ORDINANCE NO. 2016-24

AN ORDINANCE, adopting a Complete Streets policy for the City of Wenatchee.

WHEREAS, the City of Wenatchee is a member of the Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council (CDTC); and

WHEREAS, the CDTC is responsible for transportation planning and programming in the *Wenatchee Metropolitan Statistical Area* encompassing Chelan County and Douglas County; and

WHEREAS, the CDTC established a Regional "Complete Streets" Policy on April 9, 2015 by Resolution (No. 1-2015) that "encourages member cities and counties to adopt local Complete Streets policies that institutionalize the Regional Complete Streets Guiding Principles as part of their respective governmental procedures"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wenatchee Council approved the agreement between the Grant County Health District and the City of Wenatchee on November 19, 2015, to carry out the priority health improvement initiatives associated with the North Central Washington Healthy Communities Obesity, Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program that included the education for city staff and council on creating a Complete Streets policy; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the legislature provided funding for the Complete Streets Award as a new opportunity for local governments that have an adopted complete streets ordinance and show an ethic of planning and building streets that use context sensitive solutions to accommodate all users (pedestrians, transit users, cyclists, motorists, etc.) to be considered as

an eligible agency for nomination to receive between $250,000 and $500,000 in Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wenatchee actively promotes safe streets through design, education and enforcement of all of its transportation network for users of all ages and abilities including but not limited to, pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, motorists, emergency, freight and commercial vehicle operators; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wenatchee seeks to design and maintain Complete Streets in the form of public right-of-ways that are planned, designed, constructed, operated and maintained in such a way to safely and adequately provide comfortable and convenient access and mobility along and across the right-of-way by users of all ages, abilities and modes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wenatchee recognizes that Complete Streets facilities and amenities may include, but are not limited to, pavement markings and signs; sidewalks and pedestrian safety improvements such as medians, curb extensions and crosswalks; ADA (American with Disabilities Act) accessible curb ramps and accessible pedestrian signals; transit shelters, signage and improved pedestrian and bicycle access to transit stops and stations; bicycle detection at intersections and wide travel laves, bike lanes, or shared use lanes; bicycle parking facilities; street trees, landscaping, planters, street lighting, street furniture; sidewalk venders and cafes; and adequate drainage facilities, including opportunities for storm water quality treatment facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wenatchee acknowledges that increasing public transit use, walking and bicycling offers the potential for a healthier citizenry, cleaner air, reduced traffic congestion, economic development, livable neighborhoods, less reliance on fossil fuels and more imported sources of energy, and more efficient use of road space and resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WENATCHEE DO ORDAIN as follows:

SECTION I

The Complete Streets policy as set forth in Attachment "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein as though fully set forth shall be and hereby is approved and adopted and shall assist with the development and maintenance of transportation systems in a manner consistent with the CDTC Regional Transportation Plan.

The City of Wenatchee encourages the Washington State Department of Transportation to coordinate with the City in implementing Complete Streets enhancements to state highways within designated Urban Growth Areas.

The City of Wenatchee directs staff to consider the Complete Streets policy in the maintenance, planning and design of all transportation systems and Complete Streets Improvements initiated after the adoption hereof.

SECTION II

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days from and after publication as provided by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WENATCHEE, at a regular meeting thereof, this 8 day of Sept, 2016.

CITY OF WENATCHEE, a Municipal Corporation

By: _____
FRANK KUNTZ, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
TAMMY STANGER, City Clerk

APPROVED:

By: _____
STEVE D. SMITH, City Attorney

CITY OF WENATCHEE

COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

Exhibit A to Ordinance 2016-24

Prepared and Reviewed By:

City of Wenatchee Community & Economic Development Department

City of Wenatchee Public Works Department

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COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

Definitions

All Users: Individuals of all ages and abilities including, but not limited to, pedestrians, bicyclists, public/paratransit users, people with disabilities, emergency responders, motorists, freight providers, commercial vehicles, green modes (skateboarding, rollerblades, etc.), delivery/service personnel, and adjacent land users.

Complete Streets: Safe, comfortable and convenient street for everyone, no matter who they are or how they travel.

Facilities: An area or structure which is built, installed or established to serve a particular purpose or transportation mode/user.

Maintenance Activity: Ordinary repair designed to keep Facilities in safe working condition, such as, but not limited to, mowing, cleaning, sweeping, spot repair, concrete joint repair, pothole filling, water, sewer and drainage or other utility installation or repairs.

