

APPENDIX G: RELEVANT FEDERAL AND STATE POLICIES

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G.0 Overview

A number of federal and state bicycle and pedestrian policies have been developed in recent years. This appendix covers a number of these policies that are intended to better integrate bicycling and walking into transportation infrastructure.

G.1 Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy

United States Department of Transportation (US DOT)

A United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) policy statement regarding the integration of bicycling and walking into transportation infrastructure recommends that, “bicycling and walking facilities will be incorporated into all transportation projects” unless exceptional circumstances exist. The Policy Statement was drafted by the U.S. Department of Transportation in response to Section 1202 (b) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) with the input and assistance of public agencies, professional associations and advocacy groups. USDOT hopes that public agencies, professional associations, advocacy groups, and others adopt this approach as a way of committing themselves to integrating bicycling and walking into the transportation mainstream. The full statement reads as follows, with some minor adjustments for applicability in Jacksonville (note: some parts, like #3, are pedestrian-focused):

1. Bicycle and pedestrian ways shall be established in new construction and reconstruction projects in all urbanized areas unless one or more of three conditions are met:
 - Bicyclists and pedestrians are prohibited by law from using the roadway. In this instance, a greater effort may be necessary to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians elsewhere within the right of way or within the same transportation corridor.
 - The cost of establishing bikeways or walkways would be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use. Excessively disproportionate is defined as exceeding twenty percent of the cost of the larger transportation project.
 - Where sparsity of population or other factors indicate an absence of need. For example, on low volume, low speed residential streets, or streets with severe topographic or natural resource constraints.
2. In rural areas, paved shoulders should be included in all new construction and reconstruction projects on roadways used by more than

1,000 vehicles per day. Paved shoulders have safety and operational advantages for all road users in addition to providing a place for bicyclists and pedestrians to operate. Rumble strips are not recommended where shoulders are used by bicyclists unless there is a minimum clear path of four feet in which a bicycle may safely operate.

3. Sidewalks, shared use paths, street crossings (including over- and undercrossings), pedestrian signals, signs, street furniture, transit stops and facilities, and all connecting pathways shall be designed, constructed, operated and maintained so that all pedestrians, including people with disabilities, can travel safely and independently.
4. The design and development of the transportation infrastructure shall improve conditions for bicycling and walking through the following additional steps:
 - *Planning projects for the long-term.* Transportation facilities are long-term investments that remain in place for many years. The design and construction of new facilities that meet the criteria in item 1) above should anticipate likely future demand for bicycling and walking facilities and not

preclude the provision of future improvements. For example, a bridge that is likely to remain in place for 50 years, might be built with sufficient width for safe bicycle and pedestrian use in anticipation that facilities will be available at either end of the bridge even if that is not currently the case.

- *Addressing the need for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross corridors as well as travel along them.* Even where bicyclists and pedestrians may not commonly use a particular travel corridor that is being improved or constructed, they will likely need to be able to cross that corridor safely and conveniently. Therefore, the design of intersections and interchanges shall accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians in a manner that is safe, accessible and convenient.
- *Getting exceptions approved at a senior level.* Exceptions for the non-inclusion of bikeways and walkways shall be approved by a senior manager and be documented with supporting data that indicates the basis for the decision.
- *Designing facilities to the best currently available standards and*

guidelines. The design of facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians should follow design guidelines and standards that are commonly used, such as the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, AASHTO's A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, and the ITE Recommended Practice "Design and Safety of Pedestrian Facilities. (Many of these guidelines are summarized in Chapter 4: Bicycle Facility Standards)

(Retrieved from <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/design.htm> on 5/6/2008)

G.2 FHWA Memorandum on Mainstreaming Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

(See pages 4-6)


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**U.S. Department of
Transportation
Federal Highway Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: ACTION: Transmittal of Guidance on Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of the Federal-aid Program

Date: February 24, 1999

From: Kenneth R. Wykle
Federal Highway Administrator

**In reply, HEPH-30
refer to:**

To:
Division Administrators
Federal Lands Highway Division Engineers

This memorandum transmits the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Guidance on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of the Federal-aid Program and reaffirms our strong commitment to improving conditions for bicycling and walking. The nonmotorized modes are an integral part of the mission of FHWA and a critical element of the local, regional, and national transportation system. Bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs are eligible for but not guaranteed funding from almost all of the major Federal-aid funding programs. We expect every transportation agency to make accommodation for bicycling and walking a routine part of their planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance activities.

