

# Highway Design Manual

## Table of Contents

English Version

		<b>PDF VERSION</b>	<b>LAST UPDATED</b>	<b>BICYCLE LANGUAGE IDENTIFIED - PDF file</b>
Foreword		<a href="#">fwd.pdf</a>	07-01-15	Not Identified
Contents	Expanded Table of Contents	<a href="#">toc.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 10	Division of Design	<a href="#">chp0010.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 20	Designation of Highway Routes	<a href="#">chp0020.pdf</a>	05-07-12	Not Identified
Chapter 40	Federal-Aid	<a href="#">chp0040.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 60	Nomenclature	<a href="#">chp0060.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 1 - 2
Chapter 80	Application of Design	<a href="#">chp0080.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 2 - 4
Chapter 100	Basic Design Policies	<a href="#">chp0100.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 4 - 7
Chapter 200	Geometric Design & Structure Standards	<a href="#">chp0200.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 7 - 9
Chapter 300	Geometric Cross Section	<a href="#">chp0300.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 9 - 12
Chapter 400	Intersections At Grade	<a href="#">chp0400.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 12 - 21
Chapter 500	Traffic Interchanges	<a href="#">chp0500.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 21 - 24
Chapter 600	Pavement Engineering	<a href="#">chp0600.pdf</a>	11-02-12	pg. 24
Chapter 610	Pavement Engineering Considerations	<a href="#">chp0610.pdf</a>	11-02-12	pg. 24
Chapter 620	Rigid Pavement	<a href="#">chp0620.pdf</a>	11-02-12	pg. 24
Chapter 630	Flexible Pavement	<a href="#">chp0630.pdf</a>	05-07-12	pg. 25
Chapter 640	Composite Pavements	<a href="#">chp0640.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 25
Chapter 650	Pavement Drainage	<a href="#">chp0650.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 660	Base and Subbase	<a href="#">chp0660.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 670	Structure Approach Slabs	<a href="#">chp0670.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 700	Miscellaneous Standards	<a href="#">chp0700.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 800	General Aspects	<a href="#">chp0800.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 810	Hydrology	<a href="#">chp0810.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified
Chapter 820	Cross Drain	<a href="#">chp0820.pdf</a>	07-01-15	Not Identified
Chapter 830	Transportation Facility Drainage	<a href="#">chp0830.pdf</a>	07-01-15	pg. 25 – 26
Chapter 840	Subsurface Drainage	<a href="#">chp0840.pdf</a>	10-01-10	Not Identified
Chapter 850	Physical Standards	<a href="#">chp0850.pdf</a>	03-07-14	Not Identified
Chapter 860	Open Channels	<a href="#">chp0860.pdf</a>	03-07-14	Not Identified
Chapter 870	Channel and Shore Protection-Erosion Control	<a href="#">chp0870.pdf</a>	03-07-14	pg. 26
Chapter 880	Underground Disposal	<a href="#">chp0880.pdf</a>	08-01-11	Not Identified
Chapter 890	Storm Water Management	<a href="#">chp0890.pdf</a>	09-01-06	Not Identified
Chapter 900	Landscape Architecture	<a href="#">chp0900.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 26 - 28
Chapter 1000	Bicycle Transportation Design	<a href="#">chp1000.pdf</a>	12-30-15	pg. 28 - 29
Chapter 1100	Highway Traffic Noise Abatement	<a href="#">chp1100.pdf</a>	12-30-15	Not Identified

HDM link:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/hdm/hdmtoc.htm>

\*CLASS IV BIKEWAY GUIDANCE

(Separated Bikeways/Cycle Tracks) DIB 89

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/dib/dib89.pdf>

# Bicycle Language In HDM

## CHAPTER 60 NOMENCLATURE

### Topic 62 - Definitions

#### 62.1 Geometric Cross Section

(1) *Lane.*

(f) Traffic Lane/Vehicle Lane--The portion of the traveled way for the movement of a single line of vehicles, both motor vehicle and **bicycle**.

(2) *Bikeways.*

(a) Class I **Bikeway (Bike Path)**. Provides a completely separated facility for the exclusive use of **bicycles** and pedestrians with crossflow by vehicles minimized.

(b) Class II **Bikeway (Bike Lane)**. Provides a striped lane for one-way **bike** travel on a street or highway.

(c) Class III **Bikeway (Bike Route)**. Provides for shared use with pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic.

(d) Class IV **Bikeway (Separated Bikeway)**. Provides for the exclusive use of bicycles and includes a separation (e.g., grade separation, flexible posts, inflexible physical barrier, or on-street parking) required between the separated bikeway and the through vehicular traffic.

(9) *Shoulder.*

The portion of the roadway contiguous with the traveled way for the accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency use, for errant vehicle recovery, and for lateral support of base and surface courses. The shoulder may accommodate on-street parking as well as **bicyclists** and

pedestrians, see the guidance in this manual as well as DIB 82.

(11) *Traveled Way.*

The portion of the roadway for the movement of vehicles and **bicycles**, exclusive of shoulders.

#### 62.4 Interchanges and Intersections at Grade

(3) *Channelization.*

The separation or regulation of conflicting movements into definite paths of travel by the use of pavement markings, raised islands, or other suitable means to facilitate the safe and orderly movement of vehicles, **bicycles** and pedestrians.

(21) *Swept width.*

The total width needed by the vehicle body to traverse a curve. It is the distance measured along the curve radius from the outer front corner of the body to the inner rear corner of the body as the vehicle traverses around a curve. This width is used to determine lane width and clearance to objects, such as signs, poles, etc., as well as vehicles, **bicycles**, and pedestrians.

(22) *Tracking width.*

The total width needed by the tires to traverse a curve; it is the distance measured along the curve radius from the outer front tire track to the inner rear tire track as the vehicle traverses around a curve. This width is used to determine the minimum width required for the vehicle turning. Consideration for additional width may be needed for other vehicles, **bicycles** and pedestrians.

#### 62.5 Landscape Architecture

(14) *Street Furniture.*

Features such as newspaper boxes, **bicycle** racks, bus shelters, benches, art or drinking fountains that occupy space on or alongside pedestrian sidewalks.

pedestrians) of the facility and transportation modes.

## 62.8 Highway Operations

### (14) Traffic.

A general term used throughout this manual referring to the passage of people, vehicles and/or bicycles along a transportation route.

## 62.10 Users

### (1) Bicycle.

A device propelled via chain, belt or gears, exclusively by human power.

### (9) Light Rail.

A form of urban transit that uses rail cars on fixed rails in a right of way that may or may not be grade separated. Motorized vehicles and bicycles may share the same transportation corridor. These railcars are typically electrically driven with power supplied from an overhead line rather than an electrified third rail. Top operating speeds are typically 60 miles per hour.

# CHAPTER 80 APPLICATION OF DESIGN STANDARDS

## Topic 81 - Project Development Overview

### Index 81.1 - Philosophy

The Project Development process seeks to provide a degree of mobility to users of the transportation system that is in balance with other values. In the development of transportation projects, social, economic, and environmental effects must be considered fully along with technical issues so that final decisions are made in the best overall public interest. Attention should be given to such considerations as:

- (a) Need to provide transportation for all users (motorists, bicyclists, transit riders, and

## 81.2 Highway Context

To do this successfully, the designer needs to have an understanding of the area surrounding the highway and the users of the highway, its function within the regional and State transportation systems, (which includes all transportation modes), and the level of access control needed. To gain this understanding, the designer must consult the Transportation Concept Reports and work with the planning division and the local agencies.

A “Main Street” design is not specific to a certain place type, but is a design philosophy to be applied on State highways that also function as community streets. A “Main Street” design serves pedestrians, bicyclists, businesses and public transit with motorized traffic operating at speeds of 20 to 40 miles per hour. See the Department’s “Main Street, California” document for more information.

## 81.3 Place Types

A place type describes the area’s physical environment and the land uses surrounding the State highway. The place types described below are intentionally broad. Place types should be agreed upon in partnership with all of the project stakeholders; however, there likely may be more than one place type within the limits of a project. Ultimately, the place types selected can be used to determine the appropriate application of the guidance provided in this manual. These place type definitions are independent of the Federal government definitions of urban and rural areas. See Title 23 United States Code, Section 13 for further information.

The following place types are used in this manual:

### (1) Rural Areas.

Rural areas are typically sparsely settled and developed. They can consist of protected federal and State lands, agricultural lands, and may include tourist and recreational destinations. However, as rural lands transition into rural

## HIGHWAY DESIGN MANUAL

communities, they can become more developed and suburban and urban-like by providing for a mixture of housing, commercial, industrial and public institutions. For the use of this manual, rural areas have been subcategorized as Natural Corridors, Developing Corridors and City/Town Centers (Rural Main Streets).

(c) City or Town Centers (Rural Main Streets). State highways in this scenario are usually a conventional main street through the rural city or town, or they may be the only main street. The use of the State highway in this environment varies depending upon the individual community, as does the mix of buildings, services, businesses, and public spaces. Transit is often present and should be incorporated into the transportation system as appropriate. Transportation improvement projects on these main street highways can be more complicated and costly than similar projects in more rural settings. A balance usually needs to be maintained between the needs of the through traffic and those of the local main street environment. Thus, analyzing the pedestrian and bicyclist needs early in the development of the project and then following through on the agreements during the design of highway projects in these locations can be especially important. Accommodating the pedestrian and bicyclist needs concurrently in projects leads to greater efficiency in the use of funding.

### (2) Suburban Areas.

Suburban areas lead into and can completely surround urban areas. A mixture of land uses is typical in suburban areas. This land use mixture can consist of housing, retail businesses and services, and may include regional centers such as shopping malls and other similar regional destinations; which are usually associated with suburban communities (cities and towns) that can be connected with larger urban centers and cities. Assessing the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users in concert with the vehicular needs of motorists and truck drivers is necessary during the project planning, development and design of highway projects in these locations. Accommodating all of these needs concurrently into a project leads to greater efficiency in the use

of funding. For the use of this manual, suburban areas have been categorized as either Lower Density/Residential Neighborhoods or Higher Density/Regional Community Centers (Suburban Main Streets).

(a) Lower Density / Residential Neighborhoods. State highways typically do not cross through this place type. This place type usually feeds users onto the State highway system and is typically under the jurisdiction of a local entity. State highways, if they do interact with this place type, usually just connect at the edges of them where the pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicle operators integrate into the highway system that includes transit facilities.

