

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-009

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY TO ENSURE THAT ALL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS INCLUDE SAFE AND APPROPRIATE FACILITIES FOR PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, AND TRANSIT USERS, ACCOMMODATING PERSONS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES, CONSISTENT WITH RCW 47.04.320.

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington envisions a transportation system that encourages healthy, active living; promotes transportation options and independent mobility; increases community safety and access to healthy food; reduces environmental impact; mitigates climate change; and supports greater social interaction and community identity by providing safe and convenient travel along and across streets through a comprehensive, integrated transportation network for pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and drivers, motor-vehicle drivers, and people of all ages and abilities, including children, youth, families, older adults, and individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, much of Arlington's existing roadway system was built to facilitate access to destinations by personal automobile, resulting in streets that are uninviting and impractical for other users; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Transportation Element in the 2015 Arlington Comprehensive Plan is to provide a balanced multi-modal transportation system with various accessible transportation choices, including transit, bicycles, and walking, in addition to automobiles, that will support existing and future residential and employment growth; and

WHEREAS, the Arlington Comprehensive Plan provides that non-motorized transportation should be developed in tandem with motorized transportation systems, recognizing safety and user diversity; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets improve public health and safety by reducing the risk of injuries and fatalities from traffic collisions for users of all modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS, streets that are designed with the safety and convenience of pedestrians and bicyclists in mind increases the number of people walking and bicycling thereby providing the opportunity for a healthier community; and

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions and agencies nationwide have adopted Complete Streets legislation and policies, including the U.S. Department of Transportation and numerous state transportation agencies; and

WHEREAS, under RCW 47.04.320, the State of Washington adopted a Complete Streets Grant Program to encourage local governments to adopt Complete Streets ordinances with the goals of, among other things, promoting healthy communities by encouraging walking, bicycling, and use of public transit and improving safety by designing streets for all users; and

WHEREAS, funding from the Washington State Complete Streets Grant Program is only available to jurisdictions that have adopted a Complete Streets Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, City staff has developed the *City of Arlington Complete Streets Policy* (“Complete Streets Policy”) for the purposes of implementing a Complete Streets program; and

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets Policy is complimentary to the Arlington Comprehensive Plan, the Transportation Improvement Plan, and the City’s Mixed Use Overlay Development Code; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Complete Streets Policy included review of existing regional, State, and nationwide Complete Streets plans, planning documents; and

WHEREAS, City staff has undertaken research, analysis, community engagement, conducted meetings and presentations with City Council, and regional partners concerning the Complete Streets Policy; and

WHEREAS, the research, analysis, and community engagement highlighted a need for safe travel routes for all users of the right-of-way regardless of preferred mode of travel throughout the City, as well as the need for a convenient, interconnected transportation network that improves accessibility to adjacent land uses;

WHEREAS, the community and Council have expressed strong support for a Complete Streets plan that will help manage the City’s street network, guide all transportation investments, and leverage local funding for Complete Streets projects with regional, federal, and other grant funding programs to become a leader in implementing Complete Streets in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the research, analysis, and community engagement identified eight principles to guide implementation of the Complete Streets Policy: (1) Serve All Users and Modes; (2) Provide Interconnected Networks; (3) Implement Flexible Design; (4) Incorporate Environmental Design; (5) Use Best Practices; (6) Coordinate Internally and among Jurisdictions; (7) Include All Projects and Phases; (8) Measure Performance; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of achieving the eight principles above and the Goals, Objectives and Actions of the 2016-21 Strategic Plan, staff has prepared and submitted to Council the Complete Streets Policy for adoption; and

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets Policy links transportation planning and land use accessibility decision-making to broader goals and values, including safety, economic vitality, neighborhood livability, and multi-modal connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets Policy was developed using a range of methods to build awareness of the project and solicit feedback from the community and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets Policy provides comprehensive guidance for future citywide transportation projects and in developing the annual six year Transportation Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, for the foregoing reasons, Council wishes to adopt the Complete Streets Policy; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that in support of implementing an effective Complete Streets Policy it will be beneficial to provide guidance to City Commissions and Departments as to project planning, design standards, implementation and monitoring;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) The Complete Streets Policy, attached as Exhibit 1, is hereby approved and adopted.
- 2) The City of Arlington will plan for, design and construct City transportation improvement projects to provide appropriate accommodation for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and persons of all abilities, while promoting safe operations for all users, as provided in the Complete Streets Policy.
- 3) The Director of Community and Economic Development and the Director of Public Works, or their designees, shall have joint responsibility for the administration and implementation of the Complete Streets Policy. City staff is hereby directed to implement the Complete Streets Policy through incorporation of the provisions of the Policy into the city's development regulations following appropriate requirements of law so that all projects, public or private, permitted within the City of Arlington shall utilize the Complete Streets Checklist and adhere to the Complete Streets Policy and design standards contained therein.

APPROVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Arlington this 19th day of November, 2018.

CITY OF ARLINGTON



Barbara Tolbert, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristin Banfield, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven J. Peiffle, City Attorney