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) continues the call for the mainstreaming of bicycle and pedestrian projects into the planning, design, and operation of our Nation's transportation system. Under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), Federal spending on bicycle and pedestrian improvements increased from \$4 million annually to an average of \$160 million annually. Nevertheless, the level of commitment to addressing the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians varies greatly from State to State.

The attached guidance explains how bicycle and pedestrian improvements can be routinely included in federally funded transportation projects and programs. I would ask each division office to pass along this guidance to the State DOT and to meet with them to discuss ways of expediting the implementation of bicycle and pedestrian projects. With the guidance as a basis for action, States can then decide the most appropriate ways of mainstreaming the inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs.

Bicycling and walking contribute to many of the goals for our transportation system we have at FHWA and at the State and local levels. Increasing bicycling and walking offers the potential for cleaner air, healthier people, reduced congestion, more liveable communities, and more efficient use of precious road space and resources. That is why funds in programs such as Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Transportation Enhancements, and the National Highway System, are eligible to be used for bicycling and

walking improvements that will encourage use of the two modes.

We also have a responsibility to improve the safety of bicycling and walking as the two modes represent more than 14 percent of the 41,000 traffic fatalities the nation endures each year. Pedestrian and bicycle safety is one of FHWA's top priorities and this is reflected in our 1999 Safety Action Plan. As the attached guidance details, TEA-21 has opened up the Hazard Elimination Program to a broader array of bicycle, pedestrian, and traffic calming projects that will improve dangerous locations. The legislation also continues funding for critical safety education and enforcement activities under the leadership of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. If we are successful in improving the real and perceived safety of bicyclists and pedestrians, we will also increase use.

You will see from the attached guidance that the Federal-aid Program, as amended by TEA-21, offers an extraordinary range of opportunities to improve conditions for bicycling and walking. Initiatives such as the Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program and the Access to Jobs program offer exciting new avenues to explore.

Bicycling and walking ought to be accommodated, as an element of good planning, design, and operation, in all new transportation projects unless there are substantial safety or cost reasons for not doing so. Later this year (1999), FHWA will issue design guidance language on approaches to accommodating bicycling and pedestrian travel that will, with the cooperation of AASHTO, ITE, and other interested parties, spell out ways to build bicycle and pedestrian facilities into the fabric of our transportation infrastructure from the outset. We can no longer afford to treat the two modes as an afterthought or luxury.

The TEA-21 makes a great deal possible. However, in the area of bicycling and walking in particular, we must work hard to ensure good intentions and fine policies translate quickly and directly into better conditions for bicycling and walking. While FHWA has limited ability to mandate specific outcomes, I am committed to ensuring that we provide national leadership in three critical areas.

- The FHWA will encourage the development and implementation of bicycle and pedestrian plans as part of the overall transportation planning process. Every statewide and metropolitan transportation plan should address bicycling and walking as an integral part of the overall system, either through the development of a separate bicycle and pedestrian element or by incorporating bicycling and walking provisions throughout the plan. Further, I am instructing each FHWA division office to closely monitor the progress of projects from the long-range transportation plans to the STIPs and TIPs. In the coming months, FHWA will disseminate exemplary projects, programs, and plans, and we will conduct evaluations in selected States and MPOs to determine the effectiveness of the planning process.
- The FHWA will promote the availability and use of the full range of streamlining mechanisms to increase project delivery. The tools are in place for States and local government agencies to speed up the delivery of bicycle and pedestrian projects - it makes no sense to treat installation of a bicycle rack or curb cut the same way we treat a new Interstate highway project - and our division offices must take a lead in promoting and administering these procedures.
- The FHWA will help coordinate the efforts of Federal, State, metropolitan, and other relevant agencies to improve conditions for bicycling and walking. Once again, our division offices must ensure that those involved in implementing bicycle and pedestrian projects at the State and local level are given maximum opportunity to get their job done, unimpeded by regulations and red tape from the Federal level. I am asking each of our division offices to facilitate a dialogue among each State's bicycle and pedestrian coordinator, Transportation Enhancements program manager, Recreational Trails Program administrator, and their local and FHWA counterparts to identify and remove obstacles to the implementation of bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs.

