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TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIRECTIVE

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**SUBJECT: SIGNING FOR PEDESTRIAN, HORSE, AND BICYCLE ROUTES AND
CROSSING ON STATE HIGHWAYS**

State highways and other public roadways are primarily constructed and maintained to allow motor vehicles to travel in a safe, efficient, and effective manner; however, other modes of transportation, such as bicycles, horses, and pedestrians can, with some exceptions, also utilize these facilities.

The Division of Highways recognizes these other modes of transportation. As a result, when sufficient activity in any one or more of these modes is identified on a particular roadway, the Division of Highways may install appropriate warning signs to alert motorists and other highway users of the presence of pedestrians, horses, and bicyclists. It should be emphasized that it is not the intent of such signing to convey the message that the roadway contains any feature, exclusive lane, or other characteristic specifically designed to accommodate a pedestrian, horse, or bicycle.

The following are utilized in establishing the need for such signing:

(a) **PEDESTRIAN ROUTES AND CROSSINGS**

Most drivers of motor vehicles under normal conditions are not expecting to encounter a substantial number of pedestrians or a State highway, except in central business districts, shopping areas, or in urban residential neighborhoods. However, when it is determined by a study and/or evaluation conducted or accepted by the Division of Highways that a substantial number of pedestrians are present, appropriate signs will be considered for installation. Typical situations of this type may include pedestrian crossings at or near schools, playgrounds, parks, ball fields, built-up business areas, or other pedestrian generators where there are no sidewalks.

(b) **HORSE CROSSING AND ROUTES**

Most drivers of motor vehicles are not expecting to encounter horses on a State highway. However, when it is determined by a study and/or evaluation conducted or accepted by the Division of Highways that a substantial number of horses are present, appropriate signs will be considered for installation. Typical situations of this type may include the existence of a riding stable, club, or ranch that regularly creates a situation where horses are either crossing or utilizing a State highway.

(c) **BICYCLE CROSSINGS AND ROUTES**

Most drivers of motor vehicles are not expecting to encounter bicycles on a State highway. However, when it is determined by a study and/or evaluation conducted or accepted by the Division of Highways that a substantial number of bicyclists are present, appropriate signs will be considered for installation. Typical situations of this type may include:

- (1) The existence of commercial outfitter or establishment that regularly creates a situation where bicyclists are either crossing or utilizing a State highway.
- (2) The identification of a roadway by a city, county, or other political entity as a route or crossing that is used on a frequent basis or schedule by bicyclists.
- (3) The identification of a route by a local, regional, or State organization as a route or crossing that is used on a frequent basis or schedule by bicyclists. These organizations would include Chambers of Commerce, Convention and Visitor Bureaus, Bike West Virginia, and the State Division of Tourism.

The installation of signs for pedestrian, horse, and bicycle crossing and routes will include yellow and black diamond shape warning signs and, if necessary, supplemental rectangular plaques. These plaques may include the message, "Next xx Miles" or Share The Road."

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