City of Baldwin Park

Administrative Policy # 027

SUBJECT:

Complete Streets Policy

Date:

Approved by: City Council

7/20/11

Authority:

Public Works Department

Community Development Department

Mayor, Manuel Lozano

The objective of this policy is to establish guiding principles and practices so transportation improvements are planned, designed, constructed, operated and maintained to encourage walking, bicycling, and transit use while promoting safe operations for all users.

The City of Baldwin Park will create a safe and efficient transportation system that promotes the health and mobility of all Baldwin Park citizens and visitors by providing high quality pedestrian, bicycling, and transit access to all destinations throughout the city, and will design its streets for people, with beauty and amenities. The City of Baldwin Park will provide for the needs of drivers, transit users, bicyclists, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities in all planning, design, construction, reconstruction, retrofit, operations, and maintenance activities and products.

The City of Baldwin Park will enhance the safety, access, convenience, and comfort of all users of all ages and abilities. The City understands that children, seniors, and persons with disabilities will require special accommodations.

STREET NETWORK / CONNECTIVITY

- (A) The City of Baldwin Park will design, operate and maintain a transportation network that provides a connected network of facilities accommodating all modes of travel.
- (B) The City will actively look for opportunities to repurpose rights-of-way to enhance connectivity for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit.
- (C) The City will focus non-motorized connectivity improvements to services, schools, parks, civic uses, regional connections and commercial uses.
- (D) The City will require large new developments and redevelopment projects to provide interconnected street networks with small blocks.

JURISDICTION

- (A) This Complete Streets Policy is intended to cover all development and redevelopment in the public domain and all street improvement assessment districts within Baldwin Park, but will also focus on regional connectivity.
- (B) Every City Department including Administration, Public Works, Community Development, Recreation and Community Services, and Police, will follow the policy.
- (C) The City requires all developers and builders to obtain and comply with the City's standards.
- (D) The City requires agencies that Baldwin Park has permitting authority over, including, but no limited to, water agencies, electrical utilities, gas and petroleum utilities, communications utilities, and service contractors to comply with this policy.
- (E) The City will work closely with Los Angeles County, Caltrans, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, and the Southern California Association of Governments to promote compliance.
- (F) The City encourages agencies not under Baldwin Park's jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, the Baldwin Park Unified School District, to satisfy this policy.

PHASES

The City of Baldwin Park will apply this Complete Streets policy to all roadway projects, including those involving new construction, reconstruction, retrofits, repaving, rehabilitation, or changes in the allocation of pavement space on an existing roadway, as well as those that involve new privately built roads and easements intended for public use. Complete Streets may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance and operation activities over time.

EXCEPTIONS

Complete Streets principles and practices will be included in street construction, reconstruction, repaving, and rehabilitation projects, as well as other plans and manuals, except under one or more of the following conditions:

- (A) A project involves only ordinary or emergency maintenance activities designed to keep assets in serviceable condition such as mowing, cleaning, sweeping, spot repair, concrete joint repair, or pothole filling, or when interim measures are implemented on temporary detour or haul routes.
- (B) The City Council exempts a project due to excessive and disproportionate cost of establishing a bikeway, walkway or transit enhancement as part of a project.

- (C) The Director of Public Works and the Manager of Community Development jointly determine the construction is not practically feasible or cost effective because of significant or adverse environmental impacts to waterways, flood plains, remnants of native vegetation, wetlands, or other critical areas, or due to impacts on neighboring land uses, including impact from right of way acquisitions.
- (D) Unless otherwise determined by the City Council, the Director of Public Works and the Manager of Community Development jointly determine it is not practically feasible or cost effective to implement the provisions of this policy through public or private project design or manuals or other plans.

Exceptions described in (B) and (C), above, will be documented and be made available for public access at least 21 days prior to decision. Exceptions described in (A) and (D), above, will be documented.

