



TOWN OF CARRBORO

NORTH CAROLINA

TRANSMITTAL

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

DELIVERED VIA: HAND MAIL FAX EMAIL

To: Richard J. White III, Town Manager
Mayor & Town Council

From: Tina Moon, Planning Administrator

Date: June 1, 2023

Subject: Text Amendment Relating to Complete Streets

The purpose of the draft ordinance is to amend Article XIV of the Land Use Ordinance, Streets and Sidewalks to accomplish the following five things:

1. to articulate the Town's findings on the elements of complete streets and the associated community benefits of a complete street network;
2. to allow more flexibility in the design of street cross sections so long as all of the necessary components are included, so that there is a designated place for all modes—vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, micro-mobility users;
3. to express the relationship between the design/construction of the street network and equity—the ability of everyone to travel regardless of age, race, income, and ability;
4. to emphasize the important role of transportation for meeting climate action goals; and
5. to expand the source for transportation infrastructure guidance, to include not just the adopted sidewalk plan but all town adopted plans and regional transportation plans.

The National Complete Streets Coalition was formed in 2005 and provides a framework for establishing complete streets policies (<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/program/national-complete-streets-coalition>). Over the last couple of years, numerous communities have adopted complete streets policies and programs. Many are incorporated into the community's capital improvement program and as such include an annual progress evaluation benchmarking the expansion of the local transportation network and/or the completion of smaller segments to fill-in gaps for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

As the draft ordinance has been prepared as an amendment to Land Use Ordinance the focus is on the design of streets that are being constructed or modified as part of the development process. Therefore the benchmarking component has not been included. However, the town continues to partner with the Town of Chapel Hill and UNC-Chapel Hill to fund Chapel Hill Transit's local transit service, and to seek funding to design and construct bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects to expand the local multimodal transportation network as part of the implementation of adopted plans, must notably the recently 2022-2042 Carrboro Comprehensive Plan, Carrboro Connects which by adoption reaffirmed the Carrboro Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan and the Safe Routes to School Strategic Action Plan.