THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
Cook County, Illinois

RESOLUTION
NO. 14-13-25

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY IN THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN

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Published in pamphlet form by authority of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Lawn
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VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN  
Cook County, Illinois  

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POLICY IN THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN  

WHEREAS, Section 6(a) of Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois  
provides that any municipality which has a population of more than 25,000 is a home rule unit,  
and the Village of Oak Lawn, Cook County, Illinois, with a population in excess of 25,000 is,  
therefore, a home rule unit and, pursuant to the provisions of said Section 6(a) of Article VII,  
may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs,  
including, but not limited to, the power to tax and to incur debt; and  

WHEREAS, the term "Complete Streets" describes a comprehensive, integrated  
transportation network that allows safe and convenient travel for all users, including pedestrians,  
bicyclists, motor vehicle drivers, transit users, emergency service providers, freight, and people  
of all ages and abilities, including children, youth, families, older adults, and individuals with  
disabilities; and  

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are designed to improve mobility and connectivity, reduce  
obesity, increase safety, enhance neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions, and advance the  
quality of life for all Oak Lawn residents and visitors; and  

WHEREAS, The Village President and Board of Trustees believe it is in the best interest  
of Oak Lawn residents and adjacent communities to continue to promote improvements that  
encourage Complete Streets. Transportation and development projects present opportunities to  
improve access and connectivity to Oak Lawn's services, businesses, neighborhoods, schools,  
parks, trails, and adjacent communities; and  

WHEREAS, approximately one-third of Americans that do not drive, disproportionately  
represented by older adults, low-income people, people with disabilities, and children benefit  
from safe, alternative means of travel that result from Complete Streets practices; and  

WHEREAS, bicycling, walking and public transit are efficient and environmentally-  
responsible forms of transportation that promote conservation and air quality; and  

WHEREAS, Complete Streets foster human, environmental and economic development  
in the Village of Oak Lawn; and  

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, IN THE  
EXERCISE OF ITS HOME RULE POWERS, AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1 – Vision

In support of this Complete Streets Resolution, the Village shows its desire for increased accessibility and enjoyment by users of all ages and abilities including pedestrians, cyclists, motor vehicles, and transit riders. The goals of Complete Streets are to ensure safe, convenient use of roadways, increased opportunities for outdoor activity, improved quality of life, and to add to the beauty and enjoyment of Oak Lawn. This resolution will aid the Village in pursuing funding for various improvements.

SECTION 2 - All Users and Modes

The Village of Oak Lawn supports accommodating all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, users and operators of mass transit, people with disabilities, the elderly, the youth, motorists, freight, emergency responders, and adjacent land users, where it is safe, feasible and appropriate for these users to be present.

SECTION 3 – Exceptions

The Village will make all reasonable efforts to implement Complete Streets elements where appropriate and feasible using good engineering practice. Complete Streets concepts will be applied where feasible based on good engineering practices and will not be applied in a manner that could create unsafe conditions for users of the public right of way. Public Works improvements such as street resurfacing and alley paving will continue to be planned with an emphasis on improving accessibility and connectivity using multi-modal transportation as appropriate, and subject to available funding.

SECTION 4 - Network/Connectivity

Toward a goal of balancing the needs of users and allowing for flexibility during design, the Village will continue to follow industry design standards when implementing roadway and transportation improvements, and will consider innovative or non-traditional design options.

The Village of Oak Lawn and its engineers and planners will refer to the following documents as guidance toward accomplishing improvements in a manner that encourages connectivity amongst neighboring communities and trail networks:

- Southwest Suburban Mayors and Managers Regional Bike Plan
- City of Chicago DOT, Chicago Bike 2015 Plan
- Oak Lawn Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations
- Oak Lawn Comprehensive Plan
- 95th Street Corridor Plan
- Cicero Avenue Corridor Plan
• Ridgeland Avenue Corridor Plan
• Harlem Avenue Corridor Plan
• Any additional comprehensive or corridor plans

SECTION 5 – Jurisdictional Cooperation

The Village will continue to foster partnerships with regional and federal transportation funding agencies, including, but not limited to, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Chicago Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the Regional Transportation Authority, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Metra, Pace, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Friends of the Cal Sag Trail, local school districts, local townships, Oak Lawn Park District, Oak Lawn Public Library, citizens, businesses, interest groups, neighborhoods, and any other funding agency and/or stakeholders to implement the Village of Oak Lawn’s transportation connectivity. The Village will continue to work with private developers to encourage incremental Complete Streets improvements over time.