In less than a decade, bicycling and walking have gone from being described by my predecessor Tom Larson as "the forgotten modes" to becoming a serious part of our national transportation system. The growing acceptance of bicycling and walking as modes to be included as part of the transportation mainstream started with passage of ISTEA in 1991 and was given a considerable boost by the Congressionally-mandated National Bicycling and Walking Study. That study, released in 1994, challenges the U.S. Department of Transportation to double the percentage of trips made by foot and bicycle while simultaneously reducing fatalities and injuries suffered by these modes by 10 percent - and we remain committed to achieving these goals.

The impetus of ISTEA and the National Bicycling and Walking Study is clearly reinforced by the bicycle and pedestrian provisions of the TEA-21. The legislation confirms the vital role bicycling and walking must play in creating a balanced, accessible, and safe transportation system for all Americans.

[FHWA Guidance \(1999\)](#) - Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of Federal Transportation Legislation

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United States Department of Transportation - **Federal Highway Administration**

**G.3 NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION:
BICYCLING & WALKING IN NORTH CAROLINA,
A CRITICAL PART OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**
(Adopted by the Board of Transportation on September 8, 2000)

The North Carolina Board of Transportation strongly reaffirms its commitment to improving conditions for bicycling and walking, and recognizes nonmotorized modes of transportation as critical elements of the local, regional, and national transportation system.

WHEREAS, increasing bicycling and walking offers the potential for cleaner air, healthier people, reduced congestion, more liveable communities, and more efficient use of road space and resources; and

WHEREAS, crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians represent more than 14 percent of the nation's traffic fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in its policy statement "Guidance on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of the Federal-Aid Program" urges states to include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations in its programmed highway projects; and

WHEREAS, bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs are eligible for funding from almost all of the major Federal-aid funding programs; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) calls for the mainstreaming of bicycle and pedestrian projects into the planning, design and operation of our Nation's transportation system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the North Carolina Board of Transportation concurs that bicycling and walking accommodations shall be a routine part of the North Carolina Department of Transportation's planning, design, construction, and operations activities and supports the Department's study and consideration of methods of improving the inclusion of these modes into the everyday operations of North Carolina's transportation system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, North Carolina cities and towns are encouraged to make bicycling and pedestrian improvements an integral part of their transportation planning and programming.

**G.4 NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION TO INCLUDE LOCAL
ADOPTED GREENWAYS PLANS
IN THE NCDOT HIGHWAY PLANNING PROCESS
ADOPTED JANUARY, 1994**

In 1994 the NCDOT adopted administrative guidelines to consider greenways and greenway crossings during the highway planning process. This policy was incorporated so that critical corridors which have been adopted by localities for future greenways will not be severed by highway construction. Following are the text for the Greenway Policy and Guidelines for implementing it.

In concurrence with the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 and the Board of Transportation's Bicycle Policy of 1978 (updated in 1991) and Pedestrian Policy of 1993, the North Carolina Department of Transportation recognizes the importance of incorporating local greenways plans into its planning process for the development and improvement of highways throughout North Carolina.

NCDOT Responsibilities: The Department will incorporate locally adopted plans for greenways into the ongoing planning processes within the Statewide Planning (thoroughfare plans) and the Planning and Environmental (project plans) Branches of the Division of Highways. This incorporation of greenway plans will be consistent

throughout the department. Consideration will be given to including the greenway access as a part of the highway improvement.

Where possible, within the policies of the Department, within the guidelines set forth in provisions for greenway crossings, or other greenway elements, will be made as a part of the highway project or undertaken as an allowable local expenditure.

Local Responsibilities: Localities must show the same commitment to building their adopted greenway plans as they are requesting when they ask the state to commit to providing for a certain segment of that plan. It is the responsibility of each locality to notify the Department of greenway planning activity and adopted greenway plans and to update the Department with all adopted additions and changes in existing plans.

It is also the responsibility of each locality to consider the adopted transportation plan in their greenways planning and include its adopted greenways planning activities within their local transportation planning process. Localities should place in priority their greenways construction activities and justify the transportation nature of each greenway segment. When there are several planned greenway crossings of a proposed highway improvement, the locality must provide justification of each and place the list of crossings in priority order.

Where crossings are planned, transportation rights of way should be designated or acquired separately to avoid jeopardizing the future transportation improvements.

