BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

REQUESTED MOTION:

Presentation on Complete Streets and adoption of resolution setting forth the City of Bonita Springs Complete Streets policy.

MEETING DATE: October 15, 2014

AGENDA: | REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE: (Specify) | REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION: 
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X | PRESENTATIONS | STATUTE | Jennifer Duffala Hagen, LEED, AP, BD+C, Planner III 
 | | ORDINANCE | and 
 | | ADMIN. CODE | Audrey E. Vance 
 | | OTHER - RESOLUTION | City Attorney

BACKGROUND:

Complete streets are roadways that provide appropriate access to all users in a manner that promotes safe and efficient movement of people and goods, whether by car, truck, transit, assistive device, foot, or bicycle. The implementation of bike and pedestrian safety improvements and guiding principles of this resolution will further support the City's Sustainability Strategy and contributes to the City obtaining its Florida Green Building Coalition City designation.

Jennifer Duffala Hagen will give a 15 minute presentation as to the benefits of the complete streets policy. Assuming the public and City Council think that complete streets is beneficial, staff is recommending adopting the resolution setting forth the proposed policy.

Attachment: Draft Resolution

IS THIS RELATED TO A STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE? X YES □ NO

IF YES, WHICH STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE? 1 Enhance Quality of Life, 2 Revitalize Downtown and 3 Strengthen City Infrastructure

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Complete streets will define and protect the vulnerable road users as opposed to roadway designed for the auto-travelling public. Complete streets is developmental in that the City needs to incorporate it as a core level of service for the long term development and stability of the City. Adopt the Resolution.

REVIEWED BY:
City Manager: 
City Attorney: 
City Clerk: 
Department Director: 

COUNCIL ACTION:
□ APPROVED
□ DENIED
□ DEFERRED
□ OTHER
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION NO. 14-___

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A "COMPLETE STREETS POLICY" IN FURTHERANCE OF THE GOALS, POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT OF THE CITY’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ESTABLISHING A REQUIREMENT FOR AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPLETE STREETS, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS: The term “complete streets” means roadways planned, designed, and constructed to provide access to all users in a manner that promotes safe efficient movement of people and goods, whether by car, truck, transit, assistive device, foot, or bicycle; and

WHEREAS: City Council desires Bonita Springs to be a livable “walkable” community that is pedestrian friendly, with interconnecting sidewalks, pathways, and public transit systems accessing all neighborhoods, through a complete streets policy, to improve access; and

WHEREAS: Complete Streets is a flexible, context sensitive, multi-modal approach that implements safe and convenient access for transportation users of all ages and disabilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motor vehicles drivers, and

WHEREAS: Increasing active transportation (walking, bicycling and mass transit) makes Bonita Springs a livable green community through the catalytic events from the integration of land use and planning functions:
(1) Reduces reliance on fossil fuels;
(2) Helps citizens to save money that empowers the community economically;
(3) Reduces greenhouse emissions which when taken all together, improves air quality, community health, recreational and social activities, community aesthetics, and protection of our natural environment; and

WHEREAS, complete streets enhance safe walking and bicycling options for everyone, including school-age children, in recognition of the national Safe Routes to Schools program; and

WHEREAS: Florida Statutes §316.027 as amended defines and protects the “vulnerable road user”; and

WHEREAS: The Florida Department of Transportation has adopted a complete streets policy; and

WHEREAS: The Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) unanimously adopted the Lee County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan; and
WHEREAS: The Lee County Board of County Commissioners unanimously adopted a complete streets resolution urging all cities and towns within Lee County to embrace and adopt complete streets guidelines and policies and integrate them into their standard street design and operations; and

WHEREAS: The implementation of bike and pedestrian safety improvements and guiding principles of this resolution will further support the City’s Sustainability Strategy and integrate complete streets into the City Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Code, achieving city-wide interconnectivity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA, that:

1. The City affirms that all road projects should be designed to accommodate all users and that context based bicycle and pedestrian facilities shall be established in new construction, reconstruction, repaving and rehabilitation. During the review and in the developing of a complete streets program, the City Manager is directed to work with appropriate staff to develop guidance and standards to include the following:

   a. Incorporation of the principles of complete streets into an interdisciplinary, integrative, multimodal transportation program with implementation guidelines.
   b. Address the needs of all users in the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operations of all street projects.
   c. Consideration of existing natural systems in the earliest phases of design, planning, and implementation of complete streets using green infrastructure, low impact development techniques, and the use of canopy trees for bike and pedestrian ways, and when possible, transit stops.
   d. Balance the needs of all transportation modes with community values, fiscal constraint, public safety, environmental protection and historic preservation.
   e. Develop design solutions that use a context-sensitive approach using the latest and best management practices that connect land use and transportation needs while remaining flexible to the unique circumstances of different streets.
   f. Encourage staff professional development and training on multi-modal transportation issues.
   g. Identify current and potential sources of funding for road way improvements in support of Complete Streets projects.
   h. Develop an interdepartmental review team comprising of Public Works, Community Development and Parks and Recreation.

2. To the extent practical the City will incorporate the goals and policies of the complete streets program in any Comprehensive Plan amendments and other applicable plans and ordinances.

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES
DATE PREPARED: October 2, 2014
3. The City will incorporate a flexible complete streets program into the design, development, construction, operation, maintenance and implementation of policies and programs affecting all City property (including, but not limited to, parks and roadways) to create a connected network of facilities accommodating all users.

4. Among the resources to be used are the 1) American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Bike Guide, (2) The National Association of City Transportation Engineers (NACTO) Bike Guide, (3) the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares Guide to further develop non-motorized transportation networks within the City and (4) the Model Design Manual for Living Streets developed by Los Angeles County.

5. The City will support and encourage contracted service providers to respect and use the complete streets approach for transportation and parks projects and related services within the city and work in coordination and cooperation with other adjacent and local jurisdictions with similar complete streets programs.

6. The City will support and encourage coordination with its citizens, partnering agencies and organizations to provide public awareness of the benefits complete streets provide to the community.

7. The Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee has been established to provide regular, formal input and analysis from citizens to further effectuate communication.

8. Effective date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DULY PASSED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Bonita Springs, Lee County, Florida, this ___ day of ___, 2014.

AUTHENTICATION:

__________________________________  __________________________
Mayor                                               City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: ____________________________
City Attorney

Vote:
Nelson    ___       Simmons   ___
McIntosh  ___       Gibson     ___
Martin    ___       Lonkart    ___
Slachta   ___

Date filed with City Clerk: ______________________

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES