



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

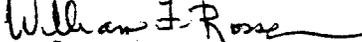
MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

May 20, 2008

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM TO: Steve Varndoe, PE
Chief Engineer-Operations

Debbie Barbour, PE
Director of Preconstruction

FROM: 
William F. Rosser, PE
State Highway Administrator

SUBJECT: Accommodations of Pedestrians within Work Zones

The maintenance of pedestrian traffic has become an issue on several projects that were either under construction or late in the design phase of project development. In response, I requested Stuart Bourne, State Work Zone Traffic Engineer, to establish a committee from different units and branches within the Department and Federal Highway Administration to address this issue. The committee's goal was to review all current procedures and check the compliance of these procedures with the requirement of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

Subsequently, the committee has been meeting to address the "needs and control" of pedestrians, including persons with disabilities, during construction in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 6 of the MUTCD. The committee determined that NCDOT already has the necessary policies to comply. However, existing procedures will need to be revised to ensure that pedestrian needs are dealt with early in the project development process.

The committee has provided a list of recommended changes to better address pedestrian impacts during construction. Attached are the recommended changes and a *Guide for Temporary Pedestrian Accommodations*. The *Guide* includes the following:

- Flowchart to determine accommodation of pedestrians in work zones
- Description of how the consideration of pedestrian needs will be integrated into the project development process
- Pedestrian Task Force Considerations

These documents are to be distributed to all applicable personnel within your area and changes should be implemented immediately on all highway projects.

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Steve Varnedoe, PE & Debbie Barbour, PE

Page 2

May 20, 2008

Also, to facilitate the implementation of these changes, a Pedestrian Task Force has been formed to:

- Act as consultant for the Planning staff using the "Guide to Determine Accommodation of Pedestrians in Work Zones",
- Assist Design and Operation staff in addressing any concerns pertaining to providing pedestrian accommodations during construction, and
- Address issues on projects under construction or beyond the planning phase on a project by project basis.

Stuart Bourne will lead the Pedestrian Task Force. The Task Force will consist of a representative from the Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Roadway Design Unit, Construction Unit, Division of Bicycle and Pedestrians, and the Division.

Additionally, the committee is in the process of developing a plan to educate the Department on pedestrian needs during construction and the requirements of Chapter 6 of the MUTCD. The initial focus of this broader education plan will target appropriate personnel for instruction on recognizing and resolving deficiencies in pedestrian safety, accessibility, and mobility in construction work zones.

Please contact Stuart Bourne in the Work Zone Traffic Control Unit at 919-250-4159 if you have any questions.

WFR/jlp

Attachments

cc w/attachments: Susan Coward
Lacy Love, PE
Jon Nance, PE
Tom Norman
Stuart Bourne, PE