



**EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE MAYOR:**

No. 01-2013

AN ORDER ESTABLISHING A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY FOR THE CITY OF MEMPHIS

WHEREAS, the Complete Streets concept is an initiative to design the public right-of-way to adequately accommodate all users of a corridor, including pedestrians, bicyclists, users of mass transit, people with disabilities, the elderly, motorists, freight providers, emergency responders, utility providers, and adjacent land users; and

WHEREAS, as outlined in the Goals for Complete Streets developed by the Memphis and Shelby County Complete Streets Coalition, a Complete Street approach will foster economic growth, prioritize safety, create greater connectivity between neighborhoods and amenities, meet the mobility needs of all users, be context sensitive and aesthetically pleasing, reduce traffic congestion and positively impact the health of the community; and

WHEREAS, this Complete Streets Policy is written to empower and direct citizens, elected officials, government agencies, planners, engineers, and architects to use an interdisciplinary approach to incorporate the needs of all users into the design and construction of roadway projects in the City of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, City of Memphis Division of Engineering and Shelby County Division of Public Works, Memphis and Shelby County Office of Sustainability, Memphis Light Gas & Water, Memphis Area Transit Authority, Community Development Council of Greater Memphis, Livable Memphis, Partnerships for Active Community Environments, Healthy Memphis Common Table, Urban Land Institute Memphis, Memphis Area Association of Realtors, West TN American Society of Landscape Architects, Memphis Regional Design Center, and private citizens have assisted in the development of this policy; and

WHEREAS, this effort has received additional support from individuals, organizations, and businesses who have pledged membership to the growing Memphis and Shelby County Complete Streets Coalition; and

WHEREAS, this policy dictates that appropriate accommodation(s) be made so that all modes of transportation can function safely and independently in current and future conditions. This approach demands careful multi-modal evaluation for all transportation corridors integrated with best management strategies for land use and transportation;

NOW THEREFORE, I, A C Wharton Jr., Mayor of the City of Memphis, Tennessee, by virtue of the executive and administrative authority vested in me by the Charter of the City of Memphis and statutes and laws of the State of Tennessee, do hereby direct and order the following to be known as the "City of Memphis Complete Streets Policy":

1. VISION. The City of Memphis shall create an attractive, vibrant public realm that supports the diverse qualities of our neighborhoods and provides a robust, balanced transportation network that is safe, financially responsible, serves all users, and considers multiple modes of transportation.

2. REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE. All relevant departments, boards and commissions shall make this Complete Streets Policy an integral part of their planning and programming by reviewing plans, guides, regulations and standard drawings to comply with this Executive Order.

i. Transportation infrastructure in public rights-of way shall be planned, constructed, reconstructed, and maintained according to this Executive Order, with routine consideration for the variety of users whom they serve and for the opportunities to provide multiple benefits (social, environmental, economic, and health), enhancing the function, appearance and livability of the community.

ii. Justifications for the exclusions listed below must be documented in any project application.

3. EXCLUSIONS. Appropriate justifications for non-compliance with this Complete Streets Policy are:

i. Where prohibited by law, such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities within interstate corridors.

ii. Where compliance would substantially impair unique characteristics of great public value, such as historical importance.

iii. Where a scarcity of population or other factors such as the physical character or context of the built environment surrounding the public right-of-way indicates an absence of current or future need.

4. DESIGN GUIDE. The City of Memphis Department of Engineering shall partner with relevant Departments of City of Memphis and Shelby County Governments, the Memphis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Memphis and Shelby County Complete Streets Coalition to create a Street Design Manual for use in all city departments. The Street Design Guide will serve as a toolbox of design guidelines that reflect national Complete Streets best practices for sidewalks, shoulders, automobile lane widths, bicycle lanes, special transit lanes, curb ramps, audible crossing signals, crosswalks, median islands, curb extensions, transit stops, utility accommodations, site furniture, street trees, grass strips, etc.

i. The Street Design Manual should be for the benefit and use of all other municipalities within the region, and serve as a model for other communities be they urban, suburban, or rural.

ii. The Street Design Manual should be the result of a public-private partnership.

iii. The Street Design Manual shall be completed within 24 months of the execution of the order.

5. IMPLEMENTATION. In order to implement this Complete Streets Policy, The City of Memphis shall pursue additional planning efforts in collaboration with Shelby County Government, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Memphis and Shelby County Complete Streets Coalition.

i. The City of Memphis shall incorporate a project ranking matrix that complies with this Complete Street Policy into its annual CIP review process before the FY2014 CIP budget development.

ii. The City of Memphis Mayor and City Engineer shall work with the Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization to review the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Ranking Matrix to encourage consistency with this Complete Streets Policy.

6. FURTHER PLANNING. In order to ensure that transportation decisions encourage and support a vision for optimal land-use throughout the City of Memphis, the City of Memphis should consider the following planning efforts within three years:

i. A Comprehensive Land-Use Plan.

ii. A Complete Streets Implementation Plan that will delineate and prioritize strategic transportation investments to build a transportation network that serves all users.

7. This Order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and is not intended to, and does not create, any right, benefit, or privilege, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the City of Memphis, its divisions, departments, agencies or entities, its officers, employees, agents, or any other person.

8. This Order shall be recorded by the Comptroller along with any subsequent orders issues by the Office of the Mayor in a hard bound volume to be maintained by the Office of Council Records. The Office of Council Records shall also maintain each executive order online for public access.

9. This Order shall be effective immediately.



A C Wharton, Jr., Mayor

Executed this 30th day of January, 2013