



Rick Scott
Governor

H. Frank Farmer, Jr., M.D., Ph.D., FACP
State Surgeon General

October 3, 2011

Fort Myers City Council
2200 2nd Street
Fort Myers, FL 33901-3026

Council members:

Complete Streets are good public health.

The people of Fort Myers face two important and growing threats to their health. The first threat comes from chronic diseases – heart disease, diabetes, hypertension – that are linked to obesity and lack of physical activity. In the past 20 years, urban planning and street design have been centered on convenience for the automobile and not for the pedestrian. For many residents of Fort Myers it is no longer possible or convenient to walk or bicycle to work, school, or shopping.

The second threat is injury. Lee County exceeds the state in the rate of people killed or injured while walking or bicycling. The Complete Streets resolution will begin the important process of making streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

I ask that you join an important trend in Lee County and Southwest Florida and adopt this Complete Streets resolution.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Hartner, M.D., M.P.H.
Director



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