

CITY OF NORTH TONAWANDA



AUSTIN J. TYLEC

June 30th, 2022

North Tonawanda Climate Smart Community Task Force

City of North Tonawanda
216 Payne Ave
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Policy – Implementation of Complete Streets

Complete Streets Policy for the City of North Tonawanda

The City of North Tonawanda envisions the establishment of a connected network of safe, reliable, attractive and environmentally conscious public rights-of-way that utilize multi-modal transportation systems to benefit all users regardless of age, mobility or economic standing.

Complete streets are herein defined as comprehensive, integrated roads that provide for safe and convenient travel along and across the street network by all users: walkers, bicyclists, drivers of various types of vehicles, and riders of public transportation, of all ages and abilities, including children and youth, older adults, and persons with disabilities. Complete street design features may include, but are not limited to, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, shared-use paths, safe street crossings, curb extensions, bus stops, street trees and plantings, wide shoulders, and separation of transportation modes.

The City of North Tonawanda has demonstrated its commitment to complete streets through past actions and projects that have fostered multi-modal transportation. This Administration is committed to a consistent implementation of Complete Streets principles and techniques on all new infrastructure projects including the renovation of existing roadways.

By the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of North Tonawanda, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. The City of North Tonawanda intends to consider the safe and convenient access and mobility on the road network by current and projected users of all ages and abilities, including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit users through the use of complete street design features in the planning, design, construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation (not including resurfacing, maintenance, or pavement recycling) of transportation infrastructure projects undertaken within the City's borders.

Section 2. The North Tonawanda Climate Smart Communities Task Force shall act as Complete Streets Advisory Council (hereafter Council) to implement the City's adoption of Complete Streets practices. The Council will do the following:

1. The Council will provide guidance by identifying desired projects, sharing training opportunities for City officials, inventorying and evaluating existing streets, identifying funding opportunities, and providing recommendations on policies and priorities.
2. To ensure fair and consistent implementation of this policy, the Council will engage the Traffic Safety Committee, Engineering Department, Climate Smart Task Force, Department of Public Works, Zoning Board, partner agencies and residents.
3. The Council will assess the performance of Complete Streets initiatives by tracking the following indicators: linear feet of new sidewalks, shared-use paths, and bike lanes; crash data; number of street trees planted; amount of new bicycle parking; increase in the share of bicycles, pedestrians and transit users.
4. The Council will continue to assess the effectiveness of the Complete Streets initiative and plan or reform necessary implementation steps accordingly. Within one (1) year following the date of passage of this executive order, the Council will report on matters within its purview to the Mayor and the Common Council. Upon receipt of this report the Common Council will hold a public workshop with key stakeholders to determine further implementation steps.

Section 3. Exemptions to the application of this policy may be allowed in some circumstances, such as instances where the cost would be disproportionate to the need. Other factors that may be considered in granting exemptions include land use context, traffic volumes, population density, and community support for the project. Any exception to applying this Complete Streets Policy to a specific roadway project must be approved by the Council with documentation of the reason for the exemption.

Section 4. The Common Council and Mayor will ensure that the City of North Tonawanda incorporates Complete Streets principles into the comprehensive plan, zoning code, standards, ordinances, manuals, rules and regulations to ensure compliance.

Section 5. The City of North Tonawanda shall require the use of design guidance available for the planning and design of the Complete Streets. The consideration of local context and sensitivities shall be the primary guide during project development. However, the following design guidelines have been identified to provide technical guidance for the planning, design and operation of Complete Streets within the City of North Tonawanda:

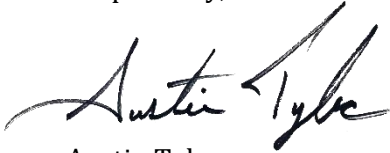
- Highway Design Manual, New York State Department of Transportation
- Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach, 2010, Institute of Transportation
- Engineers (ITE) and Congress for the New Urbanism. [508-compliant]
- Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 2012, AASHTO
- Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, 2004, AASHTO
- Proposed Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way, 2011 and 2013, U.S. Access Board

- Roadside Design Guide, 2011, AASHTO
- Urban Bikeway Design Guide, 2012, National Association of City Transportation Officials
- Urban Street Design Guide, 2013, National Association of City Transportation Officials
- Achieving Multimodal Networks, 2016, U.S. DOT Federal Highway Administration

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Austin Tylec". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "A" and "T".

Austin Tylec
Mayor