

# Town of Duxbury Massachusetts

# **Complete Streets Policy for the Town of Duxbury**

WHEREAS, the Town of Duxbury has adopted a Comprehensive Master Plan entitled *Envision*Duxbury that established Transportation Goals to develop a town-wide multi-modal network and traffic safety priority plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan includes a Transportation goal to include climate resiliency and safety while developing changes to future transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan includes a Transportation goal to create walkable economic centers;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Duxbury that the attached Complete Street Policy is hereby adopted.

#### VISION & PURPOSE

Envision Duxbury established a vision for the town for the next decade, including stated Goals and Strategies that will improve traffic safety, improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and facilities, and provide more walkable business centers, while making considerations with respect to climate resiliency. This policy incorporates the stated vision and goals of the Envision Duxbury plan, and will direct development of a plan which will identify areas where improvements in this stated vision are needed throughout the town, with a focus on known and identified areas of safety concern; a focus on walkable economic centers, identifying possible solutions and ride-sharing alternatives; and development of a supporting infrastructure which will advance these goals and vision statements.

#### II. CORE COMMITMENT

# A. Definition

"Complete Streets" are streets that are designed and operated to provide safety and accessibility for all the users of our roads, paths and transit systems, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, motorists, commercial, freight providers and emergency vehicles and for people of all ages and of all abilities.

#### B. Scope of Applicability

- (i) Complete Streets practices will become a routine part of the everyday operations for the Board of Selectmen, with advisory input from the Town Manager, Department of Public Works, Highway Department, Planning Board and Planning Department, and appointed advisory committees and delegates of the town. These agents/agencies will approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve public and private streets and the transportation network for all users. The Town of Duxbury recognizes that all projects (new, maintenance or reconstruction) are potential opportunities to apply Complete Streets design principles. The Town will, to the maximum extent practical, design, construct, maintain, and operate all streets to provide for a comprehensive and integrated street network of facilities for people of all ages and abilities.
- (ii) Complete Streets design recommendations shall be incorporated into all publicly and privately funded projects, as appropriate. All transportation infrastructure and street design projects requiring funding or approval by the Town of Duxbury, as well as projects funded by the state and federal government, such as the Chapter 90 funds, town improvement grants, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the MassWorks Infrastructure Program, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Capital Funding and other state and federal funds for street and infrastructure design shall comply with the Town of Duxbury Complete Streets Policy. Private developments and related street design components or corresponding street-related components shall comply with the Complete Streets principles.
- (iii) Transportation infrastructure projects, including but not limited to, roadway reconstruction, roadway reconfigurations or subdivisions, may be excluded from strict adherence from this policy upon approval by the Board of Selectmen with consultation as appropriate with town departments and town committees and working groups with related charges, and input from the general public, when documentation and data indicate that any of the following apply:
  - Roadways where specific users are prohibited by law, such as limited access highways. An effort will be made in these cases for accommodations elsewhere.
  - Where it is demonstrated that costs or impacts of accommodation are excessively disproportionate to the need or probable future use.

# COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

 Other town policies, regulations or requirements contradict or preclude implementation of Complete Streets principles.

### III. BEST PRACTICES

### A. Context Sensitivity

The implementation of this Policy will reflect and adapt to the context and character of the surrounding built, historic and natural environments in the town and enhance the appearance of such. This Policy recognizes that transportation needs vary and must be balanced in a flexible, safe and cost effective manner sensitive to the semi-rural character of the Town.

#### B. DesignStandards

The Town of Duxbury will utilize the latest design guidance and standards available in the implementation of Complete Streets, including:

- The Massachusetts Department of Transportation Project Design and Development Guidebook
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Street Design Guide
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Healthy Community Design Toolkit
- The latest edition of American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- A Policy on Geometric Design of Highway and Streets (aka the AASHTO Green Book)
- The United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Manual on
- Uniform Traffic Design Controls
- The Architectural Access Board (AAB) 521 CMR Rules and Regulations
- Plans created for the Town of Duxbury.

In recognition of context sensitivity and a desire to maintain the semi-rural character of the community, public input and the needs of many users, a flexible, innovative and balanced approach that follows the above and other appropriate design standards may be considered, provided that a comparable level of safety for all users is present.

#### C. Performance Measures

This policy encourages the evaluation and regular reporting of progress on the Envision Duxbury Transportation Goals being met through this policy. The preparation of this annual report will allow the Town of Duxbury to meet the annual progress report requirements to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Complete Streets Certification Program.

#### **Evaluation of Effectiveness:**

The Town will develop performance measures to periodically assess the rate, success, and effectiveness of implementing the Complete Streets policy. The Town will determine the frequency of assessment and utilize appropriate metrics for analyzing the success of this policy. Town committees and working groups with related charges will be consulted regarding assessment measures and frequency. These metrics may include:

- · Total miles of new on-street bicycle routes defined by lane markings or signage,
- · Linear feet of new pedestrian accommodation,
- Number of new curb ramps or other retrofitted pedestrian facilities,
- · Increase in the number of users of public transportation,
- Decrease in the number of traffic accidents involving vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians in Complete Streets areas,
- · Number of new street trees planted along streets,
- Number of Low Impact Development (LID) landscape areas installed. IV.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

The Town views Complete Streets as integral to everyday transportation decision-making practices and processes. To this end:

- i. The Town of Duxbury will make Complete Streets practices a routine part of everyday operations, shall approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve streets and the transportation network for all users, and shall work in coordination with other departments, agencies, and jurisdictions to achieve Complete Streets.
- ii. The Town will maintain a comprehensive inventory of pedestrian and bicycle facility infrastructure that will highlight projects that eliminate gaps in the sidewalk and bikeway network and noting the presence of important scenic, environmental and historic resources.

- iii. The Town will propose projects to be included in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan to support implementation of this Policy.
- iv. The Town shall include reference to Complete Streets principles in all new planning documents (master plans, open space and recreation plan, etc.), zoning and codes laws, procedures rules, regulations, guidelines, programs, and templates.
- v. The Town will utilize inter-department coordination to promote the most responsible and efficient use of resources for activities within the public ways.
- vi. The Town will train pertinent town staff and decision-makers on the content of Complete Streets principles and best practices for implementing this policy through workshops and other appropriate means.
- vii. The Town will seek out appropriate sources of funding and grants for implementation of Complete Streets policies including participating in the new Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Complete Streets Certification Program.

Resolved and Adopted this 11th day of January, 2021.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Town of Duxbury, MA
15 Pay
Theodore J. Flynn, Chair
Day Man
David J. Madigan
On Th. Man Tel
Amy M. MacNab

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Plymouth, SS	January
On this day of January, 2021, before me, the undersigned mappeared the above-named members of the Board of Selectmen personally known to me to be the persons whose names are signed on acknowledged that they signed it voluntarily for its stated purpose.	of Duxbury, Massachusetts,
Notary Public  My Commission Expires	NANCY R. O'CONNOR Notary Public COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS My Commission Expires April 4, 2025