Multimodal Transportation System: A single transportation system that appropriately and adequately accommodates two or more modes of transportation.

Right-of-Way: An area, public or private, dedicated for use by pedestrians and vehicles. Right-of-way includes thoroughfares such as streets, highways, bike paths and walkways and normally incorporates curbs, lawn strips, street trees, sidewalks, lighting, signage, drainage facilities, street furniture and other similar features.

Vision

The City of Wenatchee plans, designs, constructs, operates, maintains and funds complete streets with the intent to safely and adequately provide comfortable and convenient access and mobility upon, along and across our right-of-ways, trails and transit systems for users of all ages, abilities and modes in all new construction and retrofit or reconstruction projects subject to the exceptions contained herein.

The City of Wenatchee provides a reliable, aesthetic, efficient, integrated and intentionally connected multimodal transportation system that promotes health and wellbeing, quality of life, neighborhood revitalization, economic vitality and positive environmental impacts by providing essential connections between home, school, work, recreation and retail destinations regardless of income, race, or ethnicity.

The City of Wenatchee ensures that the multimodal transportation system complements and enhances the surrounding land use and neighborhood character in an effort to encourage:

- Protecting and preserving the environment
- Supporting vibrant and livable neighborhoods
- Expanding the network for safe pedestrian and bicycle access
- Reducing the frequency & severity of vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian-related collisions by improving the roadway to create a safer and more inviting street environment
- Providing more safe and convenient opportunities for physical fitness that will improve and enhance the health and fitness of residents
- Making available high quality recreational and multi-modal transportation facilities and non-motorized means of transportation to improve quality of life and the local economy

The City of Wenatchee recognizes the importance of health as a significant part of complete streets. When citizens have access to parks, trails, sidewalks, bike lanes and transit, people are more likely to be physically active. This helps to maintain a healthy weight and reduce chronic disease, heart disease, stroke and depression.

The City of Wenatchee establishes a multimodal transportation system for legitimate users of all ages and abilities including, but not limited to, pedestrians, bicyclists, public/paratransit users, people with disabilities, emergency responders, motorists, freight providers, commercial vehicles, green modes (skateboarding, rollerblades, etc.), delivery/service personnel, and adjacent land users (All Users).

Core Commitment

The City of Wenatchee recognizes that All Users of the multimodal transportation system are legitimate and equally deserving of safe facilities to accommodate their travel.

The City of Wenatchee views all transportation improvements and project phases as opportunities to create safer, healthier and more accessible streets for All Users. These include, but are not limited to, planning, programming, design, right-of-way acquisition, subdivision and land development, new construction, construction engineering, reconstruction, operation, repair, maintenance and funding identification.

Complete Streets design recommendations shall be incorporated into all publicly and privately funded projects as appropriate. All transportation infrastructure and street design projects requiring funding approval by the City of Wenatchee, as well as projects supported by state or federal funding sources shall adhere to the City of Wenatchee Complete Streets Policy. Private developments and related street design components or corresponding street-related components shall adhere to the Complete Streets principles. In addition, to the extent practical, state-owned roadways will comply with the Complete Streets policy, including the design, construction and maintenance of such roadways within City boundaries.

To the maximum extent practical, the City of Wenatchee will plan, design, construct, operate, maintain and identify funding to provide a comprehensive and integrated multimodal transportation system for All Users. Any exception to this policy, including for eligible private projects, requires documentation and supporting data to be approved by the City Council upon review and recommendation from the Public Works/Economic Development Committee. Established by Ordinance 2016-11, the Public Works/Economic Development Committee is a Council Committee, as identified in the Wenatchee City Code, WCC1.07.060, responsible for evaluating and reporting to the City Council on each matter referred to it regardless of whether the council committee favors or opposes the proposed action. The committee consists of:

- Mayor
- Three (3) City Council Members
- Executive Services Director
- Finance Director
- Director of Public Works
- Director of Community and Economic Development

Supporting documents and data for all requested exemptions shall be made publicly available.

