

FACT #4

Complete streets improve safety by reducing crashes through safety improvements. One study found that designing for pedestrian travel by installing raised medians and redesigning intersections and sidewalks reduced pedestrian risk by 28%.

MOVINGOMAHA

MOVING PEOPLE. MOVING FORWARD.

Moving Omaha promotes our community's vision for a balanced, equitable transportation system that supports livable neighborhoods, financial prosperity and a healthy environment for all.

COMPLETE STREETS

What are they?

Complete Streets are streets designed and operated to enable safe access by all members of a community making it easier to cross the street, walk to the store, or bicycle to work. They allow buses to run on schedule and ease congestion for drivers. By adopting a Complete Streets policy, communities direct their transportation planners and engineers to design and operate their transportation network to allow safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation.

A Complete Street may include: sidewalks, bike lanes, special bus lanes, median islands, accessible pedestrian signals, roundabouts and more. Many of the ways to create more complete roadways are low-cost, quick to implement, and high impact.

Why do we need them?

Incomplete streets – those designed to move cars, not people – limit transportation choices by making walking, bicycling, and taking public transportation inconvenient, unattractive and in many cases, dangerous.

Complete Streets make even more sense when communities are tightening their budgets and looking to ensure long-term benefits from investments. A well-balanced transportation budget can incorporate Complete Streets projects with little to no additional funding by re-prioritizing projects and allocating funds to projects that focus on overall mobility.

In addition to the fiscal incentive, Complete Streets policy creates environmental, social, financial and health benefits for communities.



For more information
WWW.MOVINGOMAHA.ORG

COMPLETE STREETS MOVE US FORWARD

Environmental Benefits

Complete Streets make it possible for us to drive less and get around more easily on foot, bike and by public transit. The potential to shift our trips to lower-carbon modes is beneficial to our environment. According to the Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey, 40 percent of all trips are made within two miles of the home — a distance easily covered on foot or bicycle. Yet 65 percent of trips under one mile are now made by automobile, mainly because incomplete streets make it dangerous or unpleasant to walk, bicycle or take public transit.

Economic Benefits

Transportation is the second largest expense for American households, costing more than food, clothing, and health care. Drivers spent \$186 billion on fuel last year, and without improvements to the fuel economy, Americans will spend an estimated \$260 billion in 2020 on gasoline. When we have the choice to walk, bike, take transit or drive we have more control over our expenses.

LET'S GET MOVING OMAHA!

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TIMELINE

Mid-1990s:

Omaha City Council adopted the current Transportation Element as part of the city's master plan.

Fall 2010:

The update to the Transportation Element was launched. Committees were formed and began meeting to take inventory of the current system and to gather public input on transportation priorities.

Winter 2011:

Committees met to develop a vision and discuss ideas for Omaha's future transportation system. Design workshops and visioning meetings were held to gather public input.

Fall 2011:

A public meeting was held to present TMP recommendations and gather Omaha's transportation priorities.

Winter/Spring 2012:

Public open house to be held to release the draft TMP for public comment.

Stay tuned for more updates.

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