GUIDELINES FOR NCDOT TO COMPLY WITH
ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
TO INCORPORATE LOCAL GREENWAYS INTO
HIGHWAY PLANNING PROCESS

- Thoroughfare plans will address the existence of greenways planning activity, which has been submitted by local areas. Documentation of mutually agreed upon interface points between the thoroughfare plan and a greenway plan will be kept, and this information will become a part of project files.
- Project Planning Reports will address the existence of locally adopted greenways segment plans, which may affect the corridor being planned for a highway improvement. It is, however, the responsibility of the locality to notify the Department of the adopted greenways plans (or changes to its previous plans) through its current local transportation plan, as well as its implementation programs.
- Where local greenways plans have not been formally adopted or certain portions of the

greenways plans have not been adopted, the Department may note this greenway planning activity but is not required to incorporate this information into its planning reports.

- Where the locality has included adopted greenways plans as a part of its local transportation plan and a segment (or segments) of these greenways fall within the corridor of new highway construction or a highway improvement project, the feasibility study and/or project planning report for this highway improvement will consider the effects of the proposed highway improvement upon the greenway in the same manner as it considers other planning characteristics of the project corridor, such as archeological features or land use.
- Where the locality has justified the transportation versus the leisure use importance of a greenway segment and there is no greenway alternative of equal importance nearby, the project planning report will suggest inclusion of the greenway crossing, or appropriate greenway element, as an incidental part of the highway expenditure.
- Where the locality has not justified the

transportation importance of a greenway segment, the greenway crossing, or appropriate greenway element, may be included as a part of the highway improvement plan if the local government covers the cost.

- A locality may add any appropriate/acceptable greenway crossing or greenway element at their own expense to any highway improvement project as long as it meets the design standards of the NCDOT.
- The NCDOT will consider funding for greenway crossings, and other appropriate greenway elements only if the localities guarantee the construction of and/or connection with other greenway segments. This guarantee should be in the form of inclusion in the local capital improvements program or NCDOT/municipal agreement.
- If the state pays for the construction of a greenway incidental to a highway improvement and the locality either removes the connecting greenway segments from its adopted greenways plans or decides not to construct its agreed upon greenway segment, the locality will reimburse the state for the cost of the

greenway incidental feature. These details will be handled through a municipal agreement.

- Locality must accept maintenance responsibilities for state-built greenways, or portions thereof. Details will be handled through a municipal agreement.

G.5 NCDOT Pedestrian Policy Guidelines

(See pages 11-12)

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PEDESTRIAN POLICY GUIDELINES
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2000**

These guidelines provide an updated procedure for implementing the Pedestrian Policy adopted by the Board of Transportation August 1993 and the Board of Transportation Resolution September 8, 2000. The resolution reaffirms the Department's commitment to improving conditions for bicycling and walking, and recognizes non-motorized modes of transportation as critical elements of the local, regional, and national transportation system. The resolution encourages North Carolina cities and towns to make bicycling and pedestrian improvements an integral part of their transportation planning and programming.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DOT FUNDING:

REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING SIDEWALKS:

The Department will pay 100% of the cost to replace an existing sidewalk that is removed to facilitate the widening of a road.

TIP INCIDENTAL PROJECTS:

DEFINED: Incidental pedestrian projects are defined as TIP projects where pedestrian facilities are included as part of the roadway project.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. The municipality and/or county notifies the Department in writing of its desire for the Department to incorporate pedestrian facilities into project planning and design. Notification states the party's commitment to participate in the cost of the facility as well as being responsible for all maintenance and liability. Responsibilities are defined by agreement. Execution is required prior to contract let.

The municipality is responsible for evaluating the need for the facility (ie: generators, safety, continuity, integration, existing or projected traffic) and public involvement.

2. Written notification must be received by the **Project Final Field Inspection (FFI) date**. Notification should be sent to the Deputy Highway Administrator - Preconstruction with a copy to the Project Engineer and the Agreements Section of the Program Development Branch. Requests received after the project FFI date will be incorporated into the TIP project, if feasible, and only if the requesting party commits by agreement to pay 100% of the cost of the facility.
3. The Department will review the feasibility of including the facility in our project and will try to accommodate all requests where the Department has acquired appropriate right of way on curb and gutter sections and the facility can be installed in the current project berm width. The standard project section is a 10-ft berm (3.0-meter) that accommodates a 5-ft sidewalk. In accordance with

AASHTO standards, the Department will construct 5-ft sidewalks with wheelchair ramps. Betterment cost (ie: decorative pavers) will be a Municipal responsibility.

