Complete Streets in Lancaster County

PRESENTED BY:

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Lancaster County is a growing county of over 534,000 and the bottom line is . . .

By 2040, we need to accommodate over 100,000 new people – and we’ll have to do it differently than we have in the past.
Complete Streets Implementation in Lancaster County

Plans, policies, programs, and projects
PLANS

• *places2040* (county)
• Connections 2040, 2016 Update (county)
• Lancaster County Active Transportation Plan (multi-level)
• Growing Together (LIMC comprehensive plan) (inter-municipal)
• Route 30 Streetscape Plan (municipal/partnership)
• Municipal comprehensive plans
Priorities for Lancaster County’s future

- Managing growth
- Urban places
- Housing choice
- Employment
- Transportation
- Parks, trails, and natural areas
- Agriculture and farmland
- Thinking beyond boundaries
Lancaster County’s core values

Creating the future we desire by focusing on what we value and the places we care about…
Communities  Corridors  Landscapes

thinking beyond boundaries
Context for Complete Streets

Lancaster County Transect as a Guide
Where is it located?

The **transect** helps to illustrate the different types of places found in a particular community.
Transportation Planning

- Connections 2040, 2016 Update
- Lancaster County Active Transportation Plan (under development)
  - Lancaster County
  - Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee (LIMC)
  - Lancaster City
- Transportation Improvement Program
  - PennDOT Connects
Connections 2040, 2016 Update

• County Transportation Goals
  • Alternative modes
  • Smart growth
  • Social justice
  • Energy efficiency
  • Quality of life
  • Improved health through transportation
PennDOT Connects

- Opportunity for local involvement
  - Pedestrian/bicycle improvements
  - Multi-use trails
  - Stormwater management
  - Green infrastructure
  - Multi-modal planning
  - Corridor studies
POLICIES and PROGRAMS

• Ten elements of good policy in four basic groups
  • Vision
  • Core Commitment
    • Users and modes
    • Projects and phases
    • Exceptions
  • Best Practices
    • Network
    • All agencies and roads
    • Design guidance and flexibility
    • Context sensitivity
    • Performance measures
  • Next Steps

Source: Complete Streets Local Policy Workbook, Smart Growth America and National Complete Streets Coalition
LANCASTER EXPERIENCE

- Lancaster County Planning Commission

“It is the policy of the Lancaster County Planning Commission in its work and in coordination with its partners to encourage streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel and access for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation.”

- Lancaster County Transportation Coordinating Committee (MPO)
- Variety of municipal approaches, handful adopt policies
- Motivation for adopting a policy
- Lack of motivation to adopt a policy
Complete Streets Program

• Program formalized in 2014

• Lancaster County Planning Commission and Lancaster County Transportation Coordinating Committee adopt formal policies; support program long-term implementation.

• Program partners – Lancaster General Health (Lighten Up Lancaster), Coalition for Smart Growth

• Action plan developed covering the years 2014-2016.

• Developed toolbox for municipalities and held average of one workshop per year.

• Time to refresh the implementation agenda.
Smart Growth Transportation Program (SGT)

- Competitive MPO Funding Program
- Bonus Points Awarded for Complete Streets
- Provides $1.5 million per year for SGT projects
- County funding over 4 cycles = $8.5 million
- County funding has leveraged a total investment of $22 million
Core Criteria include:
- Plan consistency, including located in growth area
- Demonstrated ability to pay the local share
- Viable implementation strategy

Weighted Criteria
- Supports economic development and quality of life
- Increases mobility options
- Preserves the environmental, historic and cultural integrity of the county
- Implements a current transportation plan
- Encourages public-private partnerships to fund projects
TOOLS AND RESOURCES

• Complete Streets Guidebook
• Complete Streets Checklist
• Model Complete Streets language to include in municipal ordinances, zoning codes and Comprehensive Plans
• Factsheets and other information

www.lancastercountyplanning.org
Model Complete Streets Language

Definition of Complete Streets Infrastructure

• Definition of elements such as sidewalks, bicycle lanes, landscaping and other infrastructure.
• Include features in the municipality’s Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan.

Build Complete Streets into a Municipality’s Everyday Requirement

• Make Complete Streets part of the everyday operations of the Planning, Public Works and other depts.
• Require every public [and private] road project to include Complete Streets elements, where feasible.
• Consider road and bridge maintenance projects for opportunities to include Complete Street elements.
• Review and update SALDO, zoning ordinance, other ordinances to include Complete Streets language.
• Update street design guidelines to be consistent with Complete Streets recommended design.
PROJECTS
Different places, different Complete Street solutions
Examples

Featuring projects from municipalities that have successfully implemented **Complete Streets**:

- Lancaster City
- Elizabethtown Borough
- East Lampeter Township
- Warwick Township
- Mount Joy Borough
Lancaster City Mulberry Street Conversion to Two-Way Traffic

Resolution - yes; formal policy – no; implemented through land development requirements, Public Works Capital Improvement Program, and MPO Transportation Improvement Program
Elizabethtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Path, Phase 3

Resolution – yes; formal policy – yes; implemented through broad-based actions
East Lampeter Township Route 30 Streetscape Plan

Resolution – no; formal policy – no; implemented through municipal plans and follow-up implementation actions
East Lampeter Township Route 30 Streetscape Plan
East Lampeter Township Route 30 Streetscape Plan
Warwick Township Sixth Street Extension

Resolution – no; formal policy – no; implemented through municipal plans and follow-up implementation actions
Warwick Township Sixth Street Extension
Warwick Township Sixth Street Extension
Mount Joy Borough Complete Streets Implementation Guide

Resolution – no; formal policy – no; implemented through municipal plans and follow-up implementation actions

PROBLEMS AND ISSUES PROJECT CAN ADDRESS:

- There are existing trails that start and end with no connection to pedestrian corridors.
- Many residential neighborhoods do not have sidewalks within them or connect to destinations, which are not safe and inviting for all users to safely move along and across a street.

Main Street, Mt. Joy Borough
Mount Joy Borough Complete Streets Implementation Guide
Wrap-up

• How have we done?

• What’s next?
Complete Streets in Lancaster County
Questions? Comments?

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