### (3) Urban and Urbanized Areas.

Urban areas generally are the major population centers in the State. Large numbers of people live in these urbanized areas where growth is expected to continue. Bicycling, transit, and walking are important transportation modes in these areas and as the facilities for pedestrians, transit and bicyclists expand in these areas, the percentage and number of travelers walking, using transit and bicycling is also likely to increase. State agencies and the local governmental entities, the business community and citizens groups, congestion Management Agencies and the local/regional metropolitan planning organization (MPO) need to all agree upon the concept of the transportation facilities being provided so that the community needs can be met.

#### (b) High Density Urban Main Streets.

- Community Centers or Corridor. Strategically improving the design and function of the existing State highways that cross these centers is typically a concern. Providing transportation options to enhancing these urban neighborhoods that combine highway, transit, passenger rail, walking, and biking options are desirable, while they also help promote tourism and shopping.
- Downtown Cores. Similar to community centers, much of the transportation system has already been built and its footprint in the community needs to be preserved while its use may need to be

reallocated. Successfully meeting the mobility needs of a major metropolitan downtown core area requires a balanced approach. Such an approach is typically used to enhance the existing transportation network's performance by adding capacity to the highways, sidewalks, and transit stations for all of the users of the system, and/or adding such enhancement features as HOV lanes, BRT, walkable corridors, etc. Right of way is limited and costly to purchase in these locations. Delivery truck traffic that supports the downtown core businesses can also create problems.

### 81.6 Design Standards and Highway Context

- Designers have the ability to design for all modes of travel (vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, truck and transit); and,

### 82.2 Approvals for Nonstandard Design

(4) *Local Agencies.* Cities and counties are responsible for the design decisions they make on transportation facilities they own and operate. The responsible local entity is delegated authority to exercise their engineering judgment when utilizing the applicable design guidance and standards, including those for bicycle facilities established by Caltrans pursuant to the Streets and Highways Code Sections 890.6 and 890.8 and published in this manual.

### 82.7 Traffic Engineering

The Division of Traffic Operations maintains engineering policy, standards, practices and study warrants to direct and guide decision-making on a broad range of design and traffic engineering features and systems, which are provided to meet the site-specific safety and mobility needs of all highway users.

The infrastructure within a highway or freeway corridor, segment, intersection or interchange is not “complete” for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians unless it includes the appropriate traffic control devices; traffic safety systems; operational features or strategies; and traffic management elements and or

systems. The presence or absence of these traffic elements and systems can have a profound effect on safety and operational performance. As such, they are commonly employed to remediate performance deficiencies and to optimize the overall performance of the “built” highway system.

For additional information visit the Division of Traffic Operations website at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/trafficops/>

## CHAPTER 100 BASIC DESIGN POLICIES

### Topic 101 - Design Speed

#### Index 101.1 - Highway Design Speed

##### (1) *General.*

Where a reason for limiting speed is obvious to approaching drivers or bicyclists, these users are more apt to accept a lower operating speed than where there is no apparent reason for it.

##### (2) *Selection.*

(a) Considerations --The chosen design speed, for a highway segment or project, needs to take into consideration the following:

- The selected design speed should be consistent with the operating speeds that are likely to be expected on a given highway facility. Drivers and bicyclists adjust their speed based on their perception of the physical limitations of the highway and its vehicular and bicycle traffic. In addition, bicycling and walking can be encouraged when bicyclists and pedestrians perceive an increase in safety due to lower vehicular speeds.

### Topic 102 - Design Capacity & Level of Service

#### 102.1 Design Capacity (Automobiles)

(j) Volumes of trucks, transit, recreational vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

### 102.2 Design Capacity and Quality of Service (Pedestrians and Bicycles)

Sidewalks are to accommodate pedestrians at a Level of Service (LOS) equal to that of vehicles using the roadway, or better. More detailed guidance on design capacity for sidewalks is available in the “Highway Capacity Manual” (HCM), published by the Transportation Research Board. The HCM also has guidance regarding LOS for bicycle facilities for both on- and off-street applications. The LOS for on-street bicycle facilities should be equal to that of vehicles using the roadway or better. The design of off-street bicycle facilities can use the LOS methodology in the HCM when conditions justify deviations from the standards in Chapter 1000.

### 104.3 Frontage Roads

#### (1) General Policy.

- (a) Purpose--Frontage roads are provided on freeways and expressways to:
- Provide for bicycle and pedestrian traffic that might otherwise need to use the freeway.

4) *Railroad Crossings.* Frontage roads on one or both sides of a freeway or expressway on new alignment, owing to safety and cost considerations, frequently are terminated at the railroad right of way. When terminating a frontage road at the railroad crossing, bicycle and pedestrian traffic still needs to have reasonable access through the community.

### 104.6 Maintaining Local Community Access

When planning and designing a new freeway or expressway, the designer needs to consider the impacts of an access controlled facility on the local community. Closing non-expressway local road connections may negatively impact access for pedestrians, bicyclists and equestrians. A new facility may inadvertently sever local non-motorized access creating long out of direction travel. Designers need

to coordinate with local agencies for access needs across an access controlled facility.

### 105.2 Sidewalks and Walkways

Most local agencies in California have adopted varying design standards for urban and rural areas, as well as more specific requirements that are applicable to residential settings, downtowns, special districts, and other place types. These standards are typically tied to zoning requirements for land use established by local agencies. These land use decisions should take into account the ultimate need for public right of way, including the transportation needs of bicyclists and pedestrians. The minimum width of a sidewalk should be 8 feet between a curb and a building when in urban and rural main street place types. For all other locations the minimum width of sidewalk should be 6 feet when contiguous to a curb or 5 feet when separated by a planting strip. Sidewalk width does not include curbs. See Index 208.4 for bridge sidewalks. Using the minimum width may not be enough to satisfy the actual need if additional width is necessary to maintain an acceptable Level of Service (LOS) for pedestrians. Note that street furniture, buildings, utility poles, light fixtures and platoon generators, such as window displays and bus stops, can reduce the effective width of sidewalks and likewise the LOS of the walkway. Also, adequate width for curb ramps and driveways are other important accessibility considerations.

### 110.7 Traffic Control Plans

This section focuses mainly on providing for vehicular traffic through the work zone; however, providing for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit through the work zone is also necessary when they are not prohibited.

A detailed plan for moving all users of the facility through or around a construction zone must be developed and included in the PS&E for all projects to assure that adequate consideration is given to the safety and convenience of motorists, transit, bicyclists, pedestrians, and workers during construction. Design plans and specifications must be carefully analyzed in conjunction with Traffic, Construction, and Structure personnel (where applicable) to determine in detail the measures

required to warn and guide motorists, transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians through the project during the various stages of work. Starting early in the design phase, the project engineer should give continuing attention to this subject, including consideration of the availability of appropriate access to the work site, in order that efficient rates of production can be maintained. In addition to reducing the time the public is exposed to construction operations, the latter effort will help to hold costs to a minimum.

The traffic control plans should be consistent with the California MUTCD, and the philosophies and requirements contained in standard traffic control system plans developed by the Headquarters Division of Traffic Operations for use on State highways and should cover, as appropriate, such items as:

- Evaluate and provide for as appropriate the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians (including ADA requirements; see Index 105.4).

### 110.8 Safety Reviews

Formal safety reviews during planning, design and construction have demonstrated that safety-oriented critiques of project plans help to ensure the application of safety standards. An independent team not involved in the design details of the project is generally able to conduct reviews from a fresh perspective. In many cases, this process leads to highly cost-effective modifications that enhance safety for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and highway workers without any material changes in the scope of the project.

Reviews, evaluating safety from the perspectives of the motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians, should include qualitative and/or quantitative safety considerations of such items as:

## Topic 115 - Designing for Bicycle Traffic

### 115.1 General

Under the California Vehicle Code, bicyclists generally have the same rights and duties that motor

vehicle drivers do when using the State highway system. For example, they make the same merging and turning movements, they need adequate sight distance, they need access to all destinations, etc. Therefore, designing for bicycle traffic and designing for motor vehicle traffic are similar and based on the same fundamental transportation engineering principles. The main differences between bicycle and motor vehicle operations are lower speed and acceleration capabilities, as well as greater sensitivity to out of direction travel and steep uphill grades. Design guidance that addresses the safety and mobility needs of bicyclists on Class II bikeways (bike lanes) is distributed throughout this manual. See Chapter 1000 for additional bicycle guidance for Class I bikeways (bike paths) and Class III bikeways (bike routes).

All city, county, regional and other local agencies responsible for bikeways or roads except those freeway segments where bicycle travel is prohibited shall equal or exceed the minimum bicycle design criteria contained in this and other chapters of this manual (see the Streets and Highways Code, Section 891). The decision to develop bikeways should be made in consultation and coordination with local agencies responsible for bikeway planning to ensure connectivity and network development.

Generally speaking, bicycle travel can be enhanced by bikeways or improvements to the right-hand portion of roadways, where bicycles are required to travel. When feasible, a wider shoulder than minimum standard should be considered since bicyclists are required to ride to as far to the right as possible, and shoulders provide bicyclists an opportunity to pull over to let faster traffic pass.

All transportation improvements are an opportunity to improve safety, access, and mobility for the bicycle mode of travel.

Generally speaking, bicycle travel can be enhanced by bikeways or improvements to the right-hand

portion of roadways, where **bicycles** are required to travel. When feasible, a wider shoulder than minimum standard should be considered since **bicyclists** are required to ride to as far to the right as possible, and shoulders provide **bicyclists** an opportunity to pull over to let faster traffic pass.

All transportation improvements are an opportunity to improve safety, access, and mobility for the **bicycle** mode of travel.

### Topic 116 - Bicyclists and Pedestrians on Freeways

#### 116.1 General

Seldom is a freeway shoulder open to **bicycle**, pedestrian or other non-motorized travel, but they can be opened for use if certain criteria assessing the safety and convenience of the freeway, as compared with available alternate routes, is met. However, a freeway should not be opened to **bicycle** or pedestrian use if it is determined to be incompatible. The Headquarters Traffic Liaison and the Design Coordinator must approve any proposals to open freeways to **bicyclists**, pedestrian or other non-motorized use. See the California MUTCD and CVC Section 21960.

When a new freeway segment is to remain open or existing freeway segment is to be reopened to these modes, it is necessary to evaluate the freeway features for their compatibility with safe and efficient travel, including:

- Shoulder widths
- Drainage grates; see Index 1003.5(2)
- Expansion joints
- Utility access covers on shoulders
- Frequency and spacing of entrance/exit ramps
- Multiple-lane entrance/exit ramps
- Traffic volumes on entrance/exit ramps and on lanes merging into exit ramps
- Sight distance at entrance/exit ramps
- Freeway to freeway interchanges
- The presence and design of rumble strips

- Longitudinal edges and joints

If a freeway segment has no suitable non-freeway alternative and is closed because certain features are considered incompatible, the feasibility of eliminating or reducing the incompatible features should be evaluated. This evaluation may include removal, redesign, replacement, relocation or retrofitting of the incompatible feature, or installation of signing, pavement markings, or other traffic control devices.

