

Attachment A

DRAFT Green Streets Guidance and Policy Template

I. Green Streets Guidance: Elements of an Ideal Green Streets Policy

The following elements should be part of a comprehensive Green Streets policy. An ideal Green Streets policy:

- Includes a vision for how and why the community wants to green its streets.
- Covers all transportation facilities.
- Applies to both new and retrofit projects, including design, planning, maintenance, and operations for the entire right of way.
- Makes any exceptions specific and sets a clear procedure that requires high-level approval of exceptions.
- Directs the use of the latest and best design standards while recognizing the need for flexibility in balancing user needs.
- Directs that green streets solutions will complement the context of the community.
- Establishes performance standards with measurable outcomes.
- Includes specific next steps for implementation of policy, such as
 - Revising agency procedures and regulations to reflect the policy
 - Developing or adopting new design guides
 - Offering training for staff responsible for implementing the policy
 - Gathering data on how well streets are serving the goals of the policy

II. Green Streets Policy Template

Beginning on the effective date of this policy, all (insert jurisdiction or agency) financed and approved transportation projects in (insert Jurisdiction or Agency) shall use trees, landscaping and related environmental site design features to capture and filter stormwater runoff within the right of way, in a manner appropriate to the function and context of the facility.

Inclusions

1. All (insert jurisdiction or agency) financed and approved road, driveway, parking lot, sidewalk, trail, and transit related construction and reconstruction projects in (insert Jurisdiction or Agency).
2. The (agency or jurisdiction) will review and revise, as deemed necessary by the (Executive), plans, manuals, policies, processes and the capital improvement program to foster the implementation of green streets on public roadways projects, including privately built projects approved by the (agency or jurisdiction) or on non-(agency or jurisdiction) projects funded in part or entirely by (agency or jurisdiction) funds.
3. This policy shall be applied with due consideration to adjacent land uses and the urban, suburban, or rural context in which a project is located.
4. This policy shall be applied in a manner that is consistent with applicable federal, state, and local environmental requirements.
5. Public input shall be required before implementation of a Green Streets policy.

Exemptions

Project-specific exemptions shall be approved by a senior manager of the responsible agency.

This policy does not apply:

1. To a new transportation facility construction or modification project for which, as of the effective date of the adoption of the policy, at least 30 percent of the design phase is completed.
2. When the cost to the exempted project in achieving compliance with the green streets policy within the right of way would be excessively disproportionate to the total cost of the project, in which case an off-site mitigation project must be carried out.
3. When the existing and planned development and impervious surface densities around a particular project are so low as to have no significant impact on water quality during the design life of the facility.
4. To the following project types:
 - a. Emergency maintenance and repair projects
 - b. Sidewalk and multi-use path maintenance and repair.

- c. Tree planting
- d. Utility pole installation
- e. Street Light poles
- f. Traffic Signal poles
- g. Traffic Control Signs
- h. Fire Hydrants
- i. Where this use of funds would violate contracted or legal restrictions.