

## **SECTION A-5-BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITY GUIDELINES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

These guidelines consist of six sections:

- A. INTRODUCTION
- B. DOT POLICY ON PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BICYCLE FACILITIES
- C. SELECTING ROADWAY DESIGN TREATMENTS TO ACCOMMODATE BICYCLES; this report contains recommendations for bikeway design
- D. VDOT/AASHTO DESIGN GUIDELINES; these include bicycle path design guidelines and minimum bikeway design guidelines
- E. AASHTO APPROVED INTERSTATE BICYCLE ROUTES
- F. RESOURCES (followed by conversions from Imperial units to metric units)

The Transportation and Mobility Planning Division will recommend to the road designer the inclusion of a bikeway on a particular project. Discussion will take place at the scoping meeting concerning the expected type of bicyclist that will use the facility and the type of facility to be designed. The district, locality, Transportation and Mobility Planning Division and other interested parties will provide input. Types of bicyclist include Group A, advanced; Group B, basic; and Group C, children. AASHTO designates bicycle facility types as Shared Roadway (No Bikeway Designation), Signed Shared Roadway, Bike Lane or Bicycle Lane and Shared Use Path. Individuals involved in the planning and design of bicycle facilities should be familiar with and refer to the latest Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities published by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. At the printing of these VDOT guidelines the date of the AASHTO Guide was 2012\*.

In rural and some urban sections of highway with scattered development, it is recommended that the facility be designed for Group A bicyclists. In developed areas near parks, schools, recreation areas, etc., it is recommended that the facility be designed for Group B, C bicyclists. Separate bike paths are recommended in areas where bicyclists are expected to be children, pre-teen or casual recreation riders.

Guidelines in SELECTING ROADWAY DESIGN TREATMENTS TO ACCOMMODATE BICYCLES are recommended as bikeway design criteria, but in no case will a bikeway be designed with criteria less than those contained in the VDOT/AASHTO DESIGN GUIDELINES. Bicycle facility design guidelines are available only in the VDOT/AASHTO DESIGN GUIDELINES section. One set of pertinent plans, profiles and typical sections on appropriate projects are to be provided to the Location and Design Bicycle Facilities Coordinator prior to Preliminary Engineering, Field Inspection and after related comments are received at public information meetings.

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\* Rev. 7/12