

ORDINANCE #598

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YACOLT, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING CHAPTER 12.15 OF THE YACOLT MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A “COMPLETE STREETS POLICY” TO PROMOTE SAFE ACCESS AND ACCOMMODATIONS TO ALL USERS INCLUDING BICYCLISTS, PEDESTRIANS, MOTORISTS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION USERS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR SUMMARY PUBLICATION

Whereas, the Town of Yacolt’s Comprehensive Plan addresses the need for new streets to provide transportation for all modes of travel;

Whereas, the Washington State Legislature passed the Complete Streets Act, (RCW 47.04.320-340), in 2011, creating a complete streets grant program to encourage street designs that safely meet the needs of all users and also protect and preserve a community’s environment and character;

Whereas, in order to ensure that the Town’s Comprehensive Plan vision is implemented, it is necessary to adopt a new chapter in the Yacolt Municipal Code to address the criteria and procedures for Complete Streets;

Whereas, it is the intent of the Town to provide transportation options to maximize the mobility and safety of its population;

Whereas, Yacolt’s Complete Streets guiding principle is to design, operate and maintain the Town’s streets to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and people of all ages and abilities as well as freight and motor vehicle drivers;

Whereas, adopting a Complete Streets Program will open up additional funding opportunities and make the Town eligible for additional grants through the State Complete Streets Grant Program, when it is funded by the Legislature; and,

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt is in regular session this 13th day of May, 2024, and all members of the Town Council have had notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting:

NOW THEREFORE, be it Ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, Washington:

Section 1 – YMC Chapter 12.15, Complete Streets Policy, Enacted: A new chapter, Chapter 12.15, entitled “Complete Streets Policy” is hereby created and added to Title 12 of the Yacolt Municipal Code, to read as follows:

**Chapter 12.15
COMPLETE STREET POLICY**

Sections:

- 12.15.010 Purpose.
- 12.15.020 Definitions.
- 12.15.030 Applicability.

- 12.15.040 Exceptions.
- 12.15.050 Projects.
- 12.15.060 Network.
- 12.15.070 Freight / Truck Routes.
- 12.15.080 Intergovernmental Coordination.
- 12.15.090 Best Practice Criteria.
- 12.15.100 Performance Standards.
- 12.15.110 Implementation.
- 12.15.120 Funding for Complete Streets.

12.15.010 Purpose.

The Town of Yacolt prides itself on the quality of life available to its residents, and encourages active living and safety by providing safe, convenient, healthy and comfortable routes for walking, bicycling, and public transportation.

The vision of Yacolt is a community in which all users regardless of age, ability, or preferred mode of travel can safely and efficiently use the public right-of-way to meet their transportation needs. Yacolt recognizes that Complete Streets will increase the health and safety of residents, improve economic vitality, and improve connectivity for all modes of transportation within the Town.

The purpose of this Chapter is to ensure that planning for all users is included during planning, design, construction, maintenance, and replacement of all Town transportation projects and plans. The Town of Yacolt shall, to the maximum extent practical, scope, plan, design, construct, operate and maintain appropriate facilities for the safe accommodation of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, emergency responders, freight and users of all ages and abilities in all new construction, retrofit or reconstruction projects. Through ongoing operations and maintenance, the Town shall identify cost effective opportunities to include complete streets practices.

12.15.020 Definitions.

“Complete Street” means a road that is designed to be safe and accessible for all transportation users including drivers, bicyclists, transit users, freight, emergency service providers, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

“Complete street infrastructure” means design features that contribute to a safe, convenient, and comfortable travel experience for users, including but not limited to features such as: sidewalks; shared-use paths; bicycle lanes; automobile lanes; paved shoulders; landscaping; curbs; accessible curb ramps; bulb-outs; crosswalks; refuge islands; pedestrian and traffic signals, including countdown and accessible signals; signage; street furniture; bicycle parking facilities; traffic calming devices; surface treatments such as paving blocks, textured asphalt, and concrete; narrow vehicle lanes; and raised medians.

“Street” means any public right-of-way, including arterials, connectors, alleys, ways, lanes, and roadways by any other designation, as well as bridges, tunnels, and any other portions of the transportation network, that is open for use by the general public.

“Street project” means the construction, reconstruction, retrofit, maintenance, alteration, or repair of any street and includes the planning, design, approval, and implementation processes.

“Users” means individuals that use streets, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation riders and drivers.

12.15.030 Applicability.

This Chapter shall apply to all areas within the Town limits of Yacolt. The provisions of this Chapter shall, to the maximum extent practicable, apply to all new construction, improvements, and replacement or rehabilitation of the Town of Yacolt’s transportation network, whether performed by the Town or a private party.

12.15.040 Exceptions.

Not all roadways or projects are suitable for all Complete Streets elements. The following activities and projects are exempted from the Complete Streets Program:

- A. Where a documented absence of current or future need exists;
- B. Where application of this policy would require the accommodation of street uses that are prohibited by law;
- C. Emergency utility repair requiring roadway repair or reconstruction;
- D. Where routine maintenance of the transportation network is performed that does not change the roadway geometry or operations, such as mowing, sweeping, chip seal, seal coats, and spot repair;
- E. Where the cost would be disproportionate to the current need or probable future uses;
- F. Where there would be significant adverse environmental impacts to streams, wetlands, steep slopes, or other critical areas;
- G. Where Complete Streets elements are not practical, are contrary to public safety, or are prohibited; and,
- H. In instances where a documented exception is granted by the Town Council.