Where no reasonable, convenient and safe non-freeway alternative exists within a freeway corridor, the Department should coordinate with local agencies to develop new routes, improve existing routes or provide parallel **bicycle** and pedestrian facilities within or adjacent to the freeway right of way. See Project Development Procedures Manual Chapter 1, Article 3 (Regional and System Planning) and Chapter 31 (Nonmotorized Transportation Facilities) for discussion of the development of non-freeway transportation alternatives.

## CHAPTER 200 GEOMETRIC DESIGN AND STRUCTURE STANDARDS

### Topic 201 - Sight Distance

**Table 201.1 shows the minimum standards for stopping sight distance related to design speed for motorists.** Stopping sight distances given in the table are suitable for Class II and Class III **bikeways**. The stopping sight distances are also applicable to roundabout design on the approach roadway, within the circulatory roadway, and on the exits prior to the pedestrian crossings. Also shown in Table 201.1 are the values for use in providing passing sight distance. See Chapter 1000 for Class I **bikeway** sight distance guidance.

#### 201.3 Stopping Sight Distance

The minimum stopping sight distance is the distance required by the user, traveling at a given speed, to

bring the vehicle or **bicycle** to a stop after an object ½-foot high on the road becomes visible.

## 202.2 Standards for Superelevation

(2) **Bikeways**. Table 202.2 also applies to Class II and III **bikeways**. See Index 1003.1 for Class I guidance.

## 204.8 Grade Line of Structures

(5) *Falsework*. In many cases, it is economically justified to have falsework over traffic during construction in order to have a support-free open area beneath the permanent structure. The elimination of permanent obstructions usually outweighs objections to the temporary inconvenience of falsework during construction.

Because the width of traffic openings through falsework can, and oftentimes does, significantly affect costs, special care should be given to determining opening widths. The following should be considered: staging and traffic handling requirements, accommodation of pedestrians and **bicyclists**, the width of approach roadbed that will exist at the time the bridge is constructed, traffic volumes, needs of the local agencies, controls in the form of existing facilities, and the practical challenges of falsework construction.

## 204.5 Sustained Grades

### (4) Turnouts

#### (a) General.

Where less than 4-foot shoulders are provided on ascending grades, consideration should be given to providing several short sections of 4 feet or wider shoulder as turnouts for **bicycle** passing. Frequent turnouts that are at least 30 feet in length are recommended on sustained uphill grades. These turnouts will allow safe passing of **bicycles** by other bicyclists and vehicles in addition to providing resting opportunities on the sustained grade for **bicyclists**.

## 205.4 Driveways on Frontage Roads and in Rural Areas

Driveways connecting to State highways shall be paved a minimum of 20 feet from the edge of shoulder or to the edge of State right of way, whichever is less to minimize or eliminate gravel from being scattered on the highway and to provide a paved surface for vehicles and **bicycles** to accelerate and merge. Where larger design vehicles are using the driveway (e.g., dump trucks, flatbed trucks, moving vans, etc.), extend paving so the drive wheels will be on a paved surface when accelerating onto the roadway. For paving at crossings with Class I **bikeways (Bike Paths)**, see Index 1003.1(6)

## 206.2 Pavement Widening

(4) *Shoulder and Bicycle Lane Widening*. Shoulder and **bicycle** lane widening should normally be accomplished in a manner that provides a smooth transition.

## 208.6 Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossings and Undercrossings

A **bicycle** overcrossing (BOC) or undercrossing (BUC) is a facility that provides a connection between **bikeways** or roads open to **bicycling**. They are considered Class I **bikeways**, or may be considered Class IV **bikeways**. See Index 1003.1 for Class I **bikeway** guidance or DIB 89 for Class IV **bikeway** (separated **bikeways**) guidance.

Class I **bikeways** are designed for the exclusive use of **bicyclists** and pedestrians; equestrian access is prohibited. See Chapter 1000 for Class I **bikeway** design guidance and Index 208.7 for equestrian undercrossing guidance. For additional information about the need to separate **bicyclists** from equestrian trails, see Index 1003.4.

### 208.10 Bridge Barriers and Railings

(1) *General.* There are four classes of railings, each intended to perform a different function.

(d) **Bicycle Railings**--These railings retain **bicycles** and riders on the structure. They may be specifically designed for **bicycles**, or may be a combination type consisting of a vehicular barrier surmounted by a fence or metal handrail.

(6) **Bicycle Railing.** The minimum height of **bicycle** rail in certain circumstances is 48 inches; however, in most situations 42 inches above the deck surface is appropriate. Contact DES, Office of Design and Technical Services for more information. Pedestrian railings and combination railings consisting of a concrete barrier surmounted by a fence or tubular railing are satisfactory for **bicycles**, if a minimum 42-inch height is met. **Bicycles** are not considered to operate on a sidewalk, except in special cases where signs specifically direct cyclists to use a **bike** path or the sidewalk.

As a general policy, **bicycle** railings should be installed at the following locations:

(a) On a Class I **bikeway**, except that a lower rail may be used if a curbed sidewalk, not signed for **bicycle** use, separates the **bikeway** from the rail or a shoulder at least 8 feet wide exists on the other side of the rail.

(b) On the outside of a Class II or III **bikeway**, unless a curbed sidewalk, not signed for **bicycle** use, separates the **bikeway** from the rail.

(c) In other locations where the designer deems it reasonable and appropriate.

### 210.6 Safety Railing, Fences, and Concrete Barriers

Special designs for safety railing may be considered where aesthetic values of the area warrant special

treatment. In addition, if the retaining wall is accessible to the public and will have pedestrians or **bicycles** either above or below the retaining wall, then the provisions of Index 208.10 shall apply.

## CHAPTER 300 GEOMETRIC CROSS SECTION

The selection of a cross section is based upon the joint use of the transportation corridor by vehicles, including trucks, public transit, **cyclists** and pedestrians. Designers should recognize the implications of this sharing of the transportation corridor and are encouraged to consider not only vehicular movement, but also movement of people, distribution of goods, and provision of essential services. Designers need also to consider the plan for the future of the route, consult Transportation Concept Reports for state routes.

### Topic 301 - Traveled Way Standards

The traveled way width is determined by the number of lanes required to accommodate operational needs, terrain, safety and other concerns. The traveled way width includes the width of all lanes, but does not include the width of shoulders, sidewalks, curbs, dikes, gutters, or gutter pans. See Topic 307 for State highway cross sections, and Topic 308 for road cross sections under other jurisdictions.

#### Index 301.1 – Lane Width

- For highways, ramps, and roads with curve radii of 300 feet or less, widening due to offtracking in order to minimize **bicycle** and vehicle conflicts must be considered. See Index 404.1 and Table 504.3A.

#### 301.2 Class II **Bikeway (Bike Lane)** Lane Width

(1) *General.*

**Class II bikeways (bike lanes), for the preferential use of bicycles, may be established within the roadbed and shall be located**

**immediately adjacent to a traffic lane as allowed in this manual.** A buffered **bike** lane may also be established within the roadbed, separated by a marked buffer between the **bike** lane and the traffic lane or parking lane. See the California MUTCD for further buffered **bike** lane marking and signing guidance. Contraflow **bike** lanes are designed for **bike** travel in the opposite direction as vehicular traffic, and are only allowed on one-way streets. See the California MUTCD for contraflow **bike** lane marking and signing guidance. Typical Class II **bikeway** configurations are illustrated in Figure 301.2A. A **bikeway** located behind on-street parking, physical separation, or barrier within the roadway is a Class IV **bikeway** (separated **bikeway**). See DIB 89 for Class IV **bikeway** (separated **bikeway**) design guidance. **The minimum Class II bike lane width shall be 4 feet, except where:**

- Adjacent to on-street parking, the minimum **bike** lane should be 5 feet.
- Posted speeds are greater than 40 miles per hour, the minimum **bike** lane should be 6 feet, or
- **On highways with concrete curb and gutter, a minimum width of 3 feet measured from the bike lane stripe to the joint between the shoulder pavement and the gutter shall be provided.**

Class II **bikeways** may be included as part of the shoulder width See Topic 302.

As grades increase, downhill **bicycle** speeds can increase, which increases the width needed for the comfort of **bicycle** operation. If **bicycle** lanes are to be marked, additional **bike** lane width is recommended to accommodate these higher **bicycle** speeds. See Index 204.5(4) for guidance on accommodating **bicyclists** on uphill grades where a Class II **bikeway** is not included.

If **bike** lanes are to be located on one-way streets, they may be placed on either or both sides of the street. When only one **bicycle** lane is provided, it should be located on the side of the street that presents the lowest number of conflicts for **bicyclists** which facilitates turning movements and access to destinations on the street.

(2) *On-Street Parking Adjacent to Class II Bikeways.*

Parking adjacent to **bike** lanes is discussed in subsection (1) above and addressed in Table 302.1, Note (7). Part-time **bike** lanes with part-time on-street parking is discouraged. This type of **bike** lane may only be considered if the majority of **bicycle** travel occurs during the hours of parking prohibition. When such an installation is being considered refer to the California MUTCD and traffic operations for direction regarding proper signing and marking.

(3) *Reduction of Cross Section Elements Adjacent to Class II Bikeways.*

There are situations where it may be desirable to reduce the width of the lanes in order to add or widen **bike** lanes or shoulders. In determining the appropriateness of narrower traffic lanes, consideration should be given to factors such as motor vehicle speeds, truck volumes, alignment, **bike** lane width, sight distance, and the presence of on-street parking. When on-street parking is permitted adjacent to a **bike** lane, or on a shoulder where **bicycling** is not prohibited, reducing the width of the adjacent traffic lane may allow for wider **bike** lanes or shoulders, to provide greater clearance between **bicyclists** and driver-side doors when opened.

## Topic 302 - Highway Shoulder Standards

### 302.1 Width

Class II bikeways are typically part of the shoulder width, see Index 301.2. **Where rumble strips are placed in the shoulder, the shoulder shall be a minimum of 4 feet width to the right of the grooved rumble strip when a vertical element, such as curb or guardrails present or a minimum of 3 feet width when a vertical element is not present.** Shoulder rumble strip must not be placed in the Class II bike lane. Consult the District Traffic Safety Engineer during selection of rumble strip options and with the California MUTCD for markings in combination with rumble strip. Also see Standard Plans for rumble strip details.

### 302.3 Tapered Edge

The tapered edge is a sloped edge that is placed at the edge of the paved roadbed to provide a smooth reentry for vehicles that leave the roadway. Its design is based on research performed by the FHWA.

The tapered edge is placed on all traversable pavement edges either during new construction or on overlay projects irrespective of pavement types and is most useful:

- On roadways with Class II Bikeways.

### 303.4 Curb Extensions

#### (1) Bulbouts.

A bulbout is an extension of the sidewalk into the roadway when there is marked on-street parking, see Index 402.3. Bulbouts should comply with the guidance provided in Figures 303.4A and B; noting that typical features are shown and that the specific site conditions need to be taken into consideration. Bulbouts provide queuing space and shorten crossing distances, thereby reducing pedestrian conflict time with mainline traffic. By placing the pedestrian entry point closer to traffic, bulbouts improve visibility between motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. They are most

appropriate for urban conventional highways and Rural Main Streets with posted speeds 35 miles per hour or less. Curb extensions are not to extend into Class II Bikeways (Bike Lanes). The corner curb radii should be the minimum needed to accommodate the design vehicle, see Topic 404.

#### (2) Busbulbs.

A busbulb is a bulbout longer than 25 feet which facilitates bus loading and unloading, and provides for enhanced bus mobility. Busbulbs reduce bus dwell times and provide travel time benefits to transit passengers. However, busbulbs can restrict the mobility of vehicular and bicycle traffic because they allow the bus to stop in their traveled way to load and unload passengers. Therefore, their impact on the mobility of the vehicular and bicycle traffic using the facility must be taken into consideration, and pursuant to the California Vehicle Code, busbulbs or other transit stops which require a transit vehicle to stop in the traveled way require approval from the Department. In lieu of a busbulb, a busbay may be considered which will not impact the mobility of the vehicular and bicycle users of the facility.

#### (3) Busbays.

A busbay is an indentation in the curb which allows a bus to stop completely outside of vehicular and bicycle lanes. Busbays may be created by restricting on street parking.

### 305.1 Width

#### (2) Conventional Highways.

Medians refuge areas at pedestrian crosswalks and bicycle path crossings provide a space for pedestrians and bicyclists. They allow these users to cross one direction of traffic at a time. Where medians are provided, they should allow access through them for pedestrians and bicyclists as necessary. Bicycle crossings through paved medians should line up with the bicycle path of

travel and not require bicyclists to utilize the pedestrian crosswalk. See Index 405.4 for additional requirements.

### 307.1 Cross Section Selection

The cross section of a State highway is based upon the number of vehicles, including trucks, buses, bicycles, and safety, terrain, transit needs and pedestrians. Other factors such as sidewalks, bike paths and transit facilities, both existing and future should be considered.

### 307.2 Two-lane Cross Sections for New Construction

A 2-lane, 2-way roadbed consists of a 24-foot wide traveled way plus paved shoulders. In order to provide structural support, the minimum paved width of each shoulder should be 2 feet. Shoulders less than 4 feet are not adequate for bicycles. Where 4-foot shoulders are not possible, consideration should be given to providing turnouts for bicycles. See Index 204.5(4) for turnout information. See Topic 1003 and Index 301.2 for information on bicycle design criteria and Figure 307.2 for typical 2-lane cross sections.

### 307.2 Two-lane Cross Sections for New Construction

Bicycles are not prohibited on conventional highways: therefore, where the shoulder width is 4 feet, the gutter pan width should be reduced to 1 foot, so 3 feet is provided between the traffic lane and the longitudinal joint at the gutter pan. Whenever possible, grate type inlets should not be located in bicycle paths of travel. See Index 837.2(2) for further grate guidance.

### 309.3 Tunnel Clearances

#### (1) Horizontal Clearances.

Tunnel construction is so infrequent and costly that the width should be considered on an

individual basis. For the minimum width standards for freeway tunnels see Index 309.1.

Normally, the minimum horizontal clearance on freeways should include the full roadbed width of the approaches.

**In one-way tunnels on conventional highways the minimum side clearance from the edge of the traveled way shall be 4 feet 6 inches on the left and 6 feet on the right. For two-way tunnels, this clearance shall be 6 feet on each side.** This clearance provides space for bicycle lanes or for bicyclists who want to use the shoulder.

### 310.3 Headlight Glare

Care should be taken when designing new frontage roads to avoid the potential for headlight glare interfering with the vision of motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians traveling in opposite directions on the frontage roads and in the outer freeway lanes. Consideration should also be given to bike and pedestrians paths. To prevent headlight glare interference on new construction, the preferred measures are for wider outer separations, revised alignment and raised or lowered profiles.

## CHAPTER 400 INTERSECTIONS AT GRADE

Intersections are planned points of conflict where two or more roadways join or cross. At-grade intersections are among the most complicated elements on the highway system, and control the efficiency, capacity, and safety for motorized and non-motorized users of the facility. The type and operation of an intersection is important to the adjacent property owners, motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, transit operators, the trucking industry, and the local community.

There are two basic types of at grade intersections: crossing and circular. It is not recommended that intersections have more than four legs. Occasionally, local development and land uses create the need for a more complex intersection design. Such intersections

may require a specialized intersection design to handle the specify traffic demands at that location. In addition to the guidance in this manual, see Traffic Operations Policy Directive (TOPD) Number 13-02: Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) for direction and procedures on the evaluation, comparison and selection of the intersection types and control strategies identified in Index 401.5. Also refer to the **Complete Streets Intersection Guide** for further information.

### Index 401.1 - General

At-grade intersections must handle a variety of conflicts among users, which includes truck, transit, pedestrians, and **bicycles**. These recurring conflicts play a major role in the preparation of design standards and guidelines. Arriving, departing, merging, turning, and crossing paths of moving pedestrians, **bicycles**, truck, and vehicular traffic have to be accommodated within a relatively small area. The objective of designing an intersection is to effectively balance the convenience, ease, and comfort of the users, as well as the human factors, with moving traffic (automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, transit vehicles, **bicycles**, pedestrians, etc.).The safety and mobility needs of motorist, **bicyclist** and pedestrians as well as their movement patterns in intersections must be analyzed early in the planning phase and then followed through appropriately during the design phase of all intersections on the State highway. It is Departmental policy to develop integrated multimodal projects in balance with community goals, plans, and values.

The Complete Intersections: A Guide to Reconstructing Intersections and Interchanges for **Bicyclists** and Pedestrians contains a primer on the factors to consider when designing intersections. It is published by the California Division of Traffic Operations.

#### 401.2 Human Factors

##### (1) *The Driver.*

Motorist's perception and reaction time set the standards for sight distance and length of transitions.

The driver's ability to understand and interpret the movements and crossing times of the other vehicle drivers, **bicyclists**, and pedestrians using the intersection is equally important when making decisions and their associated reactions. The designer needs to keep in mind the user's limitations and therefore design intersections so that they meet user expectation.

- (2) *The Bicyclist.* **Bicyclist** experience, skills and physical capabilities are factors in intersection design. Intersections are to be designed to help **bicyclists** understand how to traverse the intersection. Chapter 1000 provides intersection guidance for Class I and Class III **bikeways** that intersect the State highway system. The guidance in this chapter specifically relates to **bicyclists** that operate within intersections on the State highway system.

#### 401.3 Traffic Considerations

Good intersection design clearly indicates to **bicyclists** and motorists how to traverse the intersection (see Figure 403.6A). Designs that encourage merging traffic to yield to through **bicycle** and motor vehicle traffic are desirable. The size, maneuverability, and other characteristics of **bicycles** and motorized vehicles (automobiles, trucks, transit vehicles, farm equipment, etc.) are all factors that influence the design of an intersection. The differences in operating characteristics between **bicycles** and motor vehicles should be considered early in design.

#### 401.4 The Physical Environment

In highly developed urban areas, where right of way is usually limited, the volume of vehicular traffic, pedestrians, and **bicyclists** may be large, street parking exists, and transit stops (for both buses and light rail) are available. All interact in a variety of movements that contribute to and add to the complexity of a State highway and can result in busy intersections.

There are many factors to be considered in the design of intersections, with the goal to achieve a functional, safe and efficient intersection for all users of the facility. The location and level of use by various modes will have an impact on intersection design, and therefore should be considered early in the design process. In addition to current levels of use, it is important to consider future travel patterns for vehicles, including trucks; pedestrian and bicycle demand and the future expansion of transit.

### 401.5 Intersection Type

(2) *Intersection Control strategies, See California MUTCD and Traffic Operations Policy Directive (TOPD) Number 13-02, Intersection Control Evaluation*

Historically, crossing-type intersections with signal or “STOP”-control have been used on the State highway system. However, other intersection types, given the appropriate circumstances may enhance intersection performance through fewer or less severe crashes and improve operations by reducing overall delay. Alternative intersection geometric designs should be considered and evaluated early in the project scoping, planning and decision-making stages, as they may be more efficient, economical and safer solutions than traditional designs. Alternative intersection designs can effectively balance the safety and mobility needs of the motor vehicle drivers, transit riders, bicyclists and pedestrians using the intersection.

### 402.4 Consider All Users

Intersections should accommodate all users of the facility, including vehicles, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit. Bicycles have all the rights and responsibilities as motorist per the California Vehicle Code, but should have separate consideration of their needs, even separate facilities if volumes warrant.

### 403.2 Areas of Conflict

Large multilane undivided intersection areas are undesirable. The hazards of conflicting movements are magnified when motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians are unable to anticipate movements of

other users within these areas. Channelization reduces areas of conflict by separating or regulating traffic movements into definite paths of travel by the use of pavement markings or traffic islands.

### 403.3 Angle of Intersection

A right angle (90°) intersection provides the most favorable conditions for intersecting and turning traffic movements. Specifically, a right angle provides:

- The shortest crossing distance for motor vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.

Class II bikeway crossings at railroads follow similar guidance to Class I bikeway crossings at railroads, see Index 1003.5(3), and Figure 403.3B.

Minor deviations from right angles are generally acceptable provided that the potentially detrimental impact on visibility and turning movements for large trucks (see Topic 404) can be mitigated. However, large deviations from right angles may decrease visibility, hamper certain turning operations, and will increase the size of the intersection and therefore crossing distances for bicyclists and pedestrians, may encourage high speed turns, and may reduce yielding by turning traffic. When a right angle cannot be provided due to physical constraints, the interior angle should be designed as close to 90 degrees as is practical, but should not be less than 75 degrees. Mitigation should be considered for the affected intersection design features. (See Figure 403.3A). A 75 degree angle does not unreasonably increase the crossing distance or generally decrease visibility. Class II bikeway crossings at railroads follow similar guidance to Class I bikeway crossings at railroads, see Index 1003.5(3), and Figure 403.3B.

### 403.4 Points of Conflict

Channelization separates and clearly defines points of conflict within the intersection. Bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists should be exposed to only one conflict or confronted with one decision at a time.

Locations with right-turn-only lanes should provide a minimum 4-foot width for bicycle use between the right-turn and through lane when bikes are permitted, except where posted speed is greater than 40 mph, the minimum width should be 6 feet. Configurations that create a weaving area without defined lanes should not be used.

For signing and delineation of bicycle lanes at intersections, consult District Traffic Operations.

Figure 403.6B depicts an intersection with a left-turn-only bicycle lane, which should be considered when bicycle left-turns are common. A left-turn-only bicycle lane may be considered at any intersection and should always be considered as a tool to provide mobility for bicyclists. Signing and delineation options for bicycle left-turn-only lanes are shown in the California MUTCD.

### 403.6 Turning Traffic

#### *(1) Treatment of Intersections with Right-Turn-Only Lanes.*

Most motor vehicle/bicycle collisions occur at intersections. For this reason, intersection design should be accomplished in a manner that will minimize confusion by motorists and bicyclists, eliminate ambiguity and induce all road users to operate in accordance with the statutory rules of the road in the California Vehicle Code. Right-turn-only lanes should be designed to meet user expectations and reduce conflicts between vehicles and bicyclists.

Figure 403.6A illustrates a typical at-grade intersection of multilane streets without right-turn-only lanes. Bike lanes or shoulders are included on all approaches. Some common movements of motor vehicles and bicycles are shown. A prevalent crash type is between straight-through bicyclists and right-turning motorists, who do not yield to through bicyclists.

#### *(2) Design of Intersections at Interchanges.*

The design of at-grade intersections at interchanges should be accomplished in a manner that will minimize confusion of motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Higher speed, uncontrolled entries and exits from freeway ramps should not be used at the intersection of the ramps with the local road. The smallest curb return radius should be used that accommodates the design vehicle. Intersections with interior angles close to 90 degrees reduce speeds at conflict points between motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. The intersection skew guidance in Index 403.3 applies to all ramp termini at the local road.

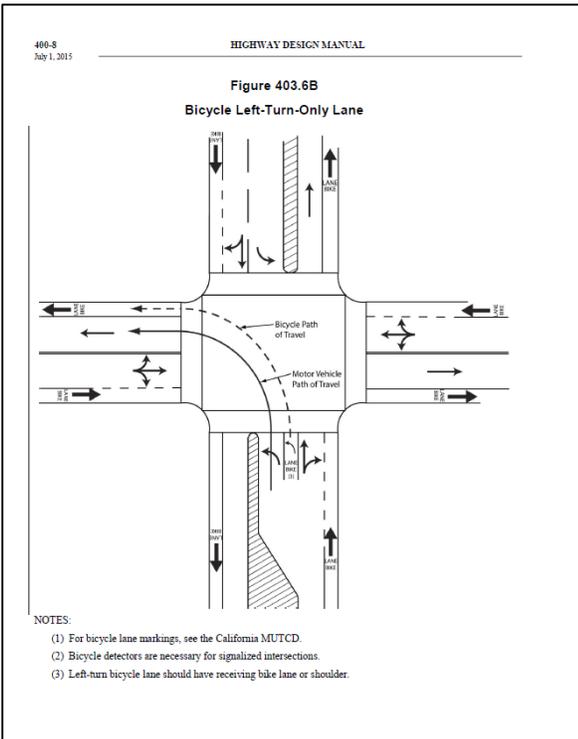
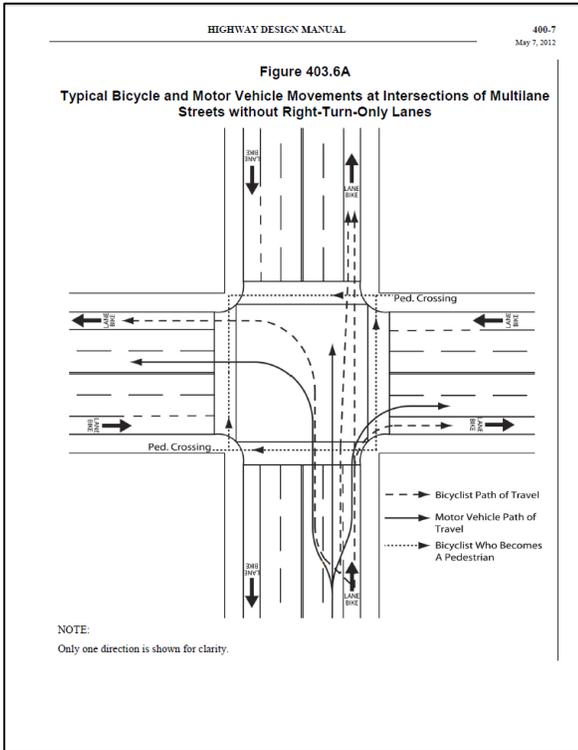
Optional right-turn lanes should not be used in combination with right-turn-only lanes on roads where bicycle travel is permitted. The use of optional right-turn lanes in combination with right-turn-only lanes is not recommended in any case where a Class II bike lane is present. This may increase the need for dual or triple right-turn-only lanes, which have challenges with visibility between turning vehicles and pedestrians. Multiple right-turn-only lanes should not be free right-turns when there is a pedestrian crossing. If there is a pedestrian crossing on the receiving leg of multiple right-turn-only lanes, the intersection should be controlled by a pedestrian signal head, or geometrically designed such that pedestrians cross only one turning lane at a time.

Locations with right-turn-only lanes should provide a minimum 4-foot width for bicycle use between the right-turn and through lane when bikes are permitted. Configurations that create a weaving area without defined lanes should not be used.

For signing and delineation of bicycle lanes at intersections, consult District Traffic Operations.

Figure 403.6B depicts an intersection with a left-turn-only bicycle lane, which should be considered when bicycle left-turns are common. A left-turn-only bicycle lane may be considered at any intersection and should always be considered

as a tool to provide mobility for bicyclists. Signing and delineation options for bicycle left-turn-only lanes are shown in California MUTCD.



### 403.7 Refuge Areas

Traffic islands should be used to provide refuge areas for bicyclists and pedestrians. See Index 405.4 for further guidance.

### 403.8 Prohibited Turns

Traffic islands may be used to direct bicycle and motorized vehicle traffic streams in desired directions and prevent undesirable movements. Care should be taken so that islands used for this purpose accommodate convenient and safe pedestrian and bicycle crossings, drainage, and striping options. See Topic 303.

### 403.9 Effective Signal Control

At intersections with complex turning movements, channelization is required for effective signal control. Channelization permits the sorting of approaching bicycles and motorized vehicles which may move through the intersection during separate signal phases. Pedestrians may also have their own signal phase. This requirement is of particular importance when traffic-actuated signal controls are employed.

The California MUTCD has warrants for the placement of signals to control vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Pedestrian activated devices, signals or beacons are not required, but must be evaluated where directional, multilane, pedestrian crossings occur. These locations may include:

- Mid-block street crossings;
- Channelized turn lanes;
- Ramp entries and exits; and
- Roundabouts.

### 403.12 Other Considerations

- Avoid complex intersections that present multiple choices of movement to the motorist and bicyclist.

## 404.2 Design Considerations

It may not be necessary to provide for design vehicle turning movements at all intersections along the State route if the design vehicle's route is restricted or it is not expected to use the cross street frequently. Discuss with Traffic Operation and the local agency before a turning movement is not provided. The goal is to minimize as much as possible conflicts between vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, and other users of the street, while providing the minimum curb radii appropriate for the given situation.

### (1) Traveled way.

(a) To accommodate turn movements (e.g., at intersections, driveways, alleys, etc.), the travel way width and intersection design should be such that tracking width and swept width lines for the design vehicle do not cross into any portion of the lane for opposing traffic. Encroachment into the shoulder and bike lane is permitted.

(b) Along the portion of roadway where there are no turning options, vehicles are required to stay within the lane lines. **The tracking and swept widths lines for the design vehicle shall stay within the lane as defined in Index 301.1 and Table 504.3A.** This includes no encroachment into Class II bike lanes.

### (5) Bicycle Lanes.

Where bicycle lanes are considered, the design guidance noted above applies. Vehicles are permitted to cross a bicycle lane to initiate or complete a turning movement or for emergency parking on the shoulder. See the California MUTCD for Class II bike lane markings.

To accommodate turn movements (e.g., intersections, driveways, alleys, etc. are present), both tracking width and swept width lines may cross the broken white painted bicycle lane striping in advance of the right-turn, entering the bicycle lane when clear to do so.

### (8) Appurtenances.

If both the tracking width and swept width lines meet the design guidance listed above, then the geometry is adequate for that design vehicle. Consideration should be given to pedestrian crossing distance, motor vehicle speeds, truck volumes, alignment, bicycle lane width, sight distance, and the presence of on-street parking.

If both the tracking width and swept width lines meet the design guidance listed above, then the geometry is adequate for that design vehicle. Consideration should be given to pedestrian crossing distance, motor vehicle speeds, truck volumes, alignment, bicycle lane width, sight distance, and the presence of on-street parking.

## Topic 405 - Intersection Design Standards

### 405.1 Sight Distance

#### (2) Corner Sight Distance.

(a) General—At unsignalized intersections a substantially clear line of sight should be maintained between the driver of a vehicle, bicyclist or pedestrian waiting at the crossroad and the driver of an approaching vehicle. Line of sight for all users should be included in right of way, in order to preserve sight lines.

### 405.2 Left-turn Channelization

Benefits of roundabouts are:

- Roundabouts are designed to reduce the vehicular speeds at intersections. Lower speeds lessens the vehicular collision severity. Likewise, studies indicate that pedestrian and bicyclist collisions with motorized vehicles at lower speeds significantly reduce their severity.
- Roundabouts allow continuous free flow of vehicles and bicycles when no conflicts exist. This results in less noise and air pollution and reduces overall delays at roundabout intersections.

Except as indicated in this Index, the standards elsewhere in this manual do not apply to roundabouts. For the application of design standards, the approach ends of the splitter islands define the boundary of a roundabout intersection, see Figure 405.10. The design standards elsewhere in this manual apply to the approach legs beyond the approach ends of the splitter islands.

### (1) Design Period.

First consider the design of a single lane roundabout per the design period guidance in Index 103.2. If a second lane is not needed until 10 or more years, it may be better to stage the improvements. Construct the first phase of the roundabout so at the 20-year design period, an additional lane can be easily added. In order to comply with the 10-year design period guidance provided in Index 103.2, the initial project must provide the right of way needed for utility relocations, a shared-use path designed for a Class I **Bikeway**, and all other features other than pavement, lighting, and striping in their ultimate locations.

