



October 11, 2017

Secretary of Transportation James H. Trogdon, III, P.E.  
N.C. Department of Transportation  
1501 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1501

Dear Secretary Trogdon:

The N.C. Board of Transportation is reviewing changes to the NCDOT Bicycle Policy and Pedestrian Policy. The DCHC MPO Board supports this review and provides the following comments:

- The policies need to reflect current policies and processes, including the NCDOT Complete Streets Policy, the Comprehensive Transportation Planning process, and the Strategic Transportation Investments process.
- The policies need to reflect current design guidelines, including the NCDOT Complete Streets Planning and Design Guidelines as well as AASHTO, NACTO, and Federal Highway Administration guidelines.
- The NCDOT Bridge Policy also needs to be reviewed and updated as it addresses bicycle and pedestrian facilities on bridges.
- There needs to be outreach to all MPOs, RPOs, local governments, residents, and other stakeholders as part of the review.

In addition, the DCHC MPO Board requests that in the review of the policies several specific issues be addressed, including the following:

- Eliminating the local government cost share for pedestrian facilities that are incidental to highway projects.
- Ensuring that policies applicable to bridge construction also apply to culverts.
- Endorsing NCDOT maintenance of all bicycle facilities within NCDOT right-of-way, including bike lanes and shared use paths.
- Ensuring that the funding of facilities incentivizes and supports the selection of the most appropriate pedestrian and bicycle facility on NCDOT projects.

- Revising policies and design standards, such as those for street trees, guardrails, and streetlights, that can adversely impact the provision of facilities for people walking and biking on NCDOT-maintained streets.

The DCHC MPO Board looks forward to participating in the review of these policies. Please contact us if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Schewel, Chair  
DCHC MPO Board

cc: Nina Szlosberg-Landis, Vice Chair, N.C. Board of Transportation  
Julie White, Deputy Secretary of Multi-Modal Transportation, NCDOT  
Ellen Beckmann, DCHC Technical Committee Chair