

THIS MEMO IS EXPIRED

March 1, 2000

MEMORANDUM NO. 09-00

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS
DISTRICT DESIGN ENGINEERS
DISTRICT CONSULTANT PROJECT MANAGERS & ENGINEERS

FROM: Greg Xanders, State Construction Engineer
Billy Hattaway, State Roadway Design Engineer

COPIES: Freddie Simmons, Bill Albaugh, FHWA, District Directors of Production, District Directors of Operations, Charles Goodman, Archie Montgomery, Area Construction Engineers, Area Design Engineers, District Ped/Bike Coordinators

SUBJECT: PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCOMMODATIONS IN CONSTRUCTION AREAS

A recent process review by FHWA indicated the need for the Department to enhance pedestrian and bicycle accommodations in our construction projects. In addition, the issue also came up at a recent Executive Committee Meeting. Secretary Barry asked that we ensure that pedestrian and bicycle needs are being addressed. (See attached e-mail).

It is imperative that pedestrians/bicyclists are considered when construction activities conflict with normal use. Temporary traffic control plans should reasonably provide for the continuity of pedestrian/bicycle movements during construction. However, it is realized that no set of plans can typically satisfy all conditions for a given project and defining detailed standards that would be adequate to cover all applications is simply not practical.

Some active construction projects may not be meeting the intent of accommodating the needs of pedestrians and bicycles within construction areas. In some cases, the project plans do not address pedestrian and bicycle accommodations and in other cases the project plans are

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deficient in detailing certain phases. In any case, you should review existing projects to insure that pedestrians and bicyclists are reasonably accommodated in all phases of work. If shortcomings are noted it may be necessary to get with the EOR to properly address those concerns.

For your information, pedestrian considerations in a work zone should meet the following criteria:

- 1) Pedestrians should not be led into direct conflicts with work site vehicles, equipment or operations.**
- 2) Pedestrians should not be led into direct conflicts with mainline traffic moving through or around the work site. Bicyclists should be provided with a travel route through or around the work site that replicates the most desirable characteristics of a paved shoulder or bike lane.**
- 3) Pedestrians should be provided with a safe, convenient travel path that replicates as nearly as possible the most desirable characteristics of sidewalks or footpaths. Provisions for the disabled must be included.**
- 4) Bicyclists should not be directed onto the same path used by pedestrians.**

This criteria is outlined in Section 6D-1 of the MUTCD and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual Chapter 10 - Work Zone Traffic Control.. These sections also provide additional details, along with Standard Index 660 for your consideration.

If you have any questions regarding construction issues, please contact Querido Castillo at SC 994-4138. If you have questions regarding design issues, please contact Gladys Griggs at SC 994-4321.

GX/qc

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Subject: Construction Area Pedestrian Facilities

At last week's Executive Committee meeting, the issue of sidewalk/pedestrian during construction was discussed. There have been recent mast arm installations at intersections where new sidewalk was torn out to get the mast arm foundation installed thus eliminating pedestrian accommodations around the returns. This is just one example of our often neglect of pedestrian or bike features during construction. The Secretary brought this up again this morning at his staff meeting and asked that I make sure we are correcting this on projects under design and those under construction already. If pedestrian WZ features ie..sidewalks/crosswalks/etc. are not being handled in any of your projects, fix plans or contracts underway to address these needs now. We can't lead pedestrians (sometimes those with disabilities) to a point and then leave them stranded to fend for themselves.... Billy Hattaway and Greg Xanders will also

make sure the PPM, standards, CPAM address these issues adequately. We will also see if any spec. language will assist (Duane).....thanks..Freddie