

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Luke Watson, Deputy City Manager

DATE: November 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Adopt Complete Streets Program Policy

PREPARED BY: Katie Garcia, Planning Technician

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council adopt a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMECULA ADOPTING A COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM THAT AIMS TO ENSURE ROADWAYS ACCOMMODATE AND PRIORITIZE THE NEEDS OF ALL USERS AND MAKING A FINDING OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (LONG RANGE PROJECT NO. LR23-0043)

BACKGROUND:

Complete Streets is a transportation policy and design approach aimed at creating roadways that accommodate and prioritize the needs of all users. Complete Streets are thoughtfully planned, designed, and built to accommodate people of all ages and abilities safely and comfortably, including pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, transit users, motorists, as well as freight and service operators. This Complete Streets Policy sets forth an agency's commitment to and implementation process for integrating Complete Streets concepts in transportation planning decisions and roadway design.

In advance of the City of Temecula's General Plan Update, the City is complying with Assembly Bill (AB) 1358, the "California Complete Streets Act." AB 1358 requires cities and counties in California to consider the needs of all road users (including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists) in the planning and design of transportation projects that receive state or federal funding.

The Complete Streets Policy builds on past and current initiatives to improve multimodal safety and access in Temecula. Temecula's Quality of Life Master Plan (QLMP), adopted in 2022, recognizes transportation mobility and connectivity as a core value of the City and specifically lists development of a Complete Streets Policy as a key goal for 2040. Driven by the community's desire to develop a comprehensive on-street and off-street bicycle and trail network, the City completed a comprehensive update of its Multi-Use Trails and Bikeways Master Plan in 2016. In 2018, the City developed an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, which identified programmatic and physical accessibility barriers present within the City. The City also identified several infrastructure-oriented safety countermeasures to prioritize through development of a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) in 2022. Additionally, the City completed an update of its Urban Forest Management Plan (2022), which set an ambitious goal to increase citywide tree canopy coverage by 20% over the next 40 years to mitigate the community's greatest climate and health risks.

By adopting a Complete Streets policy, the City of Temecula is committing to developing a comprehensive transportation system that facilitates safe access, mobility, economic growth, appealing public spaces, health, and overall well-being for all members of the community. The City's Complete Streets Policy shifts the focus of transportation planning and project development from vehicle movement as the primary goal to the safe movement of people and goods. The Policy acknowledges streets can have varying roles, functions, and levels of activity depending on the context of the surrounding land use and community.

MEETINGS WITH COMMISSIONS:

The Draft Complete Streets Policy was presented to the Planning Commission on October 18, 2023, and to the Traffic Safety Commission on October 26, 2023, as a Receive and File presentation. Staff and the consultant answered questions relating to bicycle and pedestrian safety and how Complete Streets applies to all ages and abilities. The Traffic Safety Commission provided the following recommendations to the policy document:

- Add the 2018 ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to the Background section of the document
- Adjust language in the Vision and Intent section to write, "decision-makers to consider all transportation system users, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable."
- Add Emergency Repairs as an exception to Complete Streets
- Incorporate the following as Performance Measures:
 - Bicycle Friendly Community award status
 - Level of Traffic Stress (LTS)
 - Pedestrian scale lighting
 - Number of students that walk/bike to school

All recommendations have been incorporated into the policy as suggested.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT:

The adoption of the Complete Streets Policy is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) as there is no possibility that the adoption of the Complete Streets Policy will have a significant effect on the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution