

**CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE
SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 1109**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE, WASHINGTON, ADDING
CHAPTER 11.23, COMPLETE STREETS POLICY, TO MEDICAL LAKE MUNICIPAL
CODE TITLE 11, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, CREATING THE COMPLETE
STREETS POLICY FOR USE WHEN CREATING FUTURE TRANSPORTATION
PROJECTS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE PUBLIC STREETS FOR
PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, AND TRANSIT USERS REGARDLESS OF AGE OR
ABILITY; SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, the term "Complete Streets" describes a comprehensive, integrated transportation network with infrastructure and design that allows safe and convenient travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motor vehicle drivers, transit users, emergency service providers and freight, and people of all ages and abilities, including children, youth, families, older adults, and individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the state legislature passed the Complete Streets Act, codified in RCW 47.04.320-340, encouraging local governments to adopt their own complete streets ordinances. In particular, RCW 47.04.320(1) states that such ordinances should "provide safe access to all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, and public transportation users."

WHEREAS, RCW 47.04.330 requires the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to consult with local jurisdictions and consider the needs of all users by applying context sensitive solutions when constructing, reconstructing, or making major improvements to streets that are part of the state highway system; and

WHEREAS, RCW 47.04.320 establishes a grant program to help cities, towns, and counties pay for complete streets projects. To be eligible for a grant, RCW 47.04.320(2)(b) requires local governments to adopt a jurisdiction-wide complete streets ordinance; and

WHEREAS, more than 110,000 pedestrians and bicyclists are injured each year on roads in the United States with children and older adults at greatest risk and disproportionately affected; and

WHEREAS, the occurrence and severity of pedestrian and bicyclist injuries could readily be decreased by implementing Complete Streets practices; and

WHEREAS, the one-third of Americans that do not drive, disproportionately represented by older adults, low-income people, people with disabilities, and children would greatly benefit from the equitable distribution of safe, alternative means of travel that will result from Complete Streets practices; and

WHEREAS, the City of Medical Lake wants to create convenient, enjoyable connections from the parks and trails to its lakes, downtown business core, and the businesses located on Highway 902 within the city limits of Medical Lake to promote tourism and create economic development opportunities while creating a more sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the Medical Lake City Council intends to improve the safety of City streets, enhance the quality of life of residents, encourage active living, and reduce traffic congestion and fossil fuel use by providing safe, convenient, and comfortable routes for walking, bicycling, and public transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Medical Lake, as adopted in 2019, encourages efficient, multi-modal transportation systems that are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans including pedestrian and bicycle travel.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Medical Lake, Washington, does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. Title 11, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Medical Lake Municipal Code is hereby amended to include a new Chapter 11.23, Complete Streets Policy, which reads as follows:

11.23- Complete Streets Policy.

11.23.010 Purpose.

The City of Medical Lake shall, to the maximum extent practical, scope, plan, design, construct, operate and maintain appropriate facilities for the safe accommodation of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders, freight and users of all ages and abilities in all new construction, retrofit or reconstruction projects. Through ongoing operations and maintenance, the City of Medical Lake shall identify cost-effective opportunities to include Complete Streets practices.

11.23.020 Exceptions.

Facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and/or people of all abilities are not required to be provided when:

- A. A documented absence of current or future need exists;
- B. Non-motorized uses are prohibited by law;
- C. Routine maintenance of the transportation network is performed that does not change the roadway geometry or operations, such as mowing, sweeping and spot repair;
- D. The cost would be disproportionate to the current need or probable future uses;
or
- E. In instances where a documented exception is granted by the Mayor.

11.23.030 Complete Streets Infrastructure.

As feasible, the City of Medical Lake shall incorporate "Complete Streets Infrastructure" into existing public and private streets to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected transportation network for Medical Lake that balances access, mobility, health and safety needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders, freight and users of all ages and abilities, ensuring a fully connected, integrated network that provides transportation options. "Complete Streets Infrastructure" means design features that contribute to a safe, convenient, or comfortable travel experience for users, including but not limited to features such as: sidewalks; shared use paths; bicycle lanes; automobile lanes; paved shoulders; street trees and landscaping; planting strips; curbs; accessible curb ramps; bulb outs; crosswalks; refuge islands; pedestrian and traffic signals, including countdown and accessible signals; signage; street furniture; bicycle parking facilities; public transportation stops and facilities; transit priority signalization; traffic calming devices such as rotary circles, traffic bumps, and surface treatments such as paving blocks, textured asphalt, and concrete; narrow vehicle lanes; raised medians; and dedicated transit lanes.

11.23.040 Goals to Foster Partnerships.

It is a goal of the City of Medical Lake to foster partnerships with all Washington State transportation funding agencies including the WSDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, Spokane County, Medical Lake School District, citizens, businesses, interest groups, neighborhoods, and any funding agency to implement the Complete Streets ordinance.

11.23.050 Best Practice Criteria.

The Mayor or designee shall modify, develop and adopt policies, design criteria, standards and guidelines based upon recognized best practices in street design, construction, and operations including but not limited to the latest editions of American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials, Institute of Transportation Engineers and National Association of City Transportation Officials while reflecting the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments and enhance the appearance of such.

11.23.060 Performance Standards.

The City of Medical Lake shall put into place performance standards with measurable benchmarks to continuously evaluate the Complete Streets ordinance for success and opportunities for improvement. Performance standards may include transportation and mode shift, miles of bicycle facilities or sidewalks, public participation, number of ADA accommodations built, and number of exemptions from this policy approved.

Section 2. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after publication of this Ordinance or a summary thereof in the official newspaper of the City as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council this 18 day of April 2023.




~~Mayor, Terri Cooper~~
Donald Kennedy, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Finance Director/City Clerk Koss Ronholt

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney, Sean P. Boutz

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