



# CITY POLICY

**POLICY NUMBER:** C569

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**REFERENCE:**

*The Way We Move*

**ADOPTED BY:**

City Council  
October 3, 2012

**SUPERSEDES:**

New

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**PREPARED BY:** Transportation Services

**DATE:** September 18, 2012

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**TITLE:** **Optimization of the Transportation System Network**

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**Policy Statement:** The City, through its planning and design processes, strives to improve the quality of all modes of transportation and to optimize the use of the transportation network. The City recognizes that many physical, financial and community constraints make it infeasible or undesirable to build or expand roads to alleviate all congestion. The City will develop and apply a framework for congestion management that considers all modes of transportation, including pedestrians, cyclists, transit, autos and goods movement.

Assessment of congestion and the performance of a transportation facility will be analyzed using a Multi-Modal Level of Service (MMLOS). This considers:

- all modes of transportation (pedestrians, cyclists, transit, auto and goods movement)
- priority of a corridor for a particular mode
- land uses and character of the surrounding area

As such, differing objectives and levels of congestion may be acceptable in different contexts. For example, the quality of service for transit vehicles may be a higher priority than automobile delay in key transit corridors. The quality of service for cyclists will be more critical on roads that are part of the cycling network, and goods movement will be a vital priority on the Inner Ring Road (Inner Road identified in *The Way We Move*).

To address instances of congestion it is recognized that:

- mitigation measures or strategies must be consistent with *The Way We Move*.
- trade-offs will be necessary and sometimes roadway improvements will be made for one mode at the expense of another mode.
- the system capacity will be analyzed using a holistic approach in order to maximize the use of existing infrastructure.
- trade-offs will have to be made and that different levels of congestion will be experienced in different contexts.

**The purpose of this policy is to:** Establish the principles for development of a congestion management framework that considers all modes of transportation to assess the performance of transportation facilities. This provides a consistent approach to planning and design of transportation infrastructure to enable the city to respond to congestion using a multimodal approach that considers the quality of travel by roadway context for pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, auto and goods.