a policy affecting the development, maintenance and construction of roadways within the City of Chicago Heights which shall be known as the Chicago Heights Complete Streets Policy and which shall state as follows:

"The Chicago Heights Complete Streets Policy

SECTION ONE

The City of Chicago Heights seeks to enhance the safety, access, convenience, and comfort of its residents and visitors by providing a comprehensive transportation network for users of all ages and abilities.

SECTION TWO

The City of Chicago Heights will ensure that an inclusive, integrated transportation network that accommodates all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, freight, and emergency responders shall be considered in all future roadway projects. This network will be developed through single projects and incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time.

SECTION THREE

This Complete Streets policy applies to all public right of way roadway projects including new construction, reconstruction, street surfacing, grading, and water and sewer projects and all phases of roadway projects including scoping, planning, programming, design, construction, and maintenance. Through ongoing operations and maintenance, the City of Chicago Heights shall identify cost-effective opportunities to include Complete Streets practices.

SECTION FOUR

It will be the goal of the City of Chicago Heights to foster partnerships with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Metra, Pace, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Bloom Township, local private and public schools, the Chicago Heights Park District, local businesses and other Chicago Heights stakeholders to enhance local connectivity that compliments the local context of the surrounding neighborhoods, districts, and civic uses.

The City of Chicago Heights shall coordinate with neighboring municipalities, jurisdictions, and private developers to enhance regional connectivity in furtherance of the City's Complete Streets policy, promoting the continuation of such facilities and accommodations beyond the City's borders.

SECTION FIVE

In order to best balance the needs of all users and provide increased flexibility in design, the City will generally follow accepted or adopted design standards when implementing improvements intended to fulfill this Complete Streets policy but will consider innovative or non-traditional design options.

The City shall also reference applicable local land use regulatory documents, such as:

- South Suburban Mayors and Managers Regional Bike Plan
- Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations
- City of Chicago Heights Comprehensive Plan
- City of Chicago Heights Active Transportation Plan
- City of Chicago Heights Transit-Oriented Development Plan

The City will provide training opportunities to staff and elected officials tasked with implementing the Complete Streets policy as needed.

SECTION SIX

The City of Chicago Heights shall document the success of the Complete Streets policy using the following measures:

- a) Number of new miles of bicycle routes
- b) Number of new bicycle parking spaces
- c) Number of new or reconstructed accessible curb ramps
- d) Number of linear feet of pedestrian accommodations
- e) Number of exceptions granted compared to the number of projects completed"

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption and approval by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Chicago Heights.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS ON THE 1ST DAY OF JULY, 2013.

APPROVED:

Mayor David A. Gonzalez

Ayes _____.

Nays _____.

Abstain _____.

Attest:

City Clerk Lori Wilcox