4. If the facility is not contained within the project berm width, the Municipality is responsible for providing the right of way and/or construction easements as well as utility relocations, at no cost to the Department. This provision is applicable to all pedestrian facilities including multi-use trails and greenways.
5. A cost sharing approach is used to demonstrate the Department’s and the municipality’s/county’s commitment to pedestrian transportation (sidewalks, multi-use trails and greenways). The matching share is a sliding scale based on population as follows:

MUNICIPAL POPULATION	DOT PARTICIPATION	LOCAL PARTICIPATION
> 100,000	50%	50%
50,000 to 100,000	60%	40%
10,000 to 50,000	70%	30%
< 10,000	80%	20%

Note: The cost of bridges will not be included in the shared cost of the pedestrian installation if the Department is funding the installation under provision 6 - pedestrian facilities on bridges.

6. For bridges on streets with curb and gutter approaches, the Department will fund and construct sidewalks on both sides of the bridge facility if the bridge is less than 200 feet in length. If the bridge is greater than 200 feet in length, the Department will fund and construct a sidewalk on one side of the bridge structure. The bridge will also be studied to determine the costs and benefits of constructing sidewalks on both sides of the structure. If in the judgement of the Department sidewalks are justified, funding will be provided for installation. The above provision is also applicable to dual bridge structures. For dual bridges greater than 200 ft in length, a sidewalk will be constructed on the outside of one bridge structure. The bridges will also be studied to determine if sidewalks on the outside of both structures are justified.
7. FUNDING CAPS are no longer applicable.
8. This policy does not commit the Department to the installation of facilities in the Department’s TIP projects where the pedestrian facility causes an unpractical design modification, is not in accordance with AASHTO standards, creates an unsafe situation, or in the judgement of the Department is not practical to program.

INDEPENDENT PROJECTS

DEFINED: The DOT has a separate category of funds for all independent pedestrian facility projects in North Carolina where installation is unrelated to a TIP roadway project. An independent pedestrian facility project will be administered in accordance with Enhancement Program Guidelines.

G.6 NCDOT Bicycle Policy

General

Pursuant to the Bicycle and Bikeways Act of 1974, the Board of Transportation finds that bicycling is a bonafide highway purpose subject to the same rights and responsibilities and eligible for the same considerations as other highway purposes, as elaborated below.

1. The Board of Transportation endorses the concept that bicycle transportation is an integral part of the comprehensive transportation system in North Carolina.
2. The Board of Transportation endorses the concept of providing bicycle transportation facilities within the rights-of-way of highways deemed appropriated by the Board.
3. The Board of Transportation will adopt Design Guidelines for Bicycle Facilities. These guidelines will include criteria for selecting cost-effective and safety-effective bicycle facility types and a procedure for prioritizing bicycle facility improvements.
4. Bicycle compatibility shall be a goal for state highways, except on fully controlled access highways where bicycles are prohibited, in order to provide reasonably safe bicycle use.
5. All bicycle transportation facilities approved by the Board of Transportation shall conform

with the adopted “Design Guidelines for Bicycle Facilities” on state-funded projects, and also with guidelines published by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) on federal aid projects.

Planning and Design

It is the policy of the Board of Transportation that bicycle facility planning be included in the state thoroughfare and project planning process.

1. The intent to include planning for bicycle facilities within new highway construction and improvement projects is to be noted in the Transportation Improvement Program.
2. During the thoroughfare planning process, bicycle usage shall be presumed to exist along certain corridors (e.g., between residential developments, schools, businesses and recreational areas). Within the project planning process, each project shall have a documented finding with regard to existing or future bicycling needs. In order to use available funds efficiently, each finding shall include measures of cost-effectiveness and safety-effectiveness of any proposed bicycle facility.
3. If bicycle usage is shown likely to be

significant, and it is not prohibited, and there are positive cost-effective and safety-effective findings; then, plans for and designs of highway construction projects along new corridors, and for improvement projects along existing highways, shall include provisions for bicycle facilities (e.g., bike routes, bike lanes, bike paths, paved shoulders, wide outside lanes, bike trails) and secondary bicycle facilities (traffic control, parking, information devices, etc.).

