

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, MICHIGAN
CHAPTER 58
BY ADDING ARTICLE III COMPLETE STREETS**

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN ORDAINS:

Section 1.

A. Amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 58, entitled Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places by adding Article III Complete Streets to read as follows:

Chapter 58

STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

ARTICLE III COMPLETE STREETS

Section 58-35. Title.

This article shall be known and cited as the “Complete Streets Ordinance of the Charter Township of Meridian.”

Section 58-36. Purpose.

An ordinance intended to provide safe, convenient, and comfortable routes for multiple modes of transportation including but not limited to walking, bicycling, personal vehicles and public transportation while encouraging healthy, active living, reduced traffic congestion and dependence on fossil fuels, and improved safety and quality of life for residents of Meridian Charter Township.

Section 58-37. Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein.

Complete Streets Infrastructure means roadways planned, designed, and constructed to provide appropriate access to all legal users in a manner that promotes safe and efficient movement of people and goods whether by car, truck, transit, assistive device, foot, or bicycle.

Street Project means the construction, reconstruction, retrofit, or alteration, and includes the planning, design, approval, and implementation processes, except that “Street Project” does not include maintenance such as cleaning, sweeping, mowing, spot repair, or interim measures on detour routes.

Users means legal users of the public right-of-way, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motor vehicle drivers, public transportation riders and drivers, and people of all ages and abilities.

Section 58-38. Infrastructure that ensures safe travel.

- (1) The township shall encourage the use of complete streets practices as a routine part of operations, and shall approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve public and private streets and the transportation network for all users, and shall work in coordination with the Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads and the Michigan Department of Transportation to facilitate the implementation of complete streets infrastructure to the extent feasible, pursuant to this Ordinance.
- (2) The township shall advocate for complete streets infrastructure when projects are near public facilities (e.g. schools, government facilities, libraries, public health facilities, parks, hospitals, etc.), lands and connections described in the Township *Greenspace Plan*, and where there are opportunities for connections across jurisdictions. The township shall advocate for complete streets infrastructure when projects serve traditionally underserved or marginalized populations.
- (3) The township shall consider, to the extent possible, complete streets infrastructure, including boulevards and medians, sufficient to enable safe travel along and across the road right-of-way for each category of users for every street project on public or private streets; provided, however, that such infrastructure may be excluded, upon agreement of the township and the Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads or Michigan Department of Transportation, subject to each agency's powers and duties, where documentation and data indicate that:
 - (a) Use by non-motorized users is prohibited by law;
 - (b) The cost would be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable future use over the long term;
 - (c) There is an absence of current or future need; or
 - (d) Inclusion of such infrastructure would be unreasonable or inappropriate in light of the scope of the project.
- (4) The Township shall review and either revise or develop proposed revisions to all appropriate planning documents of the Township to integrate, accommodate, and balance the needs of all users in all street projects on public and private streets.
- (5) The township, in conjunction with the Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads or Michigan Department of Transportation, will promote the development of standards to implement complete streets infrastructure

Section 58-39. Data collections, standards, and public input.

- (1) The township shall collect data to measure how well the streets within the township are serving each category of users, at each revision period of the township bicycle and pedestrian pathway plan.
- (2) The township shall promote the use of performance standards with measurable benchmarks reflecting the ability of users to travel in safety and comfort.
- (3) The township shall promote the use of procedures to allow public participation in policy decisions and transparency in individual determinations concerning the design and use of streets.

- (4) The township shall implement, administer, and enforce this chapter through partnership with the Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads or Michigan Department of Transportation.
- (5) The township shall, in reviewing projects requiring funding or approval by the township, Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads or Michigan Department of Transportation:
 - (a) Evaluate the impact of the proposed project on safe travel by all users, and
 - (b) Identify measures to mitigate any adverse impacts.
- (6) The township shall review policies to implement complete streets infrastructure and may consider the following:
 - (a) Addressing short-term and long-term steps and planning necessary to create a comprehensive and integrated transportation network serving the needs of all users;
 - (b) Assessing potential obstacles to implementing complete streets practices throughout the township, and identifying alternative solutions to those obstacles;
 - (c) Recommending adoption of policies containing additional steps, if useful; and
 - (d) Proposing revisions to all applicable plans to integrate, accommodate, and balance the needs of all users in all street projects.

Section 2. Validity and Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and the invalidity of any phrase, clause, or part of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the Ordinance.

Section 3. Repealer Clause. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give the Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Ordinance does not affect rights and duties matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun, before its effective date.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective (30) days after its publication.