### (7) Pedestrian Use.

Sidewalks around the circular roadway are to be designed as shared-use paths, see Index 405.10(8)(c). However, the guidance in Design Information Bulletin (DIB) 82 Pedestrian Accessibility Guidelines for Highway Projects must also be followed when designing these shared-use facilities around a roundabout. If there is a difference in the standards, the guidance in DIB 82 is to be followed. In addition,

(a) Pedestrian curb ramps need to be differentiated from **bike** ramps:

- The detectable warning surface (truncated domes) differentiates a pedestrian curb ramp from a **bicycle** ramp.
- Detectable warning surface are required on curb ramps. They are not to be used on a **bike** ramp.

## 405.3 Right-turn Channelization

### (1) General.

In urban areas other factors may contribute to the need such as:

- Conflicts between crossing pedestrians and right-turning vehicles and **bicycles**.

### (3) Right-turn Lanes at Off-ramp Intersections.

Diamond off-ramps with a free right-turn at the local street and separate right-turn off-ramps around the outside of a loop will likely cause conflict as traffic volumes increase. Serious conflicts occur when the right-turning vehicle must weave across multiple lanes on the local street in order to turn left at a major cross street close to the ramp terminal. Furthermore, free right-turns create sight distance issues for pedestrians and **bicyclists** crossing the off-ramp, or pedestrians crossing the local road. Also, rear-end collisions can occur as right-turning drivers slow down or stop waiting for a gap in local street traffic. Free right-turns usually end up with "YIELD", "STOP", or signal controls thus defeating their purpose of increasing intersection capacity.

## 405.4 Traffic Islands

A traffic island is an area between traffic lanes for channelization of **bicycle** and vehicle movements or for pedestrian refuge. An island may be defined by paint, raised pavement markers, curbs, pavement edge, or other devices. The California MUTCD should be referenced when considering the placement of traffic islands at signalized and unsignalized locations. For splitter island guidance at roundabouts, see Index 405.10(13).

Traffic islands usually serve more than one function. These functions may be:

- (a) Channelization to confine specific traffic movements into definite channels;
- (b) Divisional to separate traffic moving in the same or opposite direction; and

(c) Refuge, to aid users crossing the roadway. Generally, islands should present the least potential conflict to approaching or crossing bicycles and vehicles, and yet perform their intended function.

## 405.6 Access Control

The basic guidance which govern the extent to which access rights are to be acquired at interchanges (see Topic 104, Index 205.1 and 504.8 and the PDPM) also apply to intersections at grade on expressways. Cases of access control which frequently occur at intersections are shown in Figure 405.7. This illustration does not presume to cover all situations. Where required by traffic conditions, access should be extended in order to ensure proper operation of the expressway lanes.

Reasonable variations which observe the basic principles referred to above are acceptable.

However, negative impacts on the mobility needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians, and transit users need to be assessed. Pedestrians and bicyclists are sensitive to additional out of direction travel.

## 405.8 City Street Returns and Corner Radii

The pavement width and corner radius at city street intersections is determined by the type of vehicle to be accommodated and the mobility needs of pedestrians and bicyclists, taking into consideration the amount of available right of way, the types of adjoining land uses, the place types, the roadway width, and the number of lanes on the intersecting street.

## 405.7 Public Road Intersections

### (3) Alternate Designs.

Offsets are given in Figure 405.7 for right angle intersections. For skew angles, roadway curvature, and possibly other reasons, variations to the right-angle design are permitted, but the basic rule is still to approximate the wheel paths of the design vehicle.

A three-center curve is an alternate treatment that may be used at the discretion of the designer.

Intersections are major consideration in bicycle path design as well. See Indexes 403.6 and 1003.1(4) for general bicycle path intersection design guidance. Also see Section 5.3 of the AASHTO Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Bicycle Facilities.

## 405.9 Widening of 2-lane Roads at Signalized Intersections

The impact on pedestrian and bicycle traffic mobility of larger intersections should be assessed before a decision is made to widen an intersection.

## 405.10 Roundabouts

Benefits of roundabouts are:

- Roundabouts are designed to reduce the vehicular speeds at intersections. Lower speeds lessens the vehicular collision severity. Likewise, studies indicate that pedestrian and bicyclist collisions with motorized vehicles at lower speeds significantly reduce their severity
- Roundabouts allow continuous free flow of vehicles and bicycles when no conflicts exist. This results in less noise and air pollution and reduces overall delays at roundabout intersections.

### (5) Exit Design.

Similar to entry design, exit design flexibility is required to achieve the optimal balance between competing design variables and project objectives to provide adequate capacity and, essentially, safety while minimizing excessive property impacts and costs. Thus, the selection of a curved versus tangential design is to be based upon the balance of each of these criteria. Exit design is influenced by the place type, pedestrian demand, bicyclist needs, the design vehicle and physical constraints. The exit curb radii are usually larger than the entry curb radii in order to minimize the likelihood of congestion and crashes at the exits. However, the desire to minimize congestion at the

exits needs to be balanced with the need to maintain an appropriate operating speed through the pedestrian crossing. Therefore, the exit path radius should not be significantly greater than the circulating path radius to ensure low speeds are maintained at the pedestrian crossing.

(7) *Pedestrian Use.*

(a) Pedestrian curb ramps need to be differentiated from **bike** ramps:

- The grooved border differentiates a pedestrian curb ramp from a **bicycle** ramp. **Bicycle** ramps for the use of **bicyclists** are not to utilize a grooved border.
- Detectable warning surface (truncated domes) are required on curb ramps. They are not to be used on a **bike** ramp.

(8) *Bicyclist Use.*

(a) General. **Bicyclists** may choose to travel in the circular roadway of a roundabout by taking a lane, while others may decide to travel using the shared-use path to bypass the circular roadway. Therefore, the approach and circular roadways, as well as the shared-use path all need to be designed for the mobility needs of **bicyclists**. See the California MUTCD for the signs and markings used at roundabouts.

(b) **Bicyclist** Use of the Circular Roadway. Single lane roundabouts do not require **bicyclists** to change lanes in the circular roadway to select the appropriate lane for their direction of travel, so they tend to be comfortable for **bicyclists** to use. Even two-lane roundabouts, which may have straighter paths of travel that can lead to faster vehicular traveling speeds, appear to be comfortable for **bicyclists** that prefer to travel like vehicles. Roundabouts that have more than two circular lanes can create complexities in signing and striping (see the California MUTCD for guidance), and their operating speed may cause some **bicyclists** to decide to bypass the circular roadway and use the **bicycle** ramp that provides

access to the shared-use path around the roundabout.

(c) **Bicyclists** Use of the Shared-Use Path. The shared-use path is to be designed using the guidance in Index 1003.1 for Class I **Bikeways** and in NCHRP Guide 2 Section 6.8.2.2. However, the accessibility guidance in DIB 82 must also be followed when designing these shared-use facilities around a roundabout. If there is a difference in the standards, the accessibility guidance in DIB 82 is to be followed to ensure the facility is accessible to pedestrians with disabilities.

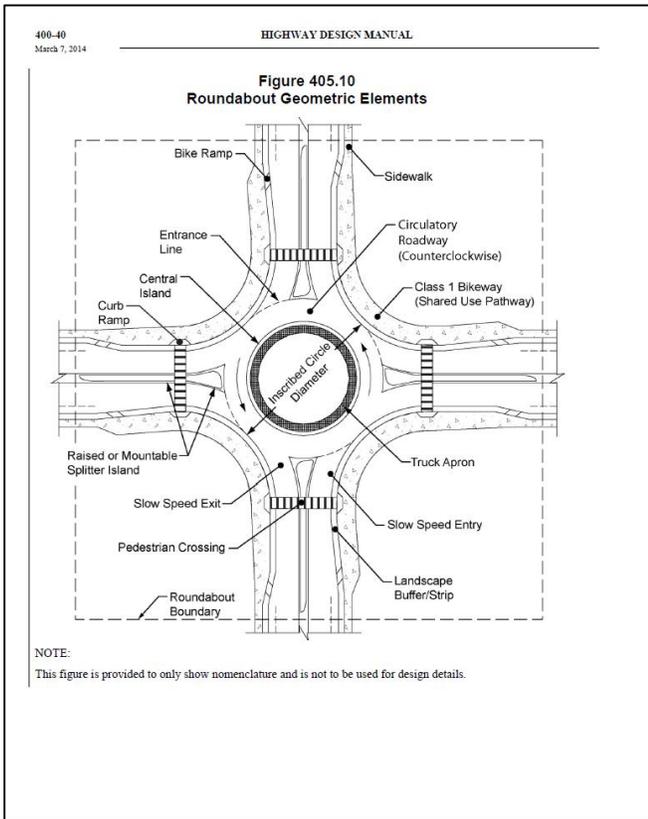
**Bicycle** ramps are to be located to avoid confusion as curb ramps for pedestrians. Also see Index 405.10(7) for guidance on how to differentiate the two types of ramps. The design details and width of the ramp are also important to the **bicyclist**. **Bicyclists** approaching the **bicycle** ramp need to be provided the choice of merging left into the lane or moving right to use the **bicycle** ramp. **Bicycle** ramps should be placed at a 35 to 45 degree angle to the departure roadway and the sidewalk to enable the **bicyclists** to use the ramp and discourage **bicyclists** from entering the shared-use path at a speed that is detrimental to the pedestrians. The shared-use path should be designated as Class I **Bikeways**; however, appropriate regulatory signs may need to be posted if the local jurisdiction has a law(s) that prohibit **bicyclists** from riding on a sidewalk.

A landscape buffer or strip between the shared-use/Class I **Bikeway** and the circular roadway of the roundabout is needed and should be a minimum of 2 feet wide.

Pedestrian crossings may also be used by **bicyclists**; thus, these shared-use crossings need to be designed for both **bicyclist** and pedestrian needs.

(16) Landscaping.

Landscaping should be designed such that drivers and bicyclists can observe the signing and shape of the roundabout as they approach, allowing adequate visibility for making decisions within the roundabout. The landscaping of the central island can enhance the intersection by making it a focal point, by promoting lower speeds and by breaking the headlight glare of oncoming vehicles or bicycles. It is desirable to create a domed or mounded central island, between 3.5 to 6 feet high, to increase the visibility of the intersection on the approach. Contact the District Landscape Architecture Unit to provide technical assistance in designing the roundabout landscaping.



**CHAPTER 500 TRAFFIC INTERCHANGES**

**Topic 502 - Interchange Types**

**502.1 General**

The selection of an interchange type and its design are influenced by many factors including the following:

speed, volume, and composition of traffic to be served (e.g., trucks, vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians), number of intersecting legs, and arrangement of the local street system (e.g., traffic control devices, topography, right of way controls), local planning, proximity of adjacent interchanges, community impact, and cost.

