



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - ENGINEERING
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John Robert Smith
And Emiko Atherton
Smart Growth America (SGA)
National Complete Streets Coalition
1707 L St. NW, Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: City of Arvada Complete Streets Implementation One Month Status Update

Dear John Robert and Emiko,

Thank you for the opportunity of working with you and the Smart Growth America team over the past summer. The technical assistance your team was able to provide to the City of Arvada, along with the cities of Aurora and Westminster, was invaluable and will help us lead our fellow Denver metro municipalities towards new Complete Streets innovations. Arvada was able to invite staff members from different departments throughout the city to learn about how Complete Streets affects their own work and provide input from many different perspectives. Now, these people and perspectives form the core of our Complete Streets Committee, and will work to bring a Complete Streets policy to Arvada in the next year.

The first strategy outlined in the Next Steps Recommendations Report was to create a Complete Streets Committee before October 31, 2018. This committee included the Arvada cohort that attended the workshops over the summer, in addition to several other interested staff members, and will be meeting regularly to oversee the development and implementation of Arvada's Complete Streets policy. Tactics 1.1 and 1.2 recommend scheduling recurring meetings with other regional agencies and collaborating with existing committees. To keep the Complete Streets Committee small enough to make decisions and ease scheduling issues, these parties will be invited individually to meetings to provide input as the policy develops. The committee expects to collaborate with and receive feedback from representatives of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), the Tri-County Health Department, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), and the Regional Transportation District (RTD), as well as citizen groups like the Transportation Committee, Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Parent Teacher Associations. The council-appointed citizens' Transportation Committee has already been updated about the progress of the Complete Streets Policy, and will be continuously involved and providing input on the policy.

The Complete Streets Committee has already begun work on the second recommendation strategy: developing a Complete Streets ordinance. Using the materials already developed for Arvada as part of the workshop, staff have drafted several preliminary versions of a potential



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policy. These drafts are currently undergoing internal committee review, to determine the best overall outline and direction for the city's policy. Influence was taken from resources like Smart Growth America's *Elements of a Complete Streets Policy*, and existing policies like those ranked on *The Best Complete Streets Policies of 2016*. Once the committee has decided on a working draft, the policy will be reviewed by stakeholders at individual meetings with the Complete Streets Committee. In addition to the agencies and associations mentioned previously, the committee will look for input from neighborhood leaders as part of the city's Neighbors Connected program.

After sufficient revisions and discussion from stakeholders, Arvada's Complete Streets policy will be presented to City Council for adoption by September 30, 2019.

In addition to the policy, the Complete Streets Committee will also be assigned oversight for the collection and distribution of data for the city's new Mobility Index. This city council strategic result includes measures that encompass the whole of mobility needs throughout the city, and directly falls under the purview of Complete Streets. The index incorporates measures such as transit coverage, miles of bike lanes, pedestrian crashes, and usage rates of alternative mobility services like dockless bikeshare and ridehailing. The Mobility Index will help guide project prioritization not only for transportation and Complete Streets related projects, but for policy and political decisions as well.

With these developments, and updates to related documents such as Arvada's Land Development Code or Traffic Engineering Standards, large changes are coming to Arvada's transportation system. The City of Arvada would once again like to thank Smart Growth America, as well as our fellow municipalities of Aurora and Westminster, in addition to all of the other participants who helped make the Colorado Consortium Series a fantastic forum for new and innovative ideas. The city looks forward to working with fellow agencies to bring safer, more Complete Streets to the Denver metropolitan area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Strege'.

Jessica Strege

Traffic Engineer / Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator