



BOARD/COMMISSION/ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

Recommendation Number: 20140512-03A - Complete Streets Policy

WHEREAS, Austin City Council Resolution No. 20131212-080 directed the City Manager to create and implement a comprehensive Complete Streets policy; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this policy is to implement the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and to enhance Austin's quality of life over the long-term by advancing mobility, economically sound compact and connected development patterns, public health and safety, livability, environmental enhancement, sustainability, equity, affordability, economic activity, climate resiliency, and excellence in urban design and community character; and

Whereas, the Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities supports the City's continued compliance with ADA Title II requirements for pedestrian infrastructure, as part of new street construction and street alterations projects; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan established a Priority Action to "Develop complete streets design guidelines for all new road construction and reconstruction," to include: "Pedestrian and bicycle facilities and amenities"; "Green Street Techniques/Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices"; "Interconnected, navigable, grid-like streets and blocks"; "Transit accommodations"; and other measures [LUT A19]; and

Whereas, the Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities believes that it is critical to provide an accessible sidewalk network that includes access to elements such as affordable housing and public transit stops, as part of the overall transportation network; and

WHEREAS, streets are the public realm and should be designed to a higher standard as beautiful, accessible, safe and comfortable places for all people, in order to equitably support the common good and the Imagine Austin Vision statement: "Austin Values and Respects its People"; and

WHEREAS, City staff has developed a policy reflecting national best practices, that provides a Vision and Intent, Complete Streets Principles, Applicability and Jurisdiction, Implementation guidance, a high bar for Exceptions, and guidance on potential code amendments and metrics for evaluation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities**

Recommends to the City Council approval and implementation of the Complete Streets Policy.

Date of Approval: May 12, 2014

Record of the vote: Unanimous vote 5- 0 (two absences)

Attest: _____

Dolores Gonzalez