



NATIONAL POLICY & LEGAL ANALYSIS NETWORK
TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD OBESITY



Complete Streets for Healthy Communities

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New Partners for Smart Growth

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Today's Roadmap

The Role of Policy

What is a model policy?

Model Complete Streets Policies

Approach

Different types of policy

How to use these models



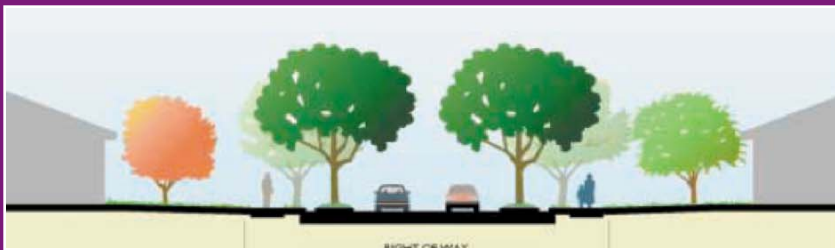
Our Process for Developing Model Policy

- Survey of existing policies
- Analysis of legal issues
- Expert review & revision



Model Complete Streets Policies

- Approach taken by policies
- Different types of policy (law, resolution, or comprehensive plan language)
- How to use these models



The Approach

- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Forward looking

Approach is a response to 2 challenges

No One Size Fits All Solution: Flexibility

- Many different kinds of streets in this country
- Many complex local factors to balance
- All streets don't need to look or be the same in order to meet the needs of different users

Funding

- Retrofitting streets is expensive
- Forward looking approach



How do the policies work?



First key feature of policies

Establish a new approach to street design and transportation planning.

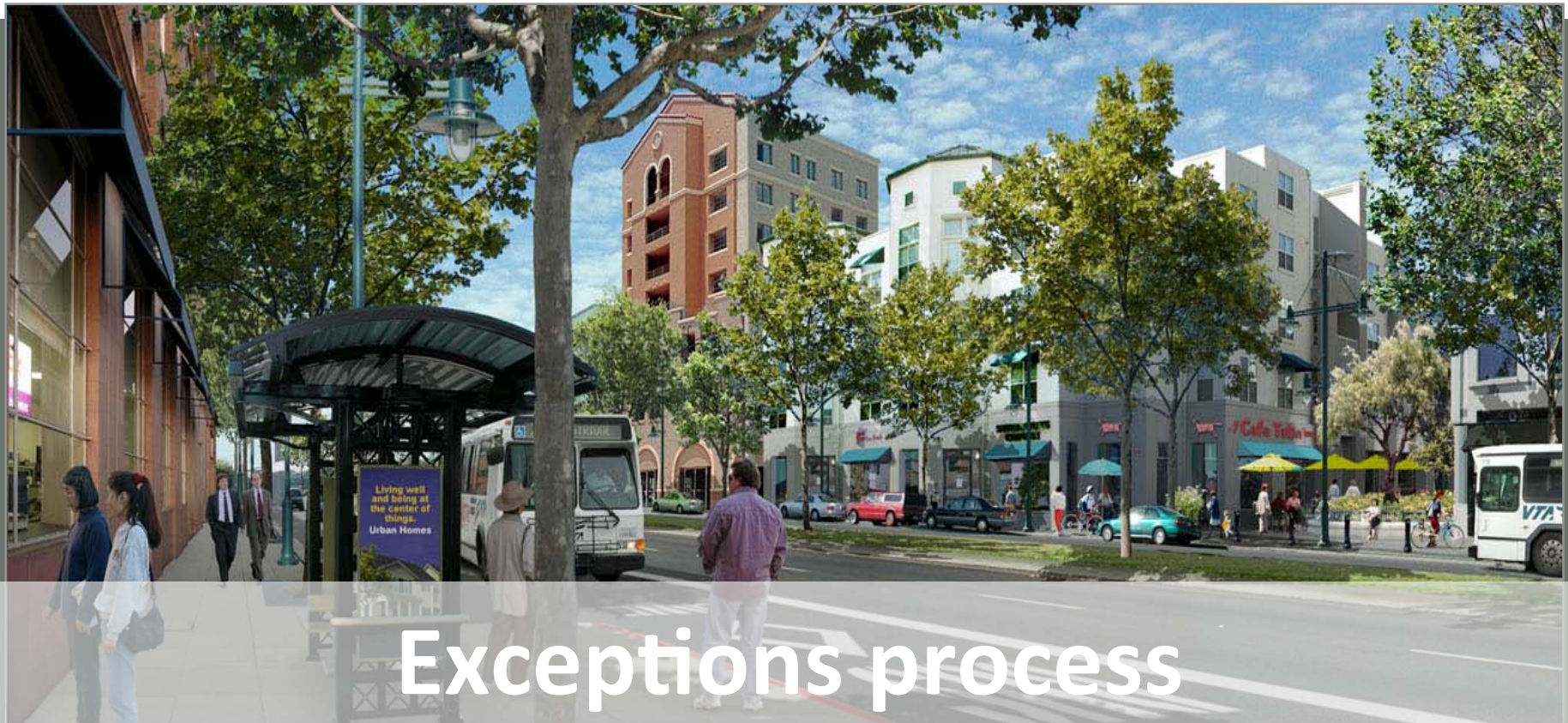
“Agencies shall make Complete Streets practices a **routine part** of everyday operations, shall approach **every transportation project as an opportunity** to improve Streets and the transportation network for all Users, and shall **work in coordination** with other departments, agencies, and jurisdictions to achieve Complete Streets.”

