

Introduced by: Public Safety and
Transportation
Commission
Date: January 8, 2013
Introduction Date: January 22, 2013
Public Hearing: February 12, 2013
February 26, 2013
March 12, 2013
Action: FAILED
Vote: 3-2

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Ordinance #13-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL PROVIDING FOR A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY AND DIRECTING STAFF TO DEVELOP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES TO INCREASE THE USABILITY OF ALL STREETS FOR ALL MODES OF TRAVEL FOR CITIZENS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES IN BETHEL

WHEREAS, The City of Bethel wishes to ensure that all users of our transportation system are able to travel safely and conveniently on all streets and roadways within the public right-of-way in Bethel; and

WHEREAS, a complete street is defined as one which provides a safe, convenient, and context-sensitive facility for all modes of travel, for users of all ages and all abilities; and

WHEREAS, complete streets better serve the needs of those who use transit by providing access to transit systems; and

WHEREAS, complete streets have public health benefits, such as encouraging physical activity and improving air quality, by providing the opportunity for more people to bike and walk safely; and

WHEREAS, complete streets improve access and safety for those who cannot or choose not to drive motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, complete streets are essential in providing safe routes to school for children; and

WHEREAS, complete streets policies have been adopted legislatively by at least five states, and by at least 36 localities – of which 13 are by local law (resolutions or ordinances); and

Introduced by: Public Safety and
Transportation
Commission
Date: January 8, 2013
Introduction Date: January 22, 2013
Public Hearing: February 12, 2013
February 26, 2013
March 12, 2013
Action: FAILED
Vote: 3-2

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel currently has a limited complete streets policy; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City of Bethel to formalize a commitment to the principles of complete streets for all of our streets;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED, by the City Council of Bethel Alaska that the following changes are made to the Bethel Municipal Code Chapter 12.01 to create a Complete Streets Policy.

THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Bethel Alaska as follows:

SECTION 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a permanent nature and shall become a part of the Bethel Municipal Code.

SECTION 2. Amending Section 12.01 of the Bethel Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows (new language is underlined).

Section 12.01 General Provisions

12.01.02 Application

- A. The provisions of this chapter will apply to the scoping, design, and construction of projects involving roadways in the City of Bethel.
- B. Any exception to applying these provisions to a specific roadway project must be approved by the City Council, with documentation of the reason for the exception.

12.01.03 Requirements

- A. Any roadway in the City of Bethel which is to be newly constructed or completely reconstructed must be designed and constructed to:
 - 1. Provide for the safety and convenience of all users of all ages and of all abilities: pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and motorists; and

Introduced by: Public Safety and
Transportation
Commission
Date: January 8, 2013
Introduction Date: January 22, 2013
Public Hearing: February 12, 2013
February 26, 2013
March 12, 2013
Action: FAILED
Vote: 3-2

2. Address the needs of all users both along roadway corridors and crossing the corridors.
- B. Any project in which an existing roadway surface is to be restored or rehabilitated, and any remediation of deficient or non-existent sidewalks, shall be reviewed for the potential of making the roadway a complete street.
 1. Consideration shall particularly include proportionality, the scope of work needed to make a complete street reasonable in relation to the scope of the proposed roadway construction, maintenance or improvement.
 2. The application of design standards will be flexible to permit context-sensitive design fitting the roadway design within the context of the neighborhood recognizing that all streets are different and user needs will be balanced.
- C. The Public Works and Planning Departments will review current design standards which apply to new roadway construction to assure that they reflect the best available design standards and guidelines, and effectively implement the Complete Streets Policy above stated.
- D. Design standards also serve as guidance for all existing roadway rehabilitation, reconstruction, or resurfacing, to the extent that the work required is reasonably proportional to the scale of the proposed rehabilitation, reconstruction, or resurfacing.

12.01.04 Reporting

An annual report will be made to the City Council by the City Administration showing progress made in implementing this chapter.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This section shall become effective immediately June 1, 2013 ~~upon the passage by the City Council.~~