

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: September 24, 2018
	Agenda Item No. 41C Roll Call No. [] Communication No. <u>18-481</u> Submitted by: Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Adoption of Amendment to Complete Streets Policy for the City of Des Moines to reflect the MoveDSM Plan.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend Council adoption of Amendment to Complete Streets Policy. PlanDSM – Creating Our Tomorrow specifically recognized the important linkage between land use and transportation planning to develop a sustainable community. The goals and policies of the PlanDSM Transportation Chapter recommended to evaluate, refine, and implement the Complete Streets Policy. Updates to the Complete Streets Policy were proposed as part of the development of MoveDSM, the City’s first Transportation Master Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- PlanDSM – Creating Our Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan was adopted by City Council on April 25, 2016, under Roll Call No. 16-0717. PlanDSM specifically recognized the paramount linkage between land use and transportation planning to develop a sustainable community. The goals and policies of the PlanDSM Transportation Chapter recommended to evaluate, refine, and implement the Complete Streets Policy.
- Complete streets are streets that are easy to use and accessible for all users and modes, including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, and transit users. Equity for all users is the cornerstone of complete streets, with the primary goal to create a network of streets that are accessible for users of any age, race, ethnicity, income, or ability.
- The existing City of Des Moines Complete Streets policy was adopted by City Council on September 22, 2008, under Roll Call No. 08-1701.
- The National Complete Streets Coalition (NCSC) provides national guidance on complete streets and publishes a set of criteria for evaluation and implementation. From the 2017 review of national complete streets policies, the existing Des Moines Complete Streets Policy received a score of 39.6 out of 100 from NCSC.
- Des Moines’ existing complete streets policy, adopted in 2008, needs clearer standards and firmer requirements.

- A review of best practices was conducted as part of the development of MoveDSM, the City's first Transportation Master Plan. These best practices were used to provide an updated policy which now includes sections on goals, environmental justice areas, applicability, oversight, exceptions, design resources, coordination, and annual reporting.
- Below are the highlights of the updated Complete Streets Policy:
 - Expands exceptions
 - Adds severe topographic constraints, emergency repairs/routine maintenance, and allowance for another project already programmed
 - Eliminates specific percentage for “excessively disproportionate costs”
 - Defines Implementation/Accountability
 - Removes Staff Complete Streets Committee and assigns those roles to Transportation Safety Committee (TSC)
 - Calls for annual training of City employees across departments on Complete Streets
 - Adds annual reporting to Council
 - Addresses social equity by prioritizing projects that affect vulnerable users
 - Adds MoveDSM, National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), International Fire Code, and City's Zoning Code to list of design standards and Guidelines
 - Adds statement that Complete Streets projects will be prioritized in project selection and funding over projects not consistent with this policy

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 25, 2016

Roll Call Number: [16-0717](#)

Action: [On](#) City-initiated request to consider adoption of “PlanDSM: Creating Our Tomorrow” as an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan. Moved by Hensley to adopt the plan as presented; refer to the City Manager for review and recommendation regarding: 1. Goal for the City to become carbon neutral by 2040. 2. Reconvening a citizen Sustainability Task Force. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Plan and Zoning Commission

Date: September 6, 2018

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: David Courard-Hauri made a motion for approval of Part A) To incorporate the Connect Downtown study as an element of MoveDSM Master Transportation Plan, approval of Part B) Amendment to the PlanDSM - Creating Our Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan to adopt the MoveDSM Master Transportation Plan as an element and approval of Part C) Amendments to update the current Complete Streets Policy for the City of Des Moines to reflect the MoveDSM Master Transportation Plan. Motion passed 12-0.

Board: Transportation Safety Committee

Date: August 28, 2018

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Motion was made by Jim Windsor to approve the final MoveDSM document with recommended changes and also recommend the final document to Plan and Zoning Commission for adoption as an element of PlanDSM; seconded by Scott Bents. Motion passed 9-0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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