

Complete Streets Program

Millbury, Massachusetts

August 22, 2017

What is a Complete Street? Complete Streets offer *all* users service



Why are Complete Streets important?

Streets are inadequate

- No sidewalks
- Too dangerous to cross on foot



Smart Growth America
Making Neighborhoods Great Together



National Complete
Streets Coalition

Why are Complete Streets important?

Today's streets are inadequate

- No sidewalks, inadequate sidewalks or sidewalks to nowhere
- Inaccessible for wheelchair users
- Unsafe for bicyclists



What Makes a Complete Street?

- Respects *all* of its intended users
- Can include features associated with “*Traffic Calming*”, “*Safe Routes to School*”, and *transit service enhancements*
- Can involve *re-designating existing paved areas* without altering paved widths
- Can involve *altering (widening and narrowing) paved areas or features* within existing layouts to encourage walking and cycling and ADA compliant access
- Are *environmental/historic context-sensitive and sustainable*

Complete Streets include a wide range of bicycling enhancements



Complete Streets includes a wide range of pedestrian crossing enhancements



Complete Streets include a wide range of ADA accessibility enhancements



American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Selected Public Sidewalk Criteria

- Maximum $\frac{1}{48}$ or 2% cross-slope and 5% running slope
- Minimum headroom 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ feet
- Minimum 3 feet wide accessible route; 5 feet wide recommended for 2-way travel or every 200 feet if 3-5 feet
- Maximum $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ inch variation in grade
- Ramps at crossings must have no more than a 8.33% grade ($\frac{1}{12}$) minimum 3 feet wide leveling area



One size doesn't fit all!