The City of Wenatchee is committed to Complete Streets and the application of this policy and/or Complete Streets principles will begin at the earliest phase of a project, except in any of the following extraordinary circumstances:

- The project involves a roadway on which non-motorized use is prohibited by law. In this case an effort shall be made to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists elsewhere, including on roadways that cross or otherwise intersect with the affected roadway; or
- Where a reasonable and equivalent project along the same corridor is already programmed to provide facilities exempted from the project at hand; or

- When documentation of current and future needs demonstrates disproportion to the cost of construction or an absence of use by all except motorized users; or
- Routine maintenance of the transportation network that does not change the geometry or operations, such as mowing, sweeping, spot repair and surface treatments such as chip sealing or interim measures.

Best Practices

"Planning to Blossoming 2025: Wenatchee Urban Area Comprehensive Plan" identifies a "vision" for life in Wenatchee by focusing on three interconnected subjects, two of which seamlessly relate to a Complete Streets network. Economic Development, subject 1, includes recognition that, "improving transportation and the physical infrastructure of the City" assists in the growth of quality and range of services in Wenatchee's retail districts. Quality of Life, subject 2, identifies "creating a comprehensive system of pedestrian and bicycle trails" as a way for residents to enjoy convenient access to services, open spaces, playfields and parks.

A Complete Streets network also includes green infrastructure in the form of landscaping and amenities to provide shade, create buffers and promote aesthetically welcoming environments within public right-of-way while also helping to manage storm water runoff. Welcoming environments include cultural corridors and other place-making areas that allow optimal use of the public right-of-way for economic development and community revitalization. Public outreach and involvement is essential to identifying the appropriate context and maintaining community support and engagement during and after the projects.

In alignment with "Planning to Blossom 2025" the City of Wenatchee will focus on meeting the need for a multimodal transportation system that provides a reliable, aesthetic, efficient, integrated and intentionally connected network with essential links between home, school, work, recreation, retail and other potential destinations regardless of neighborhood status, health equity, income, race or ethnicity. Implementation of this policy shall reflect the context and character of the community's overall surroundings including the natural environment, current and planned buildings and land uses, demographics, street functions and current and expected transportation needs. Understanding of the surrounding built and natural environments allows roadway design decisions to be more flexible and sensitive to community values and to better balance economic, social and environmental objectives. This includes the integration of public art to help identify unique areas throughout the City and to define the context in which the street exists as identified by community stakeholders.

The Complete Streets Policy shall apply to, all City-owned transportation facilities in the public right-of-way (streets, sidewalk, alleys, bridges, etc.) and shall encourage privately constructed and owned streets, sidewalks, alleys, and parking lots to also adhere to this policy through funding requirements and development review, where possible.

The City of Wenatchee recognizes that multi-jurisdictional contributions are necessary for an effective Complete Streets policy and will work cooperatively within all City departments and among the State of Washington, the Federal Highway Administration, the Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council, the Chelan-Douglas Health District and surrounding counties, cities, school districts, citizens, businesses, interest groups and neighborhoods. Coordination among

partners will be beneficial in improving Wenatchee's already robust street network by contributing to potential improvements such as:

- The identification of enhancement opportunities through maintenance activities
- Filling gaps in the trail network (connectivity)
- Consistent enforcement of sidewalk maintenance (snow, vegetation, etc.)
- Identification and repairing of sidewalk segments that form functional gaps
- Completion and implementation of the Pedestrian Master Plan that consist of a formalized sidewalk program
- Completion and implementation of the ADA Transition Plan

The City of Wenatchee strives to use the best and latest design guidelines, standards and recommendations available when considering methods or providing development flexibility within safe design parameters and balanced design solutions between the user and modal needs. A balanced approach considers aspects such as street design and width, desired operating speed, hierarchy of streets, connectivity, wayfinding signs and signal variation from a human scale for the needs and comforts of All Users. The City will generally follow accepted or adopted design standards when implementing improvements intended to fulfill this Complete Streets policy and will consider innovative or non-traditional design options where a comparable level of safety for users is present. Design criteria shall be based on the thoughtful application of engineering, architectural and urban design principles in addition to prescriptive guidelines. Best practices in policies, design criteria, standards and guidelines related to street design, construction and operations can be found in, but are not limited to, the following:

- Guidelines provided by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- Guidelines provided by the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide
- Guidelines provided by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
- Guidelines provided in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
- Guidelines provided in the ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- Guidelines provided by the Highway Capacity Manual published by the Transportation Research Board

The application of Complete Streets should be continuously evaluated for successes, to determine progress and effectiveness, as well as opportunity for improvement. The City shall measure the success of this policy on an annual basis and a report shall then be presented to the City of Wenatchee Planning Commission for progress evaluation and shared with the City Council in an annual work session. The annual report will include qualitative and quantitative data categorized by mode to provide performance measurements such as, but not limited to miles of bike lanes, linear feet of pedestrian accommodations, compliments and complaints, frequency and severity of motorized and non-motorized collisions, exemptions approved from this policy, number of bike friendly businesses, etc.

