

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANGLEY, WASHINGTON, AMENDING TITLE 12 OF THE LANGLEY MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES ALONG TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 15.01, COMPLETE STREETS.

WHEREAS, In 2007, the US Congress passed the Energy Independence and Security Act, which outlines the Congressional policy regarding use of Complete Streets design techniques; and

WHEREAS, In 2011 Washington State Legislature Passed the State Complete Streets Bill (ESHB 1071) creating a complete streets grant program to encourage street designs that safely meet the needs of all users and also protect and preserve a community's environment and character; and

WHEREAS, The City Council desires to have pedestrian and non-motorized facilities along transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, walking and biking are non-motorized travel modes that enhance health through physical activity and help to reduce air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan Goals include providing safe and environmentally friendly transportation, as well as emphasizing transportation choices; and

NOW THEREFORE; THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANGLEY, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 15.01.015 of the Langley Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition of the definition of Complete Streets, to read as follows:

“Complete street” means a road that is designed to be safe for drivers; bicyclists; transit vehicles and users; and pedestrians of all ages and abilities. The complete streets concept focuses not just on individual roads but on changing the decision-making process so that all users are routinely considered during the planning, designing, building and operating of all roadways.

Section 2. Section 15.01.465 of the Langley Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 15.01.465 Streets – General – Complete Streets

A. The City of Langley will plan for, design and construct all new transportation projects to provide appropriate accommodation for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit users and persons of all abilities in comprehensive and connected network with the following exceptions:

1. Where their establishment would be contrary to public health and safety;
2. Where there is no identified long-term need; or
3. Where there is significant adverse environmental impacts to streams, wetlands, steep slopes, or other critical areas; or
4. Where there is significant adverse impacts on neighboring land uses, including impacts from right-of-way acquisition; or

5. Where the Public Works Director grants a documented exception which may only be authorized in specific situations where conditions warrant. Such site-specific exceptions shall not constitute general changes to the standards set in LMC 15.01.470.

B. Except in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, complete streets principles may not apply to the following.

1. Repairs made pursuant to pavement opening and restoration allowed by approval of the Public Works Director

2. 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).

C. Complete streets may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. It is the City's intent that all sources of transportation funding be drawn upon to implement complete streets. The City believes that maximum financial flexibility is important to implement complete streets principles

D. Street design must provide for the maximum loading conditions anticipated. The width and grade of the pavement must conform to specific standards set forth herein for safety and uniformity.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or any documents incorporated by reference thereto, shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or the documents adopted by reference pursuant to this Ordinance.

Section 4. This ordinance, or a summary thereof consisting of the title, shall be published in the official newspaper of the City, and shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after publication.