DESIGN

Additionally, Baldwin Park's City Council declares it is the City of Baldwin Park's policy to:

- (A) Adopt new Complete Streets Design Guidelines to guide the planning, funding, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of new and modified streets in Baldwin Park while remaining flexible to the unique circumstances of different streets where sound engineering and planning judgment will produce context sensitive designs.
- (B) Incorporate the Complete Streets Design Guidelines' principles into all City plans, manuals, rules, regulations and programs as appropriate.
- (C) Provide well-designed pedestrian accommodations on all streets and crossings. Pedestrian accommodations can take numerous forms, including but not limited to traffic signals, roundabouts, bulb-outs, curb extensions, sidewalks, buffer zones, shared-use pathways, and perpendicular curb ramps, among others.
- (D) Provide well-designed bicycle accommodations along all streets. Bicycle accommodations can take numerous forms, including but not limited to the use of bicycle boulevards, striping, slow streets, low auto volume streets, traffic calming, signs, and pavement markings, among others.
- (E) Where physical conditions warrant, landscaping shall be planted whenever a street is newly constructed, reconstructed, or relocated.

CONTEXT SENSITIVITY

- (A) The City of Baldwin Park will plan its streets in harmony with the adjacent land uses and neighborhoods.
 - (B) The City will solicit input from local stakeholders during the planning process.

- (C) The City will integrate natural features, such as waterways, and other topography into design of our streets.
- (D) The City will design streets with a strong sense of place. We will use architecture, landscaping, streetscaping, public art, signage, etc. to reflect the community and neighborhood.
- (E) The City will coordinate street improvements with merchants along retail and commercial corridors to develop vibrant and livable districts.
 - (F) The City will practice sustainable storm water management strategies.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The City will evaluate this Complete Streets Policy using the following performance measures:

- 1. Total miles of on-street bikeways defined by streets with clearly marked or signed bicycle accommodation
- 2. Total miles of streets with pedestrian accommodation (goal all)
- 3. Number of missing or non-compliant curb ramps along City streets (goal 0)
- 4. Number of new street trees planted along City streets
- 5. Percentage of new street projects that are multi-modal
- 6. Number and severity of pedestrian-vehicle and bicycle-vehicle crashes
- 7. Number of pedestrian-vehicle and bicycle-vehicle fatalities (goal -0)
- 8. Track Fitnessgram data of Baldwin Park Unified School District students
- 9. Sales tax revenue

The City will identify funds and create a methodology to collect data related to those performance measures.

IMPLEMENTATION

- (A) Advisory Group. The City will establish an inter-departmental advisory committee to oversee the implementation of this policy. The committee will include members of Public Works, Community Development, Recreation and Community Services, and the Police Departments from the City of Baldwin Park. The committee may include representatives from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, representatives from the bicycling, disabled, youth and elderly community, and other advocacy organizations, as relevant. This committee will meet quarterly and provide a written report to City Council evaluating the City's progress and advise on implementation.
- (B) *Inventory*. The City will maintain a comprehensive inventory of the pedestrian and bicycling facility infrastructure integrated with the City's database and will prioritize projects to eliminate gaps in the sidewalk and bikeways networks.

- (C) Capital Improvement Project Prioritization. The City will reevaluate Capital Improvement Projects prioritization to encourage implementation of bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements.
- (D) Revisions to Existing Plans and Policies. The City of Baldwin Park will incorporate Complete Streets principles into: the City's Circulation Element, Transportation Strategic Plan, Transit Plan, Traffic Safety Master Plan, Specific Plans, Urban Design Element; and other plans, manuals, rules, regulations and programs.
- (E) Other Plans. The City will prepare, implement, and maintain a Bicycle Transportation Plan, a Pedestrian Transportation Plan, a Safe Routes to School Plan, an Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan, and a Street Tree and Landscape Master Plan.
- (F) Storm Water Management. The City will prepare and implement a plan to transition to sustainable storm water management techniques along our streets.
- (G) Staff Training. The City will train pertinent City staff on the content of the Complete Streets principles and best practices for implementing the policy.
- (H) Coordination. The City will utilize inter-departmental project coordination to promote the most responsible and efficient use of fiscal resources for activities that occur within the public right of way.
- (I) Street Manual. The City will create and adopt a Complete Streets Design Manual to support implementation of this policy.
 - (J) Funding. The City will actively seek sources of appropriate funding to implement Complete Streets.