

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

DATE September 20, 2012



FROM Gerald M. Ross, P.E., Chief Engineer

TO GDOT Divisions/Offices/Districts, FHWA, Consultant Relations Committee

SUBJECT Complete Streets Policy

I am pleased to announce that the State Transportation Board has adopted a **Complete Streets Policy** supporting the planning, design, and construction of streets and roadways in Georgia that integrate and balance accessibility for all modes of transportation. The policy was adopted by Resolution dated September 20, 2012¹.

The Complete Streets Policy² establishes standard warrants, requiring that accommodations for pedestrian, bicycle, and transit modes of transportation be provided under specific compelling conditions along transportation projects with GDOT oversight (wherever it is practical to do so). A decision to omit an accommodation that meets a standard warrant will require the approval of a Design Variance from the GDOT Chief Engineer. The Design Variance will require analysis comparing the impacts and cost of providing the required accommodation to the need or probable use.

Accordingly, effective September 20, 2012, projects in the planning, concept development³, or preliminary plan phases should be evaluated to comply with the Complete Streets Policy. Effective October 1, 2013, projects advancing to Final Design or the approval of Right-Of-Way Plans must comply with the Complete Streets Policy.

If you have any questions about the application of this policy, feel free to contact the Office of Design Policy & Support at (404) 631-1978.

GMR:RRM:BAS

¹ The Transportation Board Resolution adopting a Complete Streets policy is published at the internet address:
<http://www.dot.state.ga.us/aboutGeorgiadot/Board/Pages/Resolutions.aspx>

² The Complete Streets Policy, including planning and design application, is defined in Chapter 9 of the *GDOT Design Policy Manual*; published at internet address:
<http://www.dot.ga.gov/doingbusiness/PoliciesManuals/roads/designpolicies/Pages/DesignPolicyManual.aspx>

³ The GDOT standard Concept Report template (noting pedestrian, bicycle, and transit considerations) is published at internet address:
<http://www.dot.ga.gov/doingbusiness/PoliciesManuals/roads/Pages/OtherResources.aspx>