What is Complete Street Design?

A Complete Street is one that allows pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists of all abilities to safely travel between destinations.

In addition to providing facilities for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users, Complete Streets encourage sound land use decisions and policies that foster environments that appeal to people traveling by foot and bicycle: minimal building setbacks, wayfinding signs, landscaped corridors, benches and other amenities.

[Complete Street Toolbook, South Carolina 2010]

STREET DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Streets Are Public Spaces
In addition to providing space for travel, streets play a big role in the public life of cities and communities and should be designed as public spaces as well as channels for movement.

Design for Safety
In 2012 in the U.S., over 34,000 people were killed in traffic crashes, which were also the leading cause of death among children aged 5–14.

Great Streets are Great for Businesses
Well-designed streets generate higher revenues for businesses and higher values for homeowners.

Streets Are Ecosystems
From pervious pavements and bioswales that manage storm-water run-off to street trees that provide shade and are critical to the health of cities, ecology has the potential to act as a driver for long-term, sustainable design.

Streets Can Be Changed
Transportation engineers can work flexibly within the building envelope of a street. This includes moving curbs, changing alignments, daylighting corners, and redirecting traffic.

Act Now
Cities across the U.S. have begun using a phased approach to major redesigns, where interim materials are used in the short term and later replaced by permanent materials once funding is available and the public has tested the design thoroughly.

[ACTO Street Design Guide]

Pedestrian First Policy
To further implementation of complete streets in Chicago, transit will come second in this new order, followed by Bicycle then Automobiles (private motor vehicles). This inversion of the dominant, auto-based paradigm will allow the city’s transportation network to grow safely, sustainably and equitably into the 21st Century.

[Chicago Complete Streets Design Guidelines]
As cities grow they will need to accommodate more people without sacrificing quality of life. The adaptations portrayed in this document are space-efficient and can support the social and economic growth of our urban centers by making them more livable, walkable and bikeable.

**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN**

**PENDLETON ST AT WEST VILLAGE**

**PENDLETON ST AT WEST END**

**AUGUSTA ST AT FARIS RD INTERSECTION**

**AUGUSTA ST AT FARIS RD**

**PENDLETON ST AT WEST END**

**SITES**

**DESIGN TOOLS**