A Resolution Supporting a "Complete Streets" Policy

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are defined as roadways that enable safe and convenient access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and drivers (of all ages) and is conducive to efficient movement of people; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" policies support the San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (MPO) Metropolitan Transportation Plan mission statement which states "The San Antonio metropolitan area is served by an environmentally friendly transportation system where everyone is able to walk, ride, drive or wheel in a safe, convenient, and affordable manner to their desired destinations"; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" policies support the goals of the MPO’s adopted Regional Bicycle Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" policies support the MPO’s Walkable Community Program, the Walk and Roll Program; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" supports national and local public health efforts by recognizing the linkages between the built environment and human health and calls on public officials to participate in local and regional land use and transportation support planning and policy making processes; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time; and

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" policies and plans have been adopted by the United States Department of Transportation, other Texas MPOs including Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and Houston-Galveston Area Council and cities including San Francisco, Sacramento, San Diego, Boulder, Chicago, Seattle and Portland.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Transportation Policy Board, in order to ensure all transportation options are available, and to improve air quality and the quality of life for residents in our communities, strongly encourages decision makers in all jurisdictions to adopt and implement similar "Complete Streets" policies and practices that:

- Serve as guiding principles to design, construct, operate and maintain the region’s roadway system to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and people of all abilities, as well as motor vehicle drivers and freight;
- Create a comprehensive, integrated, connected transportation network planned for people and the principles be incorporated into existing policies such as the Regional Bicycle Master Plan;
- Incorporate the "Complete Streets" policy except in unusual or extraordinary circumstances;
- To the extent possible, apply policies to both new and retrofit projects;
- Recognize the need for flexibility and identify "Complete Streets" solutions that fit in with the context of the community;

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of March 2009.

Sheila McNeil, Chair
San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization