

A bill for an act
relating to transportation; requiring the commissioner of transportation to
implement complete streets policy; requiring reports; proposing coding for new
law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 174.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

ARTICLE 1
COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

Section 1. **LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.**

The legislature finds that a cost-effective and common sense complete streets policy
can support the goals of the state transportation system in Minnesota Statutes, section
174.01, including improving safety, advancing independence and mobility for people
of all ages and abilities, enhancing economic development, maximizing the long-term
benefits of transportation investments, and reducing negative impacts on the environment.
Complete streets can also enhance public health and wellness by supporting safe walking
and biking as a part of daily life.

ARTICLE 2
IMPLEMENTATION

Section 1. **[174.75] COMPLETE STREETS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** "Complete streets" is the planning, scoping, design,
implementation, operation, and maintenance of roads in order to reasonably address the
safety and accessibility needs of users of all ages and abilities. Complete streets considers
the needs of motorists, pedestrians, transit users and vehicles, bicyclists, and commercial

and emergency vehicles moving along and across roads, intersections, and crossings in a manner that is sensitive to the local context and recognizes that the needs vary in urban, suburban, and rural settings.

Subd. 2. **Application.** Complete streets applies to every road construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation project funded partially or completely by the state.

Subd. 3. **Implementation.** The commissioner shall implement a complete streets policy after consultation with stakeholders, state and regional agencies, local governments, and road authorities. The commissioner, after such consultation, shall address relevant protocols, guidance, standards, requirements, training, and shall integrate related principles of context-sensitive solutions.

Subd. 4. **Report.** Beginning in 2011, the commissioner shall report on the implementation of the complete streets policy in the agency's biennial budget submission under section 174.02.

Subd. 5. **Local road authorities.** Local road authorities are encouraged, but not required, to create and adopt complete streets policies for their roads that reflect local context and goals. Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a local road authority from adopting a complete streets policy that incorporates or exceeds statutory complete streets principles.

ARTICLE 3

REPORTS

Section 1. STATE-AID STANDARDS FLEXIBILITY EVALUATION.

Subdivision 1. **Program established; reports.** The commissioner of transportation shall conduct a statewide pilot program from August 1, 2010, to July 31, 2013. The commissioner may extend the pilot program until July 31, 2014.

Subd. 2. **Program components.** Upon request of a local road authority and with approval of the state aid engineer, the standards in the latest edition of A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials must be accepted as an alternative to the minimum state-aid standards in Minnesota Statutes, sections 162.02 and 162.09, and in rules adopted under those sections. State-aid projects that meet the alternative standards as a means of incorporating the complete streets policy are not subject to the variance process requirements in Minnesota Statutes, sections 162.02 and 162.09.

Sec. 2. COMPLETE STREETS REPORTS.

The commissioner of transportation shall submit to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and finance reports that:

(1) by November 15, 2010, summarize the department's complete streets initiatives, outline plans to develop and implement a complete streets policy, and identify any statutory barriers to complete streets implementation;

(2) by November 15, 2011, summarize the results of the collaboration under Minnesota Statutes, section 174.75, subdivision 3; identify modifications made to or recommended for protocols, guidance, standards, or other requirements to facilitate complete streets implementation; report status of development of complete streets performance indicators; outline other work planned related to the complete streets policy; and identify statutory recommendations to facilitate complete streets policy implementation; and

(3) by November 15, 2013, overview the department's implementation of complete streets policy; note updates to protocols, guidance, standards, or requirements; report on results of the state-aid standards flexibility evaluation; and identify statutory recommendations to facilitate complete streets policy implementation.

The reports in clauses (1), (2), and (3) must be made available electronically and made available in print only upon request.

APPENDIX
Article locations in 10-4902

ARTICLE 1 COMPLETE STREETS POLICY Page.Ln 1.6

ARTICLE 2 IMPLEMENTATION Page.Ln 1.16

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