Complete Streets and Community Health

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What is a Complete Street?

• Complete streets policies influence both decision making and actual structures in the community to create a safe and accessible transportation network for all
  • Policy and streets change with each situation and community
  • Safe, comfortable, and convenient for all
  • Happens as municipality/state updates streets – within the budget

• Features can include:
  • proper crossing walks
  • wider sidewalks
  • cycling lanes
  • Medians
  • Curb cuts (ADA compliant)
  • Storm water management and greenery
  • are ideally connected into public transit.
Incomplete Streets
Examples of Complete Streets
More Incomplete Streets
Who has done it in Louisiana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Walk Score (Bike Score)</th>
<th>Livability Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baton Rouge</td>
<td>41 (43)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Charles</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td>58 (64)</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The state of Louisiana DOT also has a Complete Streets policy.
Benefits of Complete Streets

- Safety
  - Adult pedestrians
    - The elderly
  - Children
- Increased Physical Activity
  - Active transport
  - Decreased obesity
    - Childhood obesity
- More greenspace
- Completed within already existing budget

- Better air quality
  - Increased public transit, decreased cost on automobiles
- Greater access to healthcare, jobs and businesses
  - Increased profit for local businesses
  - Greater foot and bike traffic
Resources for Complete Streets

- AARP Livability Index: https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/
- Walk Score: https://www.walkscore.com/
- Realtors Associations
- Schools and Parents
- American Heart Association
- Local Non-profit/Advocacy Organizations like Bike Easy, Ride NOLA, Bike Baton Rouge
- Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX)
- Smart Growth America
- The National Complete Streets Coalition
References

Questions?