**502.2 Local Street Interchanges**

The Department’s philosophy for highway design has evolved over time. DD-64 Complete Streets, DP-22 Context Sensitive Solutions, DP-05 Multimodal Alternatives and other policies and guidance are a result of that evolution in design philosophy. No longer are freeway interchanges designed with only the needs of motorists in mind. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic needs are to be considered along with the motorized traffic. Local road interchanges ramp termini should be perpendicular to the local road. The high speed, shallow angle, ramp termini of the past are problematic for pedestrians and bicyclists to navigate. Vehicle speeds are reduced by the right angle turn, allowing drivers to better respond to bicycle and pedestrian conflicts. For new construction or major reconstruction consideration must be given to orienting ramps at right angles to local streets. For freeways where bicycles are permitted to use the freeway, ramps need to be designed so that bicyclists can exit and enter the freeway without crossing the higher speed ramp traffic. See Index 400 for type, design, and capacity of intersections at the ramp terminus with the local road.

Class II bikeways designed through interchanges should be accomplished considering the mobility of bicyclists and should be designed in a manner that will minimize confusion by motorists and bicyclists. Designs which allow high speed merges at on- and off-ramps to local streets and conventional highways have a large impact on bicycle and pedestrian mobility and should not be used. Designers should work closely with the Local Agency when designing bicycle facilities through interchanges to ensure that the shoulder width is not reduced through the interchange area. If maintaining a consistent shoulder

width is not feasible, the Class II bikeway must end at the previous local road intersection. A solution on how to best provide for bicycle travel to connect both sides of the freeway should be developed in consultation with the Local Agency and community as well as with the consideration of the local bicycle plan.

### 502.2 Local Street Interchanges

The Department's philosophy for highway design has evolved over time. DD-64 Complete Streets, DP-22 Context Sensitive Solutions, DP-05 Multimodal Alternatives and other policies and guidance are a result of that evolution in design philosophy. No longer are freeway interchanges designed with only the needs of motorists in mind. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic needs are to be considered along with the motorized traffic. Local road interchanges ramp termini should be perpendicular to the local road. The high speed, shallow angle, ramp termini of the past are problematic for pedestrians and bicyclists to navigate. Vehicle speeds are reduced by the right angle turn, allowing drivers to better respond to bicycle and pedestrian conflicts. For new construction or major reconstruction consideration must be given to orienting ramps at right angles to local streets. For freeways where bicycles are permitted to use the freeway, ramps need to be designed so that bicyclists can exit and enter the freeway without crossing the higher speed ramp traffic. See Index 400 for type, design, and capacity of intersections at the ramp terminus with the local road.

An interchange is expected to have an on- and off-ramp for each direction of travel. If an off-ramp does not have a corresponding on-ramp, that off-ramp would be considered an isolated off-ramp. **Isolated off-ramps or partial interchanges shall not be used because of the potential for wrong-way movements.** In general, interchanges with all ramps connecting with a single cross street are preferred.

At local road interchanges it is preferable to minimize elevation changes on the local road and instead elevate or depress the freeway. Such designs have the

least impact on those users most affected by the elevation changes, such as pedestrians and bicyclists.

Class II bikeways designed through interchanges should be accomplished considering the mobility of bicyclists and should be designed in a manner that will minimize confusion by motorists and bicyclists. Designs which allow high speed merges at on- and off-ramps to local streets and conventional highways have a large impact on bicycle and pedestrian mobility and should not be used. Designers should work closely with the Local Agency when designing bicycle facilities through interchanges to ensure that the shoulder width is not reduced through the interchange area. If maintaining a consistent shoulder width is not feasible, the Class II bikeway must end at the previous local road intersection. A solution on how to best provide for bicycle travel to connect both sides of the freeway should be developed in consultation with the Local Agency and community as well as with the consideration of the local bicycle plan.

(a) Diamond Interchange--The simplest form of interchange is the diamond. Diamond interchanges provide a high standard of ramp alignment, direct turning maneuvers at the crossroads, and usually have minimum construction costs. The diamond type is adaptable to a wide range of traffic volumes, as well as the needs of transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians. The capacity is limited by the capacity of the intersection of the ramps at the crossroad. This capacity may be increased by widening the ramps to two or three lanes at the crossroad and by widening the crossroad in the intersection area. Crossroad widening will increase the length of undercrossings and the width of overcrossings, thus adding to the bridge cost. Roundabouts may provide the necessary capacity without expensive crossroad widening between the ramp termini. Ramp intersection capacity analysis is discussed in Topic 406.

(e) Single Point Interchange (SPI)

This additional capacity may be offset if nearby intersection queues interfere with weaving and

storage between intersections. The disadvantages of the L-13 are: 1) future expansion of the interchange is extremely difficult; 2) stage construction for retrofit situations is costly; 3) long structure spans require higher than normal profiles and deeper structure depths; and 4) poor **bicycle** and pedestrian circulation.

## Topic 503 - Interchange Design Procedure

### 503.1 Basic Data

Data relative to community service, traffic, physical and economic factors, and potential area development which may materially affect design, should be obtained prior to interchange design. Specifically, the following information should be available:

- (d) Current and future **bicycle** and pedestrian access through the community.

### 503.2 Reviews

Interchanges are among the major design features which are to be reviewed by the Design Coordinator and/or Design Reviewer, HQ Traffic Liaison, other Headquarters staff, and the FHWA Transportation Engineer, as appropriate. Major design features include the freeway alignment, geometric cross section, geometric design and intersection control of ramp termini, location of separation structures, closing of local roads, frontage road construction, **bicycle** and pedestrian facilities and work on local roads. Particularly close involvement should occur during preparation of the Project Study Report and Project Report (see the Project Development Procedures Manual). Such reviews can be particularly valuable when exceptions to mandatory or advisory design standards are being considered and alternatives are being sought. The geometric features of all interchanges or modifications to existing interchanges must be approved by the Design Coordinator.

## Topic 504 - Interchange Design Standards

### 504.2 Freeway Entrances and Exits

- (7) **Bicycle** and Pedestrian Conditions.

On freeways where **bicycle** or pedestrian travel is not prohibited, provisions need to be made at interchanges to accommodate **bicyclists** and pedestrians. See Topic 116 and the California MUTCD for additional guidance.

### 504.3 Ramps

- (2) *Ramp Metering*

- (d) Storage Length

To minimize the impact on local street operation, every effort should be made to meet the recommended storage length. Wherever feasible, ramp metering storage should be contained on the ramp by either widening or lengthening it. Improvements to the local street system in the vicinity of the ramp should also be thoroughly investigated where there is insufficient storage length on the ramp and the ramp queue will adversely affect local street operation. Note that excessive queue length may also impact the mobility of pedestrians and **bicyclists**. The storage length that can be provided on the ramp may be limited by the weaving distance to the next off-ramp and/or available right of way. Local street improvements can include widening or restriping the street(s) or intersection(s) to provide additional storage or capacity. Signal timing revisions along the corridor feeding the ramp can also enhance the storage capability. These will require coordination with the local agency consistent with the regional traffic operations strategy. Ultimately system-wide adaptive ramp metering will coordinate with local street and arterial signal systems.

- (h) HOV Preferential Lane

Access to the HOV preferential lane may be provided in a variety of ways depending on interchange type and the adequacy of storage

provided for queued vehicles. Where queued vehicles are expected to block access to the HOV preferential lane, direct or separate access should be considered. Designs should consider pedestrian/bicycle volumes, especially when the entrance ramp is located near a school or the local highway facility includes a designated bicycle lane or route. See Index 403.6 for requirement for turn- only lanes. Contact the HQ Traffic Liaison and the Design Coordinator or Design Reviewer to discuss the application of specific design and/or general issues related to the design of HOV preferential lane access.

*(3) Location and Design of Ramp Intersections on the Crossroads.*

Factors which influence the location of ramp intersections on the crossroads include sight distance, construction and right of way costs, bicycle and pedestrian mobility, circuitous travel for left-turn movements, crossroads gradient at ramp intersections, storage requirements for left-turn movements off the crossroads, and the proximity of other local road or bicycle path intersections.

## **CHAPTERS 600 – 670 PAVEMENT ENGINEERING**

### **Topic 603 – Types of Pavement Projects**

#### **603.2 Widening**

Widening projects involve the construction of additional width to improve traffic flow and increase capacity on an existing highway facility. Widening may involve adding lanes (including transit or bicycle lanes), shoulders, pullouts for maintenance/transit traffic; or widening existing lane, shoulder or pullouts.

#### **603.4 Roadway Rehabilitation**

Roadway rehabilitation projects are divided into 2R (Resurfacing and Restoration) and 3R (Resurfacing, Restoration and Rehabilitation). Roadway

rehabilitation projects should address other highway appurtenances such as pedestrian and bicyclist facilities, drainage facilities lighting, signal controllers, and fencing that are failing, worn out or functionally obsolete. Also, unlike pavement preservation projects, geometric enhancements and operational improvements may be added to roadway rehabilitation work if such work is critical or required by FHWA standards. Where conditions warrant, quieter pavement strategies could be used to reduce tire/pavement noise. In certain cases, where traditional noise abatement is infeasible, quieter pavement strategies may be considered as an alternative. See Chapter 1100 for additional information on highway traffic noise abatement.

## **CHAPTER 610 PAVEMENT ENGINEERING CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Topic 613 - Traffic Considerations**

#### **613.5 Specific Traffic Loading Considerations**

*(2) Shoulders.*

*(a) Purpose and Objectives.*

Shoulder pavement structures must be designed and constructed to assure that the following performance objectives are met:

- Accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists as necessary.

## **CHAPTER 620 RIGID PAVEMENT**

### **Topic 625 - Engineering Procedures for Pavement and Roadway Rehabilitation**

#### **625.1 Rigid Pavement Rehabilitation Strategies**

(2) *Overlay Limits.*

**On overlay projects, the entire traveled way and paved shoulder shall be overlaid.** Not only does this help provide a smoother finished surface, it also benefits bicyclists and pedestrians when they need to use the shoulder.

**626.2 Shoulder**

(4) *Selection Criteria.*

The shoulder pavement structure selected must meet or exceed the pavement design life standards in Topic 612. In selecting whether to construct rigid or flexible shoulders the following factors should be considered:

See Index 1003.5(1)) for surface quality guidance for highways open to bicyclists.

