

Resolution #2 of 2011 – Complete Streets

WHEREAS, “Complete Streets” are comprehensive, integrated roadways that safely accommodate the passage of pedestrians, bicyclists, motor vehicle drivers, and riders of public transportation. “Complete Streets” allow transportation choices and grant mobility to those unable or who prefer not to drive, including children, youth, older adults, and persons with disabilities. “Complete Streets” incorporate streetscape design elements that promote slower speeds, increased safety for all roadway users, and a hospitable and comfortable environment. “Complete Streets” utilize both traditional village street characteristics (curbs, traffic lanes ten feet or less in width, sidewalks, crosswalks, striped on-street parking, two-lane streets, ten-foot traffic lane widths, tight turning radii at street intersections, landscaped medians, ornamental pedestrian-scale street lights, street trees etc. and newer traffic calming elements (“Yield to pedestrian in the crosswalk” signs, speed tables, pedestrian refuge islands, speed humps, etc.);

WHEREAS, during the second half of the twentieth century, suburban development and planning policies reshaped the American landscape. Since 1950, conventional engineered roadway improvements have prioritized the accommodation of increasing motor vehicle volume and speed at the expense of safety, a comfortable pedestrian environment, and the other qualities possessed by traditional streets and neighborhoods. These changes have stripped villages and city neighborhoods of their walkability, aesthetic character, and economic viability. In the Village of Pittsford poor road design, ill conceived road improvements, and excessive street width have caused unsafe vehicular speeding and have made some streets inhospitable to pedestrians and other users.

WHEREAS, The Village of Pittsford’s historic, pleasant, and walkable environment is both a defining characteristic and a key community asset. Streets are a primary component of the Village’s infrastructure and a large part of its total land area. Village streets are Pittsford’s most important public spaces. They host parades, festivals, and numerous public events throughout the year. Every day, sidewalks and streets in the village host walkers, strollers, bicyclists, and runners and serve as a social gathering space for many of the greater Pittsford community’s 30,000 residents.

WHEREAS, Attractive and pedestrian friendly streets are an integral part of the Village’s historic charm and contribute greatly to the physical setting and quality of its neighborhoods, and commercial districts. Village real estate values, commercial viability, neighborhood health, and resident quality of life are directly affected by how streets look and function. The street environment influences business opportunities and shapes resident, visitor and shopper experiences. Pleasant walkable streets are required to attract and sustain compatible community development. Residents are attracted to and remain in the village because of its walkable environment. The future vitality of the village will depend in part on how its streets are improved, managed, and maintained.

WHEREAS, the Village of Pittsford has already adopted many of the principles of “Complete Streets” as official policy in its (2002) Comprehensive Plan and (2004)

Traffic calming Plan. Some recommendations from these planning initiatives have been completed while others await funding and implementation.

WHEREAS, the Village focus on Complete Streets is consistent with State and Federal policies to integrate pedestrian and bike facilities more fully in overall transportation planning, implementation and operations and that a more holistic view of transportation priorities and street character will yield many other benefits including:

- Increasing opportunities for residents to integrate exercise into their daily activities and lead healthier lives;
- Increasing pedestrian traffic will aid village businesses and will enhance the vitality of the village's downtown area.
- Improving safety by reducing walking and biking injuries and reducing the severity of motor vehicle accidents;
- Slower vehicular speeds will result in safer streets; enhance residents' quality of life; and increase property values.

WHEREAS, walking and biking on Village streets should be a pleasant and safe activity and pedestrian traffic is essential to civic life, commerce, and the visitor experience;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Pittsford encourages walking, bicycling, and public transit for transportation, health, fitness, and recreation, it recognizes the importance of creating Complete Streets that enable safe travel by all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and drivers, and people of all ages and abilities, and it supports education about the need for accessibility through events, programs, outreach, and incentives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is the intent of the Village of Pittsford's Complete Streets Policy to ensure the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and people with disabilities are accommodated as a priority that is equal to or higher than the facilitation of motor vehicle movement. This policy shall be an integral element in the planning and design of all street construction, reconstruction, redesign, alteration, and upgrades and all new public and private development, recreational, and property rehabilitation projects within the village;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village considers all transportation and/or development projects to be an opportunity to improve safety, access and mobility for all travelers and to position bicycling, walking and transit as integral elements of the local transportation system. The planning and review process associated with transportation and/or development projects shall incorporate as a primary objective the alteration of existing streets and other infrastructure and the creation of new streets and other infrastructure that conform fully with the Village's Complete Streets Policy,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village will inventory and evaluate how well each village street is serving each category of users; will identify desired projects and redesigns and options for achieving a quality community and appropriate street environment, including improved accessibility; provide recommendations on policies and

priorities; and assess opportunities to integrate, accommodate, and balance the needs of all users in street projects and address potential obstacles to implementing Complete Streets practices in the Village of Pittsford.

A **motion** was made **by Mayor Corby, seconded by Trustee Galli** to adopt the Complete Streets policy as written in Resolution #2 of 2011 and as amended this evening and to incorporate the policy as an amendment to the 2002 Comprehensive Plan.

VOTE: Corby – yes, Sherwood – yes, Galli – yes, Pierson – yes. **Motion carried.**