Second key feature of policies

Require needs of each user to be accounted for in every new street and new project on an existing street.

“Every street project shall incorporate complete streets infrastructure sufficient to enable reasonably safe travel along and across the right of way for each category of users.”





Exceptions process

Considerable flexibility to communities through several exceptions:

- Bicyclists or pedestrians barred by law
- Disproportionate cost or absence of current and future need
- Infrastructure would be unreasonable or inappropriate in light of the scope of the project

Exceptions provide for flexibility and accountability

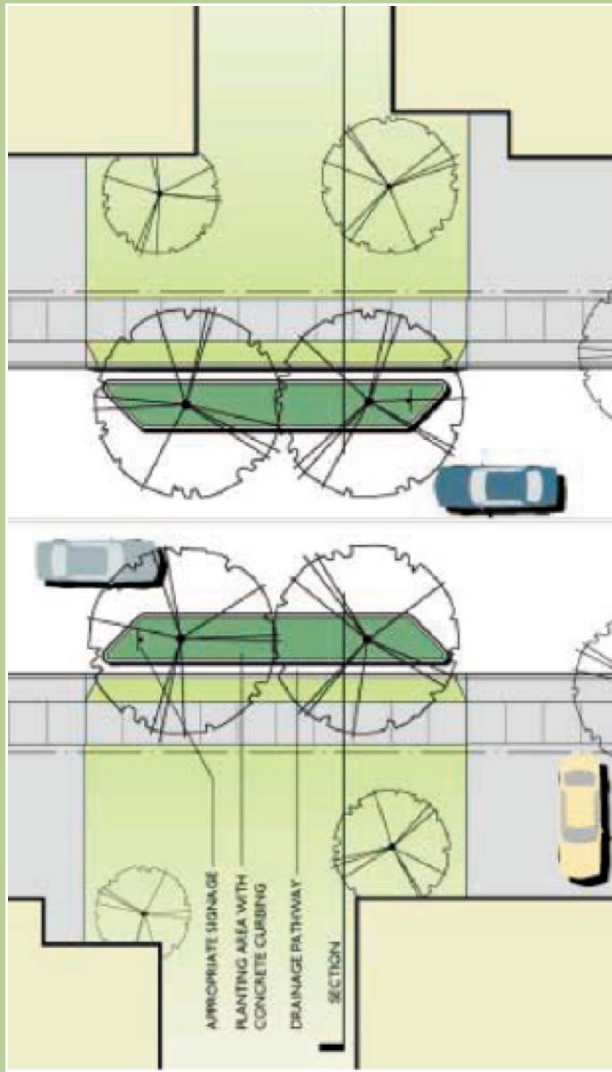
Flexibility. *These exceptions are very broad.*

Accountability. *But, they can only be exercised where there is:*

- Written approval by a senior manager
- Data and documentation supporting the need for the exception



The policies also provide for:



