

Westchester County Department of
Public Works and Transportation

Complete Streets

Mobility Advisory Forum
March 26, 2012

Introduction – What are Complete Streets?

Consider the needs of all users of a roadway :

- Public Transportation Riders
- Pedestrians
- Bicyclists
- Motorists
- Citizens of all ages and abilities including children, the elderly and disabled



New York State Complete Streets Policy

S.5411A/A.8366

“For all State, County, and Local transportation projects that are undertaken by the Department or receive both federal and state funding and are subject to Department of Transportation oversight, the department or agency with jurisdiction over such projects shall consider the convenient access and mobility on the road network by all users of all ages...”

August 2011

Consistent with Federal Legislation

Federal legislation requires that bicycles and pedestrians be included in the transportation planning process

New York Metropolitan Transportation Council

Regional Transportation Plan 2010-2035

APPENDIX 4

*Pedestrian and Bicycle Plans for the NYMTC
Region*

September 2009

Why Have a Complete Streets Policy?

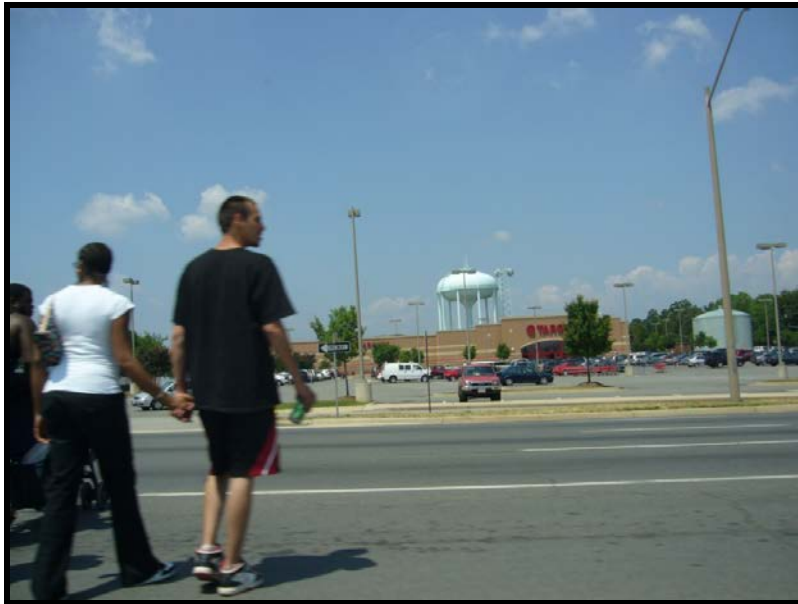
Save Money

- Retrofits cost more than modifying scheduled projects
- Take advantage of all planning, construction, operations and maintenance activities to incorporate improvements to accommodate all users of the street



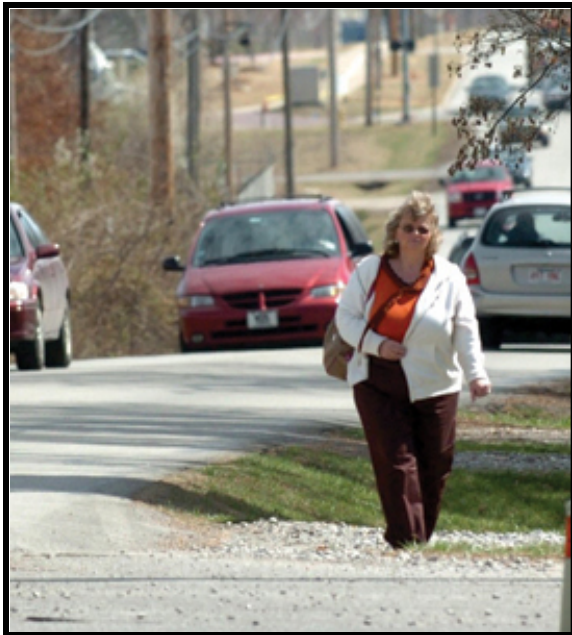
Increase Safety

- More than 40% of pedestrian deaths in 2007 and 2008 occurred where no crosswalk was available



Increase Safety

- One quarter of walking trips take place on roads without sidewalks or shoulders
- Bike lanes are available for only about 5% of bicycle trips



