



NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

POLICY

CODE:

SUPERSEDES:

TITLE: PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE POLICY

APPROVED:

Robert Zullo 4/20/2010
Director, Policy and Planning Division DATE

ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERPRETATION:

Policy and Planning Division

I. POLICY STATEMENT

The New York State Department of Transportation (Department) will promote pedestrian and bicycle travel for all persons on the state transportation system.

II. POLICY SCOPE AND GUIDANCE

A. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to develop a transportation system that offers travel mode choices that are inclusive of, accessible to, convenient and safe for pedestrians and bicyclists.

B. Guidance

This Policy will be addressed in all planning, programming, scoping, design, construction, maintenance, operations, permits, and education and outreach programs.

C. Staff and activities affected by the Policy

This policy applies to all organizational groups in the Department engaged in planning, programming, designing, constructing, operating, permitting, and maintaining transportation facilities and providing education and outreach. Organizational groups shall incorporate the purpose and intent of this policy in their operating guidance and procedures, as appropriate.

D. Policy Objectives

The objectives of the Policy are to:

- Promote development of pedestrian and bicycle networks that support sustainable and livable communities, minimize impacts on natural resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve quality of life.
- Increase the number of pedestrian and bicycle trips.
- Reduce pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and serious injuries.
- Integrate walking and bicycling as viable modes for connectivity, smart growth, and transit oriented development.

E. Background

This Policy updates the October 1996 *NYSDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy* as listed in the Appendix of the *New York State Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan of 1997*. This policy reaffirms the Department's commitment to meet the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians.

III. RELATED POLICY AND AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES

This policy is consistent with the goals and objectives of Federal and State legislation, guidance and strategic plans including:

Federal Authority:

- Current surface transportation authorization legislation
- 23 CFR Part 652 - Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodation and Projects
- 23 USC Section 217 – Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways
- 23 USC Section 402 – Highway Safety
- 23 USC 109(a)(35) - Transportation Enhancement Activities
- 23 USC 109(m) – Protection of Nonmotorized Transportation Traffic
- 23 USC 103(b)(6) Section 103 – Federal –aid systems [Eligibility for National Highway System Funds]
- 23 USC 134 – Metropolitan Planning
- 23 USC 135 – Statewide Planning
- 23 USC 152 - Hazard Elimination
- 23 USC Section 206 -Recreational Trails Program
- 23 USC Section 204 - Federal Lands Highway Program
- 23 USC Section 162(c)(4) - National Scenic Byways Program
- Section 1602 of TEA-21 - High Priority Projects and Designated Transportation Enhancement Activities
- 49 USC Section 5307 - Transit Enhancement Activity
- 49 CFR 27.7 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance
- 28 CFR 35.150 Transition Plan (to comply with American with Disabilities Act of 1990)
- National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways

State:

- NYSDOT Highway Design Manual
- NYSDOT Project Development Manual
- NYSDOT Americans with Disabilities Act Management Plan
- State Supplement to the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law – Title 7, Articles 27 and 34
- NYS Highway Law – Article 2, Section 22; Article 3, Section 54; Article 11, Section 316; Article 11, Section 330

Strategic Plans:

- The Strategic Highway Safety Plan (NYSDOT)
- The Highway Safety Strategic Plan (Governor's Traffic Safety Committee)
- Strategies for a New Age: New York State's Transportation Master Plan for 2030 (NYSDOT)