

# COMPLETE STREETS PLAN

## WHAT IS A COMPLETE STREETS PLAN?

Complete streets give consideration to all users. In many cases certain roadways are not good candidates to become complete streets. A complete streets plan identifies opportunities and locations for developing a multi-modal network to accommodate user-choice.



Downtown Pikeville, TN Streetscape

## WHY HAVE A COMPLETE STREETS PLAN?

Complete streets plans create identify locations where enhancements to existing infrastructure can broaden the use of the network. Providing dedicated space for alternative modes can help to focus public and private investment in a community. This focused investment can assist a community in developing a sense of place and attract new people, businesses, and services to a community.

Some additional benefits of developing a complete streets network include:

- **Promotion of Healthy and Active Living:** Complete streets provide more opportunities to walk and bike.
- **Safety improvements:** Dedicating space for multiple uses makes all users aware of the multi-use nature of the street.
- **Mitigation of traffic issues:** Robust networks can minimize the need to use automobiles to get from place to place, thereby reducing the demand on the existing network.
- **Systems Planning:** Early identification of network locations can assist in incorporating complete streets design into the initial design of major projects and reduce the impact of costly retrofits.





## TENNESSEE EXAMPLE OF COMPLETE STREETS: PIKEVILLE

Pikeville, Tennessee lies at the crossroads of several major highways and enjoys a strong tourism business thanks to nearby Fall Creek Falls State Park. Several years ago, a new bypass for Highway 127 was constructed, redirecting travelers away from downtown Pikeville. In an effort to lead visitors back into downtown and recoup tourism revenues, city leaders and the Southeast Tennessee Development District began a project to re-shape Pikeville's central business district through a complete streets plan.

A Main Street complete street plan was created and implemented with a \$99,550 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission and a \$50,000 grant from USDA Rural Development. Improvements included textured brick crosswalks directing tourists into the heart of the central business district, as well as enhanced pedestrian and bicycle access to downtown.



Downtown Pikeville, TN

## HOW TO CREATE A COMPLETE STREETS PLAN

### STEP 1: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

**Leadership Commitment** Leadership commitment from local government leaders is necessary to garner public and private sector support for any transportation project.

**Vision and Consensus** Establishing a shared vision and consensus allows the community to set project goals and objectives that meet their specific needs. Knowing what is needed and gathering the necessary support from the community is vital to start the planning, design, and implementation processes.

**Planning and Design** Local leaders must make the decision to obtain expertise and resources to develop a project plan and design guidelines to direct the community's desires for a complete streets plan. These elements create a foundation for implementation actions.

Once these steps are completed, it is possible to put the project in motion and secure funding for implementation.

### STEP 2: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

**Funding for Implementation** Securing a combination of local, state, regional, and federal funding are the common sources of funding for complete street plans. TDOT offers an array of funding options for complete streets plans:

- **Multimodal Access Grant:** TDOT's Multimodal Access Grant Program will improve access to all modes of transportation at key locations along or near state routes by filling gaps in the existing system. Infrastructure projects will improve safety, encourage economic development, and support the transportation needs of all users on state routes: motorists, transit users, pedestrians. TDOT's Multimodal Access Grants are not intended to fund infrastructure primarily used for recreation.
- **Surface Transportation Program:** Funding for roadway construction and improvements, operational improvement, transportation systems, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, ridesharing programs and facilities and transportation planning and studies
- **Transportation Alternatives:** The Transportation Alternatives, formerly the Transportation Enhancements Program (TEP), functions as the main funding source for general pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure projects.

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