*Proponents should design to fit the
environment and user needs.*

The Many Different Types of Complete Streets



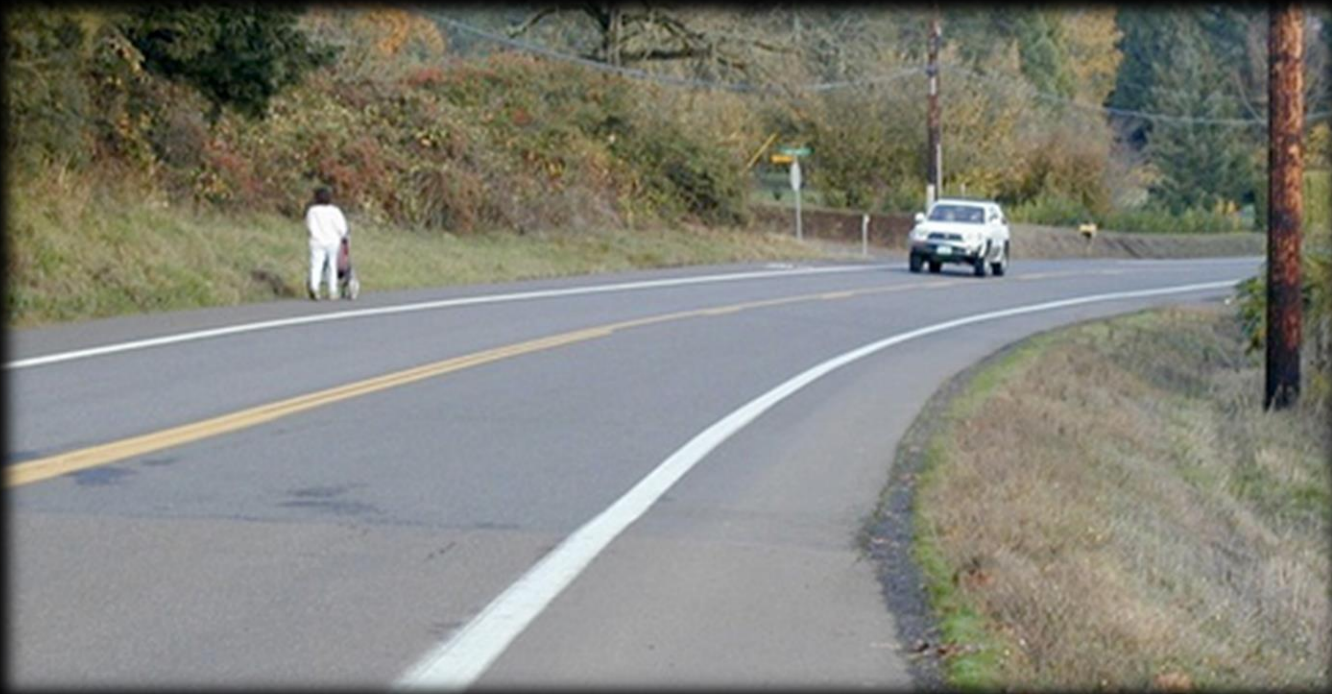
Main streets

The Many Different Types of Complete Streets



Neighborhood streets

The Many Different Types of Complete Streets



Rural roads

The Many Different Types of Complete Streets



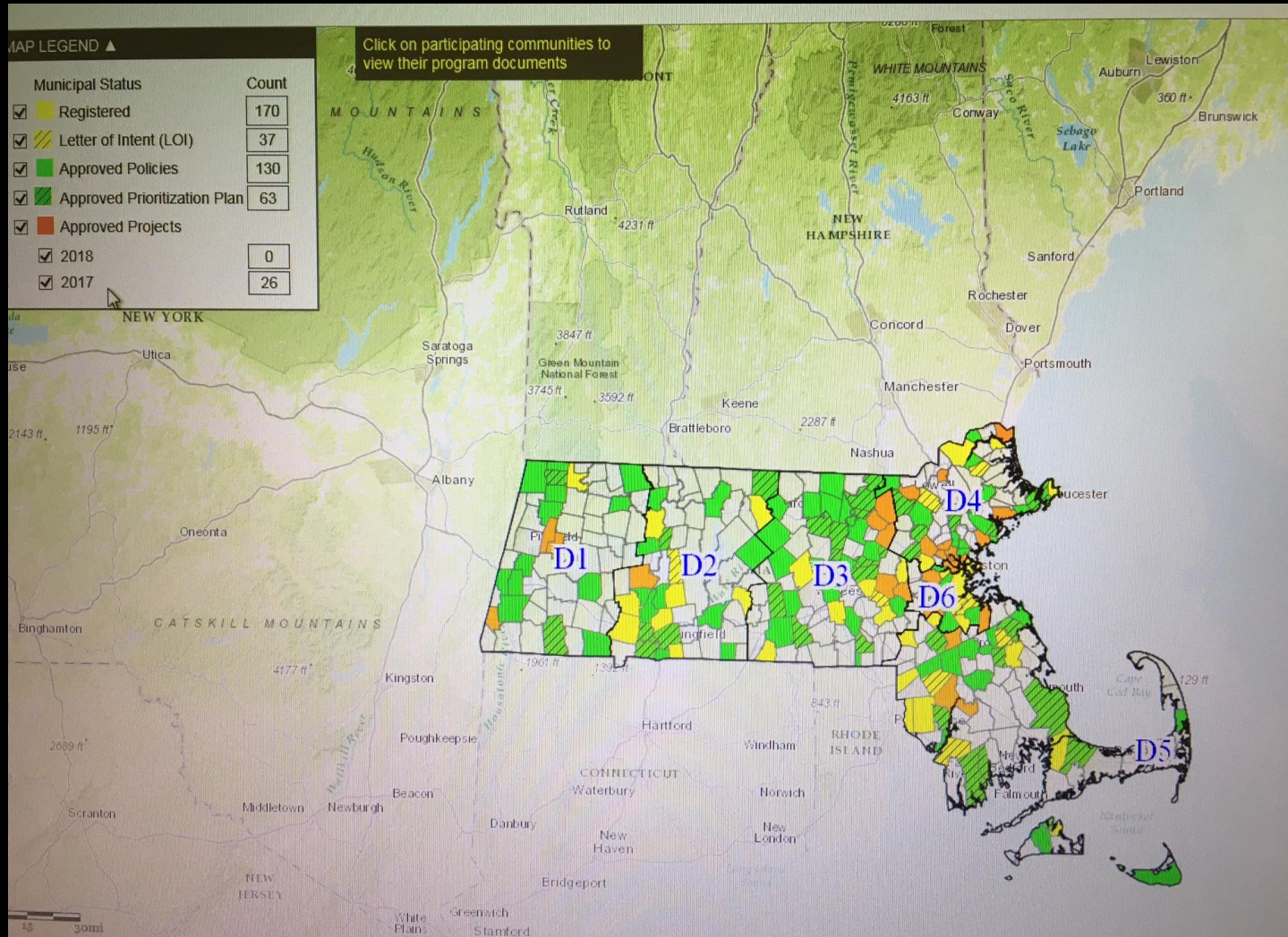
Benefits of Complete Streets

- *Safer!!!!* Number of crashes reduced due to pedestrian and cyclist accommodations and traffic-calming measures
- Streets with dedicated space for bicycling and walking help people of all ages and abilities *become more physically active*
- Gives people more *control over expenses* and opportunities to exercise
- *Reduces air pollution* by encouraging alternative modes of travel
- *Reduces isolation and dependence* for youth, elderly and people with disabilities
- *Higher property values!* Investment in a community's walkability increases land value 70-300%
- *MONEY!!!!!!*

Complete Streets Funding Program

- *Tier 1 – Staff training & adoption of Complete Streets Policy*
- Tier 2 – Development of Complete Streets Prioritization Plan
 - Up to \$50,000 available for Plan development;
 - Priority project list SHALL NOT include privately-funded projects or those under jurisdiction of MassDOT;
 - Rolling submission.
- Tier 3- Project Approval & Notice to Proceed
 - Up to \$400,000 available for construction;
 - Town identifies projects from Prioritization Plan for funding;
 - Town is responsible for engineering costs;
 - Construction projects must be completed within 1 year;
 - Town enters into contract with MassDOT for funds reimbursement;
 - Town & District 3 Office are notified of approved projects;
 - Town enters process similar to Chapter 90.

Status of Complete Streets Communities in MA



Next Steps

- Form a Complete Streets Committee;
- Draft a Complete Streets Policy for Board of Selectmen consideration;
- Work with a consultant to compile a Prioritization Plan;
- Submit project(s) to MassDOT for construction funding.