



BOSTON
TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT

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December 13, 2013

Linda Bailey, Acting Executive Director
NACTO
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York NY 10041

Dear Ms. Bailey:

I am writing to endorse the National Association of City Transportation Officials' *Urban Street Design Guide* as an effective tool for designing streets and public spaces. It outlines policies and techniques that have the potential to transform our city streets into vibrant, safe and sustainable environments for all.

Today we find ourselves in the midst of unprecedented change. Decreasing car-use coupled with an increase in transit ridership, a jump in bicycle use, the impact of climate change, the need for active living and the use of mobile technology, all point to reimagining how we design city streets. The *Guide* articulates a unique approach to meet these challenges that builds on both tested engineering solutions and cutting edge guidance that responds to the context rather than one-size-fits-all designs.

NACTO's efforts are in concert with Boston based initiatives. Recently the Boston Transportation Department published the 2013 version of its Complete Streets Guidelines. The guidelines rebalance city streets to make walking, transit and cycling as safe and convenient as driving a car; propose greener and more environmentally friendly techniques; and embrace technology in the use of our streets.

The City of Boston joins other cities throughout the country in recognizing the NACTO Guide as an indispensable tool in planning modern cities, as we collectively work toward a shared vision with our partners at all levels of government.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Tinlin
Commissioner

THOMAS M. MENINO, Mayor
Thomas J. Tinlin, Commissioner

