

CITY OF OCEAN SHORES, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 916

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OCEAN SHORES, WASHINGTON, ADDING CHAPTER 12.02, COMPLETE STREETS POLICY, TO OCEAN SHORES MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 12, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, CREATING THE COMPLETE STREETS POLICY. THIS POLICY WILL BE USED WHEN CREATING FUTURE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE PUBLIC STREETS FOR PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, AND TRANSIT USERS REGARDLESS OF AGE OR ABILITY

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

WHEREAS, more than 110,000 pedestrians and bicyclists are injured each year on roads in the United States with children and older adults at greatest risk and disproportionately affected; and

WHEREAS the occurrence and severity of pedestrian and bicyclist injuries could readily be decreased by implementing Complete Streets practices; and

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

WHEREAS, the City of Ocean Shores wants to create convenient, enjoyable connections from the beach, to the hotel district and to the business district to promote tourism and create economic development opportunities while creating a more sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the community stated desires for safe streets to improve walkability and bikability while connecting the neighborhoods of Ocean Shores with key destinations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ocean Shores hosted an American Planning Association Washington Chapter Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) that recommended considering adoption of a "Complete Streets" ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Ocean Shores, as adopted in 1998 and amended in 2007, seeks to develop a transportation system that provides for alternate modes of transportation such as pedestrian and bicycle travel (Goal T.2); and

WHEREAS, the Ocean Shores City Council intends to improve the safety of city streets, enhance the quality of life of residents, encourage active living, and reduce traffic congestion and fossil fuel use by providing safe, convenient, and comfortable routes for walking, bicycling, and public transportation.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Ocean Shores, Washington does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. Title 12, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Ocean Shores Municipal Code is hereby amended to include a new Chapter 12.02, Complete Streets Policy, which reads as follows:

12.02 - Complete Streets Policy.

12.02.010 Purpose:

The City of Ocean Shores shall, to the maximum extent practical, scope, plan, design, construct, operate and maintain appropriate facilities for the safe accommodation of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders, freight and users of all ages and abilities in all new construction, retrofit or reconstruction projects. Through ongoing operations and maintenance, the City of Ocean Shores shall identify cost-effective opportunities to include Complete Streets practices.

12.02.020 Exceptions.

Facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and/or people of all abilities are not required to be provided when:

- A. A documented absence of current or future need exists;
- B. Non-motorized uses are prohibited by law;
- C. Routine maintenance of the transportation network is performed that does not change the roadway geometry or operations, such as mowing, sweeping and spot repair;
- D. The cost would be disproportionate to the current need or probable future uses;

E. In instances where a documented exception is granted by the Mayor.

12.02.030 Complete Streets Infrastructure.

As feasible, Ocean Shores shall incorporate "Complete Streets Infrastructure" into existing public and private streets to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected transportation network for Ocean Shores that balances access, mobility, health and safety needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders, freight and users of all ages and abilities, ensuring a fully connected, integrated network that provides transportation options. "Complete Streets Infrastructure" means design features that contribute to a safe, convenient, or comfortable travel experience for Users, including but not limited to features such as: sidewalks; shared use paths; bicycle lanes; automobile lanes; paved shoulders; street trees and landscaping; planting strips; curbs; accessible curb ramps; bulb outs; crosswalks; refuge islands; pedestrian and traffic signals, including countdown and accessible signals; signage; street furniture; bicycle parking facilities; public transportation stops and facilities; transit priority signalization; traffic calming devices such as rotary circles, traffic bumps, and surface treatments such as paving blocks, textured asphalt, and concrete; narrow vehicle lanes; raised medians; and dedicated transit lanes

12.02.040 Goals to Foster Partnerships.

It is a goal of the City of Ocean Shores to foster partnerships with all Washington State transportation funding agencies including the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), the Federal Highway Administration, Grays Harbor County, North Beach School District, citizens, businesses, interest groups, neighborhoods, and any funding agency to implement the Complete Streets ordinance.

12.02.050 Best Practice Criteria.

The Mayor or designee shall modify, develop and adopt policies, design criteria, standards and guidelines based upon recognized best practices in street design, construction, and operations including but not limited to the latest editions of American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) while reflecting the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments and enhance the appearance of such.

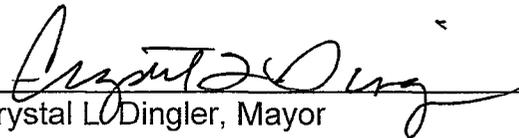
12.02.060 Performance Standards.

The City of Ocean Shores shall put into place performance standards with measurable benchmarks to continuously evaluate the Complete Streets ordinance for success and opportunities for improvement. Performance

standards may include transportation and mode shift, miles of bicycle facilities or sidewalks, public participation, number of ADA accommodations built, and number of exemptions from this policy approved.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days from the date of publication.

THIS ORDINANCE PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ocean Shores, Washington, at a regular open public meeting on this 10th day of December 2012.


Crystal L. Dingler, Mayor

ATTEST:


Diane J. Foss, CMC City Clerk