Next Steps

The City of Wenatchee views Complete Streets as integral to everyday transportation decision-making practices and processes and an opportunity to improve streets and networks for All Users. To this end, the policy shall be carried out by the Public Works/Community & Economic Development Council Committee. In conjunction, other relevant departments, agencies or groups (Implementation Partners) may help to form an advisory committee to guide and recommend projects that ensure residents have access to trails, playfields, open spaces and parks.

- The Implementation Partners will incorporate Complete Streets principles into all existing plan, manual, checklists, decision-trees, rules, regulations and programs as appropriate; including the Comprehensive Plan that incorporates the Wenatchee Area Bicycle Master Plan, Transportation Improvement Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, ADA Transition Plan and more;
- The Implementation Partners will review current design standards, including subdivision regulations which apply to new roadway construction, to ensure that they reflect the best available design standards and guidelines, and effectively implement Complete Streets where feasible;
- The City shall encourage staff professional development and training on non-motorized transportation issues through attending conferences, classes, seminars, webinars and workshops when available;
- City staff shall identify all current and potential future sources of funding for street improvements and recommend improvements to the projects selection criteria to support Complete Streets projects;
- The City shall promote inter-departmental project coordination among the City departments with an interest in the activities that occur within the public right-of-way in order to better use fiscal resources;
- The City shall develop and institute better ways to measure performance and collect data on how well the streets are serving All Users;
- The City shall educate on and enforce proper road use behavior by All Users and adopt additional laws and regulations as necessary to ensure people are protected to the greatest extent possible.

The implementation of Complete Streets can begin with coordination among Implementation Partners (Diagram A) and through the consideration of the following potential starting points:

- Incorporate the Complete Streets policy into the Comprehensive Plan
- Seek to improve Wenatchee's Walk, Transit and Bike Score
- Completion of the Pedestrian Master Plan that incorporates the ADA Transition Plan
    - Includes a prioritization criteria that considers aspects such as proximity to social services, public transit, health equity, safe routes to school, etc.
- Plan additional Complete Streets workshops for stakeholders
- Seek funding support through all identifiable resources (TIB, SRTS, CDBG, etc.)
- Distribute the adopted policy to appropriate local, state, federal and other key agencies
- Establish a Complete Streets Committee made up of various Implementation Partners
    - Potential to evaluate Health Impact Assessments for each project
- Utilize information from the following sources for implementation guidance:

- “A Guide to Building Healthy Streets” that provides guidance for communities that are implementing Complete Streets
- “Active Community Environment Toolkit” designed to provide steps needed to crease successful active community environments, encourage safe and walkable communities and change policy and environment in the community

When streets are complete – safe, comfortable and convenient for All Users – people have more opportunities to be active when they travel from place to place or choose to exercise for recreation. Not only does a Complete Streets policy impact transportation planning, design, maintenance and funding decisions, it also transforms streets from a public health barrier to a public health asset, enabling greater return on the investment of public dollars. This Complete Streets policy will allow the City of Wenatchee to save money, accommodate more people and create an environment where All Users can travel safely and conveniently.

Diagram A

COMPLETE STREETS IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS	
Service Area	**Participation Areas**
Public Health	Assess health implications of physical landscape
Planning	Assess comprehensive plan, neighborhood plans, bike/ped plans, development guidelines, zoning code, etc.
Public Works/ Transportation	Assess/update street standards, guidelines, plans, funding programs, etc.
Police	Asses emergency access needs
Fire	Assess truck fleet needs
Parks & Recreation	Assess comprehensive plan, neighborhood plan, bike/ped plan, parks plan, tree canopy plan, zoning code, etc.
Schools/ School Board	Assess school siting, Safe Routes to School and assist on development of transportation plan, SRTS policies, plans and/or programs
Elected Officials	Approve/adopt plans, policies, funding programs, et.
Community *(Organizations, businesses, residents, etc.)*	Assist on the development of all plans, programs and policies (SRTS, bike/ped, comprehensive, etc.)