

ORDINANCE NO. 536

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT'S COMPLETE STREETS POLICY, STATING GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES SO THAT TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS ARE PLANNED, DESIGNED, AND CONSTRUCTED TO ENCOURAGE WALKING, BICYCLING, AND TRANSIT USE WHILE PROMOTING SAFE OPERATIONS FOR ALL USERS

FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan approved on November 27, 2017, other transportation planning, and the City's Comprehensive Plan, is to encourage walking, bicycling, and transit as safe, convenient, and widely available modes of transportation for all people; and

WHEREAS, the City's Bicycle Pedestrian Plan is to design, operate and maintain city streets to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users – pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and people of all abilities, as well as freight and motor vehicle drivers; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to brand the city as an active, vibrant, healthy community in order to attract families to support area schools; and

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions and agencies state and nationwide have adopted Complete Streets Ordinances and they have become the expectation for bike friendly and funding organizations; and

WHEREAS, transportation improvements will include an array of facilities and amenities that are recognized as contributing to Complete Streets, including: street and sidewalk lighting; pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements; access improvements for freight; access improvements, including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act; public transit facilities accommodation including, but not limited, to pedestrian access improvement to transit stops and stations; street trees and landscaping; drainage; and street amenities; and

WHEREAS, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan creates an expectation that the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) projects within the city will implement policies and procedures with the construction, reconstruction or other changes of transportation facilities on arterial streets to support the creation of Complete Streets including capital improvements, re-channelization projects and major maintenance, recognizing that all streets are different and in each case user needs must be balanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. La Crescent will plan for, design and construct all new City transportation improvement projects to provide appropriate accommodation for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and persons of all abilities, while promoting safe operation for all users, as appropriate.

SECTION II. La Crescent will incorporate Complete Streets principles into Transportation Strategic Plans and other city plans, as appropriate.

SECTION III. Freight is important to the basic economy of La Crescent and has unique right-of-way needs to support that role, freight will be the major priority on streets classified as Major Truck Streets. Complete Streets improvements that are consistent with freight mobility but also support other modes may be considered on these streets.

SECTION IV. The City Administrator and the Bicycle Pedestrian Committee Chair will serve in advisory capacity to the City Council regarding preliminary design for transportation projects. The City Council retains final authority regarding design for transportation projects.

SECTION V. Complete Streets principles will not apply:

- a. to repairs made pursuant to limited term projects and repairs;
- b. to ordinary maintenance activities designed to keep assets in serviceable condition (e.g., mowing, cleaning, sweeping, spot repair and surface treatments such as chip seal, or interim measures on detour or haul routes);
- c. where the City Administrator, with advice from the City Engineer, issues a documented exception to the City Council concluding that application of Complete Streets principles is unnecessary or inappropriate because it would be contrary to the best interest of the City; or
- d. where other available means or factors indicate an absence of need, including future need.

SECTION VI. Complete Streets may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. It is the Council's intent that all sources of transportation funding be drawn upon to implement Complete Streets. The City believes that maximum financial flexibility is important to implement Complete Streets principles.

SECTION VII. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its due passage and enactment and publication according to law.

PASSED AND ENACTED this 9th day of December, 2019.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Administrator