SECTION 6 – Context Sensitivity

The implementation of this Resolution will reflect the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments, and enhance the appearance of such.

SECTION 7 – Performance Measures

The Village of Oak Lawn may track the progress of Complete Streets efforts in a number of ways, such as by recording the quantity and cost of the following improvements on an annual basis using its Geographic Information System:

• Length of new bike lanes, bike markings
• Length of new sidewalk
• Number of new accessible curb ramps
• Length of crosswalks
• Number of lighted bollards
• Percentage of transit stops accessible via sidewalks and curb ramps

SECTION 8 – Implementation/Next Steps

(A) The Department of Community Development and Growth Management - Division of Building, Planning and Zoning, and the Division of Engineering and Transportation - will encourage the incorporation of Complete Streets elements into public improvement projects and private development projects. These elements will be reviewed and discussed during the zoning and building permit process. The Department will stay current on industry standards, and funding opportunities with the support of professional
engineering firms that specialize in public improvements, bike trail and Complete Street projects.

(B) Complete Streets improvements are best achieved incrementally over time through a series of improvements and maintenance efforts. Complete Streets elements may be included in the design and planning of rehabilitation and maintenance projects in the Public Right of Way.

(C) Inventory. The Village of Oak Lawn will maintain a comprehensive inventory of the pedestrian and bicycling facility infrastructure using the Village Geographic Information System. The GIS will be used to assist planning efforts to address gaps in the sidewalk and possible bikeway improvements subject to available funding and good engineering practice.

(C) Prioritization. Staff will continue to give consideration to Complete Streets improvements such as bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and transit improvements when applicable, as part of its annual infrastructure improvement program, and present such projects to the Public Works Committee and Village Board for approval, subject to available funding. Staff will work with its engineering professionals to encourage improvements that meet current industry standards for all modes of transportation as part of each year’s annual infrastructure improvement program.

(D) Existing Plans and Policies. As appropriate and based on good engineering practices, the Village will apply this Complete Streets policy where other policies that refer to outdated Complete Streets methods.

(E) Storm Water Management. The Village will continue to pursue sustainable storm water management improvements throughout the Public Right of Way, when appropriate based on good engineering practice and subject to available funding.

(F) Coordination. The Village of Oak Lawn will utilize inter-department project coordination to promote the most responsible and efficient use of fiscal resources for activities that occur within the Public Right of Way.

(G) Design Standards. The Village will continue to employ engineering and transportation experts as appropriate for various infrastructure improvement projects such as street resurfacing, alley paving, drainage, and land development to ensure that projects are completed in accordance with current good engineering practices. Special attention will be given to encourage the implementation of Complete Streets elements for various public and private projects throughout the Village.

(H) Funding. The Village will continue to actively pursue and apply for Federal, State and Local funding through various programs that may be used for Complete Streets improvements.
SECTION 9: Any policy, resolution or ordinance of the Village that conflicts with the provisions of this ordinance shall be and is hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 10: This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED THIS 22 day of APRIL, 2014

AYES: TRUSTEES STREIT, QUINLAN, OLEJNIczAK, DESMOND, CARBERRY, VORDERER

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

APPROVED THIS 22 day of APRIL, 2014

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

VILLAGE CLERK
STATE OF ILLINOIS       )
COUNTY OF COOK          ) SS.

CERTIFICATE

I, JANE QUINLAN, Village Clerk of the Village of Oak Lawn, County of Cook and State of Illinois, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 14-13-25, "A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY IN THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN," which was adopted by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Lawn on APRIL 22, 2014.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the Village of Oak Lawn this 22 day of APRIL, 2014.

[Signature]

JANE QUINLAN, VILLAGE CLERK