
Complete Streets Design and Policy Guide

Recommendations

That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council:

1. That the Complete Streets Design and Policy Guide be adopted in principle;
2. That the Administration proceed with preparing a Council Policy based on the Complete Streets Design and Policy Guide provided in this report; and
3. That the implementation plan be approved.

Topic and Purpose

The purpose of this report is to adopt the Complete Streets Design and Policy Guide (the Guide) and implementation strategy as the basis for the development of new policies and standards that includes consideration for all transportation modes during the design process of street building.

Report Highlights

1. The Guide provides information on how Saskatoon's streets can be designed for all modes and users of all ages and abilities.
2. The Guide is a supporting document of the Growth Plan to Half a Million.
3. The Guide includes principles on street design that complement land use and consider the transportation system as a whole.
4. The Guide includes a toolkit of street treatments that provides options for consideration by designers based on the intended function of the street.
5. The Guide includes the identification of implementation opportunities which includes programs, processes, policies, and monitoring.

Strategic Goal

This report supports the Strategic Goal of Moving Around by improving the safety of all road users (pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers), and helps provide a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Background

The Growth Plan was approved in principle by City Council in 2016. The directions of the Growth Plan provide guidance for civic investments in infrastructure and support programs over the short, medium, and long-term that will shape growth patterns and increase transportation choices, in order to achieve the social, economic, and environmental aspirations of the community. The Guide is a supporting document of the original Growth Plan work.

Report

Complete streets provide safe connections for users of all ages, abilities, and modes of travel where design is centered on the context of the street corridor. The Guide (Attachment 1) was developed to support street design that accommodates the safe

movement of people by multiple modes and of all ages and abilities, and to provide an explanation on how to accomplish that goal. The Guide includes transportation principles, links land use context and transportation, describes street types within Saskatoon, identifies a toolkit of street design treatments, and outlines strategies for implementation.

The Guide is a supporting document of the Growth Plan to Half a Million, Corridor Growth component, and supports the goals and vision laid out through that process. The Guide provides a strategy for achieving the goals of multi-modal transportation, identifying priority users for different street types, and linking land use to street function and user priority. These processes will be important in achieving the City's multi-modal transportation goals as opportunities for streets to be retrofitted arise throughout Saskatoon. The Guide can also be used to design new streets in new development areas so they can better serve the anticipated user groups, whether that be pedestrians, cyclists, personal automobiles, transit, or goods movement.

The policy derived from the Guide will be implemented as a part of the Saskatoon Transportation Strategy (Attachment 2) to ensure a consistent approach to transportation-related policies and plans. Other standards and policies will also be examined and modified to be consistent with the principles of Complete Streets. Some of the projects that will need to be completed, in addition to the implementation strategy outlined in the Guide, include:

- Incorporating policies from the Guide into the Saskatoon Transportation Strategy and Official Community Plan;
- Review and update of the City of Saskatoon Design and Development Standards Manual;
- Educate staff members about the direction for new and retrofit street design; and
- Develop a system for identifying opportunities for street retrofit.

A more detailed, long-term implementation strategy has been outlined in Section 6 of the Guide.

Public and/or Stakeholder Involvement

Public input into the development of the Guide was obtained through the Growth Plan to Half a Million engagement process, focusing primarily on the principles of Complete Streets.

Since much of what the Guide presents is technical, focusing on how to achieve the Complete Streets principles through a specific design approach and toolkit, stakeholder involvement was primarily focused on internal City stakeholder engagement. Appropriate internal divisions comprised the steering committee that led the development of the Guide.

Communication Plan

The Complete Streets Design and Policy Guide is an important tool for stakeholders involved in designing and developing new and future infrastructure. A communications

plan has been developed to ensure that land developers and community liaisons are aware of and understand the key issues identified in the guide, and are consequently able to inform members of the public of how these principles will be integrated in future project work. The campaign will begin in October and will centre around presentations and supporting materials for specific internal and external audiences, as well as general information updates in the City Manager's newsletter, and on the City's website.

The plan will also be communicated through the development and delivery of individual projects in order to help the public better understand the reasons why certain decisions are made in the design process.

Financial Implications

The Guide will be used to review and update the City of Saskatoon Design and Development Standards and also required changes to development levies. Cost estimates for individual projects will be developed during scope and design of specific projects.

Other Considerations/Implications

There are no options, policy, environmental, privacy, or CPTED considerations or implications.

Due Date for Follow-up and/or Project Completion

The Administration will prepare a Council Policy based on the Guide included in this report for presentation to the SPCT on Transportation in early 2018.

Public Notice

Public Notice pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

Attachment

1. Complete Streets Design and Policy Guide
2. Saskatoon's Transportation Strategy – Supporting Plans and Policies

Report Approval

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