

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 23

## 96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES FAITH (Sponsor), KIRKTON, OXFORD, MEADOWS,  
McDONALD AND FALLERT (Co-sponsors).

1269L.011

2       **WHEREAS**, bicycling and walking are essential to millions of Missourians as basic  
3 transportation and enjoyed by millions of Missourians as healthful recreation and as part of a  
4 healthy lifestyle; and

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5       **WHEREAS**, encouraging and promoting a complete network of safe bicycle and  
6 pedestrian ways and routes is essential for those Missourians who rely on bicycling and walking  
7 for transportation, recreation, and health; and

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9       **WHEREAS**, a safe and complete bicycle and pedestrian system is important for  
10 Missouri's economy and economic development; and

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12       **WHEREAS**, world-class bicycling and walking facilities help promote Missouri as a  
13 leading tourist and recreation destination; and

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15       **WHEREAS**, walking and bicycling improve the public health and reduce treatment costs  
16 for conditions associated with reduced physical activity, including obesity, heart disease, lung  
17 disease, and diabetes; and

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19       **WHEREAS**, the United Health Foundation estimates direct medical costs associated  
20 with physical inactivity in Missouri at \$1.9 billion in 2008, and projects an annual cost for  
21 Missouri of over \$8 billion per year by 2018 if current trends continue; and

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23       **WHEREAS**, the annual per capita cost of obesity is \$450 per Missourian, among the  
24 highest per capita costs of any state in the United States; and

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26           **WHEREAS**, promoting walking and bicycling for transportation improves Missouri's  
27 environment, reduces congestion, reduces the need for expensive expansion of our road and  
28 highway systems, and reduces our dependence on foreign energy supplies; and

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30           **WHEREAS**, creating healthy, walkable, bicycleable, and livable communities helps keep  
31 Missouri competitive in the global competition for high quality businesses and motivated,  
32 creative workers who consider transportation and recreation options an essential part of a healthy  
33 community; and

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35           **WHEREAS**, Missourians who reach retirement age choose more often to walk and  
36 bicycle for fitness, recreation, enjoyment, and transportation; and

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38           **WHEREAS**, citizens with disabilities often rely on walking, bicycling, and transit to  
39 meet basic transportation needs and to make connections with the transit system, face great  
40 obstacles within our current transportation system, and benefit greatly from complete and well  
41 designed accommodations for bicycling and walking; and

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43           **WHEREAS**, all transit users depend on walking and bicycling to complete at least part  
44 of each transit trip; and

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46           **WHEREAS**, the number of Missouri students who walk and bicycle to school has  
47 dropped dramatically over the past forty years, with 50% of students walking or bicycling in  
48 1975 but only 15% in 2005. In the same period, the percentage of children clinically defined as  
49 overweight has increased from 8% to 25%; and

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51           **WHEREAS**, the principles of Complete Streets are designed to create a transportation  
52 network that meets the needs of all users of the state's transportation system: pedestrians of all  
53 ages and abilities, bicyclists, disabled persons, public transportation vehicles and patrons, and  
54 those who travel in trucks, buses, and automobiles; and

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56           **WHEREAS**, the term "Complete Streets" means creating roads, streets, and communities  
57 where all road users can feel safe, secure, and welcome on our roads and streets and throughout  
58 our communities; and

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60           **WHEREAS**, the terms "livable streets" and "comprehensive street design" are also used  
61 to identify these same concepts; and

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63           **WHEREAS**, coordination and cooperation among many different agencies and  
64 municipalities is required to fully implement Complete Streets and create a complete, connected,  
65 and safe transportation network for walking and bicycling; and

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67           **WHEREAS**, Complete Streets policies require transportation planners and engineers to  
68 engage with a wide range of communities and stakeholders, build projects that meet the needs  
69 of all users of our transportation system, and design roads and bridges that complement and  
70 complete our communities and the human environment:

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72           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
73 Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
74 concurring therein, hereby declare our support for Complete Streets policies and urge their  
75 adoption at the local, metropolitan, regional, state, and national levels; and

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77           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the General Assembly encourages and urges the  
78 United States Department of Transportation, the Missouri Department of Transportation, the  
79 governing bodies of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and Regional Planning Commissions,  
80 municipalities, and other organizations and agencies that build, control, maintain, or fund roads,  
81 highways, and bridges in Missouri to adopt Complete Streets policies and to plan, design, build,  
82 and maintain their road and street system to provide complete, safe access to all road users; and

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84           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
85 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for Ray  
86 LaHood, Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation; members of the Missouri  
87 Highway and Transportation Commission; the director of each Metropolitan Planning Agency  
88 and Regional Planning Commission in the State of Missouri; and the Missouri Municipal  
89 League.