

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A “COMPLETE STREETS” POLICY
IN THE CITY OF TUPELO

WHEREAS, City of Tupelo policy as stated in the Comprehensive Plan is to reduce the number of car trips, increase energy efficiency, and encourage walking and bicycling as safe, convenient and widely available modes of transportation for all people; and

WHEREAS, increasing walking and bicycling offers the potential for improved health, reduced traffic congestion, a more livable community, and more efficient use of road space and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets guiding principle is to design, operate and maintain streets to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users, including residents who do not or cannot drive, such access to include sidewalks, bicycle paths, multi-use paths, vehicle lanes, and freight lines; and

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions and agencies nationwide have adopted Complete Streets legislation including the U.S. Department of Transportation, the state of Tennessee, and communities in Alabama and Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tupelo will implement Complete Streets policy by designing, operating and maintaining the transportation network to improve travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, cars, transit and freight in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tupelo recognizes the number of cost-effective improvements to existing roads that can increase access and safety, including crosswalks, bicycle lanes, signage, bulb outs, on-street parking, adding trees, and changing the signalization of traffic lights; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tupelo will implement policies and procedures with the construction, reconstruction or other changes of transportation facilities to support the creation of Complete Streets including capital improvements, re-channelization projects and major maintenance, recognizing that all streets are different and in each case user needs must be balanced; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TUPELO AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Tupelo will plan for, design and construct all new City transportation improvement projects to provide appropriate accommodation for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and persons of all abilities, while promoting safe operation for all users, as provided for below.

Section 2. The City of Tupelo recognizes the importance of sidewalks and bicycle paths and will incorporate the Complete Streets principles as follows:

- 1) A 4' wide paved shoulder shall be included with construction of all new roadways constructed or with the resurfacing or reconstruction of a roadway when roadway traffic is greater than 1,000 vehicles per day. Paved shoulders have safety and operational advantages for all road users in addition to providing a place for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- 2) Sidewalks, shared use paths, street crossings (including over and under passes), pedestrian signals, signs, street furniture, transit stops, and other facilities, shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained so that all pedestrians, including people with disabilities, can travel safely and independently.
- 3) Bicycle and pedestrian ways shall be established in new construction and reconstruction projects undertaken by the City of Tupelo in keeping with the proposals of the Comprehensive Plan unless one or more of these conditions exist:
 - a) Bicyclists or pedestrians are prohibited by law from using the roadway. In this instance, a greater effort may be necessary to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians elsewhere within the right of way or within the same transportation corridor.
 - b) The cost of establishing bikeways or walkways would exceed five percent of the total cost. In such case, the entity developing or redeveloping the road may choose to include bicycle and/or pedestrian ways although they would not be required.
 - c) Severe topographic or natural resource constraints exist that preclude expanding roadway paving without incurring excessive costs.
 - d) There is very low population density and scarcity of residents or other factors indicate an absence of present and future need.

Section 3. Complete Streets principles will not apply where extraordinary circumstances exist, such as:

- 1) During ordinary maintenance activities designed to keep assets in serviceable condition (e.g., mowing, cleaning, sweeping, spot repair and surface treatments such as chip seal, or interim measures on detour or haul routes);
- 2) Where the City Council issues a documented exception concluding that application of Complete Street principles is inappropriate because it would be contrary to public benefits or safety;
- 3) Where other parallel accommodation exists; or
- 4) Where there is a demonstrated absence of present and future need.

Section 4. Complete Streets may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. It is the Mayor's and City Council's intent that all potential sources of transportation funding be considered to implement Complete Streets. The City of Tupelo believes that maximum financial flexibility is important to implement Complete Streets principles.

The foregoing Resolution was proposed in a motion by Councilman _____ seconded by Councilman _____, and was brought to a vote as follows:

Councilman Mike Bryan
Councilman Jonny Davis
Councilman Nettie Davis
Councilman Willie Jennings
Councilman Jim Newell
Councilman Fred Pitts
Councilman Markel Whittington

Whereupon, the Resolution having received a majority of affirmative votes, the President of the Council declared that the Ordinance had been passed and adopted on this the 6th day of April, 2010.

CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

BY: _____
Fred Pitts, President

ATTEST:

GLENDA MUSE, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

Jack Reed, Jr., Mayor

DATE: March 2, 2010