Purpose

The Town of North Attleborough is committed to providing safety and accessibility to all users of our roadways, transit systems and trails. All users includes pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, motorists, commercial vehicles, emergency vehicles and people of all ages and all abilities. By adopting this Complete Street Policy, the Town is acknowledging its commitment and its responsibility to promote the safety, health, economic viability and quality of life for our residents, business owners, and visitors by providing accessible, and efficient connections between home, work, school, recreation and retail destinations by improving pedestrian and vehicular environments throughout the Town of North Attleborough.

The purpose of North Attleborough’s Complete Street Policy is to accommodate all road users by creating an integrated network that meets the needs of individuals using a variety of transportation modes. It is the intent of North Attleborough to formalize the planning, design, operation and maintenance of the streets so that they are safe for users of all ages and abilities as a matter of routine. This policy is to direct decision-makers to consistently plan, design and construct streets to accommodate all users including pedestrians, motorists, bicyclists, emergency and commercial vehicles.

Core Commitment

The Town of North Attleborough recognizes that all projects, whether new construction, reconstruction or maintenance projects are opportunities to apply Complete Street principles. The Town Shall, to the maximum extent practical, plan, design, construct, operate and maintain all streets to provide for a comprehensive and integrated street network of facilities for people of all ages, all abilities and using all modes of transportation. Complete Street design recommendations shall be incorporated into all publicly and publicly approved privately funded projects involving roadway or sidewalk design and construction, as appropriate. All transportation infrastructure and street design projects requiring funding or approval by the Town of North Attleborough, as well as projects funded by the State and Federal Government such as Chapter 90 funds, City Improvement Grants, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) the MassWorks Infrastructure Program, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Capital Funding and other public fund sources for street and infrastructure design, shall comply with the Complete Streets principles. In addition, to the extent practical the Town of North Attleborough shall require that any design, construction or maintenance on State-owned roadways complies with the Complete Street principles.

Transportation infrastructure may be excluded, upon approval by the Board of Selectmen, where the documentation and data indicate that:

a) Facilities where specific users are prohibited by law, such as interstate freeways or pedestrian malls. An effort will be made, in these cases, for accommodations elsewhere

b) Where the costs or environmental impacts is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use or future use.

Best Practices

The Town of North Attleborough’s Complete Street Policy will focus on developing an interconnected integrated network that serves all road users. Complete Streets will be incorporated into policies, planning and design of all types of public and private projects, including new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, redevelopment, repair and maintenance of transportation facilities on streets and construction projects.
Implementation of the Town of North Attleborough Complete Streets Policy will be carried out cooperatively within all Departments in the Town, with multi-jurisdictional cooperation to the greatest extent possible, among private developers, and state, regional and federal agencies. The Town of North Attleborough recognizes that "Complete Streets" may be achieved through single elements incorporated into a design or construction project, or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. Complete Streets implementation and effectiveness shall be constantly evaluated for success and opportunities for improvement. The Town will develop performance measures to gauge implementation and effectiveness of the policies.

Implementation

The Town shall make Complete Streets practices a routine part of everyday operations. The Town shall approach each transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve the transportation network for all users, and shall work in coordination with other departments, agencies and jurisdictions to achieve Complete Streets.

The Town shall review and either revise or develop amendments/ revisions to all appropriate planning documents (Master Plan, Open Space Plan,) zoning by-laws, subdivision rules and regulations and existing land use/construction design templates to integrate Complete Streets principles in all street projects. A committee of relevant decision-makers and stakeholders designated by the Board of Selectmen shall be created to implement this policy and to periodically evaluate its effectiveness.

The Town shall keep a comprehensive inventory of pedestrian and bicycle facility infrastructure that will serve to prioritize projects and to eliminate gaps in the transportation network where accommodations are substandard.

The Town shall re-evaluate Capital Improvement prioritization to encourage Complete Streets implementation.

The Town shall train pertinent town staff and decision-makers on the content of Complete Streets principles and best practices for implementing policy through workshops and other appropriate means.

The Town shall utilize inter-department coordination to promote the most responsible and efficient use of resources for activities within and affecting the public way.

The Town shall seek out appropriate sources of funding and grants for implementation of Complete Streets policies.

As adopted by the Board of Selectmen December 1, 2016.

Patrick Reynolds, Chairman