4. Federally funded new bridges, grade separated interchanges, tunnels, and viaducts, and their improvements, shall be designed to provide safe access to bicycles, pursuant to the policies of the Federal Highway Administration.
5. Barriers to existing bicycling shall be avoided in the planning and design of highway projects.
6. Although separate bicycle facilities (e.g., bike paths, bike trails) are useful under some conditions and can have great value for exclusively recreational purposes, incorporation of on road bicycle facilities (e.g., bicycle lanes, paved shoulders) in highway projects are preferred for safety reasons over separate bicycle facilities parallel to major roadways. Secondary

complementary bicycle facilities (e.g., traffic control, parking, information devices, etc.) should be designed to be within highway rights-of-way.

7. Technical assistance shall be provided in the planning and design of alternative transportation uses, including bicycling, for abandoned railroad rights-of way. This assistance would be pursuant to the National Trails Act Amendment of 1983, and the resultant national Rails to Trails program, as will the Railway Revitalization Act of 1975.
8. Wherever appropriate, bicycle facilities shall be integrated into the study, planning, design, and implementation of state funded transportation projects involving air, rail, and marine transportation, and public parking facilities.
9. The development of new and improved bicycle control and information signs is encouraged for the increased safety of all highway users.
10. The development of bicycle demonstration projects which foster innovations in planning, design, construction, and maintenance is encouraged.
11. Paved shoulders shall be encouraged as appropriate along highways for the safety of all highway users, and should be designed to

- accommodate bicycle traffic.
12. Environmental Documents/Planning Studies for transportation projects shall evaluate the potential use of the facility by bicyclists and determine whether special bicycle facility design is appropriate.
 13. Local input and advice shall be sought, to the degree practicable, during the planning stage and in advance of the final design of roadway improvements to ensure appropriate consideration of bicycling needs, if significant.
 14. On highways where bicycle facilities exist, (bike paths, bike lanes, bike routes, paved shoulders, wide curb lanes, etc.), new highway improvements shall be planned and implemented to maintain the level of existing safety for bicyclists.
 15. Any new or improved highway project designed and constructed within a public-use transportation corridor with private funding shall include the same bicycle facility considerations as if the project had been funded with public funds. In private transportation projects (including parking facilities), where state funding or Department approval is not involved, the same guidelines and standards for providing bicycle facilities should be encouraged.

Construction

It is the policy of the Board of Transportation that all state and federally funded highway projects incorporating bicycle facility improvements shall be constructed in accordance with approved state and federal guidelines and standards.

1. Bicycle facilities shall be constructed, and bicycle compatibility shall be provided for, in accordance with adopted Design Guidelines for Bicycle Facilities and with guidelines of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.
2. Rumble strips (raised traffic bars), asphalt concrete dikes, reflectors, and other such surface alterations, where installed, shall be placed in a manner as not to present hazards to bicyclists where bicycle use exists or is likely to exist. Rumble strips shall not be extended across shoulder or other areas intended for bicycle travel.
3. During restriping operations, motor vehicle traffic lanes may be narrowed to allow for wider curb lanes.

Maintenance

It is the policy of the Board of Transportation that the state highway system, including state-funded bicycle facilities, shall be maintained in a manner conducive to bicycle safety.

1. State and federally funded and built bicycle facilities within the state right-of-way are to be maintained to the same degree as the state highway system.
2. In the maintenance, repair, and resurfacing of highways, bridges, and other transportation facilities, and in the installation of utilities or other structures, nothing shall be done to diminish existing bicycle compatibility.
3. Rough road surfaces which are acceptable to motor vehicle traffic may be unsuitable for bicycle traffic, and special consideration may be necessary for highways with significant bicycle usage.
4. For any state-funded bicycle project not constructed on state right-of-way, a maintenance agreement stating that maintenance shall be the total responsibility of the local government sponsor shall be negotiated between the Department and the local government sponsor.
5. Pot-holes, edge erosion, debris, etc., are special problems for bicyclists, and their elimination should be a part of each Division's maintenance program. On identified bicycle facilities, the bike lanes and paths should be routinely swept and cleared of grass intrusion, undertaken within the discretion and capabilities of Division forces.

Operations

It is the policy of the Board of Transportation that operations and activities on the state highway system and bicycle facilities shall be conducted in a manner conducive to bicycle safety.

