

Monterey Bay Area

COMPLETE STREETS GUIDEBOOK



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PARTNER AGENCIES



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

People are the lifeblood of a community, and streets are its veins and arteries. Streets are vital to daily travel, economic exchange and maintaining an acceptable quality of life. Streets connect people to important destinations and serve as destinations themselves, as places to walk with friends, ride a bicycle, view public art, or enjoy the local farmers market. Although for many years streets have primarily been designed to serve automobile traffic, they are public places to be used by all people including non-drivers.

Local and State transportation policy has evolved from planning and designing almost exclusively for the movement of cars, to an increasing focus on the movement of people and goods. Complete streets policy and design embodies this paradigm shift by recognizing that

- (1) not all people travel by car, and
- (2) land use affects who uses the street and how that street should function.

The Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook builds upon best practices from across the nation and was developed to assist local jurisdictions in planning, designing and implementing complete streets projects. Tools such as talking points to en-

gage decision-makers and community members and a project review checklist are included in the Guidebook and technical Appendix. The policies, processes and design treatments included in the Guidebook have been vetted, and refined by experts, planners, advocates and policy makers nationally and locally. The materials included in the Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook builds on similar reports such as the Charlotte Department of Transportation Urban Design Guidelines, the Manual for Living Streets developed by the County of Los Angeles, the Smart Growth America Best Complete Streets Policy, and the Caltrans Complete Streets Action Plan. The contents of the Guidebook are summarized in the following sections.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL PLAN VISION, GOALS & POLICIES

This chapter of the Guidebook provides suggestions as to how communities can meet requirements of the Complete Streets Act (AB 1358) by incorporating complete streets policies into their general plans. Sample vision statements are provided in the chapter and complete street general plan policies can be found in Appendix B.

CHAPTER 2: COMPLETE STREET PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance measures indicate how well a street functions and meets the needs of all applicable users. Performance measures can also evaluate the effects of a policy or project on the performance of the system and to assess whether it has achieved its goal. The Guidebook provides a discussion of the 2010 Highway Capacity Manual methodology for calculating multimodal level of service as well as more qualitative performance measures.

CHAPTER 3: COMPLETE STREETS ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan of the Guidebook outlines strategies for coordinating intra-agency tasks to better integrate complete streets into the transportation design processes. A key component of the Action Plan involves providing complete streets design training to planners, civil and traffic engineers, project managers, plan review personnel, inspectors and other personnel responsible for design and construction of streets. A sample Action Plan is included as **Appendix D** to the Guidebook, and integrates complete streets into every step of community development in a way that can be tailored to the needs of each jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 4: COMPLETE STREETS TYPES

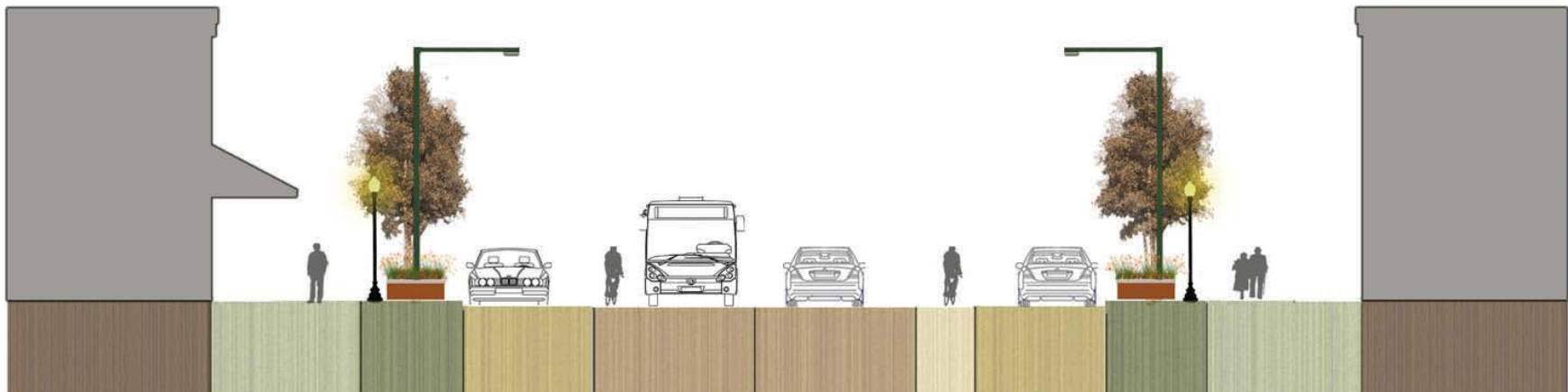
This chapter provides information to agency decision-makers on how to match the appropriate complete streets features to adjacent land uses and roadway users. This chapter introduces complete street types and a discussion of roadway user needs and design solutions.

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CHAPTER 5: COMPLETE STREETS DESIGN

This chapter provides best practices examples of street features to be considered when designing and engineering complete streets. Example cross-sections are included and organized by complete street type and by user zones. Additional bicycle facility treatments are shown in Appendix K.

Conceptual Cross-Section



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CHAPTER 6: IMPLEMENTING COMPLETE STREETS PROJECTS

The Guidebook outlines a 6-Step Process for implementing complete streets that involves defining the existing land use and transportation context, identifying deficiencies and goals for the future, determining the appropriate complete street type, considering alternative designs, and balancing the trade-offs between modes. Questions for each step of the process are included in Appendix I.

The Project Review Checklist in Appendix H of the Guidebook can be used to follow these 6-steps. The Checklist may be adopted by local jurisdictions to reveal opportunities for complete streets projects and document how the needs of all users were considered.

CHAPTER 7: TRANSITIONING TO COMPLETE STREETS

Frequently, the last steps in implementing complete streets are the most difficult, which involves enacting requirements and regulations and compiling funding to enable the development of complete streets improvements. Specific tools and strategies for addressing these challenges are described in this chapter.

CHAPTER 8: EDUCATION, ENCOURAGEMENT & ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

Education, encouragement, and enforcement programs complement complete street infrastructure and can play an important role in achieving community goals such as health and safety. This chapter identifies local education, encouragement and enforcement strategies.

CHAPTER 9: TALKING ABOUT COMPLETE STREETS

Complete streets are roadways designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. However, the meaning of complete street may vary between communities, applications or individuals. This chapter is intended to serve as a resource for professionals, decision makers and the public who are interested in discussing and educating others about complete streets concepts.