

Key Implementation Steps for Complete Streets Initiatives



Adopt a Complete Streets Policy.

Adopting a policy formally establishes a jurisdiction's commitment to Complete Streets. The strongest Complete Streets policies call for the key implementation steps below.



Restructure or revise related procedures, plans, regulations, and other processes.

These processes should make accommodating all users on every project a routine part of transportation planning and operations. This could include incorporating Complete Streets checklists or other tools into decision-making processes.



Develop new design policies and guides.

Communities may also elect to revise existing design guidance to reflect the current state of best practices in transportation design, or they may adopt national or state-level recognized design guidance.



Offer workshops and other training opportunities

These trainings should educate transportation staff, community leaders, and the general public so that everyone understands the importance of the Complete Streets vision. Trainings could focus on Complete Streets design and implementation, community engagement, and/or equity.



Create a committee to oversee implementation.

The committee should include both external and internal stakeholders as well as representatives from advocacy groups, underinvested communities, and vulnerable populations such as people of color, older adults, children, low-income communities, non-native English speakers, those who do not own or cannot access a car, and those living with disabilities.



Create a community engagement plan.

The plan should incorporate equity by targeting advocacy organizations and underrepresented communities. The best community engagement plans use innovative outreach strategies that don't require people to alter their daily routines to participate. This report highlights initiatives that excel in community engagement, even if they do not have a formal engagement plan.



Implement Complete Streets projects.

After taking other key implementation steps, jurisdictions can incorporate a Complete Streets approach into all transportation projects as routine practice. In doing so, they can work toward creating a comprehensive transportation network that is safe, reliable, comfortable, convenient, affordable, and accessible for all people who use the street.