WHAT IS A COMPLETE STREET?
BEVERLY HILLS COMPLETE STREETS PLAN

A COMPLETE STREET IMPROVES SAFETY, MOBILITY, AND ACCESSIBILITY ALONG A STREET FOR EVERYONE.
Below are examples of typical Complete Streets ‘tools’ in a designer’s toolbox.

CROSSWALKS / RAISED CROSSWALKS: Wide, high-visibility striping and reflective paint enhance a motorist’s awareness of a crossing and creates a priority space for pedestrians. Raised crosswalks create a small vertical cue that forces drivers to slow down as they approach an intersection.

CROSSING WARNING DEVICES: Flashing lights and additional signage alert motorists to the presence of crosswalks and pedestrian traffic.

BULB OUTS / MEDIAN REFUGE ISLANDS: improve visibility and reduce pedestrian crossing distances. By reducing turning radius, bulb outs reduce vehicle speeds which increase the chance of survival for a pedestrian in the event of a collision.

ACCESSIBILITY / CURB RAMPS: are needed to improve travel for all residents regardless of ability or age. Smooth transitions to the street with textured warning strips coupled with wide sidewalks provide direct, predictable, and accessible streetscapes.

TRAFFIC CALMING: Strategies such as lane narrowing, traffic circles, and chicanes can discourage speeding and calm traffic. When roadways are narrowed using these methods, it encourages vehicles to drive slower and provides extra space for planted medians, bike lanes, or curb extensions.

TRANSIT STOP ENHANCEMENTS: Shade structures and benches can improve the comfort of waiting for a transit connection. Street furniture that incorporates technology may also be added, such as solar charging ports, wifi hot spots, or digital feedback signs to update passengers in real-time on the status of a connection.

BIKE LANES: Create a designated space on the road for people biking. This helps drivers better predict where riders will be - improving visibility and harmony on the road. Facilities may be designated with paint, as shown above in a rendering of bike lanes being added to North Santa Monica Boulevard, or a physical separator such as a curb or flexible post.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: Street trees, bioswales, and native plantings provide a pleasant street experience for people walking, and create a buffer between pedestrians and vehicle traffic. They improve stormwater and ecological functions while reducing a community’s carbon footprint. Street trees and plantings also provide shade, lower temperatures, and reduce the urban heat island effect.

SMART VEHICLES: include autonomous vehicles, connected vehicles, and electric vehicles. While these vehicles are not widely used at the moment, they represent an important future form of transportation that needs to be considered in urban streets.

NETWORK TECHNOLOGY: includes the invisible ways people interact with streets. These include smart cell networks to increase public wifi, rideshare apps, and curbside management policies that impact how people and vehicles use streets and sidewalks.

Visit www.beverlyhills.org/completestreets for more information.