

RESOLUTION 2010 - 05

RESOLUTION OF THE COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION POLICY STATEMENT ON BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATION REGULATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND ENCOURAGING THE COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION'S MEMBER JURISDICTIONS TO ADOPT SIMILAR POLICY STATEMENTS AS AN INDICATION OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO ACCOMMODATING PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS AS AN INTEGRAL ELEMENT OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of Transportation signed on March 11, 2010 and announced on March 15, 2010 a Policy Statement (hereinafter referred to as "the Policy Statement") to reflect the United States Department of Transportation's support for the development of fully integrated transportation networks that include well-connected walking and bicycling facilities with linkages to public transit as important components thereof with equal priority to other transportation modes; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Statement encourages States, local governments, professional associations, community organizations, public transportation agencies and other government agencies to adopt similar policy statements on pedestrian and bicycle accommodation as an indication of their commitment to accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists as an integral element of the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Statement further elaborates that every transportation agency has the responsibility to improve conditions and opportunities for walking and bicycling and to integrate walking and bicycling into their transportation systems, and are encouraged to go beyond minimum standards to provide safe and convenient facilities for non-motorized transportation; and

WHEREAS, incorporating pedestrian and bicycle accommodations as a routine part of the Collier Metropolitan Planning Area's road and street network is a cost-effective way to create opportunities for safe walking and bicycling available to all residents and visitors and to enable those who walk and bicycle to safely reach all needed destinations; and

WHEREAS, walking and bicycling improve public health and reduce treatment costs for conditions associated with reduced physical activity, including obesity, heart disease, lung disease and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, promoting walking and bicycling for transportation improves the natural environment, reduces congestion, reduces the need for costly expansion of the road and highway systems and reduces our nation's dependence on foreign energy sources; and

WHEREAS, public transit users depend on walking or bicycling to safely reach their bus stops; and

WHEREAS, an integrated, well-connected network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities encourages more children to safely walk and bike to school, and will make streets, sidewalks and communities safer and more inviting to children and families to walk and bicycle to their desired destinations; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Policy Statement encourages transportation agencies and local communities to go beyond minimum design standards and requirements to create safe, attractive, sustainable, accessible and convenient walking and bicycling networks, and recommends that such actions should include:

- (1) Giving walking and bicycling the same priority as is given to other modes of transportation;
- (2) Ensuring that there are transportation choices for people of all ages and abilities;
- (3) Avoiding the design of pedestrian and bicycle facilities to the minimum standards; achieving this end by planning projects with consideration of likely future demand for walking and bicycling and by incorporating design features, where practical, that accommodate future pedestrian and bicycle-related improvements;
- (4) Integrating bicycle and pedestrian accommodation on new, rehabilitated and limited access bridges;
- (5) Collecting data on walking and biking trips in order to track trends and prioritize investments;
- (6) Setting mode share targets for walking and bicycling and tracking them over time with the aim of increasing the percentage of trips made by walking and bicycling;
- (7) Maintaining pedestrian facilities built with Federal funds in the same manner as other roadway assets;
- (8) Improving non-motorized facilities during resurfacing and other maintenance projects; and

WHEREAS, the Collier MPO's member jurisdictions could achieve the stated purpose of the Policy Statement by supporting routine and appropriate accommodation for pedestrians, bicyclists, disabled persons and transit users on all transportation projects, as appropriate to the context, community and project use, except:

- a. Where walking and bicycling are not allowed;
- b. Where the scarcity of population or other factors indicate an absence of any need for such accommodations now or in the future;
- c. Where the cost of establishing such accommodations would be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use; and

WHEREAS, the MPO has reviewed the Policy Statement and concurs with the purpose and recommended actions contained therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION THAT:

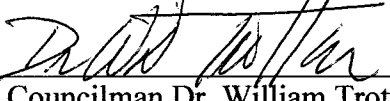
1. The Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization endorses the United States Department of Transportation Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Regulations and Recommendations, signed by the United States Secretary of Transportation on March 11, 2010.
2. The member jurisdictions of the Collier MPO, i.e., Collier County and the Cities of Naples, Marco Island and Everglades City, are hereby encouraged to adopt similar policy statements on pedestrian and bicycle accommodation as an indication of their commitment to the support of pedestrian and bicycle facilities as integral elements of the Collier Metropolitan Planning Area's transportation system.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE COLLIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD ON MAY 14, 2010.


Attest:

By: 
Phillip R. Tindall,
Collier MPO Director

COLLIER METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By: 
Councilman Dr. William Trotter
Collier MPO Chairman

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:


Scott R. Teach,
Deputy County Attorney