# 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**









#### Before and After Complete Streets





## Who has done it in Louisiana

City	Walk Score (Bike Score)	Livability Index
Baton Rouge	41 (43)	51
Lafayette	42	51
Lake Charles	37	49
New Orleans	58 (64)	54

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: <u>https://livabilityindex.aarp.</u> org/
- Walk Score: <u>https://www.walkscore.co</u> <u>m/</u>
- 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





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