

Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations can be developed through projects that are independent of highway construction either within the highway right-of-way or on an independent right-of-way. Highway construction funds can be used to build bicycle and pedestrian accommodations either concurrently with highway construction projects or as independent transportation projects. Both types of bicycle and pedestrian accommodation projects will be funded in the same manner as other highway construction projects for each system (i.e., interstate, primary, secondary, or urban).

VDOT will work with localities to select and design accommodations, taking into consideration community needs, safety, and unique environmental and aesthetic characteristics as they relate to specific projects. The selection of the specific accommodations to be included in a project shall be based on the application of appropriate planning design, and engineering principles. Bicycle and Pedestrians accommodations shall be designed and built, or installed, using the VDOT *Road Design Manual*, VDOT [Roads and Bridge Standards](#) and [Specifications](#), the AASHTO *Guide for the Development of Bicycle facilities*, AASHTO *Guide for the Planning Design and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities*, the *Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way* and the [Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices \(MUTCD\)](#). On August 20, 2013 FHWA issued a [Memorandum](#) expressing support for taking a flexible approach to bicycle and pedestrian facility design. In doing so, FHWA supports the use of the [NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide](#) and the [ITE Designing Urban Walkable Thoroughfares: A context Sensitive Approach](#) to build upon the flexibilities provided in the AASHTO guides, which can help communities plan and design safe and convenient facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists.\*

During the preparations of an environmental impact statement (EIS), VDOT will consider the current and anticipated future use of the affected facilities by bicyclists and pedestrians, the potential impacts of the alternatives on bicycle and pedestrian travel, and proposed measures, if any, to avoid or reduce adverse impacts to the use of these facilities by bicyclists and pedestrians.

During project design VDOT will coordinate with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) to address bicyclist and pedestrian access to existing and planned transit connections.

VDOT will ensure that accommodations for bicycling and walking are built in accordance with design plans and VDOT's construction standards and specifications.

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\* Rev. 1/14