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Complete Streets workbook offers guidance, best practices to communities looking to enhance safety and mobility

New recommendations accompany latest policy analysis, providing a framework for support at a time when Complete Streets are surging in popularity nationwide

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At a time when more and more communities nationwide are recognizing the safety, health, economic and environmental benefits of Complete Streets policies, a new workbook from the National Complete Streets Coalition lends guidance to transportation experts and local leaders interested in adopting policies that will make community streets more open to all transportation users, regardless of age, ability, income, ethnicity, or mode of travel.

The Coalition's *Complete Streets Local Policy Workbook* highlights best transportation practices and offers recommendations about how to effectively write and implement Complete Streets policies uniquely designed to meet community needs.

"This workbook is a clear, concise starting point for anyone looking to enhance the safety of their streets and to provide for everyone who uses them," says National Complete Streets Coalition Director Roger Millar.

A Complete Streets approach redefines what streets are intended to do; what goals transportation agencies are going to meet; and how communities intend to spend their transportation dollars. It's a fast-growing trend in the transportation world, reflective of changing user demands and an increased understanding that streets should do more than move people in cars from Point A to Point B.

More than 350 communities now have Complete Streets policies on their books, with 146 of those policies being adopted in 2011 alone.

"As residents of communities across the country increasingly desire the ability to walk, bike or take transit to and from jobs, shops and schools, we're seeing more and more localities understand the importance of providing for all transportation network users," Millar adds. "This is not something that is limited to big or coastal cities — in fact, what we're seeing is that over one-third of all policies have been adopted in suburban communities with fewer than 30,000 residents, and nearly one in five policies are in small, rural towns."

"There is no one-size-fits-all approach to policy, but time and research has shown there are credible steps that can be taken to change the way roads are planned, designed and constructed, and that these steps can save lives and promote healthier lifestyles."

To download a full copy of the *Complete Streets Local Policy Workbook*, visit <http://www.completestreets.org/webdocs/resources/cs-policyworkbook.pdf>.

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Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Instead of fighting for better streets block by block, the **National Complete Streets Coalition** seeks to fundamentally transform the look, feel, and function of the roads and streets in our community, by changing the way most roads are planned, designed, and constructed. Complete Streets policies direct transportation planners and engineers to consistently design with all users in mind, in line with the elements of Complete Streets policies.

Smart Growth America is the only national organization dedicated to researching, advocating for and leading coalitions to bring smart growth practices to more communities nationwide. From providing more sidewalks to ensuring more homes are built near public transportation or that productive farms remain a part of our communities, smart growth helps make sure people across the nation can live in great neighborhoods. For additional information visit www.smartgrowthamerica.org.

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