

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE COMPLETE STREETS POLICY FOR THE
CITY OF WOODSTOCK
McHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

WHEREAS, the City of Woodstock recognizes the need to accommodate all modes of transportation within the public right-of-way, including travel by pedestrians, bicycles, motorists and transit users; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to meet the transportation needs of all its citizens by providing street networks that safely connect to all properties thereby creating a more livable and safer community for all citizens, regardless of age or ability; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are any improvements in the public right-of-way including, but not limited to, wider sidewalks, pedestrian intersection treatments, narrower streets in low-speed residential areas, pedestrian refuge islands on moderate-speed arterial or collector streets, on-street and/or off-street bicycle facilities, enhanced landscaping and streetscaping and more non-vehicular connections between public right-of-way and private properties, which provide the following benefits:

- Increased Travel Choices: Streets that provide choices, give people the option to avoid traffic congestion, and increase the overall capacity of the transportation network.
- Improved Safety: Design and accommodation for bicyclists and pedestrians that reduces the incidence of crashes.
- Quality of Living: Increased bicycling and walking are indicative of a vibrant and livable community.
- Economic Development: Complete Streets can reduce transportation costs and travel time while increasing property values and job growth in communities.

- Improved Return on Infrastructure Investments: Integrating wider sidewalks at senior and medical facilities, bike paths, transit amenities and safe crossings into the initial design of a project spares the expense of future retro-fits.
- More Walking and Bicycling: Streets that provide room for bicycling and walking help people of all ages get physical activity, gain independence and increase overall health; and

WHEREAS, adopting a policy for Complete Streets is consistent with the City’s 2020 Vision statement which specifically includes the following transportation goals and objectives:

- Woodstock will provide a street network with efficient connectors.
- Woodstock will have walking and bicycle paths running throughout the City and connecting to regional systems that extend miles in multiple directions.
- Woodstock is a connected green community where every citizen enjoys a network of transportation options...bus service, trains, walking and bicycling paths... available to take anyone virtually anywhere in the City and its environs; and

WHEREAS, adopting a policy for Complete Streets is consistent with the City’s Transportation Plan which states that the City should focus on “providing safe and convenient walking paths, eliminating sidewalk barriers and tripping hazards and being mindful of the special needs of the elderly and disabled” with regards to transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the City views Complete Streets as an opportunity to improve safety, access, and mobility for users of the public way and recognizes bicycle, pedestrian, and transit users as integral elements of the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the City has initiated a Safe Routes to School program to provide children a safe means to walk and/or bicycle to and from school,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the CITY OF WOODSTOCK, McHenry County, Illinois that the City of Woodstock hereby adopts a Complete Streets Policy, the goals, elements and procedures of which are as follows:

Section One: Goals. The City of Woodstock shall accommodate all modes of travel in the transportation planning process, including travel by all pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and private and commercial vehicles, to the highest degree possible in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of new and retrofit transportation facilities in the public right-of-way.

Section Two: Applicability. All roadway improvement projects, including new construction, reconstruction, street surfacing, grading, storm sewer, sanitary sewer and water main improvement projects shall be reviewed with the goal of incorporating the elements of Complete Streets.

Section Three: Planning and Review. The following procedures shall be used to ensure that a proposed project meets the goals of the Complete Streets Policy.

- a) **City of Woodstock Projects.** During the planning/design phase of any public transportation improvement project, the Department of Public Works shall review the project for the purpose of incorporating Complete Streets elements in the project. The review shall reference standards and design guidelines listed in Section Four.
- b) **Other Public Agency Projects.** The City will coordinate with other agencies, including but not limited to, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the McHenry County Division of Transportation, and local Townships in an effort to ensure that all roadways and intersections within Woodstock City limits meet local community standards and needs.
- c) **Private Development.** The Department of Public Works and the Department of Community & Economic Development shall review all private development proposals in a manner which is consistent with the Complete Streets Policy and shall incorporate design guidelines and standards.

Section Four: Standards. The City will utilize the standards, requirements and recommendations in the following resource documents, as well as its own guidelines, in order to provide a certain measure of flexibility in design.

- **American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)**
Guide for Planning, Design and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities
Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities
A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets
- **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)**
Highway Capacity Manual
Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
- **Illinois Department of Transportation**
Bureau of Design and Environment Manual
- **U.S. Access Board**
Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way
- **The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)**

The City will also utilize and reference local land use regulatory documents such as:

- The City of Woodstock zoning and subdivision regulations as set forth in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).
- The City of Woodstock Comprehensive Plan – Latest Edition
- The City of Woodstock Transportation Plan – Latest Edition

Section Five: Training. The City will provide training to staff engineers, planners, elected officials, commission members on the aforementioned bicycle, pedestrian and transit resource documents so that they can better understand the issues involved with integrating these non-motorized travel options into the transportation system.

PASSED by the City Council of the CITY OF WOODSTOCK, McHenry County, Illinois and approved by me this 17th day June, 2014.

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstentions:

Absentees:

Mayor Brian P. Sager, Ph.D.

Attest:

City Clerk