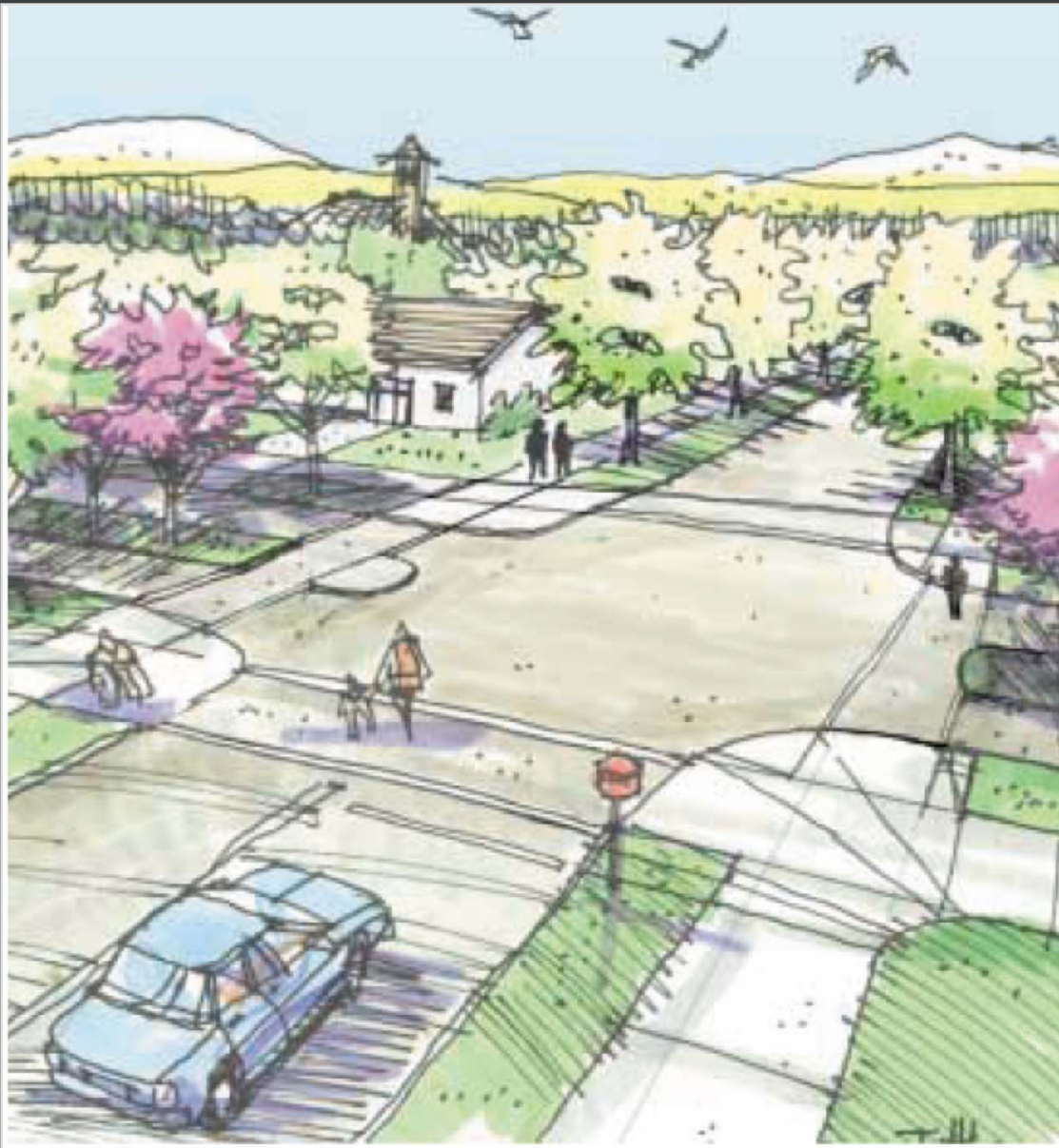
- Revisions to plans and policies
- Data and benchmarks
- Increased public participation
- Consideration of new developments' impact on safe travel
- Identify next steps

These provisions can be included or excluded as desired.



Our Upcoming Complete Streets Policy Package Includes:

- ✓ Resolutions
- ✓ Laws
- ✓ Comprehensive plan language
- ✓ Findings that support policy adoption



Which type of policy should your community adopt?

- ✓ **Law or resolution**
- ✓ **Language for comprehensive plan**

Using a model policy involves:

Local Needs

Political Power

Consulting a Local Attorney

Summary

- Our model policies provide a strong starting place.
- What is the best policy for your community?
- Modify the model policy to meet your needs.





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