

**RESOLUTION NO. 5004**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 12-042**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO PUBLIC STREETS; ADOPTING THE "POLK COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPLETE STREET POLICY"; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and the City of Lakeland, Florida share a vision of streets that provide safe travel for all users regardless of their age or abilities; support all modes of travel and travel choices; provide convenient access to community land uses; and help create a sense of place and livable communities; and

**WHEREAS**, "complete streets" are streets for everyone and are defined as streets or roads designed and operated for safe access and travel by all users – pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders – of all ages and abilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the provision of complete streets is consistent with Polk Vision and supports the implementation of Polk Vision strategies to create and maintain a multi-modal transportation system, establish pedestrian connections between development and green spaces, and provide a healthy and safe environment; and

**WHEREAS**, complete streets improve access and safety for those who cannot or choose not to drive motor vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, complete streets are essential in providing safe routes to schools; and

**WHEREAS**, complete streets enhance and improve access to transit services; and

**WHEREAS**, complete streets support and enhance economic and community vitality by providing accessible and efficient connections between home, school, work, recreation and retail destinations; and

**WHEREAS**, complete streets provide public health benefits, such as increased physical activity and improved air quality, by allowing more people to bike and walk safely; and

**WHEREAS**, the provision of complete streets may be achieved through single construction projects or incrementally through a series of planned improvements or maintenance activities over time, and through a variety of funding sources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Polk TPO has developed a Complete Streets Handbook to serve as a resource for local governments in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of complete streets; and

**WHEREAS**, the Polk TPO has allocated funding for the implementation of Complete Street Projects (formerly referred to as "Congestion Management Projects"); and

**WHEREAS**, the "Polk County Local Government Complete Street Policy" provides guidance on how member governments can receive technical assistance from the Polk TPO and work cooperatively to provide a seamless network of complete streets to the extent feasible and within available resources; and

**WHEREAS**, this policy does not represent a mandate, but rather, a statement of intent to provide complete streets within physical and fiscal constraints.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City Commission of the City of Lakeland, Florida adopts the "Polk County Local Government Complete Street Policy" as attached hereto.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Commission authorizes the Mayor to sign a joint copy of the policy on its behalf.

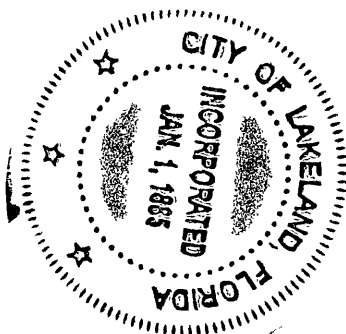
**SECTION 3.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August,  
A.D. 2012.

  
GOW B. FIELDS, MAYOR

ATTEST:   
KELLY S. ROOS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:   
For TIMOTHY J. McCAUSLAND  
CITY ATTORNEY



## **POLK COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

### **COMPLETE STREET POLICY**

#### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

In cooperation with the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), the listed local governments have adopted a common policy to provide a seamless network of complete streets for residents and visitors in Polk County. This policy does not represent a mandate, but rather, a statement of intent to provide complete streets within physical and fiscal constraints.

#### **SHARED VISION**

The local governments in Polk County share a vision of streets that:

- provide safe travel for all users regardless of their age or abilities;
- support all modes of travel and travel choices;
- provide convenient access to community land uses; and
- help create a sense of place and livable communities.

#### **DEFINITION**

Complete Streets are streets for everyone. They are streets or roads designed and operated for safe access and travel by all users – pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders – of all ages and abilities. Complete streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work. They support safe and convenient access to transit services.

#### **ELEMENTS**

To the extent feasible and within available resources, the subject local governments agree to:

1. Identify potential complete street corridors for their community.
2. Refer to the Polk TPO Complete Street Handbook as a guide for the implementation of candidate Complete Street projects.
3. Cooperate with the Polk TPO to maintain a comprehensive inventory of pedestrian and bicycle facilities in order to identify and eliminate network gaps.

4. Design, operate and maintain streets using design guidelines that promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, disabled users, and car and truck motorists.
5. Design streets, where practical, to include facilities and amenities that are recognized as contributing to complete streets such as the following:
  - street and sidewalk lighting;
  - pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements;
  - access improvements for freight;
  - public transit facility accommodations including improved pedestrian access to transit stops and stations; and
  - trees and landscaping, and other street amenities.
6. Connect streets to existing facilities to create a comprehensive, integrated network of streets, transit and pedestrian facilities.
7. Implement policies and procedures in the construction, reconstruction or other changes of transportation facilities on arterial and collector streets to provide access improvements in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and support the creation of complete streets.
8. Consider any complete street improvement within the local context in order to complement the needs, characteristics, and circumstances of the area.
9. Define and select priority design elements, such as on street parking, medians, bike lanes, number and width of travel lanes, sidewalks, and pedestrian elements based upon the surrounding land use and or development context.
10. Construct complete street improvements as part of stand-alone projects or other larger projects, e.g., maintenance activities, to help build a complete street network over time.