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SB35-07/08: Complete Streets Policies

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Resolution Regarding Complete Streets Policies

Whereas, ASUM Transportation supports solutions to make transportation systems in The University of Montana and Missoula community safe, accessible, efficient, and environmentally sustainable;

Whereas, 42 percent of UM students bike, walk, or bus to and from campus;

Whereas, 4,699 members of Missoula in Motion’s Way to Go Club have logged 7,193,222 miles commuting by bike, bus, carpool, and on foot;

Whereas, motor vehicle congestion and pedestrian and bicycle safety are persistent problems in the Missoula area;

Whereas, reduction of the number of trips by single-occupancy vehicles via expansion of transportation options has been identified as one of the most important and feasible ways in which to reduce carbon emissions;

Whereas, oil prices reached an all-time record high of $108.21 per barrel on Monday, March 10;

Whereas, convenient and accessible transportation options may provide for improved health and safety of the community;

Whereas, Complete Streets policies provide for and encourage roads, streets and transportation systems that are accessible, convenient, and safe for all users, including motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users;

Whereas, Complete Streets Policies are fiscally sound by integrating sidewalks, bike lanes, transit facilities, and crosswalks into transportation project designs, sparing the expense of later retrofits;

Therefore, Let It Bbe resolved, that the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) endorse and promote the concepts, goals, and initiatives of the Complete Streets Coalition;

Let it further be resolved, that ASUM urges the City of Missoula to apply Complete Streets policies, goals and guidelines in development projects and the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Missoula area in the following order of priority:

1. Two lanes of travel where applicable
2. Accessible sidewalks with safe crossings
3. Wide bike lanes
4. Transit facilities;

Let it further be resolved that ASUM urges the Montana State Legislature to join Oregon, California, Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Massachusetts in adopting some form of Complete Streets policies in statewide transportation planning.

Authored By: Senator Kip Rand
Sponsored By: President Dustin Leftridge