12.15.050 Projects.

Those involved in planning and design of projects within the public right-of-way will give consideration to all users and modes of travel from the start of planning and design work. Transportation improvements shall be viewed as opportunities to create safer, more accessible streets for all users. This shall apply to new construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation. Community engagement will be encouraged during project planning and development.

12.15.060 Network.

Projects should enhance the overall transportation system and its connectivity for access to parks or recreation areas, schools, downtown, existing pedestrian or bicycle networks, or regional bicycle pedestrian plans prepared by other associated groups such as Clark County.

12.15.070 Freight / Truck Routes.

Because freight is important to the overall economy of Yacolt and has unique right-of-way needs to support that role, freight will be the major priority on streets classified as truck routes. Complete street improvements that are consistent with freight mobility but also support other modes and user needs shall be considered for truck routes.

12.15.080 Intergovernmental Coordination.

It is a goal of the Town of Yacolt to foster partnerships with all Washington State transportation agencies including the Washington State Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, Clark County, C-Tran, the Battle Ground School District, and any funding agency to implement the Complete Streets Policy.

12.15.090 Best Practice Criteria.

Transportation facilities shall be designed to include Complete Streets elements that will best serve the transportation needs of all users. The priority shall be on the needs and comfort of all users, considering issues such as street design and width, desired operating speed, street lighting, beautification and connectivity.

The Town Council or its designee shall modify, develop and adopt policies, design criteria, standards and guidelines based upon recognized best practices in street design, construction, and operations including but not limited to the latest editions of American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials, Institute of Transportation Engineers, and National Association of City Transportation Officials, while reflecting the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments and enhance the appearance of such.

12.15.100 Performance standards.

The Town of Yacolt shall put into place performance standards with measurable benchmarks to continuously evaluate the Complete Streets Policy for success and opportunities for improvement. Performance standards may include transportation and mode shift, miles of bicycle facilities or sidewalks, public participation, number of ADA accommodations built, number of ADA accommodations retrofitted, and number of exemptions from this policy approved.

12.15.110 Implementation.

This policy will primarily be implemented during the annual development of Yacolt's six-year transportation improvement plan. The Town will also work to incorporate complete streets principles into the Comprehensive plan and associated documents.

12.15.120 Funding for Complete Streets.

Complete streets may be achieved through single projects or incrementally through a series of smaller improvements or maintenance activities over time. It is the city's intent that all sources of transportation funding be drawn upon to implement complete streets. The city believes that maximum financial flexibility is important to implement complete streets principles.

Section 2 – Ratification and Confirmation of Prior Acts: All acts taken by Town officers and staff prior to the enactment of this Ordinance that are consistent with and in furtherance of the purpose or intent of this Ordinance are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed by the Town Council.

Section 3 – Instructions to the Clerk: The Town Clerk shall:

- a). Cause notice of the adoption of this Ordinance to be published forthwith in the Town's official newspaper pursuant to Section 8 below; and,
- b). Promptly post a copy of this Ordinance on the Town's website for public inspection.

Section 4 – Codification of Ordinance: Upon the Effective Date of this Ordinance, the Town Clerk is directed to send a copy hereof to Code Publishing Company of Seattle, Washington, so that the provisions of Section 1 of this Ordinance may be promptly reflected in the Yacolt Municipal Code.

Section 5 – Corrections by Town Clerk or Code Reviser: Upon approval of the Town Attorney, the Town Clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance,

including the correction of clerical errors; references to other local, state or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbering, and references thereto.

Section 6 – Severability: If any one or more sections, subsections, or sentences of this Ordinance are held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 7 - Adoption of Recitals: The foregoing Recitals are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a part of this Ordinance upon adoption hereof.

Section 8 – Effective Date and Publication of Summary: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication according to law. Notice of this Ordinance may be provided by publication of the following summary in the Town’s official newspaper:

Town of Yacolt - Summary of Ordinance #598

The Town Council of the Town of Yacolt adopted Ordinance #598 at its regularly scheduled Town Council meeting held on May 13, 2024. The content of the Ordinance is summarized in its title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YACOLT, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING CHAPTER 12.15 OF THE YACOLT MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A “COMPLETE STREETS POLICY” TO PROMOTE SAFE ACCESS AND ACCOMMODATIONS TO ALL USERS INCLUDING BICYCLISTS, PEDESTRIANS, MOTORISTS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION USERS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR SUMMARY PUBLICATION

The effective date of the Ordinance is May 22, 2024.

A copy of the full text of the Ordinance will be mailed upon request to the undersigned at the Town of Yacolt Town Hall, P.O. Box 160, Yacolt, WA 98675: (360) 686-3922.

Published this 22nd day of May, 2024.
Stephanie Fields, Town Clerk

PASSED by the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof this 13th day of May, 2024.

TOWN OF YACOLT



Ian Shealy, Mayor

Attest:



Stephanie Fields, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form:

David W. Ridenour, Town Attorney

Ayes: Peto, Homola, Viray
Nays: 0
Absent: Carroll
Abstain: 0

TOWN CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance is a true and correct copy of Ordinance #598 of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YACOLT, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING CHAPTER 12.15 OF THE YACOLT MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A "COMPLETE STREETS POLICY" TO PROMOTE SAFE ACCESS AND ACCOMMODATIONS TO ALL USERS INCLUDING BICYCLISTS, PEDESTRIANS, MOTORISTS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION USERS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR SUMMARY PUBLICATION" as approved according to law by the Town Council on the date therein mentioned. The Ordinance has been published or posted according to law.

Attest:



Stephanie Fields, Town Clerk

Approved: May 13, 2024
Published: May 22, 2024
Effective Date: May 22, 2024
Ordinance Number: 598