1. A bicyclist has the right to travel at a speed less than that of the normal motor vehicle traffic. In exercising this right, the bicyclist shall also be responsible to drive his/her vehicle safely, with due consideration to the rights of the other motor vehicle operators and bicyclists and in compliance with the motor vehicle laws of North Carolina.
2. On a case by case basis, the paved shoulders of those portions of the state's fully controlled access highways may be studied and considered as an exception for usage by bicyclists where adjacent highways do not exist or are more dangerous for bicycling. Pursuant to federal highway policy, usage by bicyclists must receive prior approval by the Board of Transportation for each specific segment for which such usage is deemed appropriate, and those segments shall be appropriately signed for that usage.
3. State, county, and local law enforcement agencies are encouraged to provide specific training for law enforcement personnel with

- regard to bicycling.
4. The use of approved safety helmets by all bicyclists is encouraged.

Education

It is the policy of the Board of Transportation that education of both motorists and bicyclists, regarding the rights and responsibilities of bicycle riders, shall be an integral part of the Department's Bicycle Program.

School systems are encouraged to conduct bicycle safety education programs as a part of and in addition to the driver's education program, to the maximum extent practicable, and in conjunction with safety efforts through the Governor's Highway Safety Program. The Division of Motor Vehicles is also urged to include bicycle safety and user information in its motor vehicle safety publications.

Parking

It is the policy of the Board of Transportation that secure and adequate bicycle parking facilities shall be provided wherever practicable and warranted in the design and construction of all state-funded buildings, parks, and recreational facilities.

G.7 AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan

(see pages 18-19)

G.8 NCDOT Online Pedestrian Planning and Design Resources List

(see pages 20-21)



Part 2: Special Users

Making Walking and Street Crossing Safer

Background

Although the annual number of pedestrian deaths has been steadily declining, pedestrians still account for about 11 percent of motor vehicle deaths. In 2003, a pedestrian was killed, on average, every 109 minutes on the nation's roadways—nearly 4,800 men, women, and children in all—and the problem is most problematic for the elderly. Pedestrian deaths are primarily an urban problem, as many are killed at crosswalks, sidewalks, median strips, and traffic islands. New strategies that address the various issues associated with pedestrian collisions are needed to further reduce pedestrian injuries and fatalities.

Four main areas of concern have been identified, with the highest priority involving inadequacies in pedestrian facilities and the lack of good design information for them. Another major concern identified is the lack of awareness of the risks and responsibilities both drivers and pedestrians encounter during their interaction. The third and fourth areas recommended for action involve the more familiar concerns

of motorist and pedestrian noncompliance with traffic statutes and the predictable high alcohol involvement associated with pedestrian collisions.

Report relevant to this objective:

NCHRP Report 500-10, A Guide for Reducing Collisions Involving Pedestrians.

The Strategies

In cooperation with other professional organizations, update existing and develop new warrants, guides, and standards for the safe accommodation of pedestrians.

A synthesis report will be prepared after a review of existing AASHTO, ITE, and U.S. DOT publications. A guide of the best information available for providing proper pedestrian facilities will be developed based on the synthesis report and input from appropriate organizations and interested groups. The report will provide guidance to transportation professionals on providing appropriate accommodations for pedestrians while still maintaining the functionality

of highways in terms of accommodating vehicle needs. The report will be published by AASHTO and widely distributed in cooperation with organizations representing local officials and transportation professionals, such as the American Public Works Association (APWA) and National Association of County Officials (NACO).

Reports relevant to this objective:

AASHTO Guide for the Planning, Design and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities (available at bookstore.transportation.org, or 1-800-231-3475).

Implement comprehensive programs (engineering, enforcement, education) to influence impaired (generally alcohol or drug) pedestrians.

Crashes involving impaired pedestrians at night are a significant concern in urban areas. This initiative will define viable countermeasures that can have an impact on impaired pedestrians. They will be field-tested and evaluated with the most successful countermeasures included in a set of guidelines created for national use.



Encourage states to become active in public outreach and training on pedestrian safety.

A significant majority of pedestrian crashes occur because of pedestrian ac-

tions or errors. Changing people's walking habits to include safe behavior will reduce pedestrian crashes. Educating motorists about the effects of speed will also impact crash statistics. This initiative encourages states to consider and coordinate partnerships with other organizations that promote pedestrian safety and support active participation in programs like Partnership for a Walkable America to help increase public awareness of risks and safer walking practices. States can help promote and distribute technical and promotional material on pedestrian safety to local public and private groups and organizations.

