



Michigan Association of Planning
A chapter of the American Planning Association

June 10, 2010

Representative Jon Switalski, Michigan House of Representatives
Representative Pam Byrnes, Michigan House of Representatives
House Office Building
Lansing, Michigan

Honorable Representatives Jon Switalski, Pam Byrnes and House Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Healthy Kids / Healthy Michigan Initiative as Co Chair of the Community Policy Action Team (CPAT). The CPAT was charged two years ago with advancing Complete Streets in Michigan. The CPAT, with representatives from bike and trails organizations, planning and environmental groups, governmental associations, and the state departments of community health and transportation, worked for nearly two years to research and draft language that ultimately was included in the recently adopted HR 187, which supports active transportation infrastructure options that promote walking and bicycle usage (Representative Switalski), and HCR 034, the companion House Concurrent Resolution (Pam Byrnes).

The CPAT strategy was to advance a resolution first, which would help educate lawmakers and citizens about the benefits of active infrastructure, and which would lay the ground work for subsequent statutory changes.

The interest in Complete Streets was much greater than we ever imagined, and HB 6152 (amending the Planning Enabling Act to include Complete Streets in municipal planning efforts) and HB 6151 (amending Act 51 to include language to support active transportation infrastructure) were introduced in tandem with the resolutions.

With passage of the resolutions behind us, the CPAT is writing to support HB 6152. Passage of this bill will integrate complete streets philosophies into the plans and policies of local government, an excellent first step in advancing the idea of creating transportation systems that accommodate safe access for all users: Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

Further, Community Policy Action Team supports the work with partners to refine HB 6151 to ensure successful implementation of complete streets in Michigan.

The CPAT fully supports passage of HB 6152, and the eventual passage HB 6151,
Sincerely and on behalf of the Community Policy Action Team, Healthy Michigan Healthy Kid

Andrea Brown, AICP

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Andrea Brown'.

Executive Director