

information should contact the RTCA Secretariat, 1140 Connecticut Avenue, NW., Suite 1020, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 833-9339. Any member of the public may present a written statement to the committee at any time.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 5, 1995.

David W. Ford,

Designated Officer.

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Federal Highway Administration

[FHWA Docket No. 95-3]

Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning at the State and Metropolitan Planning Organization Levels; Interim Technical Guidance

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes the text of a joint FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) document entitled "Interim Technical Guidance for Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning at the State and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Levels under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)." A memorandum issuing this Guidance was released on November 28, 1994. The Guidance provides legislative and regulatory background to explain the requirements for Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning, and provides guidance on components of bicycle and pedestrian transportation plans. By publishing this notice, the FHWA and the FTA seek to inform the public and ensure the widest possible dissemination of this information. The FHWA and FTA also will accept comments from all interested people. After review of all comments received, a final version of this guidance will be issued. Until that time, this interim version shall be used. **DATES:** This interim technical guidance became effective November 28, 1994. Comments must be submitted on or before March 14, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Submit written, signed comments to FHWA Docket No. 95-3, Federal Highway Administration, Room 4232, HCC-10, Office of the Chief Counsel, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington D.C. 20590. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John C. Fegan, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, (202) 366-5007, or Mr. Reid Alsop, Environmental and Right-of-Way Law Branch, (202) 366-1371, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington D.C. 20590; or Mr. Sean Libberton, Community Planner, (202) 366-0055, or Mr. Scott A. Biehl, Assistant Chief Counsel, (202) 366-0952, Federal Transit Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington D.C. 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The ISTEA, Pub. L. 102-240, 105 Stat. 1914, expanded the eligibility of bicycle and pedestrian projects for Federal transportation funding, and required the inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian components in transportation planning documents. The FHWA and FTA developed this interim technical guidance to ensure that States and MPOs could implement bicycle and pedestrian plans effectively. The text of the guidance is set forth below:

[Memorandum]

Action: Distribution of Interim

Technical Guidance for Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning at the State and MPO Levels

From: Acting Associate Administrator for Program Development, FHWA, Associate Administrator for Grants Management, FTA

To: Regional Highway Administrators, Regional Transit Administrators, Federal Lands Highway Program Administrator, Director, Joint ITS Program Office

Attached are copies of the FTA/FHWA interim technical guidance for conducting planning for bicyclists and pedestrians at the State and MPO levels as called for by ISTEA. Specifically, at both the MPO and State levels, transportation plans and programs are required to "provide for the development of transportation facilities (including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) which will function as an intermodal transportation system." Final regulations issued by FHWA and FTA on October 28, 1993 [58 FR 58040], contain specific references to the inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian planning in overall State or MPO planning.

The purpose of this interim technical guidance is to offer guidance to State and MPO officials responsible for conducting bicycle and pedestrian planning. In addition, this guidance outlines the items that should be included in the bicycle and pedestrian

components of State and MPO transportation plans.

In addition to this guidance, a 1-day training course, "Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Under ISTEA," is being offered by FHWA through the National Highway Institute (NHI). The course presents the requirements for this planning, and the recommended items to be included in the bicycle and pedestrian part of the State and metropolitan level transportation plans and the transportation improvement programs. The course also explains how this planning can be accomplished and the role of public involvement in the process. The NHI course number is 15135. The NHI contact is Harry Hersey who can be reached at (703) 285-2778. This course has been presented in nine sessions across the country. Additional presentations of the course are available upon request to NHI.

This interim technical guidance will be published in the **Federal Register** to obtain comments from all interested persons. After review of all comments received, a final version will be issued. Until that time, this interim version shall be used.

Please distribute the attached copies of this technical guidance to FHWA Division offices, to transit providers, and to State and MPO personnel responsible for conducting the bicycle and pedestrian planning for the statewide and MPO transportation plans, and let them know of the availability of the NHI course. Questions on the Interim Guidance should be directed to John Fegan (FHWA, HEP-50, on (202) 366-5007) or to Sean Libberton (FTA, TGM-21, on (202) 366-0055).

(Original signed by)

Robert H. McManus (Federal Transit Administration)

William A. Weseman (Federal Highway Administration)

[Technical Guidance]

FHWA/FTA Interim Technical Guidance for Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning at the State and MPO Levels under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA).

This Interim Guidance covers planning for bicycle transportation facilities and pedestrian walkways regardless of facility type ranging from on-road treatments to separate off-road facilities. A one day training course, "Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Under ISTEA," (course number 15135) is available to expand upon this guidance upon request to FHWA's National Highway Institute.