AGENDA ITEM NO.____

TO: David Hankerson  
   County Manager  

FROM: David Montanye  
       Director  

DATE: January 27, 2009  

PURPOSE  

To adopt a policy regarding the Complete Streets concept, to improve safety and accessibility to  
Cobb County’s transportation system for all citizens.  

BACKGROUND  

Complete Streets is a concept that ensures streets are designed and operated in a manner that  
allows safe access for all users: motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users, including  
individuals with physical disabilities and senior citizens. Features of a complete street include,  
but are not limited to, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, wide shoulders, crosswalk (intersection and mid-  
block), refuge medians, bus lanes/pull-offs for transit buses, raised crosswalks, audible  
pedestrian signals for the visually impaired, as well as many others.  

Many local governments and the states of Oregon, South Carolina and Virginia, have adopted  
formal Complete Streets policies. While the County has incorporated the Complete Streets  
concept as defined through the design of several transportation improvement projects funded by  
the 2005 SPLOST and the General Fund, no formal County policy exists pertaining to Complete  
Streets.  

The Department believes that this policy will help ensure that the County approaches each of its  
roadway improvement projects with the Complete Streets concept in mind. This will benefit the  
citizens of Cobb County by making alternative modes of transportation safer and therefore more  
appealing, which in turn can help alleviate traffic congestion within the County. Additionally,  
there are public health benefits that can be gained from this policy; primarily from the  
anticipated increase in walkers and bicycle riders.  

The Department recommends adoption of this initial Complete Streets Policy to guide all future  
roadway engineering, design and operations in Cobb County. This policy, if adopted, will be  
followed by more detailed guidelines, which will be proposed for inclusion in the County’s  
Development Standards during the next update cycle.
FUNDING

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Commissioners adopt a policy regarding the Complete Streets concept, to improve safety and accessibility to Cobb County’s transportation system for all citizens.

ATTACHMENT

Draft Complete Streets Policy