Develop programs to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety accommodations for intersections and interchanges.

Although pedestrians are supposed to cross at intersections rather than at mid-block locations, many intersections

are not pedestrian or bicycle friendly. This initiative will evaluate crash data, assess existing guidelines, and develop improvements to highway design and traffic control handbooks to better accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. Pedestrians and bicyclists as well as transportation professionals at the state and local levels will be involved in the process. The formalized guidelines will be disseminated to state and local governments along with training and funding programs.

Encourage states to enact new or modified legislation and adopt policies to provide safer accommodation of pedestrians on public roads.

State laws on pedestrian rights and responsibilities are not consistent, and many do not adequately define and communicate safe pedestrian actions. This initiative will review existing state motor vehicle laws and ordinances that can affect pedestrian safety and develop a model code and ordinances. State and local governments will be urged to adopt the model. States will also be encouraged to implement trial projects using increased enforcement to improve compliance with any new laws.

Implement comprehensive integrated pedestrian safety programs targeting pedestrian crash concerns in major urbanized areas and select rural areas.

This initiative will combine a number of efforts in engineering (improving signal timing, crosswalks, intersection design), education (targeting children, older people, impaired pedestrians, alcohol vendors, and drivers), and enforcement (existing pedestrian orderliness, speeding, and red-light-running) in a coordinated approach to reduce pedestrian crashes. A comprehensive number of successful programs have been implemented in select cities. This initiative will draw upon these efforts and expand the most successful programs to other urban and rural areas that have pedestrian crash problems.

Useful On-Line Pedestrian Planning and Design Resources

NCDOT Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/
Board of Transportation Resolution on Mainstreaming	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/laws/laws_resolution.html
NCDOT Pedestrian Policy Guidelines	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/laws/ped_guide.pdf
NCDOT Greenways - Administrative Process	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/laws/laws_greenway_admin.html
Funding	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/funding/funding_intro.html
Project Types	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/projects/project_types/bpt_intro.html
Crash Data	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/safety/safety_crashdata.html
DBPT Long Range Plan	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/projects/intro/projects_long_range.html
Safe Routes to School Program	http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle/saferoutes/SafeRoutes.html

NCDOT Division of Highways <http://www.ncdot.org/doh/>

Alternative Delivery Unit – Publications for Download	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/
Bridge Policy 2000	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/bpe2000.doc
Curb Cuts & Ramps for Disabled Persons	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/handi.pdf
Traditional Neighborhood Development Manual	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/tnd.pdf
ADA – Detectable Warnings	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/ps/std_draw/06english/08/default.html
Highway Design Branch – Design Manual	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/designmanual.html
Policy and Procedure Manual (See Section 28)	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/ppm/
Policy on Street & Driveway Access	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/altern/value/manuals/pos.pdf
Traffic Engineering and Safety Systems Branch	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/traffic/
NC Supplement to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/traffic/MUTCD/
Crosswalks/Mid-Block Signing and Pavement Markings	http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/traffic/tepl/Topics/C-36/C-36.html



Developing a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Workshop

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UNC Highway Safety Research Center <http://www.hsrc.unc.edu>

Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center <http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/index.htm>

Walking <http://www.walkinginfo.org/>

Engineer Pedestrian Facilities <http://www.walkinginfo.org/engineering>

Pedestrian Safety Guide & Countermeasure
Selection System (PEDSAFE) <http://www.walkinginfo.org/pedsafe/>

Develop Plans and Policies <http://www.walkinginfo.org/develop>

National Center for Safe Routes to School <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org>

Federal Highway Administration Bicycle & Pedestrian Program <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/>

Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of Federal
Transportation Legislation <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/bp-guid.htm>

Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/overview.htm>

Program & Design Guidance <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/guidance.htm>

Links to Other Resources <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/bipedlink.htm>

Publications <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/publications.htm>

Pedestrian Safety http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped/index.htm

Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Research Page <http://www.fhrc.gov/safety/pedbike/index.htm>

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration – Traffic Safety: Pedestrians <http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/menuitem.dfedd570f698cabbbf30811060008a0c/>

National Center for Bicycling & Walking <http://www.bikewalk.org/>

