

Complete Streets in Miami-Dade

Miami-Dade Complete Streets Guidelines – Overview

Introduction

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there is growing evidence of the impact that transportation systems have on quality of life and health. “Government and non-government agencies are seeking innovative policies and programs that promote health while allowing for the efficient transportation of goods and people. Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists. The Complete Streets concept encourages the development of walkable, sustainable communities through an integrated approach to the planning, design, construction and maintenance of transportation networks.

One of the outcomes of the Miami-Dade *Local Action Plan for Safer People, Safer Streets* is to prepare a Complete Streets Guidelines document, which provides guidance to Miami-Dade County and municipal engineers and planners on how to plan and incorporate Complete Streets elements into all aspects of street projects.

Why Guidelines?

Local governments depend on design guidelines for street engineering projects. Complete Streets Guidelines highlight the critical role street design plans in: affecting the behavior of street users; guiding users through physical and environmental cues; managing vehicle speeds; encouraging walking, bicycling, and public transit use; and reflecting the unique place characteristics that surround the street (often referred to as context-sensitive design).

Purpose

The purpose of Complete Streets Guidelines is to provide design guidance to implement engineering aspects of the Miami-Dade Local Action Plan. Over the next few months, Miami-Dade County staff will work with a consultant to develop Complete Streets Guidelines, a comprehensive overview of proven engineering techniques for re-designing streets for all modes and all people. Once developed, these guidelines can be tailored and adopted by municipalities to help move more people through our streets safely and increase mobility for all.

Document Outline

- **Introduction** – Describes how Complete Streets Guidelines overlay with other design standards and criteria, such as the *Florida Greenbook*, *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*, and National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) *Urban Streets Design Guide*, and the *FDOT Complete Streets Implementation Plan*.
- **Multimodal Complete Streets Typology** – Establishes a suggested framework for categorizing the street network that promotes a more balanced and nuanced understanding of each street’s role within the transportation system and the community context.
- **Design Guidance** – Provides specific design guidance related to sidewalk elements, roadway elements, and intersection elements.
- **Implementation** – Describes specific strategies for applying the Miami-Dade Complete Streets Guidelines, project delivery mechanisms, maintenance opportunities, and strategies for measuring success.