National Survey of Pedestrian and Bicyclist Attitudes and Behaviors, 2003

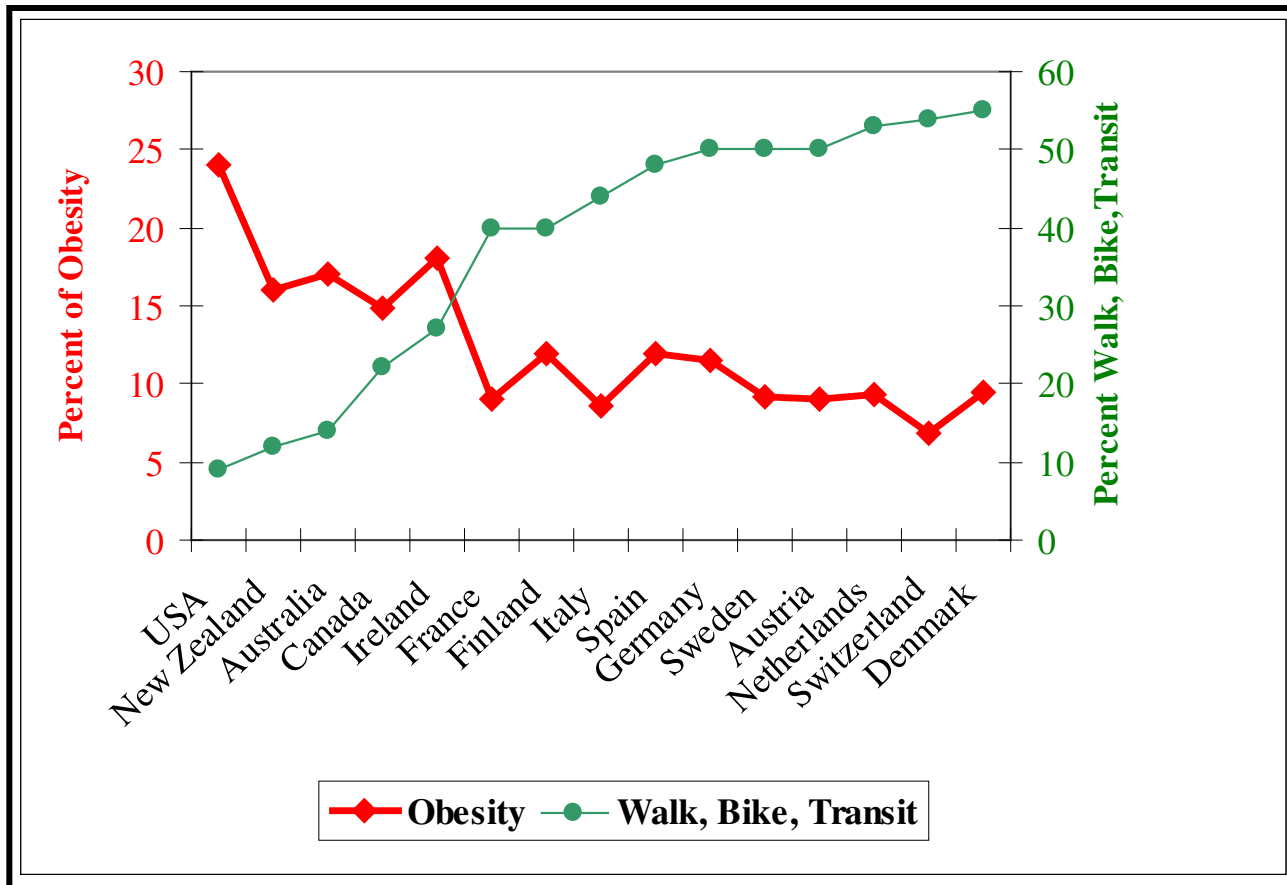
Provide Transportation Choices

- 66% of Americans want more transportation options so they have the freedom to choose how to get where they need to go.
- 73% currently feel they have no choice but to drive as much as they do
- 57% would like to spend less time in the car



Improve Public Health

Obesity is lower in places where people use public transportation, walk and use bicycles



Enhance Economic Competitiveness

Improvements in walkability increase property values



Cortright, Joseph. (2009). Walking the Walk: How Walkability Raises Housing Values in U.S. Cities. CEOs for Cities <http://www.ceosforcities.org/work/walkingthewalk>

Local Initiatives

- Town of Lewisboro adopted policy, October, 2011
- City of Rye developing a policy
- Complete Streets workshops held in Rye (2010) and Peekskill (2011)
- Complements Safe Routes to School and Walkable Communities efforts



What Complete Streets is not

A mandate for immediate retrofit

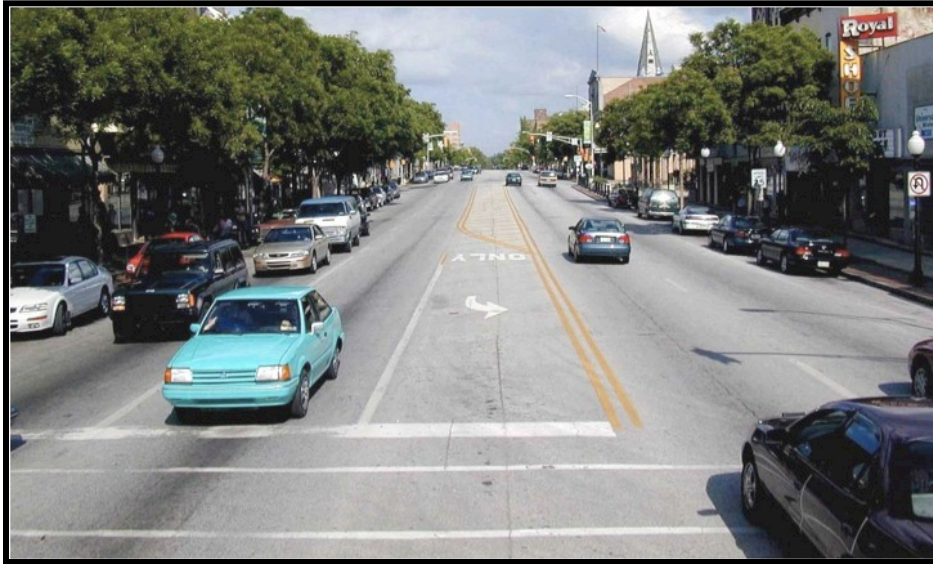


What Complete Streets is not

A one size fits all approach – there are many types of Complete Streets



Different Types of Complete Streets



Before



After

Pottstown, PA

For more information:

www.completestreets.org