**CHAPTER 630  
FLEXIBLE PAVEMENT**

**Topic 635 – Engineering  
Procedures for Flexible  
Pavement and Roadway  
Rehabilitation**

**635.1 Empirical Method**

**On overlay projects, the entire traveled way and paved shoulder shall be overlaid.** Not only does this help provide a smoother finished surface, it also benefits bicyclists and pedestrians when they need to use the shoulder.

**636.2 Shoulders**

The TI for shoulders is given in Index 613.5(2). See Index 1003.5(1) for surface quality guidance for bicyclists.

**CHAPTER 640  
COMPOSITE PAVEMENTS**

**Topic 645 - Engineering  
Procedures for Pavement and  
Roadway Rehabilitation**

**645.1 Empirical Method**

**On overlay projects, the entire traveled way and paved shoulder shall be overlaid.** Not only does this help provide a smoother finished surface, it also benefits bicyclists and pedestrians when they need to use the shoulder.

**Topic 642 - Engineering Criteria**

**642.3 Overlay Limits**

**On overlay projects, the entire traveled way and paved shoulder shall be overlaid.** Not only does this help provide a smoother finished surface, it also benefits bicyclists and pedestrians when they need to use the shoulder.

**CHAPTER 830  
TRANSPORTATION FACILITY  
DRAINAGE**

**Topic 831 – General**

**Index 831.1 - Basic Concepts**

Some of the major considerations of good roadway drainage design are:

- Convenience to vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic.

**Topic 837 - Inlet Design**

**837.2 Inlet Types**

(2) *Grate.*

Locate grate inlets away from areas where bicycles or pedestrians are anticipated whenever possible. Grate designs that are allowed where bicycle and pedestrian traffic occurs have smaller openings and are more easily clogged by trash and debris and are less efficient at intercepting flow. Additional measures may be necessary to mitigate the increased potential for clogging.

The grate types depicted on Standard Plan D77B must be used if **bicycle** traffic can be expected. Many highways do not prohibit **bicycle** traffic, but have inlets where **bicycle** traffic would not be expected to occur (e.g., freeway median). In such instances, the designer may consider use of grates from Standard Plan D77A. The table of final pay weights on Standard Plan D77B indicates the acceptable grate types to be used for each listed type of inlet.

### 837.3 Location and Spacing

(1) *Governing Factors.* The location and spacing of inlets depend mainly on these factors:

(g) Volume and movements of motor vehicles, **bicycles** and pedestrians,

(2) *Location.*

In urban areas, the volume and movements of vehicles, **bicyclists**, and pedestrians constitute an important control. For street or road crossings, the usual inlet location is at the intersection at the upstream end of the curb or pavement return and clear of the pedestrian crosswalk. Where the gutter flow is small and vehicular, **bicycle**, and pedestrian traffic are not important considerations, the flow may be carried across the intersection in a valley gutter and intercepted by an inlet placed downstream. See Index 836.2(4).

## CHAPTER 870 CHANNEL AND SHORE PROTECTION - EROSION CONTROL

### Topic 871 - General

#### Index 871.1 - Introduction

Highways, **bikeways**, pedestrian facilities and appurtenant installations are often attracted to parallel locations along streams, coastal zones and lake

shores. These locations are under attack from the action of waves and flowing water, and may require protective measures.

## CHAPTER 900 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

### Topic 902 - Planting Guidance

#### 902.1 General Guidance for Freeways and Expressways

(1) *Design Considerations.*

Design planting and irrigation systems to achieve a balance between aesthetics, safety, maintainability, cost-effectiveness, and resource conservation.

(b) Safety. Planting and irrigation facilities are designed for the safety of both highway workers and the public.

To understand potential hazards to maintenance workers, designers should be familiar with Topic 706 as well as Chapter 8, "Protection of Workers", of the Maintenance Manual.

Select and locate plants to maintain sight distance and clear recovery zone distances. Planting, without exception, must not interfere with the function of safety devices (e.g., barriers, guardrail) and traffic control devices (e.g., signals and signs), shoulders and the view from the roadway of **bicyclists** and pedestrians.

#### 902.2 Sight Distance and Clear Recovery Zone Standards for Freeways and Expressways

(1) *Sight Distance Plant Setbacks.*

Particular attention should be paid to planting on the inside of curves in interchange loops, in median areas, on the ends of ramps, and on cut slopes so that shoulders are clear and designed sight distances are retained for vehicles, **bicycles** and pedestrians. See Index 902.3.

### 902.4 Planting Procedures, Selection and Location

#### 3) *Plant Location.*

Plants should be located so that they will not obscure pedestrians and bicyclists at intersections or other conflict points.

Plants with similar water requirements should be grouped for irrigation purposes.

Plants with thorns or known to be poisonous to humans and animals, (e.g., rose, oleander), should not be planted adjacent to sidewalks, bikeways, areas used for grazing animals, equestrian activities, with high public exposure, or where children have access to the planting. Designers should be aware of State and local restrictions on the planting of certain species in or adjacent to specified areas. Contact District Landscape Architect for further information.

### 902.5 Irrigation Guidelines

#### (2) *Valves and Sprinklers.*

Overhead irrigation systems, e.g., impact or gear driven sprinklers, should be primarily used for irrigating low shrub masses, ground cover and for establishing native grasses. Trees in overhead irrigated ground cover areas should receive supplemental basin water. Sprinklers should be appropriate for local wind and soil conditions. Sprinklers should be selected and placed to avoid spraying paved surfaces. Sprinklers, other than pop-up systems, subject to being damaged by vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians should be relocated or provided with sprinkler protectors, flexible risers, or flow shutoff devices. Fixed risers should not be placed adjacent to sidewalks and bikeways. Sprinkler protectors should be used on pop-up sprinklers and quick coupling valves adjacent to the roadway.

### 903.4 Facility Size and Capacity Analysis

#### (5) *Bicycle Parking.*

On highways where bicycling is not prohibited, bicycle parking should be provided reasonably near businesses, shopping or other amenities. Consult the District Bicycle Coordinator for information on placement, capacity, and design requirements for bicycle parking.

Travelers entering a safety roadside rest area must be directed to the proper parking area - automobiles (cars, vans, motorcycles), bicycles, or long-vehicles. Where practical, provide ample ramps and transitions, good sight distance, and well-placed signs and pavement markings preceding the point where vehicle types separate. Avoid locating potential distractions (non-traffic-control signs, plantings, vehicle pullouts, dumpsters, artwork, etc.) at or preceding this point.

Within a safety roadside rest area, there are intersections and other points of conflict where design layout, signage, pavement markings and visibility must be carefully considered. One of these points is where long vehicle traffic, bicycle, and automobile traffic merge prior to egress from the safety roadside rest area. Consider the speed and angle at which the traffic types will merge. Avoid configurations where one type of traffic is allowed to gain excessive speed preceding a merge with slow moving traffic. Curvilinear road layout, narrow roads and landscaping can be used to manage traffic so that merging is done at slow and relatively similar speeds.

Assess and improve, as necessary, ramp lengths, radii and superelevation, parking aisle widths, parking stall dimensions, and bicycle parking when rehabilitating a safety roadside rest area. When the scope of work is limited to routine pavement maintenance, such as minor repairs, seal coats and striping, or work on building, sidewalks, utilities and landscaping, upgrading to current design standards may be deferred.

#### (7) *Walkways.*

It is important to provide a clearly defined and ADA compliant path of travel for pedestrians. Primary walkways should be located to direct

users from automobile, **bicycle**, and long-vehicle parking areas to core facilities and restroom entrances. See DIB 82 for further information on accessibility requirements.

### 903.6 Utility Systems

Utility systems should be designed in conformance with Title 24 Energy Requirements of the California Code of Regulations (State Building Code), and other applicable State and Federal requirements.

#### (7) Lighting.

Site and building lighting are to be designed in conformance with Title 24 Energy Requirements of the California Code of Regulations (State Building Code). Also refer to the Traffic Manual, Chapter 9 for further Highway Lighting guidance. For functionality and safety, rest areas should be lighted for 24-hour-a-day use. Lighting should be automatically controlled and include manual-shutoff capability. Restroom entrances and the interiors of restrooms, utility corridors, crew rooms, CHP drop-in offices and storage buildings, pedestrian plazas, primary sidewalks, crosswalks, ramps, picnic areas, kiosks, **bicycle parking**, and interpretive displays should be brightly illuminated. Lighting should illuminate walking surfaces and avoid strong shadows. An average level of 1 foot-candle is generally acceptable for primary pedestrian areas. Peripheral areas of the site should be lighted only where nighttime pedestrian use is anticipated. Non-pedestrian areas of the site do not require lighting.

## Topic 904 - Vista Point Standards and Guidelines

### 904.3 Design Features and Facilities

#### (2) Parking.

Parking areas should be inclusive of all user modes. Parking capacity should be based on an analysis of current traffic data. However, at least five vehicle spaces should be provided. Parking should not exceed 0.025 times the DHV or 50 spaces, whichever is less. This number may be exceeded at high use trailheads. Parking stalls should be delineated by striping. Approximately

one-quarter to one-third of the spaces should be allocated to long vehicles (cars with trailers, recreational vehicles, and buses). Geometrics should be such that all types of vehicles entering the vista point can safely negotiate and exit the facility. Accessible parking should be provided as discussed in Index 903.5(4) and DIB 82.

Consult the District **Bicycle** Coordinator for guidance on **bicycle** parking.

- (3) *Pedestrian Areas.* Vista points should provide a safe place where motorists can observe the view from outside their vehicles and **bicyclists** off their **bicycles**. Accessible walkways that exclude vehicles may be provided within the viewing area.

## Topic 905 - Park and Ride Standards and Guidelines

### 905.3 Design Features and Facilities

Park and Ride facilities are to be designed as multi-modal facilities. Provisions for pedestrians, **bicyclists**, transit, single-occupancy vehicles, and multi-occupancy vehicles are to be provided as appropriate. The local transit provider should be consulted to determine if the facility should provide connections to transit. In general, the function of the facility is to take precedent over the form of the facility; however, special consideration for the safety and security of all users is fundamental to the success of the facility.

## CHAPTER 1000 BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION DESIGN

[chp1000.pdf](#)

### Topic 1001 – Introduction

#### Index 1001.1 – **Bicycle** Transportation

#### 1001.2 Streets and Highways Code References

**1001.3 Vehicle Code References**

**1001.4 Bikeways**

**Topic 1002 - Bikeway Facilities**

**1002.1 Selection of the Type of Facility**

**Topic 1003 - Bikeway Design Criteria**

**1003.1 Class I Bikeways (Bike Paths)**

**1003.2 Class II Bikeways (Bike Lanes)**

**1003.3 Class III Bikeways (Bike Routes)**

**1003.4 Trails**

**1003.5 Miscellaneous Criteria**