

DRAFT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPLETE STREETS FOR THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, June 2011 City of Birmingham, Oakland County, Michigan

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are defined as a design framework that enables safe and convenient access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and drivers of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature adopted Public Acts 134 and 135 of 2010 to enact Complete Streets legislation that requires the Michigan Department of Transportation to consider all users in transportation related projects; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are achieved when transportation agencies routinely plan, design, construct, re-construct, operate, and maintain the transportation network to improve travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit, and freight in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, development of multi-modal transportation infrastructure, including accommodations for pedestrian, bicycle, and transit riders, offers long-term cost savings by reducing costly infrastructure retrofits and opportunities to create safe and convenient non-motorized travel; and

WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple uses, including safe, active, and ample space for pedestrians, bicycles, and transit are more conducive to the public life and efficient movement of people than streets designed primarily to move automobiles; and

WHEREAS, increasing active transportation (e.g. walking, bicycling and using public transportation) offers the potential for improved public health, economic development, a cleaner environment, reduced transportation costs, enhanced community connections, social equity, and more livable communities; and

WHEREAS, existing City of Birmingham plans and policies already support principles that facilitate progress toward developing a network of Complete Streets consistent with the objectives of the Michigan Complete Streets legislation and with the practices promoted by the National Complete Streets Coalition; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets principles have been and continue to be adopted nation-wide at state, county, MPO, and city levels in the interest of proactive planning and adherence to federal directives that guide transportation planning organizations to promote multi-modal transportation options and accessibility for all users; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of this Complete Streets Proclamation allows the City of Birmingham to remain competitive in the pursuit of future state transportation project funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Birmingham City Commission hereby declares its support of Complete Streets policies and further directs City staff to develop a set of proposed policies and procedures to implement Complete Streets practices to make the City more accommodating to all modes of travel, including walkers, bicyclists and transit riders, of all ages and abilities.