

TOWN OF DIGHTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
979 SOMERSET AVE  
DIGHTON ,MA 02715

Effective Date: June 29,2016	Date Last Revised:
Expiration Date: None	Board of Selectmen Vote to Adopt Policy

## **Town Of Dighton Complete Streets Policy**

Goals of the Dighton Master Plan, March 2015 include, identify and prioritize improvements to roadways, storm drainage and sidewalks. As stated in the Dighton Master Plan, transportation planning needs to address all of the transportation needs of the community including automobiles, pedestrian and bicycle needs, as well as issues with overall accessibility.

Complete Streets is an approach to community transportation using design principles to ensure the safety, comfort and accessibility for users of all ages, abilities, and income levels and for all of the users of our streets and trails. The Complete Streets approach has multiple benefits including:

Complete Streets can reduce congestion by providing safe travel choices that encourage non-motorized transportation option, increasing the overall capacity of the transportation network as well as decreasing consumer transportation costs and the overall carbon footprint.

Complete streets will support economic growth and community stability by providing accessible and efficient connections between home, school, work, recreation and retail destinations by improving the pedestrian and vehicular environment throughout communities.

Complete Streets will enhance safe walking and bicycling options for school-age children in alignment with the national Safe Routes to School Program Objectives Physical Activity Guidelines.

Complete Streets can help reduce crashes and injuries and their associated costs.

THEREFORE, the Board of Selectmen adopts this Complete Streets Policy.

**Vision and Purpose:**

The purpose of the Town of Dighton Complete Streets Policy is to provide safe, convenient transportation routes for all users of our roadways, pathways, and sidewalks for people of all ages and of all abilities. Including but not limited to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, commercial vehicles, emergency vehicles and users of wheelchairs and other power-driven mobility devices. Furthermore, The Complete Streets Policy will provide better alternatives to healthy and safe ways to provide connections to home, work, school, retail and recreation areas. The purpose of the Town of Dighton Complete Street Policy is to accommodate all road users by creating a road network that meets the needs of individuals utilizing a variety of transportation modes. This policy directs decision makers to consistently plan, design and construct street to accommodate all anticipated users including but not limited to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorist, emergency vehicles and freight and commercial vehicles.

**Core Commitment:**

The town recognizes that all roadway projects (including new construction, maintenance and reconstruction) are potential opportunities to apply Complete Streets design principles. The Town will, to the maximum extent practical, design, construct, maintain and operate streets to provide for a comprehensive and integrated network of facilities for people of all ages and abilities. Complete Streets design recommendations will be incorporated into all publicly and privately funded projects, as appropriate, including new transportation infrastructure and street design projects requiring funding or approval by the Town of Dighton, projects by the State and federal government ( including but not limited to Chapter 90 funds, improvement grants, Transportation Grants, Capital Funding and other state and federal funds for street and infrastructure design), and privately funded subdivision developments. In addition, to the extent practical state owned roadways will comply with the Complete Streets Policy, including the design, construction, and maintenance of such roadways within town boundaries.

**Exceptions:**

The following transportation infrastructure projects may be excluded from review where documentation and data indicate that any of the following apply:

1. Cost or impacts of accommodation are excessively disproportionate to the need or probability for future use.
2. Other town policies, regulations, or requirements contradict or preclude implementation of the Complete Street principles.

In addition, town departments will use best judgment regarding the desirability and feasibility of applying Complete Street principles for routine roadway maintenance and projects, such as repaving, restriping and so forth.

**Best Practices:**

The Town of Dighton Complete Streets Policy will focus on developing a connected, integrated network that serves all road users. Complete Streets will be integrated into policies, planning, and design of all types of public and private projects, including new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, repair, and maintenance of transportation facilities on streets and redevelopment projects.

Complete Streets' principles include the development and implementation of projects in a context-sensitive manner in which project implantation is sensitive to the community's physical, economic, and social setting. The context-sensitive approach to process and design includes a range of goals by giving significant consideration to stakeholder and community values. It includes goals related to livability with greater participation by those affected in order to gain project consensus. The overall goal of this approach is to preserve and enhance scenic, aesthetic, historical and environment resources while improving or maintain safety, mobility, and infrastructure conditions.

The Town of Dighton recognizes that Complete Streets may be achieved through single elements incorporated into a particular project or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. The latest design guidance, standards, and recommendations available will be used in the implementation of Complete Streets, including the most up-to-date versions of:

- The Massachusetts of Department of Transportation Project Design and Development Guidebook.
- The United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Design Controls.
- The Architectural Access Board 521 CMR Rules and Regulations.
- Documents and plans created for the Town of Dighton, including but not limited to:
  - Applicable Town of Dighton Bylaws
  - Master Plan
  - Subdivision Rules and Regulations
  - Open Space and Conservation Plan
  - Economic Development Plan
  - Sidewalk study and Prioritization Plan
  - Stormwater Management Rules and Regulations

**Implementation:**

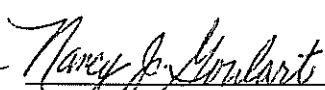
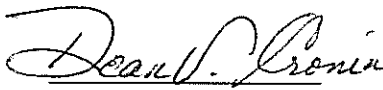
The Town shall make Complete Streets practices a routine part of everyday operations' shall approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve streets and the transportation network for all users; and shall work in coordination with other department's agencies and jurisdictions to achieve complete streets.

The Complete Streets Policy will be carried out cooperatively within a multidisciplinary team and all relevant departments in the Town of Dighton, including but not limited to the Department of Public Works, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Park and Recreation Commission.

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

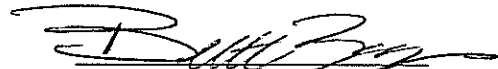
The town will evaluate projects, as appropriate, within the Capital Improvement Plan to encourage implementation of this policy.

The town will seek out appropriate sources of funding and grants for implementation of Complete Streets policies.



DEAN V. CRONIN  
CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NANCY J. GOULART  
MEMBER  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



BRETT R. ZOGRAFOS  
CLERK  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN