

## **ASHE SPRING TECHNICAL SESSION**

# **VDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy and Its Implementation**

March 20, 2008

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## VDOT Policy

- **The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved VDOT's Policy for Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations on March 18, 2004.**
- **This Policy is aimed at providing Bicyclists and Pedestrians greater access to safe transportation on roadways across the state. This policy now applies to all projects, both construction and maintenance, beginning at the scoping phase.**
- **The Policy is linked to the LD-430 on page 2 of 11 available at: <http://www.extranet.vdot.state.va.us/forms/>**

## VDOT Policy

- Examples of Accommodations include:
  - Bike lanes
  - Sidewalks
  - Shared-use paths
  - Signs
  - Paved shoulders
  
- All of which shall be considered in the design of all new roadways and major reconstruction projects, depending on safety considerations and need.

## Examples of Accommodations



Bike Path



Paved Shoulder

## **VDOT Policy Audit**

- **At the request of the Secretary's Office, VDOT conducted an internal audit of Policy implementation in the Fall 2005.**
- **Audit revealed that consistent implementation of the Policy required better definitions, improved internal procedures and enhanced communication.**

## VDOT Policy

### Highlights include:

- VDOT will promote the inclusion of **Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations** in transportation planning activities at **Local, Regional and Statewide levels.**
- VDOT will initiate all roadway construction and maintenance projects with the presumption that the projects shall accommodate bicycling and walking.

## VDOT Policy

### Highlights include:

- All accommodations shall be designed and constructed, or installed, using guidance from VDOT and AASHTO publications, the MUTCD and the American with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

## “Consideration”

### VDOT Designed Projects:

- **Consideration of Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations shall be Documented on the LD-430 Scoping Report.**
  - **Determine whether or not accommodations are needed / desired**
  - **Project Manager confirms with localities prior to public hearing**
  - **Document Decision**

## “Consideration”

### First Cities & Locally Administered Projects:

- **Consideration of Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations shall be Documented. However, the LD-430 Scoping Report is not required.**
  - **Determine whether or not accommodations are needed / desired**
  - **Project Coordinator confirms with localities prior to public hearing**
  - **Document Decision**

## Policy Exceptions

- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations shall be provided except where certain conditions exist.**
  
- **For example:**
  - **Scarcity of population, travel, and attractors**
  - **Adverse environmental or social impacts**
  - **Safety would be compromised**
  
- **The complete list of exceptions is included in the Policy and is linked to the LD-430 on page 2 of 11 available at: <http://www.extranet.vdot.state.va.us/forms/>**

## Summary

- **CTB Approved Policy in March 2004**
- **First Audit was conducted in Fall 2005**
- **Implementation Team Established early 2006**
- **Guidance Letter was sent to Localities on January 23, 2007**
- **Commissioner signed DPM on May 13, 2007**
- **Next Audit will be conducted in mid FY '08**
- **Document, Document, Document**

**QUESTIONS?**

